

# TOWN OF CALAIS

## VERMONT

**ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022**



**TOWN MEETING – TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023**

**CALAIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
321 LIGHTNING RIDGE ROAD  
POLLS OPEN 7:00 AM TO 7:00 PM  
IN-PERSON MEETING 9:30 AM TO COMPLETION**

**PLEASE BRING THIS BOOK WITH YOU TO TOWN MEETING**

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## Most Frequently Requested Contacts

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Town Clerk	Jeremy Weiss	456-8720	Calais.TownClerk@gmail.com
Assistant Town Clerk	Barbara Butler	456-8720	CalaisVTAssistantTownClerk@gmail.com
Treasurer	Vacant	456-8720	TreasurerCalais@gmail.com
Delinquent Tax Collector	Sandra Ferver	456-8720	DelinquentTaxCollector@gmail.com
Garage/ Road Crew		456-7466	CalaisRoadCommissioner@myfairpoint.net
Zoning Administrator	John McCullough	223-1658	CalaisZoning@gmail.com
Webmaster	Jamie Moorby		CalaisWebmaster@gmail.com
Lister	Jan Ohlsson	232-1028	CalaisListers@gmail.com
Lister	Wilson Hughes	456-7433	CalaisListers@gmail.com
Lister	John McCullough	223-1658	CalaisListers@gmail.com
Constable	Vacant		
Animal Control Officer 1st	Vacant		
Forest Fire Warden	Greg Pelchuck	454-7377	brcoal@myfairpoint.net
E-911 Coordinator	Anne Winchester	456-7488	AnneWinchester7@gmail.com
Selectboard Chair	Sharon Winn Fannon	454-1173	CalaisSBsharon@gmail.com
Selectboard Vice Chair	Marc B. Mihaly	454-1070	CalaisSBmarc@gmail.com
Selectboard	John D. Brabant	229-9870	CalaisSBjohn@gmail.com
Selectboard	Richard Kehne	229-4545	CalaisSBbrick@gmail.com
Selectboard	Denise Wheeler	456-8730	CalaisSBdenise@gmail.com

**For a more complete listing, see pages 12-13**

*Town Report Production Manager: Barbara Butler*

*Town Report Layout and Design: Taylor Kinzer*

*Town Report printed by Jet Service Envelope & Accura Printing*

*Front Cover Photo: Calais Elementary School K-2 students enjoying their ECO (Educating Children Outdoors) experience on a frosty Friday morning. Photo Credit: CES Staff*

*Back Cover Photo: Canada goose and gosslings on Curtis Pond.*

*Photo Credit: Jeb Wallace-Brodeur*

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## Town Meeting Information

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- Date:** Tuesday, March 7, 2023
- Time:** Polls Open: 7:00 am to 7:00 pm  
Town Meeting: 9:30 am to completion
- Location:** Calais Elementary School  
321 Lightening Ridge Road  
East Calais, VT

### Childcare Available for Town Meeting

Childcare is available at no cost for parents attending Calais Town Meeting on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at the Calais Elementary School (CES) from 9:00am to 1:00pm, 321 Lightening Ridge Road.

Registration is required and forms are available online at [www.calaisvermont.gov/PublicNotices](http://www.calaisvermont.gov/PublicNotices) and at Calais Elementary School, or through Community Connections.

For more information, contact CES Administrative Assistant Sandy Savard at 454-7777, [ssavard@u32.org](mailto:ssavard@u32.org); or Community Connections Coordinator Kim Bolduc at 223-7936 ext#305, [kbolduc@u32.org](mailto:kbolduc@u32.org).

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# Calais Town Warning

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**WARNING**  
**Town of Calais Annual Meeting**  
**Tuesday, March 7, 2023**

The legal voters of the Town of Calais are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Calais Elementary School in Calais at 321 Lightening Ridge Road, on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, from 9:30 a.m. to completion to transact the following business from the floor.

**ARTICLE 1.** To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year.

**ARTICLE 2.** To elect the following town officials (by Australian Ballot):

Town Clerk	3-year term (Expires 2026)
Selectboard Member	3-year term (Expires 2025)
Selectboard Member	3-year term (Expires 2026)
Selectboard Member	2-year term (Expires 2024)
Selectboard Member	2-year term (Expires 2025)
Selectboard Member	3-year term (Expires 2024)
Lister	3-year term (Expires 2026)

**ARTICLE 3.** To elect the following Town officers from the floor:

Trustee of Public Funds	3-year term
Cemetery Commissioner	5-year term (Expires 2024)
Cemetery Commissioner	5-year term (Expires 2028)
Cemetery Commissioner	5-year term (Expires 2025)

**ARTICLE 4.** Shall the voters approve total general fund and highway fund expenditures of \$1,956,645 of which \$1,245,372 shall be raised by taxes and \$319,717 by non-tax revenue?

**ARTICLE 5.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$49,500 for the operation and maintenance of the cemeteries?

**ARTICLE 6.** Shall the voters appropriate \$29,898 for the Kellogg Hubbard Library?

**ARTICLE 7.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$31,100 as requested by the following organizations in the Calais and the Central Vermont area:

Central Vermont Adult Basic Education	\$1,000
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## Calais Town Warning (continued)

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Central Vermont Council on Aging	\$1,400
Central Vermont Economic Development Corp.	\$ 500
Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice	\$4,150
Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center	\$ 800
Circle (formerly Battered Women's Shelter)	\$ 700
Community Connections	\$1,000
Community Harvest of Central Vermont	\$ 250
Family Center of Washington County	\$ 500
Friends of the Winooski River	\$ 400
Good Beginnings of Central Vermont	\$ 300
Good Samaritan Haven	\$1,500
Green Mountain Transit	\$ 859
Green Up Vermont	\$ 100
Montpelier Senior Activity Center	\$5,300
Mosaic Vermont (formerly Sexual Assault Crisis Team)	\$ 200
Old West Church Association	\$1,823
Our House of Central Vermont	\$ 250
People's Health and Wellness Clinic	\$1,500
Rural Community Transportation	\$ 975
Twin Valley Senior Center	\$3,500
VT Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired	\$ 650
Vermont Center for Independent Living	\$ 800
Washington County Diversion Program	\$ 300
Washington County Mental Health Services	\$1,400
Washington County Youth Service Bureau/ Boys & Girls Club	\$ 500
Woodbury/Calais Food Shelf	<u>\$ 443</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$31,100</b>

**ARTICLE 8.** Shall the voters authorize a reserve fund known as the Planning Commission Reserve Fund for the purpose of hiring consultants, matching funds for grants, and other expenses related to town plan and zoning regulation revisions?

**ARTICLE 9.** Shall the voters approve a \$2,500 appropriation to the Planning Commission Reserve Fund?

**ARTICLE 10.** Shall the voters authorize payment of property taxes in two equal installments, with the due date of the first installment on or before 4 p.m. on a date that falls not less than 30 days after the tax bills are mailed, but not earlier than September 1, 2023, and due date of the second installment shall be

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## Calais Town Warning (continued)

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on or before 4 p.m. on Wednesday, November 15, 2023?

**ARTICLE 11.** Shall each property tax installment payment be made via one of the following options:

- 1) by delivery to the Treasurer by 4 p.m. on or before the due dates as set forth in Article 10
- 2) by U.S. Postal Service, with postmark on or before the due dates as set forth in Article 10; or
- 3) by credit card payment via [www.calaisvermont.gov](http://www.calaisvermont.gov) by 4 pm on or before the due dates as set forth in Article 10?

**ARTICLE 12.** Shall interest in the amount of 0.5% per month or any part of a month, be charged on unpaid taxes?

**ARTICLE 13.** Shall a delinquent tax penalty be set at 3% of the tax collected from each delinquent taxpayer?

**ARTICLE 14.** Shall the town appropriate \$65,564 to fund the Operating Expenses of the East Montpelier Fire Department, to be paid in quarterly installments starting July 1, 2023?

**ARTICLE 15.** Shall the town appropriate \$130,300 to fund the Operating Expenses of the East Montpelier Ambulance, to be paid in quarterly installments starting July 1, 2023?

**ARTICLE 16.** Shall the town appropriate \$17,850 to the Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department, to be added to the truck replacement fund starting July 01, 2023?

**ARTICLE 17.** Shall the town appropriate \$31,000 to fund the Capital Replacement Fund of the Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department, to be paid in full by January 1, 2024?

**ARTICLE 18.** Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$38,724.36 to fund the Operating Expenses of the Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department to be paid in quarterly installments of \$9,681.09 starting July 1, 2023?

**ARTICLE 19.** To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

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## Calais Town Warning (continued)

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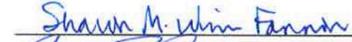
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The lawful voters of the Town of Calais are further notified and warned to meet at the Calais Elementary School at 321 Lightening Ridge Road, on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, between the hours of seven in the forenoon (7:00 a.m.), when the polls will open, and seven in the evening (7:00 p.m.), when the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot on the following voter-petitioned Article:

**ARTICLE 20.** Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Calais in an amount not to exceed Four Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$450,000), subject to reduction from available state or federal grants or other financial assistance, be issued for the purpose of renovation of the Curtis Pond Dam to State dam safety standards, the estimated total cost of which is \$700,000?

Dated at Calais, Vermont the 25th day of January 2023 by the Calais Selectboard.

Sharon Winn Fannon



Marc B. Mihaly



Denise Wheeler



John D. Brabant



Rick Kehne



Received for record on January 26, 2023.

  
Jeremy Weiss, Town Clerk



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# Voting Information

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## Early and Mail-in Voting

The Calais Town Office encourages early and mail-in voting prior to election day.

**Early and Mail-In Voting:** Mail or deliver your completed ballots to the Calais Town Office, 3120 Pekin Brook Road, East Calais, VT 05650 **prior** to election day, March 7, 2023.

***If Mailing:*** Mail no later than February 27, 2023 to ensure timely delivery.

***If Delivering in Person:*** Drop your completed ballots in the secure dropbox located in the enclosed Town Office entrance by midnight March 6, 2023.

## NOTICE TO VOTERS For March 7, 2023 Election

**ALL REGISTERED NON-CHALLENGED CALAIS VOTERS WILL BE MAILED TOWN AND SCHOOL BALLOTS WITHOUT REQUIRING A REQUEST FORM. VOTERS CAN STILL VOTE IN PERSON AT CALAIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ON TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023, 7 AM TO 7 PM, 321 LIGHTENING RIDGE ROAD.**

**VOTER CHECKLIST POSTED** on the website at [calaisvermont.gov](http://calaisvermont.gov) and at Calais Town Office by February 5, 2023. If your name is not on the checklist, then you must register to vote. **SAMPLE BALLOTS** will be posted by February 10, 2023.

**HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE:** If you need to register to vote, you may do so in any of the following ways:

- ❖ Go online to <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>. Click on the green “Register Online” button.
- ❖ Come to the Town Office anytime during regular office hours (Mondays-Thursdays, 9:00am-4:00pm) to fill out a paper registration form and register onsite. Bring 1) photo ID to show proof of age and 2) Calais residency.
- ❖ Come to the Town Meeting election site on Tuesday, March 7, 7:00am-7:00pm and register onsite there. Bring 1) photo ID to show proof of age and 2) Calais residency.

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## Voting Information (continued)

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### WAYS TO VOTE YOUR EARLY BALLOT:

- ❖ Active registered voters will have ballots mailed to them automatically, and voters should mail or deliver ballots back to the Calais Town Office before Town Meeting Day or to the polling place before 7:00 p.m. on Town Meeting Day.
- ❖ If you are sick or disabled, you may request an electronically delivered ballot before Town Meeting Day or ask the Town Clerk to have two Justices of the Peace bring a ballot to you at your home, only if it is possible to comply with COVID protocol. (Ballots can be delivered on any of the eight days preceding the day of the election or on the day of election.)

### ON ELECTION DAY:

**If your name was dropped from the checklist in error**, or has not been added even though you submitted a timely application for addition to the checklist, you can fill out a new voter registration form.

- ❖ If the clerk or Board of Civil Authority does not add your name, you can appeal the decision to a superior court judge, who will settle the matter on Election Day. Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-VOTE (439-8683) for more information.

**If you are a first-time voter who submitted your application to the checklist individually by mail and did not submit the required document**, you must provide a current and valid photo identification, or a bank statement, utility bill, or government document that contains your name/current address.

**If you have physical disabilities**, are visually impaired or can't read, you may have assistance from any person of your choice. If any voters you know have disabilities let them know they can have assistance from any person of their choice.

**If you know any voters who cannot get from their car into the polling place** let them know that ballot(s) may be brought to their car by two election officials.

**If you have any questions or need assistance while voting, ask your Town Clerk or any election official for help.**

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## Voting Information (continued)

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### **NO PERSON SHALL:**

- ❖ Vote more than once per election, either in the same town or in different towns.
- ❖ Mislead the Board of Civil Authority about your own or another person's true residency or other eligibility to vote.
- ❖ Hinder or impede a voter going into or from the polling place.
- ❖ Socialize in a manner that could disturb other voters in the polling place.
- ❖ Offer bribe, threaten or exercise undue influence to dictate or control the vote of another person.

**FOR HELP OR INFORMATION: Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-VOTE (439-8683). (Accessible by TDD)**

**If you believe that any of your voting rights have been violated**, you may file an Administrative Complaint with the Secretary of State's Office, 128 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633.

**If you believe you have witnessed efforts to commit any kind of fraud or corruption in the voting process**, you may report this to your local United States Attorney's Office.

**If you have witnessed actual or attempted acts of discrimination or intimidation in the voting process**, you may report this to the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice at (800) 253- 3931.

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTERS using Australian Ballots**

**Voting in-person at Calais Elementary School, 321 Lightning Ridge Road on Tuesday, March 7, 2023**

**IF YOU WERE MAILED BALLOTS, BRING THEM WITH YOU. IF YOU LOSE THE BALLOTS, ALERT THE ELECTION OFFICIAL. CHECK-IN AND RECEIVE BALLOTS:**

- ❖ Go to the entrance checklist table.
- ❖ Give name and, if asked, street address to the election official in a loud voice.

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## Voting Information (continued)

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- ❖ Wait until your name is repeated and checked off by the official.
- ❖ Enter within the voting area and go to a vacant voting booth.

**MARK YOUR BALLOT:** For each office listed on the ballot, you will see instructions to “Vote for not more than one, or Vote for not more than two, etc.”

- ❖ To vote for a candidate, fill in the oval to the right of the name of the candidate you want to vote for.
- ❖ WRITE-IN candidate(s). To vote for someone whose name is not printed on the ballot, use the blank “write-in” lines on the ballot and write-in the name, then fill in the oval.
- ❖ To vote for an Article, fill in the oval marking your YES or NO vote to the right of the Article.

### CHECK OUT:

**CAST YOUR VOTE** by depositing your voted ballot in “Voted Ballots” box or tabulator.

**LEAVE** the voting area immediately and exit the building.

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## Candidates for Election By Australian Ballot

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### Offices Filed For

### Candidates

Town Clerk, 3-year term ending March 2026	Teegan Dykeman-Brown Denise Wheeler
Lister, 3-year term ending March 2026	Grant Orenstein Steven Sweeney
Selectboard, 1-yr of 2-yr term ending Mar. ‘24	Anne Winchester
Selectboard, full 2-yr term ending Mar. ‘25	Joshua Schultz Anne R. Toolan
Selectboard, 1-yr of 3-yr term ending Mar. ‘24	Jamie Moorby
Selectboard, 2-yrs of 3-yr term ending Mar. ‘25	Gabrielle Malina
Selectboard, full 3-yr term ending Mar. ‘26	Jordan Keyes

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# Important Contact Information

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**Calais Town Office – 456-8720**

**3120 Pekin Brook Road, East Calais, VT 05650**

All Land/Title/Deed Research or Vault Time By Appointment Only

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

[www.CalaisVermont.gov](http://www.CalaisVermont.gov)

[Calais.TownClerk@gmail.com](mailto:Calais.TownClerk@gmail.com)

[CalaisVTAssistantTownClerk@gmail.com](mailto:CalaisVTAssistantTownClerk@gmail.com)

**Town Garage 456-7466**

911 Address Assignments, Anne Winchester .....	456-7488
Animal Control Officer 1st, Vacant .....	
Animal Control Officer 2nd, Vacant .....	
Calais Elementary School .....	454-7777
Cemetery Sexton, Joe Mangan .....	426-3121
Constable, 1st, Vacant .....	
Constable, 2nd, Vacant .....	
East Montpelier Fire and Ambulance emergency calls .....	911
East Montpelier Fire and Ambulance non-emergency calls .....	225-6247
Emergency Management Director, Nick Emlen .....	229-4919
Forest Fire Warden, Greg Pelchuck .....	454-7377
Forest Fire Warden Assistant, Chris Tuller .....	456-1317
Fireworks Permits (EMFD) .....	225-6247
Game Warden, Dustin Circe .....	793-6629
Green Up Coordinator, Jamie Moorby .....	595-9525
Health Officer, Jay Copping .....	456-1169
Listers	
Wilson Hughes .....	456-7433
John McCullough .....	223-1658
Jan Ohlsson .....	232-1028
Representative to State Legislature, Mark Mihaly .....	454-1070
Selectboard:	
Sharon Winn Fannon, Chair .....	454-1173
Mark B. Mihaly, Vice Chair .....	454-1070
John D. Brabant .....	229-9870
Richard Kehne .....	229-4545
Denise Wheeler .....	456-8730
Town Hall (not monitored) .....	456-1110
Tree Warden, Neal Maker .....	229-9757
Tree Warden Assistant, Drew Lamb .....	456-8192

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## Important Contact Information (continued)

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U32 High School.....	229-0321
Vermont State Police, Middlesex Station, non-emergency.....	229-9191
Washington Central Unified Union School District.....	229-0553
Woodbury Fire Department non-emergency.....	472-5050
Zoning Administrator, John McCullough.....	223-1658
Zoning Administrator Assistant, Vacant.....	

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## Highway Department

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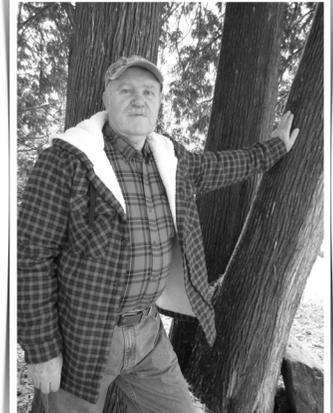
Peter Dailey  
Ogden Hersey  
Dana Huoppi  
John Stafford  
Tyler Stecker

**Town Garage**  
6011 VT Route 14, East Calais  
456-7466  
CalaisRoadCommissioner@myfairpoint.net



*Thank you, Alfred Larrabee, for more than 25 years of service to Calais! Alfred joined the Calais Road Crew in May 1998, and served as Road Commissioner from 2012 through September 2022.*

*Photo Credit: Donna Fitch*



*Thank you, Ed Rowell, for your service on the Calais Road Crew spanning 35 years! Ed joined the Road Crew in 1987 and, with the exception of two years' absence, served until September 2022.*

*Photo Credit: Barbara Butler*

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## **Town Officials**

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Gus Seelig ..... Town Moderator  
Jeremy Weiss ..... Town Clerk, Term expires 2023  
Barbara Butler ..... Assistant Town Clerk  
Vacant ..... Treasurer  
Vacant ..... Assistant Treasurer  
Sandra Ferver ..... Delinquent Tax Collector

### **Selectboard**

John D. Brabant (2-year term) ..... Term expires 2024  
Richard Kehne (2-year term) ..... Term expires 2023  
Marc B. Mihaly (3-year term) ..... Term expires 2025  
Denise Wheeler (3-year term) ..... Term expires 2024  
Sharon Winn Fannon (3-year term) ..... Term expires 2023

### **Listers (3-year terms)**

Wilson Hughes ..... Term expires 2024  
John McCullough ..... Term expires 2025  
Janice Ohlsson ..... Term expires 2023

### **Justices of the Peace (2-year terms – Expire 2025)**

Janet Ancel	Dillon Burns
Scott Bassage	Barbara Butler
Charlotte Hanna Bassage	Michael Loignon
Kristina Bielenberg	

### **Trustees of Public Funds (3-year terms)**

Rodney A. Buck ..... Term expires 2023  
Steve Killoran ..... Term expires 2025  
Scott G. Grzankowski ..... Term expires 2024

### **Cemetery Commissioners (5-year terms)**

Laura Daily ..... Term expires 2026  
Sheri Fitch ..... Term expires 2027  
Michael Fullerton ..... Term expires 2024  
Randy Koch ..... Term expires 2025  
Juanita Nunn ..... Term expires 2023

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## Town Officials (continued)

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Animal Control Officer .....	Vacant
Auditor .....	New England Municipal Resource Center
Constable .....	Vacant
Delinquent Tax Collector .....	Sandra Ferver
E-911 Coordinator.....	Anne Winchester
Emergency Management Director .....	Nick Emlen
Emergency Management Coordinator .....	Toby Talbot
Energy Coordinator.....	William Powell
Gospel Hollow Warden .....	Andy Felice
Health Officer.....	Jay Copping
Inspector of Lumber.....	Greg Pelchuck
Tree Warden .....	Neal Maker
Tree Warden, Assistant.....	Drew Lamb
Truant Officer, Elementary School Principal .....	Cat Fair
Weigher of Coal .....	Vacant

### Zoning

Administrator .....	John McCullough
Assistant Administrator.....	Vacant

### Regional Delegates

CVFiber Delegate .....	David Healy
CVFiber Alternate.....	Jared Thomas
CVRPC Delegate .....	John Brabant
CVRPC Alternate.....	Jan Ohlsson
CVRPC-TAC Delegate .....	David Ellenbogen
CVRPC-TAC Alternate.....	Karin McNeill
CVRPC Clean Water Advisory .....	John Brabant
CVSWMD Delegate .....	William Powell
CVSWMD Alternate.....	John Brabant

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# Town Committees and Commissions - Appointed

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## Conservation Commission (4-year terms)

Stephanie Kaplan, Chair .....	Term expires 2023
Larry Bush, Vice Chair .....	Term expires 2023
Mark Brown .....	Term expires 2026
Julie Hand .....	Term expires 2024
Neal Maker.....	Term expires 2025
Tracy Sudhalter .....	Term expires 2025
Vacant.....	Term expires 2024
Vacant.....	Term expires 2026
Vacant.....	Term expires 2026

## Design Advisory Board (4-year terms)

Ryan Edwards .....	Term expires 2023
Kurt Janson .....	Term expires 2026
John McCullough.....	Term expires 2023
David Schütz.....	Term expires 2023
Vacant.....	Term expires 2024

## Development Review Board (3-year terms)

Anne Winchester, Chair .....	Term expires 2025
Ryan Edwards, Vice Chair .....	Term expires 2025
Willa Ferrell .....	Term expires 2023
Dot Helling, Clerk .....	Term expires 2024
Stephanie Kaplan .....	Term expires 2024
Dennis Shaffer .....	Term expires 2025
Candi Smith .....	Term expires 2023
Scott Bassage, Alternate.....	Term expires 2024
Ashley Moore, Alternate .....	Term expires 2023
Megan Sullivan, Alternate .....	Term expires 2024

## Forest Fire Wardens (5-year terms)

Greg Pelchuck .....	Term expires 2026
Chris Tuller .....	Term expires 2026

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## Town Committees and Commissions - Appointed (continued)

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### Historic Preservation Commission (3-year terms)

David Schütz, Chair .....	Term expires 2025
Tobin Anderson .....	Term expires 2023
Susannah Blachly .....	Term expires 2023
Larry Bush .....	Term expires 2024
Ryan Edwards .....	Term expires 2023
Vacant .....	Term expires 2023
Vacant .....	Term expires 2023
Vacant .....	Term expires 2024
Vacant .....	Term expires 2025

### Planning Commission (4-year terms)

Janice Ohlsson, Chair .....	Term expires 2023
Gary Root, Vice Chair .....	Term expires 2025
Melanie Kehne .....	Term expires 2024
John McCullough, Clerk .....	Term expires 2026
Vacant .....	Term expires 2023

### Swim Program

Daniel Keeney, Chair .....	Term expires 2022
Pamela Kentish .....	Term expires 2022
Jessica Rich .....	Term expires 2022

### Trails Committee (3-year terms)

Tom Blachly, Chair .....	Term expires 2025
Charlotte Hanna Bassage .....	Term expires 2024
Tom Cronin .....	Term expires 2024
Michael Fullerton .....	Term expires 2023
Toni Kaeding .....	Term expires 2023
Steve Killoran .....	Term expires 2024
Peter Livaditis .....	Term expires 2025
Tim Maker .....	Term expires 2024
Walter Opuszynski .....	Term expires 2025
Denise Wilder .....	Term expires 2023

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# Community Service

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## *Opportunities To Serve Calais*

Throughout each year, there are a number of various ways Calais residents can serve our town.

These can include full- and part-time positions as a Town employee, elected offices, and volunteer membership on Town Boards, Committees, and Commissions. To find the most up-to-date listing of employment, volunteer and elected positions, along with information about each position and how to apply, please visit the Calais website at [shorturl.at/dPRZ6](http://shorturl.at/dPRZ6). Or you may call the Town Office at 456-8720.

## *Thank You Janet Ancel*

After 18 years serving the WA-6 district of Calais, Marshfield and Plainfield in the Vermont Legislature, the Town of Calais thanks Janet Ancel for her many years of service and dedication to all Vermonters.

Janet joined the Vermont House in 2005, and served as Chair of the Ways and Means Committee from 2011 until her retirement in 2022.

An attorney by training, Janet drafted legislation for lawmakers as a member of the Statehouse's Legislative Council (now the Office of Legislative Counsel) and later served as then-Gov. Howard Dean's legal counsel from 1993 to 2000. She was Dean's tax commissioner from 2000 to 2002.

Rep. Emilie Kornheiser, D/P-Brattleboro, Vice-Chair of the Ways and Means Committee, called Janet "a legend and a champion for progressive tax policy and common-sense legislation."

We are grateful and honored to have had Janet represent Calais for almost two decades in the Vermont House, and we wish her well in a well-deserved retirement. Thank you Janet!

*Janet Ancel,  
WA-6 House Representative  
2005-2022*



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## Community Buildings to Rent

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Due to Covid and RSV health concerns, the following sites may or may not be open and available to rent. Call and check for availability and rental details.

Adamant Community Club .....	Rick Winston .....	454-7103
East Calais Community Center .....	Anne Toolan .....	520-336-8373
Maple Corner Community Center .....	Nancy Toulis .....	225-6407
Old West Church .....	Barbara McAndrew .....	229-0384
Town Hall .....	Jaime Moorby .....	595-9525

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## Public WiFi Hotspots

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In an effort to help Calais connect in a digitally-based world, we have installed several WiFi hotspots geographically dispersed around town. These WiFi hotspots provide free internet access to any townspeople, guest or tourist needing access to the internet. This free service is publicly available as a resource for information, communications, remote learning, and working from home.

These sites are accessible at all hours from a parked vehicle in each site's parking lot. All Covid-19 safety precautions must be strictly adhered to, as well as good neighbor behavior.

### Calais WiFi Hotspots:

- ❖ Calais Town Office parking lot
- ❖ Calais Town Hall parking lot
- ❖ Maple Corner Community Center parking lot
- ❖ East Calais General Store parking lot

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## Schedule of Meetings

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Meetings are posted on the Town of Calais calendar at [calaisvermont.gov](http://calaisvermont.gov), and on bulletin boards at the Town Office, Maple Corner Store, and East Calais Post Office. All meetings are open to the public.

Recurring meetings that have a regular, ongoing meeting schedule are listed below, yet are subject to change. Therefore, we recommend you check the website calendar, as noted above.

Cemetery Commission	4th Wednesdays, as announced
Conservation Commission	1st Wednesday of every month
Development Review Board	As needed
Historic Preservation Commission	2nd Wednesday of every month
Planning Commission	1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month
Selectboard	2nd and 4th Monday of every month, and as needed
Trails Committee	Annually in late Spring, and as needed

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## Front Porch Forum

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Front Porch Forum (FPF) is a highly valuable free online newsletter where you can get important Calais news and connect with your neighbors. Signing up for this e-news is the easiest way to stay informed about town governance meetings, initiatives, and important dates and deadlines. FPF is a free community-building service in Vermont that hosts regional networks of online neighborhood forums. Each town's online forum is open only to the people who live there. It's all about helping neighbors connect.

Studies show that well-connected communities are friendlier places to live, with less crime, healthier residents, higher property values, and better service from local government and public utilities. When people have an easy and safe way to communicate with neighbors, they will! After using FPF, people often report feeling more connected to neighbors, more tuned in to local goings on, and more a part of their community. That's what FPF is all about! Sign up by going to <http://frontporchforum.com> or call 802-540-0069 ext. 2.

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## Legislative Report

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I am writing this report — my last as your WA-6 Representative — with some sadness. But also gratitude for the opportunity to serve, and best wishes for the success of my successor Marc Mihaly.

Although we accomplished a great deal in the 2022 Legislative session — investments in housing, broadband, school meals, to name a few — I’m going to focus on two initiatives in which I was closely involved, either as sponsor or primary advocate: The Vermont Child Tax Credit and a new Tech Center program providing for the purchase and rehabilitation of “blighted” properties. In each instance, we took advantage of strong state revenues to install two programs, one that supports families with young children and one that will help prepare young people for construction jobs.

The federal Child Tax Credit (CTC) was a significant part of the strategy to support families and the economy, during the early days of the pandemic. Although adopted in response to the pandemic, this expanded CTC did much more, moving children out of poverty and lessening the financial burden for families.

Building on the success of the federal CTC, we adopted legislation that created a new Vermont Child Tax Credit, which provides a \$1,000 annual credit for every child under the age of 6, phasing out at higher income levels. The Vermont CTC was part of a broad package of tax cuts which included a new deduction for student loan interest, expansion of the Child and Dependent Care Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit — both benefiting lower income families — and an increase in the exemption for social security income, which benefits lower and middle income seniors.

The Vermont CTC is among the most generous in the country, as is the Vermont Earned Income Tax Credit, putting money behind our commitment to low income families and to children.

Each year we set a property tax rate, taking into account our very complex funding formula, projected spending, and any funds available from the preceding year. This past year, we had an unprecedented \$95.7 million on the bottom line. That money went to reduce 2022-23 property taxes, fund school meals, provide for PCB remedies, and investments in our public pension system. It was also used to fund a new program in the Career and Technical Education centers, focused on teaching CTE students the construction trades.

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## Legislative Report (continued)

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Construction jobs can't be outsourced and we need builders, plumbers, and electricians to create housing and to improve on the housing stock we already have. We used \$15 million of Education Fund surplus to create a program for CTEs to purchase and rehabilitate "blighted" residential housing, providing needed training in the process.

As I look back on my 18 years in the Legislature, I am most proud of the work we've done making our overall tax system more progressive and more supportive of children and families. I also think fondly of the many connections and friendships I've made with my Calais neighbors — connections and friendships I know will continue.

*Janet Ancel (retired)  
WA-6 Representative  
Vermont State Legislature*



*Scene from "NYC 1849", a musical melodrama written and directed by Calais playwrights Chris Colt and Bob Hannan; performed at the Town Hall June 2022. Left to right: Teri Page, Kayla Becker-Lowe, Avery Cochran, Susannah Blachly, Thelonius Shores  
Photo credit: Hasso Ewing*

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## Selectboard Report

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The purpose of this annual report is to inform the residents of Calais and promote a greater understanding of the responsibilities and priorities of operating town government. State and Federal statutory and regulatory requirements create increasingly complex challenges in conducting the town's business.

The Town of Calais Selectboard seeks to be proactive on behalf of the Town of Calais and its residents. We strive to make local government efficient and cost effective to the best of our ability. We hear from many of you on various issues and thank you for your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions. Our goal is to be open, accountable, and responsive to you. We value and respect your input.

### **Sustaining Small-town Government through Volunteers**

In the past year, the board had a multitude of opportunities to reflect on its role as volunteer leadership in town, and the expectations that citizens hold for its citizen government. Our community's strength is its small town character. It's remarkably true that "everyone knows everyone" and it is certainly true that we rely on one another to keep our community strong and vibrant. The selectboard wholeheartedly thanks the dozens of volunteers who serve in various appointed and elected positions and dedicate countless hours to keep our town operating.

Vermont's small-town governments rely on volunteers, and yet maintaining strong local government based primarily on volunteers has become increasingly more challenging. Where bigger cities or larger municipalities have a paid administrative team, all working full time in their government jobs, Calais and other small Vermont towns have a government made up of volunteers. Volunteering to serve in one of these roles is both an opportunity and a responsibility: an opportunity because we all choose to live here, and we care about the culture and vibrancy of our small-town communities and have opinions about how best to sustain what we love. But there is also a responsibility to "step up" because there aren't very many of us here. Each person needs to bring their talents and time forward to make it work. As one selectboard member noted recently, "volunteering to serve in local government is part of the unwritten contract when you move here."

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## Selectboard Report (continued)

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### Budget Development

The selectboard takes this role very seriously as we develop the budget each year and take into consideration the spending of our town's tax dollars. This is not without its challenges as there are many elements beyond our control. A few examples include:

- ❖ increases in school taxes,
- ❖ insurance to protect town infrastructure and buildings,
- ❖ ongoing equipment maintenance,
- ❖ employer taxes, fees, VMERS, dues, assessments, workers comp, unemployment and liability insurance,
- ❖ public safety (emergency services and sheriff patrols).

We begin the budget process in late fall and dedicate substantial hours to this important responsibility. We review and discuss each line item to find cost savings. The town also must provide good employee benefits that will attract and keep valuable, dedicated, committed, experienced, knowledgeable, and responsible staff.

We work diligently to hold the bottom line on the budget while maintaining and improving our town services.

If all budget items are approved, the total FY 2024 budget will be \$1,976,012.30, an overall town budget increase of 5.7 percent. While this is the highest budget increase in several years, it compares favorably with a consumer price index in our region of over 6 percent in 2022.

As a component of the overall budget, the selectboard proposes a total highway and general fund budget for FY 2024 of \$1,571,456.30. In this context, the town's budget includes the expense of maintaining our roads and town buildings, the cost of hiring skilled staff to run our town office and maintain the town's infrastructure, and the cost to support the various committees that are essential to a well-functioning town government. This \$1,571,456.30 proposed town budget does not include the cemetery commission's budget, which is a separate entity under state law and is warned as a separate article. The town's budget also does not include the EMFD and WVFD fire departments, the schools, and the various social and community service agencies the town votes to support at Town Meeting all warned as separate articles.

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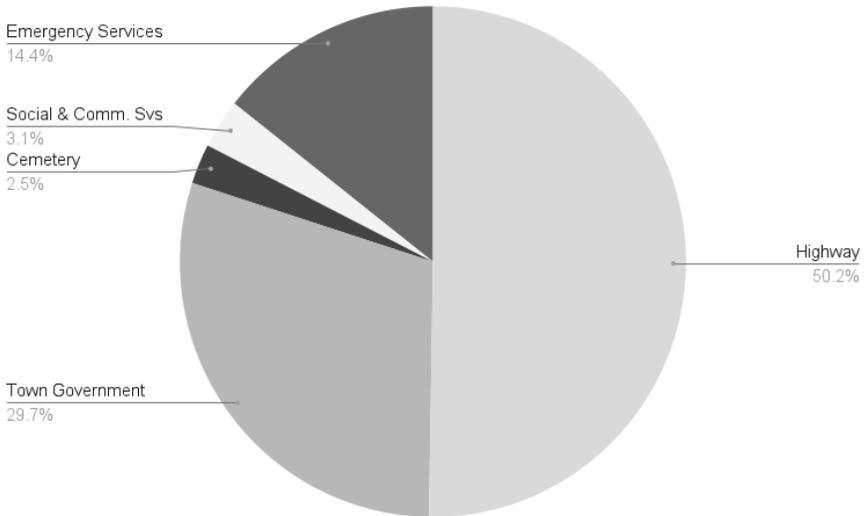
## Selectboard Report (continued)

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The pie chart below depicts the budget for the town’s highway and government functions, as well as the other functions the citizens of Calais support through their local tax dollars.

### 2022 Year In Review



In addition to the usual assorted considerations of roads, signage, bridges, culverts, curb cuts, right-of-way applications, liquor licenses, town employee benefits, utility line placements, grants, VTrans projects, ordinances, policies, budget review, and on-going collaboration with town commissions/committees/boards other significant activities included:

- ❖ Held 43 public meetings to conduct town business.
- ❖ Approved ARPA funded projects: 1) on August 8, 2022 \$200,000 from the town’s ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds to support CVFiber’s effort to bring high speed internet to underserved homes in Calais; 2) on November 14, 2022 \$20,000 to continue town office efforts to make land records available and easily searchable through electronic means; 3) on December 12, 2022 \$30,000 to fund a traffic calming study, which will propose road design initiatives to reduce speed on the town’s busiest corridors; 4) on January 23 16,000 as the town’s match to buy generators through a state grant, support

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## Selectboard Report (continued)

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for the grant approved the board on October 17, 2022; 5) on January 23 \$15,000 to the conservation commission to fund work related to invasive species.

- ❖ Approved a market adjustment increase to non-management, full-time road crew of \$1.30 per hour in (January 2022).
- ❖ Approved a 5.9 percent cost of living adjustment (COLA) for the following employees and elected officials effective July 1, 2022: road crew - Tyler Stecker, John Stafford, Peter Dailey; Temporary Road Crew - Dana Huoppi and Ed Rowell; Road Commissioner - Alfred Larrabee (resigned August 2022, replaced by Selectman Rick Kehne); Town Clerk (elected) - Jeremy Weiss; Asst. Town Clerk (appointed by town clerk) - Barbara Butler and approved an increase for the Delinquent Tax Collector to from \$10,000 per year to \$11,000 per year.
- ❖ Supported the Curtis Pond Dam Association's exploratory efforts to repair the existing dam.
- ❖ Evolved town staffing by developing 1) a director of public works position to manage the town's infrastructure (highways with the collaboration of the road commissioner, buildings, and outdoor facilities) and manage the potentially dozens of grants available to support town projects; and 2) a treasurer/business manager position to both manage the town's finances and support the selectboard's work. Both positions were developed after extensive research into how similar-sized towns meet the dual goals of serving the community robustly and keeping volunteer positions doable.
- ❖ Supported highway department improvements, including a contingency plan for the plowing depending on staffing and truck issues, and regular communication on winter road challenges via the town's website.
- ❖ Worked with the road crew to improve the town's approach to environmental stewardship, including continued efforts to reduce the spread of invasive and destructive plant species.
- ❖ Increased roadside mowing from spring to fall to help reduce the spread of invasives and developed a process for townspeople interested in privately maintaining the public roadside, to more aggressively tackle the spread of invasives.

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## Selectboard Report (continued)

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- ❖ Supported the efforts of the East Calais Community Trust (ECCT) in applying for and reporting on grants to revitalize the historic East Calais General Store building.
- ❖ Received a favorable management letter from the independent auditing firm of Sullivan and Powers for the 2022 fiscal year audit.
- ❖ Conducted reviews of the Treasurer’s Report and Delinquent Tax Report to be fully informed of the town’s financial position.
- ❖ Maintained a healthy end of FY 22 fund balance and avoided the need for the town to take a note from the bank in anticipation of tax revenue thus avoiding the payment of interest.
- ❖ Received Labor Relations petition to unionize the road crew (September 2022).
- ❖ Continue to prepare for stormwater management repairs for East Calais, by the East Calais Post Office and the gully site off Moscow Woods Road. This project is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2023.
- ❖ Passed the Shade Tree Ordinance.
- ❖ Engaged Stitzel, Page & Fletcher, PC as the town’s legal counsel.
- ❖ Supported the Calais Conservation Commission in its continuing efforts to identify and manage areas for invasion of the Emerald Ash Borer.

### Technology

The town’s investment in digitizing land records proved fortuitous as the COVID-19 pandemic impacted operations at the town office. Thanks to our partnership with Cott Systems, land records back to 1948 became accessible via the internet allowing the virtual handling of record requests and limiting the need for direct contact with the town office staff.

With the installation of the new server, which the voters approved at Town Meeting 2019, the town’s IT systems are now capable of running all the software necessary for modern day municipal operations. Workstation replacement expenses are budgeted for every four years. With voter approval, the selectboard established a technology fund. This fund provides the means for meeting the town’s hardware and software needs in the future without the

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## **Selectboard Report (continued)**

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need to take out a loan and pay interest charges.

The selectboard in collaboration with CVFiber and WEC plans to bring high-speed internet to the town office in 2023, helping to maximize efficient operations and provide the town office with a robust IT infrastructure.

### **Emergency Services (Fire and Ambulance)**

Emergency Services is a significant and necessary part of our annual budget (approx. 14 percent). Our community is a safer place to live thanks to these dedicated, committed, and professional staff and volunteers. In recent years, fewer people step up to the challenge to serve as volunteer firefighters and as EMS personnel. We extend our sincere thanks to the two departments that serve the residents of Calais: the East Montpelier/Calais Fire and Ambulance Department (EMFD) and Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD).

WVFD has developed a capital plan for truck and equipment replacement and asks that Calais voters approve their annual budget request. WVFD's plan to create additional space and looking at options for a new building are currently on hold.

The selectboard meets regularly with the EMFD to stay informed on operations, budget, revenue, and funding needs. The Calais and East Montpelier Selectboards also met jointly to discuss the need to move toward fully funding 24/7, two-person staffing for the EMFD ambulance service. As noted over the past couple of years, dependence upon volunteer staffing is not sustainable. The expectations of volunteer personnel, both in terms of training and time, are vast, leading to a downward spiral of fewer volunteers trying to constantly meet increasing demands.

In 2023, the selectboard hopes to establish a program to provide town honorariums to Calais residents who serve on the EMFD or WFVD teams, providing critical fire and ambulance service to our rural, and in some places remote community.

### **Roads**

Organizationally much has changed and efficiency improvements are in process for the town. The selectboard is in the process of hiring a director of public works in part to oversee and manage the road crew and roads. The

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## Selectboard Report (continued)

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intent is to merge grant writing, administration, and strategic planning into a single position. The position will be responsible for all town buildings and infrastructure, including town-owned buildings and property. This is a major step forward for improving service while reducing costs and stabilizing the tax rate. All selectboard members offer great praise and appreciation to our road crew members: John Stafford, Peter Dailey, Ogden Hersey, Tyler Stecker and Dana Huoppi. In the face of challenges, they have all risen to the tasks and taken responsibility and ownership of maintaining our roads.

In terms of infrastructure, we are looking at a temporary repair and subsequent replacement of the bridge by the mill on Moscow Woods Road in East Calais. We intend to do a stabilization project of this structure this summer and subsequent replacement as soon as funding can be secured.

We are also working to improve roadway safety and speed control by funding a traffic study on busy corridors, including County Road. We have purchased several digital speed signs which we will be able to move around town to various locations.

Thanks to all the Calais residents for your continued support.

*Reminder: You must obtain a permit to work in the town's Right-of-Way before commencing any activities.*

### **Legal Issues**

Town residents have since at least 2017 had to deal with horses running at large through their properties, along town gravel roads, and on County Road at all times of the day and night. Similarly, the same horses have been allowed to run loose on Route 14 in the town of Woodbury and through private and public property. Efforts over the last five plus years to encourage the horse owner(s) to responsibly care for and keep the horses penned in resulted in no net improvement. Large animals such as horses running at large present a serious threat not only to public and private property, but to the traveling public and to small children. The Town of Calais Selectboard drafted and after public notice and hearing, adopted an animal control ordinance on July 21, 2021, which vested in the town the authority to confiscate large animals running at large where the owner has made no effort or taken no action to keep the animals in an appropriately fenced facility or building. In the Spring of

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## Selectboard Report (continued)

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2022, the town confiscated four horses under an injunctive relief order issued by the Washington Superior Court. Subsequent to a November hearing on the merits, in December 2022 Washington Superior Court Justice Mello upheld the ordinance and the earlier ordered injunctive relief. Putting in place the particular details of Judge Mello's decision is ongoing.

### **In Closing**

The selectboard wishes to extend our sincere thanks and gratitude to our committed and dedicated town office staff, Jeremy Weiss and Barbara Butler, who keep the town running professionally and efficiently especially during this past year. We'd also like to recognize, thank and acknowledge Wendy Wilton from NEMRC for assisting with the treasurer duties and responsibilities. This team works tirelessly to provide the best services possible to the residents of the town.

We also recognize and appreciate all town and school employees, elected officials and volunteers who work countless hours to make Calais a vibrant and caring community.

In the next several months, the selectboard will experience turnover in the majority of its seats. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve our community, and for the people who will be elected to serve in the ensuing year. All five of us will continue to live in Calais, and we look forward to supporting a new selectboard and serving our community in new ways.

*Sharon Winn Fannon  
Marc Mihaly  
Denise Wheeler  
John Brabant  
Rick Kehne*

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## Town Clerk Report

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The Town Clerk’s office records, preserves, and certifies the public records of the town; presides over all local elections; serves as clerk of the board of civil authority, and hears tax abatement requests and tax appeals, issues dog, marriage, and liquor licenses; along with many other town related tasks. The Town Clerk works in coordination with the Selectboard and town committees and commissions, as well as regional agencies and groups.

Most importantly we deal directly with the public through phone calls, walk-ins, mail and email correspondence, and requests for information. In-person access to the records and services in the Town Office was finally restored this year. Importantly, appointments are still required for anyone seeking to do research in the vault. This helps us offer our undivided attention for researchers and anyone seeking services at the office.

In 2022 Calais welcomed 10 new babies, celebrated 9 marriages, and mourned the loss of 21 members of our community. The office issued 306 dog licenses. There were 588 instruments recorded in the Calais land records containing 1,691 pages of land records with 101 properties changing hands.

The Clerk’s office maintains the Town of Calais voter checklist, which has nearly 1,500 registered voters listed. The office oversaw the following elections during the year:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Election</b>	<b>Voters Participating</b>
March 1, 2022	Annual Town Meeting	566
August 9, 2022	August Primary Election	531
November 8, 2022	General Election	688

I want to thank our Assistant Town Clerk Barbara Butler for her years of experience, integrity, positivity, and her incredible drive to always serve at the highest level of excellence. This year in the long-term absence of a treasurer, I want to thank Jan Ohlsson, lister extraordinaire, for her willingness to step up and help out with the increased workload and to take on new tasks in service

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## Town Clerk Report (continued)

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to the town. I also want to thank Wendy Wilton, our contractor from New England Municipal Resource Center (NEMRC) who has been invaluable in finance and accounting assistance. The Town Office is a great place to work, just as Calais continues to be a great place to live. Here at the Town Office, we are dedicated to keeping the administration of the town steady, reliable and sound. Thank you for supporting our continued efforts.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Jeremy Weiss, Town Clerk*



*Town Office team members who worked a very busy year!  
Left to right: Jeremy Weiss, Town Clerk; Wendy Wilton, NEMRC consultant;  
Jan Ohlsson, Lister; seated Barbara Butler, Assistant Town Clerk  
Photo Credit: Scott Bassage*

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## Lister Report

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Calais Listers are elected for three (3) year terms and work under the requirements of V.S.A. 32, Taxation and Finance. Our job is to maintain the Calais Grand List, which is the basis for calculating property taxes.

To do that we use two (2) systems for data collection, access the State system to record sales, and upload and download to and from 2 other State systems, those being HS122 homestead declarations and Current Use validation.

We maintain the records of 998 properties: 976 are taxable and 22 are exempt from taxes. Total assessed value is \$221,469,800.

Listers year runs from 1 April – 31 March; all inspections and changes are to be completed by 1 April. This year, due to the extremely bad mud season, we asked for an extension to print the abstract of the Grand List, which made things a bit tight to produce a final Grand List to calculate the tax rate.

Reviewed questionable parcels	<u>72</u>
Inspections [actual site visits]	<u>44</u> (28 creating a change of appraisal)
Change of Appraisal Notices	<u>64</u>
Grievances Heard	<u>3</u>
Number of Current Use properties validated	<u>144</u>
Acreage in Current Use	<u>13,185.45</u>
Current Use land values	<u>\$14,642,765</u>
Property Transfers [PTTRs] processed to date	<u>54</u> [24 valid sales; 30 life estate transfers]

We are still completing work on the 2022 Parcel Maps. Our mapper is Christine Chamberlin, Mapping.

Our Common Level of Appraisal [CLA] is at .8766 (87.66%) and the COD is 18.13% . The state requires a Townwide reappraisal when either the CLA reaches .8500 (85%) and/or the Coefficient of Dispersion [COD] reaches 20%. We decided to start a reappraisal plan before the State told us to do so.

We have an agreement with NEMRC [New England Municipal Resource Center] and Ed Clodfelter to conduct a complete townwide appraisal. This will require inspection of both the interior and exterior of buildings. The reappraisal will not begin until *July 2024 and not be completed until June 2026.*

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## Lister Report (continued)

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It was necessary to have this agreement now, because there are limited companies who do townwide reappraisals and the recent market changes have made reappraisals necessary for many towns AND we wanted to show the State that we have a reappraisal plan in place. We thank the Selectboard for their speedy work in approving this agreement for such a long time into the future!

The Listers thank all of you for your cooperation as we inspect land and buildings. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to email us at [calaislisters@gmail.com](mailto:calaislisters@gmail.com) or leave a message at 802-456-8720.

*Wilson Hughes, Lister  
John McCullough, Lister  
Janice Ohlsson, Lister*



*Calais Lister Jan Ohlsson on the job. Thank you, Jan, for your invaluable service as a Lister from 2014-2023. We'll miss you!*

*Photo Credit: Wilson Hughes*

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## Zoning Administrator Report

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The Calais Zoning Administrator reviewed and issued 31 Permits in 2022:

- (5) Minor Subdivisions
- (1) Major Subdivisions (final DRB decision pending as of this writing)
- (1) Application for Design Control Review
- (4) Change of Use
- (5) new Single-Family Dwellings
- (7) additions/substantial remodels
- (4) outbuildings/sheds
- (4) garages
- (1) revised previous application
- (1) concrete equipment pad

*John McCullough*  
*Calais Zoning Administrator*



*The barn at Kent's Corner*  
*Photo Credit: Wilson Hughes*

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## **Emergency Management Report**

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The Calais Local Hazard Mitigation Plan as updated in 2021 notes the importance of having emergency shelter sites available in the event of extended power outage, severe weather events or other major disruptions. Calais Elementary School (CES) is designated as a current shelter location, and the Calais Town Hall and Maple Corner Community Center are identified as potential sites. In October we invited representatives from the American Red Cross (ARC) of Northern New England to assess the capacity and readiness of those buildings to serve as shelters. The ARC report estimates that CES has an evacuation capacity to serve 123 individuals, 100 at the Town Hall and 70 at the Community Center. CES has a backup generator that powers the entire building, while the Town Hall and the Community Center rely solely on the utility grid. In order to provide auxiliary power, Calais applied for and received grant funding from the Vermont Department of Public Safety to install generators at the Town Hall and the Community Center.

In December during the holiday weekend storm, the need for emergency shelter sites became a reality as trees brought down utility lines and blocked roads, and residents lost landline and internet communication. The greatest concern was for homes with no backup source of heat. The Calais road crew worked around the clock to keep roads open. 96% of Calais residents had lost power at some point. Nonstop repair work under hazardous conditions by WEC and other utilities included replacement of over 30 broken poles. Calais activated its emergency operation center at the Town Office, and the elementary school became available as a warming and overnight shelter.

Volunteer workers are central to the operation of an emergency shelter. The Calais emergency management team has invited American Red Cross to lead a basic level course in Shelter Fundamentals for area residents who might volunteer and are interested in learning the procedures for setting up, running and closing a shelter. Course participants work on a case study using shelter checklists that takes them through four phases of the sheltering cycle: opening, organizing, operating and closing. For information about the training dates and other details, email Betty Copeland: [ukayak2@gmail.com](mailto:ukayak2@gmail.com).

*Nick Emlen  
Calais Emergency Management Director*

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## **Trustees of Public Funds Report**

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The Trustees of Public Funds continued the ongoing work of managing the Calais Cemetery Endowment Fund. The primary investment objective of the Cemetery Fund is to increase the income and total value generated by the Fund's investments, and to earn a rate of return which exceeds the rate of inflation so that the purchasing power of the Fund can keep pace with the rising cost of cemetery maintenance.

The Trustees believe that cemetery funds are very similar to long-term endowment funds that allow a portion of the income and earnings on the fund's investments to be spent annually, but the principal is maintained in perpetuity. For cemetery funds the principal provides perpetual care for cemeteries. Historically, many cemetery funds have invested in bank savings accounts and CDs, however banks continue to pay relatively low rates of interest, meanwhile maintenance costs continue to rise.

Most endowments use a long-term, broadly diversified investment management strategy, which helps to manage investment risk. This approach results in the Cemetery Fund's short-term market value moving up and down with changes in financial markets. Over longer-term periods of time, this investment strategy should result in investment returns that grow with the economy and reflect the growth in corporate earnings and dividends.

The Trustees have transitioned the Calais Cemetery Endowment Fund to this kind of investment approach over the last several years. Currently the Calais Cemetery Fund is invested in a broad mix of good quality equity securities (65%), fixed income securities (23%), and short-term investments (12%) using seven, separate T. Rowe Price mutual funds. T. Rowe Price is a highly regarded investment manager with a strong investment track record. Going forward the Trustees will look to rebalance the fund so that its asset allocation falls within the Fund's long-term investment allocation targets.

After several years of above average investment returns, this past year has been a very challenging one for financial markets. As the rate of inflation began to increase early in 2022, the Federal Reserve started to aggressively raise interest rates with the goal of controlling inflation. As interest rates rose, the prices of both bonds and stocks declined and the market value of most endowments declined as well. The Calais Cemetery Endowment Fund was no exception and its market value declined from \$232,292 on December 1, 2021 to \$214,959 on December 1, 2022, a decline of 7.4%.

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## **Trustees of Public Funds Report (continued)**

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In 2021, the Calais Cemetery Endowment Fund reached a long-term goal of exceeding \$200,000 in assets, a target the Trustees set a number of years ago to begin distributions to help cover cemetery expenses. The Trustees have determined that a reasonable spending rate for the 2022 fiscal year is 4% of the Fund's market value. Each year we will consider the financial market environment, asset value of the Fund, and spending rate of endowments generally to determine an appropriate spending rate for the coming fiscal year.

*Rodney A. Buck  
Scott G. Grzankowski  
Steve Killoran*

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## **Cemetery Endowment Report - FY22**

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<b>Receipts FY22</b>		
Perpetual Care Income	19,200.00	
T. Rowe Price Net Change	(32,401.78)	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$(13,201.78)</b>	
	<b>7/1/21</b>	<b>6/30/22</b>
T. Rowe Price	\$224,385.19	\$202,683.41

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# Auditor Letter

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## Sullivan, Powers & Co., P.C.

Certified Public Accountants

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VT Lic. #92-000180

January 11, 2023

Selectboard  
Town of Calais, Vermont  
3120 Pekin Brook Road  
East Calais, Vermont 05650

We have audited the financial statements of the Town of Calais, Vermont as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022.

The financial statements and our report thereon are available for public inspection at the Town Office and on their website at [www.calaisvermont.gov](http://www.calaisvermont.gov).

*Sullivan, Powers & Co., P.C.*

Members of The American Institute and Vermont Society of Certified Public Accountants

**Statement of Assets, Liabilities & Funds**

	General Fund	Highway Fund	Cemetery Fund	ARPA Fund	Non-Major Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>ASSETS</b>						
Cash	1,167,893	0	0		0	1,167,893
Investments	5,767	0	202,683		0	208,450
Due from Other Funds	0	0	16,298	239,739	320,708	576,745
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,173,660</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>218,981</b>	<b>239,739</b>	<b>320,708</b>	<b>1,953,088</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
Due to State of Vermont	124	0	0	0	0	124
Tax Sale Overpayment	42,929	0	0	0	0	42,929
Due to Other Funds	556,417	12,183	0	0	8,145	576,745
Due to Others	29,045	0	0	0	0	29,045
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>628,515</b>	<b>12,183</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,145</b>	<b>648,843</b>

**Statement of Assets, Liabilities & Funds (continued)**

	General Fund	Highway Fund	Cemetery Fund	ARPA Fund	Non-Major Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>						
Prepaid Property Taxes	12,539	0	0	0		12,539
<b>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<b>12,539</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>12,539</b>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>						
Restricted	0	0	218,981	239,739	24,393	483,113
Committed	11,064	0	0	0	146,072	157,136
Assigned	0	0	0	0	150,243	150,243
Unassigned	521,542	(12,183)	0	0	(8,145)	501,214
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>532,606</b>	<b>12,183</b>	<b>218,981</b>	<b>239,739</b>	<b>312,563</b>	<b>1,291,706</b>
<b>Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances</b>	<b>1,173,660</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>218,981</b>	<b>239,739</b>	<b>320,708</b>	<b>1,953,088</b>

# Proposed Budget & Expenses

Account	Budget FY22	Actual FY22	Budget FY23	Actual FY23	Budget FY 24
<b>SELECT BOARD</b>					
Select Board Assistant	22,500	-	11,250	-	-
Grant Coordinator	-	-	11,250	-	-
Select Board Stipends	3,565	2,980	3,565	-	-
SB Recording Sec Wages	4,200	3,497	4,750	910	4,750
Bank/Credit Card Fees	300	258	300	85	300
Professional Fees	-	-	-	2,000	2,000
Legal Fees	10,000	8,604	10,000	34,380	25,000
Professional Audit	15,200	15,200	15,500	13,886	-
Town Website/Webmasters	950	660	950	-	2,400
Education & Training	400	774	400	-	800
Copier Lease and Maintenance	1,100	451	645	412	-
Mileage Reimbursement	200	139	200	340	-
Volunteer/Comm Appreciation	500	-	500	-	500
Rural Fire Protection Program	100	100	100	-	100
Miscellaneous	100	70	100	27	100
<b>Total Selectboard</b>	<b>59,015</b>	<b>32,634</b>	<b>59,510</b>	<b>51,745</b>	<b>35,950</b>
<b>TOWN TREASURER</b>					
Town Treasurer Wages	51,971	50,694	55,037	-	-
Treas/Business Mgr/Town Administrator	-	-	-	-	66,500
Assist Town Treasurer Wage	4,782	4,230	5,064	5,588	5,388
<b>Total Town Treasurer</b>	<b>56,753</b>	<b>54,924</b>	<b>60,101</b>	<b>5,588</b>	<b>71,888</b>
<b>DEL TAX COLLECTOR</b>					
Del Tax Collector Wages	10,000	10,002	11,000	4,212	11,000
<b>Total DLQ Tax Collector</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>10,002</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>4,212</b>	<b>11,000</b>
<b>TOWN CLERK</b>					
Town Clerk Wages	43,709	53,512	46,288	17,753	49,250
Assistant Town Clerk Wage	20,300	21,240	22,000	10,173	23,409
Land Record Books	580	523	580	229	580
<b>Total Town Clerk</b>	<b>74,989</b>	<b>86,255</b>	<b>79,268</b>	<b>28,156</b>	<b>73,239</b>
<b>TOWN LISTERS</b>					
Lister Wages	12,000	7,635	8,000	4,004	12,000
Tax Map Revisions	3,650	2,850	3,100	-	3,500
Lister Education/Training	400	-	400	-	-
Software Licenses	1,181	1,219	1,216	349	1,500
Lister Expense	100	296	100	-	1,000
<b>Total Listers</b>	<b>17,331</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>12,816</b>	<b>4,353</b>	<b>18,000</b>
<b>AUDIT</b>					
Town Auditor	4,000	2,786	4,000	-	-
Professional Audit	-	-	-	-	17,000
Town Report	3,000	4,174	3,000	-	3,000
<b>Total Audit</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>6,960</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,000</b>
<b>ELECTIONS</b>					
Elections Postage	-	-	500	-	500
Election Expenses	1,500	3,767	2,500	-	1,500
<b>Total Elections</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>3,767</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,000</b>
<b>GENERAL OFFICE</b>					
Contracts/Nemrc/Cotts	8,275	17,096	8,440	36,268	-
NEMRC Support & Disaster Recovery	-	-	-	6,097	6,581
NEMRC Contract services	-	-	-	28,820	5,000
Cotts Contract	-	-	-	1,890	3,240
IT Disaster Recovery Cont	12,328	14,459	12,328	5,587	-

Proposed Budget & Expenses (continued)

Account	Budget FY22	Actual FY22	Budget FY23	Actual FY23	Budget FY 24
IT Support contract			-	4,289	8,577
IT Consulting				3,707	6,000
Education & Training			500	414	800
Maintenance	1,000	1,515	1,500	179	1,500
Generator Maintenance	900	1,066	1,000	-	3,600
Facilities Maintenance St	2,500	3,167	2,500	1,459	2,500
Telephone and Internet	2,750	3,227	3,240	1,026	5,000
Advertising	500	4,837	500	3,546	3,000
Mileage Reimbursement					300
Postage	2,950	1,170	3,000	188	3,000
Supplies	4,500	4,363	4,500	2,538	4,500
Copier Lease and Maintenance					900
Office Equipment	500	1,466	2,000	103	2,000
Heat/Electric	3,700	3,049	5,180	730	5,180
TO Security System	-	-	600	576	-
Software Licenses	1,900	1,070	1,460	-	1,600
<b>Total General Office</b>	<b>41,803</b>	<b>56,484</b>	<b>46,748</b>	<b>97,416</b>	<b>63,278</b>
<b>FUND APPROPRIATIONS</b>					
Technology Reserve Approp	8,000	8,000	8,000	-	2,500
Town Office Building Reserve Fund	-	-	1,500	194	2,000
<b>Total Fund Appropriations</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>9,500</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>4,500</b>
<b>PAYROLL TAXES/BENEFITS</b>					
FICA & Medi Taxes	12,304	12,393	15,063	3,863	14,546
VMERS Retirement	5,980	6,678	7,582	1,154	7,524
Health Insurance	46,780	39,241	43,940	9,154	49,033
HRA Contribution	10,200	4,927	10,200	-	10,200
Dental Insurance	920	790	865	771	864
Disability Insurance	692	541	591	183	600
<b>Total Payroll taxes/benefits</b>	<b>76,876</b>	<b>64,570</b>	<b>78,241</b>	<b>15,124</b>	<b>82,766</b>
<b>TAXES, DUES &amp; ASSESSMENT</b>					
CVSWMD	1,604	1,604	1,607	781	1,700
County Tax	16,603	16,603	16,935	8,602	20,000
CVRPC	2,053	2,053	2,209	2,209	2,209
VLCT Dues	3,069	3,069	3,179	3,179	3,300
CVSPAB	100	-	100	-	-
<b>Total Taxes, dues &amp; assessment</b>	<b>23,429</b>	<b>23,329</b>	<b>24,030</b>	<b>14,771</b>	<b>27,209</b>
<b>ZONING ADMINISTRATION</b>					
Zoning Admin Stipend	4,800	4,000	4,800	2,000	4,800
Zoning Assistant	-	-	2,400	-	2,400
DRB-Secretary Wages	400	-	400	-	400
Zoning Expenses	300	472	300	-	300
<b>Total Zoning Administration</b>	<b>5,500</b>	<b>4,472</b>	<b>7,900</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>7,900</b>
<b>POLICE PATROL</b>					
Constable Stipend	1,000	1,000	2,000	3,010	2,400
Health Officer Stipend	-	-	1,000	-	1,000
Sheriff's Patrol	4,000	1,913	4,000	2,493	4,000
East Calais Street Lights	1,500	1,527	1,500	528	1,500
<b>Total Police Patrol</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>4,441</b>	<b>8,500</b>	<b>6,031</b>	<b>8,900</b>
<b>ANIMAL CONTROL</b>					
Central Vermont Humane Society	700	758	700	700	700
Animal Control Officer Stipend					1,000
Animal Control Expenses			700	7,036	1,000
<b>Total Animal Control</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>7,036</b>	<b>2,700</b>

**Proposed Budget & Expenses (continued)**

Account	Budget FY22	Actual FY22	Budget FY23	Actual FY23	Budget FY 24
<b>PLANNING COMMISSION</b>					
PC Assistant Wages	1,000	-	5,000	-	-
PC Education/Training	200	-	200	-	200
PC Expenses	800	696	1,000	-	500
PC Reserve Fund					2,500
<b>Total Planning Commission</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>696</b>	<b>6,200</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,200</b>
<b>CONSERVATION COMMISSION</b>					
CC Rec Secretary Wages	600	160	600	-	600
CC Education/Training	200	-	200	-	200
Green Up	200	125	200	-	200
Invasives Species Inventory					-
Conservation Commission Expenses	250	-	250	-	-
Conservation Fund	5,000	5,000	5,000	-	8,000
<b>Total Conservation Fund</b>	<b>6,250</b>	<b>5,285</b>	<b>6,250</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,000</b>
<b>SWIM FUND</b>					
Swim Fund	1,500	1,500	1,500	-	1,500
<b>Total Swim Fund</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,500</b>
<b>TOWN HALL</b>					
Maintenance	1,500	724	1,500	-	1,500
Janitorial	1,000	-	1,500	-	2,400
Supplies	1,000	149	1,000	438	1,000
Utilities (heat and electric)	2,500	4,703	3,200	1,128	3,600
Phone/Internet	1,500	-	1,500	-	2,000
Security (fire alarm)	-	-	-	-	600
CVF Broadband Ext	10,000	-	-	-	-
Town Hall Building Reserve Fund	5,000	5,000	6,000	-	10,000
<b>Total Town Hall</b>	<b>22,500</b>	<b>11,152</b>	<b>15,300</b>	<b>1,565</b>	<b>21,100</b>
<b>INSURANCE</b>					
Bldg & Liability Insurance	9,736	5,031	11,484	11,075	12,294
Unemployment Insurance	554	478	439	293	544
Worker's Compensation	664	716	753	145	1,604
<b>Total Insurance</b>	<b>10,954</b>	<b>6,225</b>	<b>12,676</b>	<b>11,513</b>	<b>14,442</b>
<b>LONG TERM DEBT</b>					
Town Office Bond	9,343	10,000	9,343	10,000	10,000
Town Office Bond Int	1,750	1,092	1,259	25	1,259
EMFD Station Bond	35,000	35,000	35,000	-	35,000
EMFD Bond Int	15,640	15,640	14,156	-	14,156
T/H Rennov Loan	40,000	-	40,000	40,000	40,000
T/H Rennov Int	2,192	-	1,096	2,156	2,500
Reduce FY15/16 Deficit	56,358	56,358	-	-	-
Reduce FY15/16 Def Int	2,074	2,006	-	114	-
Server Loan-Prin	6,167	6,167	6,167	-	-
Server Loan-Int	401	397	201	-	-
<b>Total long Term Debt</b>	<b>168,925</b>	<b>126,660</b>	<b>107,222</b>	<b>52,294</b>	<b>102,915</b>
<b>TAX ABATEMENT</b>					
Tax Abatement	-	47	-	2,129	500
<b>Total Tax Abatement</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,129</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>Total GG Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>601,525</b>	<b>520,159</b>	<b>557,462</b>	<b>304,127</b>	<b>581,987</b>
<b>HIGHWAY and PUBLIC WORKS</b>					

Proposed Budget & Expenses (continued)

Account	Budget FY22	Actual FY22	Budget FY23	Actual FY23	Budget FY 24
<b>GENERAL HIGHWAY</b>					
Highway Wages	185,000	124,957	190,365	59,057	210,633
Road Commissioner	66,250	79,164	70,160	25,177	-
Temporary	29,000	51,280	30,711	17,737	24,000
Dir. of Public Works (grant coordinator)	-	-	-	4,001	80,000
Operations Mngr Wages	16,000	16,615	20,000	3,692	-
Benefits Contingency					15,000
FICA & Medi	18,073	20,466	23,810	8,252	24,069
VMERS Retirement	7,813	8,135	12,849	3,818	13,720
VMERS Retirement Rd Comm	4,141	4,967	4,736	1,657	-
VMERS Ret Director Public Works	-	-	-	260	5,200
Insurance-Hlth	56,706	41,822	54,066	11,301	59,415
Insurance -- Dental					2,159
Insur-Hlth/life Rd. Comm.	11,688	8,835	11,118	3,048	-
Ins. Health Director Public Works	-	-	-	1,867	-
Insurance -- Dental Director Public Works					-
Insurance Disability & Life					1,500
HRA Highway					15,300
Education & Training	500	120	500	-	500
Uniforms	5,500	5,556	5,500	3,980	5,600
MRGP Fees	1,590	1,350	1,590	-	1,590
<b>Total General Highway</b>	<b>402,261</b>	<b>363,266</b>	<b>425,405</b>	<b>143,847</b>	<b>458,686</b>
<b>ROAD MAINTENANCE</b>					
Equipment Hired	20,000	270	10,000	799	2,500
Roadside Mowing (equipment)	5,000	77	1,000	2,133	5,000
Miscellaneous	3,000	8,721	5,000	179	-
Gravel	76,000	80,883	80,000	21,966	80,000
Sand	65,000	109,282	65,000	1,736	35,000
Bridges & Culverts	10,000	8,198	8,000	-	8,500
Pavement Crack Seal	15,000	17,720	15,000	-	17,000
Erosion Stone	4,000	2,506	4,000	1,033	4,000
Road Salt	26,000	15,821	18,000	-	18,000
Magic Salt	2,500	-	1,000	-	1,000
Chloride	12,000	18,780	15,000	11,197	15,000
Road Signs	3,000	11,777	3,000	5,675	8,000
Guard Rails	1,500	-	1,500	-	1,500
Line Striping	-	-	-	6,951	7,000
<b>Total Road Maintenance</b>	<b>243,000</b>	<b>274,036</b>	<b>226,500</b>	<b>51,668</b>	<b>202,500</b>
<b>VEHICLE/EQUIPMENT MAINT</b>					
Vehicle/Equipment Repairs	55,000	19,332	45,000	41,757	60,000
1997 Caterpillar Grader	-	5,297	-	-	-
1997 John Deere Grader	-	6,466	-	-	-
2002 Econoline Trailer	-	353	-	-	-
2009 International Dump	-	10,647	-	-	-
2014 Western Star 10 wheeler					-
2010 Caterpillar Loader	-	261	-	-	-
2014 Volvo Excavator	-	8,450	-	450	-
2015 Ford Dump	-	153	-	-	-
2016 Ford Pickup	-	862	-	-	-
2016 West Star Dump -- 6 wheel	-	4,331	-	263	-
2017 West Star Dump -- 10 wheel	-	15,973	-	1,774	-
2019 West Star -- 10 wheel	-	1,836	-	-	-
2019 International 1 ton	-	2,239	-	-	-
Dust control portable sprayer and tank					8,000
Fuel-Gas, Oil, Diesel	50,000	66,946	45,000	11,131	70,000
Highway Capital Reserve Fund			20,000		-
<b>Total Vehicle/Equipment Maint</b>	<b>105,000</b>	<b>143,147</b>	<b>110,000</b>	<b>55,375</b>	<b>138,000</b>

# Proposed Budget & Expenses (continued)

Account	Budget FY22	Actual FY22	Budget FY23	Actual FY23	Budget FY 24
<b>TOWN GARAGE</b>					
Trash Removal	500	78	500	-	500
Tire Recycle/Disposal	150	-	150	-	500
Garage Maintenance	2,000	1,368	2,000	3,491	3,000
Computer Expenses	500	-	500	-	2,500
Communications/Security	3,000	4,069	4,000	1,444	4,500
Radios & Paging	750	69	750	-	5,000
Supplies	1,000	-	1,000	478	1,000
Welding, Shop Supplies, Tools	4,000	7,040	4,000	1,784	7,000
Utilities	3,500	2,208	3,000	426	3,500
<b>Total Town Garage</b>	<b>15,400</b>	<b>14,832</b>	<b>15,900</b>	<b>7,623</b>	<b>27,500</b>
<b>INSURANCE</b>					
Liability Insurance	10,549	5,503	12,301	2,725	12,294
Unemployment Insurance	689	808	835	-	614
Workers Compensation	14,235	6,948	18,213	3,774	14,438
<b>Total Insurance</b>	<b>25,473</b>	<b>13,259</b>	<b>31,349</b>	<b>6,499</b>	<b>27,346</b>
<b>HW GRANT EXPENSES</b>					
B Back Road 0435 Expense	-	-	-	1,907	-
Bliss Road BR0434	-	5,502	-	-	-
Moscow Paving Grant Exp	-	563	-	23,313	-
Luce Rd Grnt Exp	-	2,668	-	15,225	-
B Back Road 0835	-	2,451	-	-	-
Class II Grant Paving	-	44,484	-	-	-
East Calais Bridge Temporary Repair	-	-	-	-	30,000
<b>Total HW Grant Expenses</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>55,668</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>40,445</b>	<b>30,000</b>
<b>CAPITAL EXPENSES</b>					
New Equipment					
2017 West Star-#1842 Prn	17,561	17,565	-	-	-
2017 West Star-#1842 Int	465	465	-	-	-
'14 Volvo Exvtr-#8014 Prn	17,055	17,055	-	-	-
'14 Volvo Exvtr-#8014 Int	341	341	-	-	-
2019 International-Prn	19,033	19,033	19,678	19,678	19,678
2019 International-Int	2,002	2,002	1,357	1,357	1,357
Wood Chipper-Principal	5,499	5,499	5,499	5,322	5,499
Wood Chipper-Interest	715	710	536	710	536
2019 West Star Prn	-	-	40,261	-	-
2019 West Star Int	-	-	1,526	-	-
2023 West Star dump 10 wheeler	-	-	-	-	42,000
2022 Ford F-600 1 ton	-	-	-	-	30,000
2023 West Star Prn	-	-	42,000	-	-
2023 West Star Int	-	-	3,000	-	-
	62,671	62,670	113,857	27,067	99,070
<b>Total HW Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>853,805</b>	<b>926,878</b>	<b>923,011</b>	<b>332,525</b>	<b>983,102</b>
<b>Total Budgeted GG &amp; HW Expense</b>	<b>1,455,330</b>	<b>1,447,037</b>	<b>1,480,473</b>	<b>636,652</b>	<b>1,565,090</b>
<b>WARNED SPECIAL ARTICLES</b>					
<b>SOCIAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS</b>					
Circle	700	700	700	-	700
Calais Community Connecti	1,000	1,000	1,000	-	1,000
CV Adult Basic Ed	1,000	1,000	1,000	-	1,000
CV Council on Aging	1,400	1,400	1,400	-	1,400
CV Economic Dev Council	500	500	500	-	500
CV Home Health/Hospice	3,600	3,600	4,150	-	4,150

## Proposed Budget & Expenses (continued)

Account	Budget FY22	Actual FY22	Budget FY23	Actual FY23	Budget FY 24
CV Memorial Civic Ctr	800	800	800	-	800
Friends of Winooski River	300	300	300	-	400
Family Ctr Wash Cnty	500	500	500	-	500
Good Beginnings of CV	300	300	300	-	300
Green Mtn Transit	859	859	859	-	859
Greenup	100	100	100	-	100
Kellogg-Hubbard Library	27,132	27,132	29,898	-	-
Montpelier Senior Center	4,900	4,900	4,900	-	5,300
Old West Church Assoc	200	200	200	-	1,823
Peoples Health & Wellness	2,000	2,000	1,500	-	1,500
Mosaic Vermont, Inc.	200	200	200	-	200
Twin Valley Senior Center	3,000	3,000	3,000	-	3,500
Vt Assoc for the Blind	650	650	650	-	650
Vt Ctr for Indep Living	800	800	800	-	800
Wash County Diversion Pro	300	300	300	-	300
Wash County Youth Serv	500	500	500	-	500
Woodbury/Calais Foodshelf	626	626	210	-	443
Wash Cty Mental Health	1,400	1,400	1,400	-	1,400
Rural Community Transport	975	975	975	-	975
Good Samaritan Haven	500	500	1,500	-	1,500
Friends of Calais Town Ha	3,000	3,000	-	-	-
Calais Hist Society	-	-	200	-	-
Community Harvest	-	-	250	-	250
OUR House CVT	-	-	250	-	250
<b>Total social service Approp.</b>	<b>57,242</b>	<b>57,242</b>	<b>58,342</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31,100</b>
<b>TRANSFERS OUT/WARNED ARTICLES</b>					
Trans Out Grant Expenses	-	522	-	-	-
Cemetery Appropriation	49,400	49,400	42,500	-	49,500
Transfer Cemetery Fencing	-	-	20,000	-	-
<b>Total Transfers</b>	<b>49,400</b>	<b>49,922</b>	<b>62,500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>49,500</b>
Kellogg-Hubbard Library					29,898
<b>FIRE &amp; AMBULANCE</b>					
East Montpelier FD	60,977	61,038	62,837	62,837	66,564
East Montpelier Ambulance	111,468	111,580	121,083	60,542	130,300
Woodbury FD	34,251	34,250	35,370	17,685	38,724
Woodbury FD Truck	17,850	17,850	17,850	-	17,850
WVFD Equip Reserve Fund	31,000	31,000	31,000	17,850	31,000
EMFD Truck Loan	-	-	13,667	-	-
<b>Total Fire &amp; Ambulance</b>	<b>255,646</b>	<b>255,818</b>	<b>281,807</b>	<b>158,914</b>	<b>284,438</b>
<b>Total Warned Special Articles</b>	<b>362,288</b>	<b>362,982</b>	<b>402,649</b>	<b>158,914</b>	<b>394,936</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGETED GG &amp; HW PLUS</b>					
<b>SPECIAL WARNED ARTICLES</b>	<b>1,817,618</b>	<b>1,810,019</b>	<b>1,883,122</b>	<b>795,566</b>	<b>1,960,026</b>

# Income Report

	FY 22 Budgeted	FY 22 Actual	FY23 Budgeted	FY24 Budgeted
<b>Taxes</b>				
Real Estate Taxes - Current	1,508,713	1,323,809	1,567,082	1,636,928
Delinquent Tax Revenue	0	173,580	0	0
State Current Use	105,000	111,164	108,000	110,400
<b>Total Taxes</b>	<b>1,613,713</b>	<b>1,608,553</b>	<b>1,675,082</b>	<b>1,747,328</b>
<b>Highway Funds</b>				
State Aid	163,000	165,561	165,000	170,000
HW State Supplement	0	18,324	0	0
Highway Grants – Misc	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous Credits	250	2,267	0	0
Moscow Woods Paving Grt R	0	0	0	0
George Rd Grant Rev	0	0	250	0
Grant in Aid 20	0	105	0	0
B Back Road 0835	0	14,444	0	0
Grant in Aid 21	0	23,440	0	0
<b>Total Highway Funds</b>	<b>163,250</b>	<b>224,140</b>	<b>165,250</b>	<b>170,000</b>
<b>Licenses &amp; Fees</b>				
Dog Licenses	1,300	1,549	1,500	1,500
Liquor Licenses	325	255	140	50
Zoning/Curb Cuts	1,900	2,410	2,200	1,700
Traffic Fines	1,100	1,381	1,500	1,050
Marriage Licenses	200	80	50	100
Tax Collection Fees	2,300	0	0	0
Recording Fees	20,000	24,579	23,000	20,000
<b>Total Licenses &amp; Fees</b>	<b>27,125</b>	<b>30,254</b>	<b>28,390</b>	<b>24,400</b>
<b>Other Income</b>				
Interest Income	1,500	587	500	2,500
Delinquent Tax Interest	980	2,578	1,000	1,304
Delinquent Tax Penalty	3,800	4,869	5,000	2,468
Green-Up Day Reimbursement	150	0	0	125
PILOT Funds	5,900	6,668	6,700	6,920
Equalization Payment	1,000	999	1,000	1,000
Cannabis Control Board	0	0	0	400
Lease of Town Land	200	200	200	200
Land Use Change Payment	0	0	1,612	0
Miscellaneous	0	772	0	0
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>13,530</b>	<b>16,673</b>	<b>16,012</b>	<b>14,917</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,817,618</b>	<b>1,879,620</b>	<b>1,884,734</b>	<b>1,956,645</b>

## FY'24 Estimated Tax Rate

**EXPENSES:**

General Fund..... 581,987  
 Highway ..... 983,102  
**Total Expenses ..... \$1,565,089**

**INCOME:**

Current Use ..... 110,400  
 State Aid to Highways ..... 170,000  
 Licenses and Fees ..... 24,400  
 Other Income ..... 14,917  
**Total Income ..... \$319,717**

**Amount to be voted on in Article 3:**

		Est. Town Tax	Est. Local Agree. Tax*	Educa-tion H.S. Tax	Est. Total Tax 2023	Total Tax 2022
Amount to be raised in taxes with expenses above:	\$1,245,372	0.6061	0.0073	1.7479	<b>2.3613</b>	2.5178
Amount to be raised in taxes with expenses below:	\$1,640,308	0.7983	0.0073	1.7479	<b>2.5535</b>	2.5178

FY 23 Grand List was: \$2,054,869.09

*Tax rate = Expenses divided by grand list*

<b>SPECIAL ARTICLES TO BE VOTED ON</b>			<b>Effect on Tax Rate per \$100,000 of value</b>
Art. 4 Calais Cemeteries	49,500	0.0241	<b>\$ 24.09</b>
Art. 5 Kellogg Hubbard	29,898	0.0145	<b>\$ 14.55</b>
Art. 6 Non-Profit Orgs.	31,100	0.0151	<b>\$ 15.13</b>
Art. 14 EMVFD Operating	66,564	0.0324	<b>\$ 32.39</b>
Art. 15 EMVFD Ambul.	130,300	0.0634	<b>\$ 63.41</b>
Art. 16 WVFD Truck Fund	17,850	0.0087	<b>\$ 8.69</b>
Art. 16 WVFD Cap. Fund	31,000	0.0151	<b>\$ 15.09</b>
Art. 16 WVFD Operating	38,724	0.0188	<b>\$ 18.84</b>
	<b>\$394,936</b>	0.1922	<b>\$192.20</b>

*If your property is assessed at \$100,000, your grand list value is \$1,000*

In 2022 your property tax would have been: \$2,518

In 2023 if the tax rate is 2.3613 your est. property taxes will be: \$2,361

In 2023 if the tax rate is 2.5535 your est. property taxes will be: \$2,553

\* 2022 Local Agreement Tax = disabled veterans and non-taxed properties.

## Report of Capital Project Funds

	Lakes & Ponds Fund	Curtis Pond Dam Fund	EMFD Equipment Fund	Town Hall Fund	Town Office Fund	Technology Fund	Highway Equipment Fund	East Calais Village Grant Fund	Total Capital Funds
<b>Cash Receipts</b>									
Intergovernmental	\$ -0	50,000	\$ -0	\$ -0	-0		\$ -0	21,000	\$ 71,000
Other	-0	-0	-0	-0	-0		2,461	-0	\$ 2,461
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>2,461</b>	<b>21,000</b>	<b>73,461</b>
<b>Cash Disbursements</b>									
Capital Outlay									-0
General Government	-0	-0	-0	-0	-0	4,217	-0	-0	4,217
Highways and Streets	-0	-0	-0	-0	-0	-0	127,522	-0	127,522
Debt Service									
Principal	-0	-0	-0	-0	-0	-0	38,791	-0	38,791
Interest	-0	-0	-0	-0	-0	-0	2,997	-0	2,997
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>4,217</b>	<b>169,310</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>173,527</b>
<b>Excess/(Deficiency) of Cash Receipts Over Cash Disbursements</b>									
	<b>-0</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>(4,217)</b>	<b>(166,849)</b>	<b>21,000</b>	<b>(100,066)</b>
Other Financing Sources:									
Proceeds from Sale of Equipment	-0	-0	-0	-0	-0		15,000		15,000
Transfers In	-0	-0	-0	5,000	-0	8,000		463	13,463
<b>Total other Financing Sources:</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>28,463</b>
Net change in Fund Balances									
Fund Balances-July 1, 2021	\$ -0	\$ 50,000	\$ -0	\$ 5,000	\$ -0	\$ 3,783	\$ (151,849)	\$ 21,463	\$ (71,603)
Fund Balances-June 30, 2022	262	5,639	15,245	5,000	57,400	9,122	172,393	(21,463)	238,598
<b>Fund Balances-June 30, 2022</b>	<b>\$ 262</b>	<b>\$ 55,639</b>	<b>\$ 15,245</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>	<b>\$ 57,400</b>	<b>\$ 12,905</b>	<b>\$ 20,544</b>	<b>\$ -0</b>	<b>\$ 166,995</b>

## Report of Special Revenue Funds

	Reappraisal Fund	Conservation Commission Fund	Trail Fund	Invasive Species Grant Fund	Records Preservation Fund	GLG Adamant Grant Fund	GLG Maple Corner Grant Fund	Hazard Mitigation Plan Grant Fund	Total Capital Funds
<b>Cash Receipts</b>									
Intergovernmental	\$ 8,492	\$ -	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 14	\$ 7,980	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 16,486
Premits, Licenses and Fees	0	0			7,282				7,282
Donations	0	0	230	0	0	0	0	0	230
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>	<b>8,492</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,296</b>	<b>7,980</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23,998</b>
<b>Cash Disbursements</b>									
General Government	0	30,000	0	0		2,040	8,082	0	40,122
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>2,040</b>	<b>8,082</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>40,122</b>
<b>Excess/(Deficiency) of Cash Receipts Over Cash Disbursements</b>	<b>8,492</b>	<b>(30,000)</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,296</b>	<b>5,940</b>	<b>(8,082)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(16,124)</b>
<b>Other Financing Sources/(Uses):</b>									
Transfers In	0	5,000	0	59			0	0	5,059
Transfers Out						(4,000)			(4,000)
<b>Total other Financing Sources/(Uses):</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(4,000)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,059</b>
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ 8,492	\$ (25,000)	\$ 230	\$ 59	\$ 7,296	\$ 1,940	\$ (8,082)	\$ 0	\$ (15,065)
<b>Fund Balances-July 1, 2021</b>	<b>86,112</b>	<b>59,978</b>	<b>3,310</b>	<b>(59)</b>	<b>13,295</b>	<b>(1,940)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(63)</b>	<b>160,633</b>
<b>Fund Balances-June 30, 2022</b>	<b>\$ 94,604</b>	<b>\$ 34,978</b>	<b>\$ 3,540</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 20,591</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ (8,082)</b>	<b>\$ (63)</b>	<b>\$ 145,568</b>

## Schedule of Indebtedness

	Original Balance	Principal Paid FY22	Interest Paid FY22	Principal Due FY23	Interest Due FY23	Principal Due FY24	Interest Due FY24	Principal Due after FY24
<b>Short Term Debt</b>								
<b>Community Bank, NA (Town Hall) Interest</b> 2.74%; principal \$40,000 for 5 yrs, Due 6/23	200,000	40,000	2,192	40,000	1,096	0	0	0
<b>Community Bank, NA (Deficit) Interest</b> 3.68%; principal \$56,358 for 5 yrs	280,000	56,358	2,074	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Community Bank, NA (Server) Interest</b> 3.25%; principal \$18,500 for 3 yrs, Due 4/23	18,500	6,167	401	6,167	201	0	0	0
<b>Total Short-Term Loan</b>	<b>498,500</b>	<b>102,525</b>	<b>4,667</b>	<b>46,167</b>	<b>1,297</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Bond Debt</b>								
<b>Vermont Municipal Bond Bank (Town Office) Interest</b> 4.93% semi-annly, principal \$10,000 annually until 2024, Due 11/24 (FY25)	200,000	10,000	1,750	10,000	1,259	10,000	761	10,000
<b>EMFS Bond (Fire Station) Interest</b> 3.74% semiannually, principal payment \$35,000 annually (Calais share). Due November 2031	700,000	35,000	15,640	35,000	14,156	35,000	12,617	245,000
<b>Total Bond Debt</b>	<b>900,000</b>	<b>45,000</b>	<b>17,390</b>	<b>45,000</b>	<b>15,415</b>	<b>45,000</b>	<b>13,378</b>	<b>255,000</b>

*continued on next page*

Schedule of Indebtedness (continued)

	Original Principal Balance	Principal Paid FY22	Interest Paid FY22	Principal Due FY23	Interest Due FY23	Principal Due FY24	Interest Due FY24	Principal Due after FY24
<b>Equipment Debt- Short Term Loan</b>								
<b>Community Bank #1842 (2017 Western Star)</b> Interest 2.65%, principal \$17,561 for 5 yrs	87,809	17,565	465	0	0	0	0	0
<b>VT Municipal Loan Fund (2014 Volvo excavator)</b> Interest 2%, principal \$17055 for 5 years	85,275	17,055	341	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Community Bank NA-R-1 (Wood Chipper)</b> Interest 3.25%, principal \$21,995 for 4 yrs	21,995	5,499	715	5,499	536	5,499	357	5,499
<b>Total Equipment Debt</b>	<b>195,079</b>	<b>40,119</b>	<b>1,521</b>	<b>5,499</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>5,499</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>5,499</b>
<b>Equipment Debt- Short Term Lease</b>								
<b>Santander Bank, NA (2019 Western Star)</b> Interest 3.79%, principal variable for 5 years. Due January 2023	192,560	38,791	2,996	40,261	1,526	0	0	0
<b>Santander Bank, NA (2019 International)</b> Interest 3.39%, principal variable for 5 years. Due August 2023	98,500	19,033	2,002	19,678	1,357	20,345	690	0
<b>Total Equipment Lease</b>	<b>291,060</b>	<b>57,824</b>	<b>4,998</b>	<b>59,939</b>	<b>2,883</b>	<b>20,345</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>0</b>

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## Delinquent Tax Collector's Report

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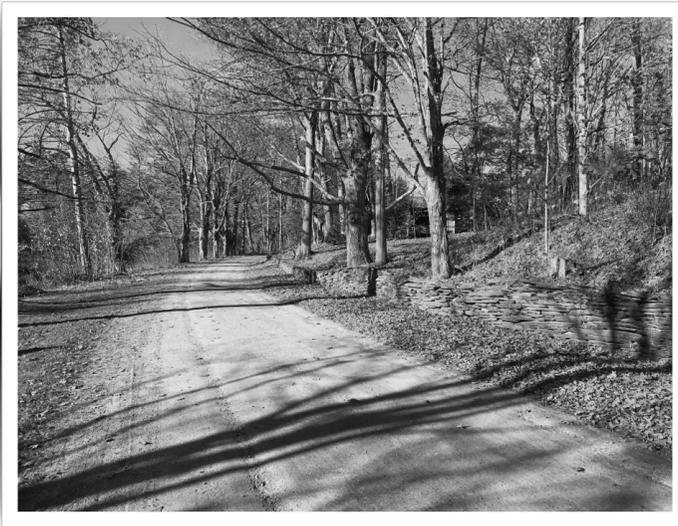
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**As of June 30, 2022 (last day of FY'22 Fiscal Year)**

Tax Year	Taxes	Interest	Penalty	Other	Total
2020	1904.23	190.40	57.12	0.00	2,151.75
2021	16311.43	642.88	489.36	0.00	17,443.67
<b>Total</b>					<b>19,595.42</b>

**As of December 1, 2022 - Amount to be collected after FY'23 tax effort (7.1.22-6.30.23)**

Year	Taxes	Interest	Penalty	Other	Total
2021	5490.33	356.72	164.72	0.00	6,011.77
2022	235,362.61	1,932.22	7,060.85	0.00	244,355.68
<b>Total</b>					<b>250,367.45</b>



*Late Autumn Road*  
*Photo Credit: Michael Fullerton*

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## **Cemetery Commission Report**

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Calais has eight cemeteries which the Commission is responsible for. We continue to have Joe Mangan and his crew from Kirkyard Services handle their upkeep, as well as various projects and sexton duties. The green burial area at Robinson Cemetery was expanded in 2022, and continues to be a popular option.

At last year's Town Meeting, Shari Fitch was elected to fill a vacant position, and due to the resignation of John Simanskas, Michael Fullerton was appointed to fill that seat. Juanita Nunn was elected Chair of the Commission, Randy Koch is Vice Chair, and Laura Dailey took on the role of Secretary.

The Robinson Cemetery fence replacement was completed in November by Joe Mangan and his crew, thanks to extended mild weather. Robinson Cemetery is in the Historic District of Kents Corner, therefore Joe consulted with John McCullough and David Schütz of the Design Advisory Board to ensure compliance with materials and aesthetics. He used pressure treated wood in hopes that it will have a longer life. Due to the materials, we have to wait a year to paint the fence (white) to ensure adhesion and longevity. Joe also consulted Calais Tree Warden Neal Maker about some of the trees and made a plan to address their care.

### **2022 Highlights:**

- There were 3 green burials, 4 full burials, and 8 cremains buried
- 13 lots were sold this year, most in the green burial section of Robinson Cemetery
- Sunken graves were filled at Fairview
- Hedge trimming was completed at Fairview

### **2023 Projects:**

- Replace the fence at the Old West Church Cemetery. This will be done in conjunction with the Old West Church Association. This cemetery is also in the Kents Corner Historic District, therefore we will be consulting with the DAB regarding materials and design.
- Clean stones in Poplar Hill Cemetery
- Trim hedge at Fairview. The hedge is on both sides of Marshfield Road, so we alternate sides each year to keep the hedge maintained.

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## **Cemetery Commission Report (continued)**

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The Cemetery Commission is requesting \$49,500 for the next fiscal year. We are not planning on taking any funds from the endowment in 2023. The endowment lost a significant amount these past few months.

### **Thank You To John Simanskas**

John Simanskas retired this past year from the Cemetery Commission. On behalf of the Town we would like to thank him for his many years maintaining the cemeteries here in Calais. He dedicated over 50 years to the cemeteries, many of them as Chair of the Cemetery Commission. His dedication to keeping the cemeteries something we can all be proud of is greatly appreciated by all those who served on the Commission with him. We will continue his work and do our very best to maintain the cemeteries to his standards.

*Cemetery Commissioners*  
*Juanita Nunn, Chair*  
*Randy Koch, Vice Chair*  
*Laura Dailey, Secretary*  
*Shari Fitch*  
*Michael Fullerton*

*Cemetery Sexton*  
*Joe Mangan*  
*802-917-8114*  
*kirkyardservices@gmail.com*



*Winter farm birds along Pekin Brook Road*  
*Photo credit: Art Edelstein*

**FY24 Cemetery Proposed Budget**

FY24 Proposed Cemetery Budget and Expenses	FY22 Budgeted	FY 22 Actual	FY23 Budgeted	FY24 Budgeted
Sexton Stipend Kirkyard Services	2,400.00	2,775.00	2,400.00	2,500.00
Burial Expenses	1,000.00	7,400.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Mowing Contract	28,500.00	23,750.00	31,000.00	32,500.00
Special Projects	13,500.00	10,136.00	13,500.00	6,000.00
Hedge Trimming				3,500.00
Supplies	2,000.00	15.75	2,000.00	2,000.00
Miscellaneous	2,000.00		2,000.00	2,000.00
Total Expenditures	49,400.00	44,076.75	51,900.00	49,500.00
T R Price Distribution			9,400.00	
<b>Net Budget Appropriation</b>	<b>49,400.00</b>	<b>44,076.75</b>	<b>42,500.00</b>	<b>49,500.00</b>



*Syrup samples in Craig Line's sugarhouse  
Photo credit: Jeb Wallace-Brodeur*

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## **Conservation Commission Report**

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Due to the better acoustics at the Town Office and the small size of our group, we have been happily meeting there, with a Zoom option for members of the Commission and the public who cannot or do not want to drive to the Town Office to meet in person. We plan on continuing this practice. We usually meet the first Wednesday of the month and the public is welcome to attend either in person or via Zoom.

### **Shade Tree Preservation Law**

The Commission continued working on the Shade Tree Preservation Plan, with Calais Tree Warden and Conservation Commission member Neal Maker taking the lead. The revised state statute governing preservation of trees in Vermont’s municipalities requires that in order to protect trees in public rights-of-way and other town property, the town must identify the trees considered important in a Shade Tree Preservation Plan. The Plan would be adopted by the Selectboard and then eventually included in a Calais Tree Ordinance. After two meetings with the Selectboard at which Selectboard members and several Calais residents suggested a few revisions, the draft Plan was posted on Front Porch Forum and Calais residents were invited to submit comments in writing or in person at a meeting, but none were received. The Selectboard will hold one more public meeting at which the Plan will be adopted. The Plan is posted on the Calais website.

It should be clarified that the legislature uses the term “shade tree” to denote trees that towns wish to preserve, although those trees do not have to actually provide shade. Property owners should be aware that before removing a tree in the town highway right-of-way, they should contact Tree Warden Neal Maker or Assistant Tree Warden Drew Lamb to ensure that proper procedures are followed.

### **Proposed Subdivision Review**

One of the statutory responsibilities of Conservation Commissions is to advise the Planning Commission or Development Review Board or the local Act 250 Commission concerning applications to those bodies for permits for development, and to work with the Selectboard and other municipal or private organizations on matters affecting the natural resources of the town. In line with this, the Conservation Commission reviewed and advised the DRB about the potential environmental impacts of a proposed 4-lot subdivision in Calais.

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## **Conservation Commission Report (continued)**

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### **Tree Planting**

The Commission used grant money to purchase and have planted three crabapple trees to enhance the aesthetics of the parking area of the Town Office. Discussions about using the rest of the grant money for planting trees on other town property are continuing.

### **Fall Foliage Walk**

The Commission's fall foliage walk this year was on the Ellis Bruce Trail that goes from Long Meadow Road over to Worcester. It was led by Trails Committee member Toni Kaeding who provided interesting information about the history of the area and its former inhabitants. More than 15 people attended the walk on a beautiful fall day and were treated to a magnificent view of the sun lighting up the Worcester Range to the west at the end of the trail.

### **Shoreland Zoning**

The Conservation Commission continued working with the Calais Lakes & Streams Committee on reviewing and commenting on the Planning Commission's draft revisions of the Calais Shoreland Zoning regulations.

### **Curb Cut Ordinance**

The Commission is working on revisions to the 2004 Calais Curb Cut Ordinance to ensure protection of potentially affected natural resources when new curb cuts onto town roads are proposed. The Commission will forward its recommendations to the Selectboard for further discussion.

### **Bliss Pond Town Forest**

As part of the Commission's ongoing discussion about the management of the Bliss Pond Town Forest, town resident and surveyor Paul Hannan has begun surveying the forest to clarify the boundaries with adjoining properties.

*Stephanie Kaplan, Chair*

*Larry Bush, Vice Chair*

*Mark Brown*

*Julie Hand*

*Neal Maker*

*Tracy Sudhalter*

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## **Curtis Pond Association Report**

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***Without the dam, there is no Curtis Pond.*** This realization in 2019 caused the Curtis Pond Association (CPA) to organize a subset of its members, the Curtis Pond Dam Exploratory Group, to work towards getting the Curtis Pond Dam repaired. After researching prior efforts and contacting various individuals, companies, state and local organizations, it was determined that no affordable insurance for the dam could be obtained privately. A presentation to the Calais Selectboard on May 24, 2021 made the case that repairing the dam is important to the Town of Calais for many cultural, historical, recreational and economic reasons. The Selectboard appointed two of its members, Denise Wheeler and John Brabant, to act as liaisons between the CPA and the Selectboard.

The CPA Executive Board and the Calais Selectboard signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in November, 2021 which outlined a path to fix the dam, resolve the long-standing issue of ownership of the dam, and demonstrate our joint commitment to the project. Dubois & King, Inc. has been hired for engineering plans and shepherding the various permit applications. The MOU can be found at <https://curtispond.files.wordpress.com/2021/12/curtis-pond-mou-unsigned.pdf>.

The Curtis Pond Dam, constructed over 100 years ago, united a number of small water bodies to create Curtis Pond. Should the dam collapse, the Pond would become substantially smaller and most of its footprint reduced to a wetland as opposed to the current open water. In that event, the Town-owned beach and camping island would become unusable. The boat launch, run by the State of Vermont, would become inoperable, and the long-standing Calais swim program would cease to exist. The village of Maple Corner within the Town would lose much of its summer population, which in turn would likely cause the failure of the Maple Corner Community Store (MCCS). Properties on the shoreline and within easy walking distance of the pond would suffer from the loss of access to water and could result in a reduction of 25% in value, conservatively between \$25 to \$50 million of the Calais Grand List. Absent an immediate reduction in the Town budget, this would require a compensatory increase in taxes for all properties in the Town. The CPA believes it would cost the Town more money in the long run if the dam broke, than it will cost to fix it.

As early as 2001, the State has declared “the overall condition of the dam is poor and requires repairs” and is not likely to issue a permit to rebuild a dam if it fails. The current estimate of the hard and soft costs of the dam renovation

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## **Curtis Pond Association Report (continued)**

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is about \$600,000 to \$700,000. A modern concrete dam will be built just upstream of the dam and tied into the existing dam, which will remain in place. The simplest and quickest approach to obtain funding consists of the CPA raising \$250,000 or more from grants and donations and the balance being raised by a Town-wide assessment. In pursuit of this option, the CPA as of December 15, 2022 has raised a bit more than \$210,000 from over 300 direct donations and various fund-raising events, and is confident it will raise the balance by Town Meeting 2023. We hope to use a combination of funds raised by the CPA and a Town bond issue to finance the dam renovation, so that construction can commence in the late summer of 2023 and finalize in the late fall.

Let's work together to get the Curtis Pond Dam fixed!

If you need more details or have questions about the information presented above, please contact any of the CPA executive board members, or check our website at <https://curtispond.org/>. Thank you.

### ***CPA Executive Board***

*Colleen Bloom, President*

*Jamie Moorby, Vice President*

*Marge Sweeney, Treasurer*

*Reenie De Geus, Secretary*

*Ginger Clammer, Member at Large*

*Marc Mihaly, Member at Large*

*Noreen Bryan, Member at Large*



*Curtis Pond Dam  
Photo credit: Jamie Moorby*

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## **Development Review Board Report**

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The Development Review Board (DRB) consists of seven members and three alternates appointed by the Calais Selectboard. The DRB is responsible for reviewing and issuing land use permits for all significant development in Calais, including all applications for subdivision, variance, appeals of a Zoning Administrator decision, and a few other reviews required by the Calais Land Use and Development Regulations. As part of its review of applications for development, the DRB conducts public hearings and issues written decisions, much like a court does.

In July, 2021, the Development Review Board adopted Rules of Procedure and a Conflict of Interest Policy. These describe the procedures we follow during a hearing and are designed to ensure that everyone is treated fairly during the process. You can see the document on the DRB web page on the Calais website.

In March 2022, East Calais resident, Eric Sorenson, an expert on conservation design and natural communities, spent an evening with us explaining how to use the interactive biofinder on the state website to identify natural communities in Calais, and items to consider when we evaluate a development proposal that might impact a natural community identified as important to Calais in our Town Plan. We are extremely fortunate to have a resource like Eric in our little community.

The DRB reviewed four projects this year: A major subdivision in North Calais, a renovation in the Kent's Corner Historic District, a new residence in the Upland Overlay District, and a reconstruction in the Shoreland District.

*Anne Winchester, Chair*  
*Ryan Edwards, Vice Chair*  
*Dot Helling, Clerk*  
*Willa Farrell*  
*Stephanie Kaplan*  
*Dennis Shaffer*  
*Candi Smith*  
*Scott Bassage, alternate*  
*Ashley Moore, alternate*  
*Megan Sullivan, alternate*

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## **Friends of the Calais Town Hall Report**

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For more than a century and a half, the Calais Town Hall has been a center of our community. Friends of the Calais Town Hall, Inc., is a private, non-profit corporation founded to ensure the space continues to play a role in the Town's continuing life going into the future. The organization works not only to coordinate with the Calais Selectboard in preserving the historical integrity of the Hall and in overseeing the use of the space for non-municipal functions by interested citizens, but also to provide a broad and inclusive range of cultural and community activities that promote the vitality of Calais as a town: concerts, dramas, readings, dances, exhibitions, and more. This is everyone's Town Hall; the Friends organization exists to bring people together and make them feel welcome.

In April of 2022, Friends of the Calais Town Hall and the Calais Selectboard met to finalize a management agreement to formalize the Friends' roles and responsibilities in fulfilling the above stated mission. With the newly minted agreement in hand, the doors to the Hall were opened to non-municipal activities. The premier event was the musical "NYC 1849," produced by the Gospel Hollow Players of Calais, written and directed by Chris Colt and Bob Hannan. The show ran for two weekends in June of 2022 and was enjoyed by all who were lucky enough to attend.

In September 2022, the Friends were pleased to schedule a special event presented by Art at the Kent titled "A Nose for the Invisible" featuring artist and author David Macaulay, imparting life lessons and new perspectives gleaned while walking his dog. Reservations were required and the house was packed!

October of 2022 witnessed the return of a beloved Fall Foliage Festival tradition as the storied heart of our community beat with the joyous rhythms of a genuine contra dance featuring an all-star lineup of musicians and callers. Dancers of all ages participated, and more than one asked when the next dance would occur.

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## **Friends of the Calais Town Hall (continued)**

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*Hoe-down at the Town Hall. In October, Calais community members celebrated the re-opening of our newly refurbished Town Hall with a lively contradance.*

*Photo Credit: Nancy Toulis*

Aside from these activities, the Friends spent the past year engaged in fund raising and working on a proposal to convert the upstairs portion of the Hall into a year-round usable space. Anyone interested in renting the Hall for an event or joining the Friends is welcome to contact us at [friendsofthecalainhall@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofthecalainhall@gmail.com).

Friends of the Calais Town Hall would like to thank the Selectboard and the entire community of Calais for supporting us in our ongoing mission. We would also like to give thanks to retired Friends Board of Directors members Janet Ancel and Barbara Weedon who were instrumental in helping us organize and carry out our goals over the past year. We will miss them, but we know they will always remain “Friends.”

***Friends Board of Directors***

*Clif Emmons, Chair*

*David Schütz, Vice Chair*

*Carol Beatty, Treasurer*

*Nancy Toulis, Secretary*

*Tobin Anderson*

*Chris Colt*

*Artie Toulis*

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## **Planning Commission Report**

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The Calais Planning Commission is a five-member committee, each member appointed by the Calais Selectboard to serve a four (4) year term. Currently we have four members and one vacancy.

As outlined in State Statute Title 24, Chapter 117, our duties are to draft and update a Town Plan per State and Regional requirements and to amend the Calais Land Use and Development Regulations (LUDR) [a.k.a. zoning regulations] to make the Town Plan's vision a reality.

Early in 2022, with Selectboard authorization, we successfully obtained approval from the Department of Housing and Community Development [DHCD] for the creation of a new Village Center Designation for North Calais, a boundary change to the Adamant Village Center Designation, and the renewal of Village Center Designations for Maple Corner and East Calais.

Over the last years we have compiled a long list of amendments to the zoning regulations which include a change in the Shoreland District to an overlay which we call Shoreland Overlay District [SHROD], the addition of a River Corridor Overlay District and updates to the Flood Hazard Overlay District so that Calais can reach a full complement of 17% from the state's Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund [ERAF], and other amendments to improve the regulations. A list of all changes and additional information can be found on the Town's website under the Planning Commission tab.

The process to amend the zoning regulations requires one public hearing held by the Planning Commission, one public hearing held by the Selectboard, and then the amendments are voted on by you, the residents of Calais.

The Planning Commission held its public hearing on September 20, 2022. We listened to the concerns of those who attended this hearing and have been working with members of the Calais Conservation Commission, Calais Lakes & Streams Committee, and others to make some changes that will address their concerns. Our goal is to have a final draft of the amendments presented to the Selectboard so that they can hold their public hearing in early 2023. The final draft of the proposed amendments will be posted on the Calais Town website.

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## **Planning Commission Report (continued)**

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We thank all who have been collaborating with us and providing input to make these amendments better.

Next on the Planning Commission agenda is the Calais Town Plan, which is up for renewal in 2024. This is the time when we need to hear from the public what you want Calais to become in terms of land use and development. It can be a fun and interesting time working on what we envision Calais to be in future years. We encourage anyone interested in this endeavor to join our team as a member of the Planning Commission.

We meet on the first and third Tuesdays of every month at the Town Hall and/or via Zoom. The public is always welcome to attend these meetings.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Town of Calais.

*Janice Ohlsson, Chair  
Gary Root, Vice Chair  
John McCullough, Clerk  
Melanie Kehne  
Vacancy*



*2022 fir bough cutting crew, supplying the greenery to make wreathes to hang on public buildings around Calais, from the tree farm of Richard Cowart and Anne Winchester.*

*Seated: Edward Kentish, Anne Winchester, Ben Bashore*

*Middle: John Sairs, Karin McNeill, Pamela Kentish, Ann Sairs*

*Back: Richard Cowart, Nick Emlen, Jeffrey Allen, Angus Whitman, Mark Whitman, Jake Aho, Jared Thomas*

*Photo credit: Jim Vintresca*

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## Trails Committee Report

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The Trails Committee, a ten-member group appointed by the Calais Selectboard, actively manages a 16-mile network of recreational trails. These trails are open for non-motorized public use (walking, cycling, horseback riding, skiing, etc.), under signed agreements with many generous private landowners. To support its activities, the Committee relies on cash donations from interested Calais residents and friends.

This year has been a relatively quiet one for the Committee. We have been working on improving the mapping system for the trails network. At the behest of the Selectboard, we have participated in the proposal to discontinue Town Highway #7. We have also provided input regarding a proposal to erect a cell tower in Worcester near the Ellis-Bruce Trail. Most of the Committee's activities involved hands-on trail-building and improvements. Substantial labor was donated by Ram Verma, members of the Montpelier Area Mountain Biking Association, members of the Trails Committee, landowners, and others.

How can you help? If you'd be interested in volunteer trail work, please contact Tom Blachly, as noted below. To make a financial contribution, please make your check payable to Town of Calais, and send it to the Calais Town Office, 3120 Pekin Brook Road, East Calais, VT 05650, earmarked for the Trails Committee account. If you own land that might accommodate a public trail, please get in touch with one of the members listed below.

Maps of the Calais trail network are available on the Town's website.



*Ram Verma mountain biking  
on Robinson Hill*

*Photo Credit: Jeb Wallace-Brodeur*

*Tom Blachly, Chair,  
blachly@together.net  
Charlotte Hanna Bassage  
Tom Cronin  
Michael Fullerton  
Toni Kaeding Steve Killoran  
Peter Lividitis  
Tim Maker  
Walter Opuszynski  
Denise Wilder*

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## **East Montpelier Fire Department Report**

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We want to thank the Towns of East Montpelier and Calais for their continued support, which allows us to provide your emergency services. The ambulance service continues to be busy, providing transport services to East Montpelier, Calais, Plainfield, Marshfield and mutual aid into Woodbury as needed to assist Hardwick Rescue. The Fire Department is steady with primary fire services to East Montpelier and Calais, as well as assisting our neighboring departments with mutual aid. One of our highlighted fires this year was the loss of a barn at one of our local farms.

With your approval at past Town Meeting for the purchase of a new fire truck, we have placed our order with Toyne Manufacturing and look forward to seeing the truck sometime in late 2023. As production lines continue to struggle, our first step is the manufacturing of the chassis from Freightliner. Once this is completed and shipped to Toyne, we will receive a more definitive delivery date. We are very excited, as this truck will replace our 1994 International E-One engine which has served us well, but is ready for retirement. The truck will be paid for by the special article voted by the Towns at Town Meeting 2022 and revenues earned by the East Montpelier Fire Department ambulance. Thank you!

COVID? Is it here to stay in some variant form or another? It has certainly transformed people's lives and our communities in many ways. We continue to use universal safety precautions on all of our calls and encourage you take safety precautions as needed. At the same time, we hope we can all be able to function in a normal lifestyle. There is still a vaccine clinic operating in Berlin (as of this writing, Dec. 2022) that is able to provide Covid vaccinations and boosters. For more information, call your local health care provider or Vermont Department of Health. These sites are slowly being closed down.

What does it take to become a firefighter or EMS provider? We provide in-house training every month and provide opportunities to take State-certified classes in both fire and EMS. We are looking for members in our communities to come join us, grow with us, and become part of Team EMFD. Maybe you are already certified or have previous experience, come join Team EMFD. All that you need to do is come see us on Tuesday nights and we will get the process started. Go Team EMFD!

Thank you for all of your support. Be safe; choose to help a neighbor or friend. Remember to be kind. We are all proud to be part of our communities.

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## **E. Montpelier Fire Department (continued)**

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**Call before burning!** Call Calais Forest Fire Warden Greg Pelchuck at 454-7377 and East Montpelier Fire Warden Ty Rolland at 225-6247 for burn permits. Burn permits are issued for the burning of natural growth products; no trash or building debris.

**Fireworks Permits:** For Calais and East Montpelier Fireworks Permits call the East Montpelier Fire Department at 225-6247. Permits must be submitted at least 15 days in advance and need to include a site map and the landowner's approval.

Thank you to all the men and women who serve at the East Montpelier Fire Department and for your commitment and dedication to support our communities. If you or somebody has interest in becoming part our team, please reach out to the East Montpelier Fire Department at 225-6247

*Toby Talbot, President  
Ty Rolland, Fire Fighter*



*Workers installing new porch on  
North Calais Memorial Hall, #10 Pond  
Photo Credit: Jeb Wallace-Brodeur*

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# Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department Report

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The Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department responded to 124 emergency calls in 2022. There were 75 fire / rescue calls in Woodbury, 38 fire / rescue calls in Calais, and 11 mutual aid calls to assist our neighboring communities.

The calls break down as follows:

	Woodbury	Calais
Structure fire	1	2
Chimney Fires	3	2
Vehicle fire	1	0
Smoke investigation	3	0
Brush fire	0	2
Carbon monoxide	0	3
Fire alarms	2	6
Motor vehicle crashes	9	6
Medical emergency	46	11
Lockout	1	0
Tree on power lines	2	5
Poison gas in building	1	0
Propane leak	1	1
Illegal burning	3	0
Rekindle	2	0

Mutual Aid was provided to:

East Montpelier 3, Greensboro 1, Cabot 3, Hardwick 1, Hardwick Rescue 1, Craftsbury 1, Marshfield 1

The Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department has worked hard over the last few years to improve the capabilities and services provided by your fire department. We based this on the types of emergencies that we have been going to and the trends we see. In September of 2022 we received our Vermont Department of Health license as a medical first response agency. When you call 911 with a medical emergency our EMT's will be dispatched and will arrive in a few minutes to provide lifesaving care. We did this because we live in a rural area where it can take 20 to 30 minutes for an ambulance to arrive at your house. All our firefighters are CPR/AED as well as stop the bleed certified.

We responded to a record number of emergency calls in 2022 (+10.4%). Fires of all types are increasing as well as medical emergencies.

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## **Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department Report (continued)**

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We are interested in keeping people informed about our calls as well as anything that could affect you, such as hazardous weather. We have a facebook page that we update regularly. We have a website you can check out at <https://www.wvfdvt.org/>.

The budget overall is increasing by 6.5% this year. (+\$8,442.59) Woodbury's portion for operating expenses will be increasing by (\$5,079.68) and Calais will be increasing by (\$3,353.92).

We would like to thank the Woodbury residents for providing the funding for our much-needed new emergency services building at the special town meeting last May.

We are working hard in a very challenging financial climate to get the building under construction in the spring. We have hired Spates Construction as our construction management company and James Coe as our architect. At the writing of this report, we are preparing construction documents for permitting and preparing to go out to bid. We will be posting updates on our Facebook page as things progress. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the new construction.

We are planning to install a memorial paver garden and flagpole at the new fire station site to raise funds to offset the cost of the new facility. We are selling commemorative pavers that you can purchase from us to be installed when the project is completed. If you would like to purchase a brick, go to our brick website at <http://www.bricksrus.com/donorsite/wvfdvt> or contact James Daily at [presidentwoodbury@gmail.com](mailto:presidentwoodbury@gmail.com) or 802-272-5575. If you would just like to donate to the project, send your check with a note describing the purpose to, Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department, PO Box 23, Woodbury, VT 05681.

I would like to thank you for the support that we have enjoyed. Our goal is to provide the best service possible to the community and to create safety for our members by having a properly staffed, equipped, and trained fire-rescue department. Without your support, this would not be possible and for this we are truly thankful!

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## **Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department Report (continued)**

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We have 21 active firefighters, 10 FAST squad members 9 EMT's and 1 EMR and 5 active members. Our dedicated staff of volunteers has worked hundreds of hours serving our communities between emergency calls, training, and equipment maintenance. This is indeed a sacrifice that has reaped immeasurable benefits for people in their time of need. I would like to personally thank everyone who has given so selflessly of their time and energy to this worthy cause.

We are always looking for volunteers to maintain the high level of service that you have come to expect. If you would like to find a way to serve your community and make a difference, we are always looking for new members, feel free to contact me if you would like more information on how you could help the fire department. We will provide all necessary equipment and training. If you have any questions, I may be reached at 802-917-1642 or email me at [pcwoodbury@gmail.com](mailto:pcwoodbury@gmail.com).

*Paul Cerutti, Fire Chief  
Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department*



*Woodbury and East Montpelier Firefighters rescued the driver from this overturned tractor trailer in East Calais Village, January 2022.*

*Photo Credit: WVFD*

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## Washington County Sheriff's Report

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I began my career in public safety at the age of 15 when I became an active member of the Hardwick Rescue Squad, and remained active with the Rescue Squad until I left for Champlain College. In May of 1984, I received a degree in Law Enforcement and was hired as a patrolman by the Barre City Police Department, starting in 1984 and continuing for 20 years.

Having had a very rewarding career with the Barre City Police Department, I was appointed Washington County Sheriff by Governor Jim Douglas and was sworn in on July 12th, 2004, filling the vacant Sheriff's seat. My last day of my final term as your Sheriff was January 31, 2023, having served for just over 18 ½ years as Sheriff, just over 38½ years in Law Enforcement in Central Vermont, and over 42 years in Public Safety.

I am proud to have been serving Washington County and to have been the second longest serving Sheriff in the History of the County. Sheriff Henry C. Lawson was the longest serving Sheriff, serving 24 years, from 1929 to 1953. I am also happy to have served in the office my uncle Harold Potter held as Sheriff, from 1960 to 1968. Sheriff Potter lived in the house which is now my office and ran the County Jail (which is now the County Offices).

I have enjoyed working with each town and with the citizens of Washington County. I have had a very rewarding and memorable career working with them through problems and issues towards solutions.

Your next Sheriff will be Marc Poulin, who won election in November 2022. Marc, a long time Deputy and past Lieutenant with the Department, will serve you well. I will make myself available through his first year, if he needs any assistance with the transition. Thank you all for allowing me to serve you for the past 18 plus years.

### **Locally**

- In the fall of 2021 we lost our full time Patrol Deputy, who left us to become a police officer in Nashville, TN. In the spring of 2022, we were able to fill that position, and we are happy to once again able to fulfill our patrol contract with you.
- County wide, our patrol efforts during fiscal year 2022 generated 1,219 total incident reports to include 862 traffic stops, 368 Vermont traffic citations, and 486 traffic warnings.

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## Sheriff's Report (continued)

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- In the course of our patrol efforts in Calais, the following Vermont traffic complaints, warning and incidents were recorded by the Washington County Sheriff's Department while on patrol.

Through all the issues we deal with in today's world, we take pride in our efforts in making Washington County a safe place to live and work, for all of us.

*W. Samuel Hill  
Sheriff*

### Incidents

Call Type	Call Type
Suspicious Person/Circumstance	1
Traffic Stop	12
Crash - Non-Reportable	1

### Tickets/Warnings

Ticket Type	Ticket Type	Ticket Violation	Ticket Violation
			0
Traffic	Traffic	BR - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit	1
Traffic	Traffic	INS - Operating Without Liability Insurance	2
Traffic	Traffic	NL - Operating Without A License	2
Traffic	Traffic	NR - Persons Required To Register	2
Traffic	Traffic	OSC - Operating After Suspension/Revocation/Refusal	1
Traffic	Traffic	PNA - Misuse Of Number Plates	1
Traffic	Traffic	SL2 - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit	2
Traffic	Traffic	SL3 - 21-30 MPH Over Speed Limit	1
Traffic	Traffic	VNI - Vehicle Not Inspected Within 15 Days Of Vt. Registration	3
Warning	Warning	NR - Persons Required To Register	1
Warning	Warning	VNI - Vehicle Not Inspected Within 15 Days Of Vt. Registration	3

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## CVFiber Report

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CVFiber is a nonprofit municipal entity governed by volunteer delegates who are appointed by our 20-member Central Vermont towns. Our aim is to provide access to fast, dependable, and affordable Internet service, with the first priorities being those who are unserved or underserved.

CVFiber will provide homes with speeds ranging from 100 Mbps to 2 Gigs, and businesses with speeds ranging from 1 Gig to 10 Gigs. Speeds will always be symmetrical, for example, 100 Mbps download and 100 Mbps upload, for the best interactive experience for education, telemedicine, conference calls, business, gaming, and more. Providing rural Vermont with this level of service will enhance education, enable our workforce, create opportunities, and support the State's economy.

The 1,200-mile CVFiber community broadband network will cost an estimated \$60 million and take approximately three years to construct, provided funding, material, and labor are available. The cost to build out Calais is estimated to be over \$4 million dollars. This investment in town infrastructure is critical in many regards. It is anticipated that Federal grants will fund 40% to 50% of the construction with the remainder funded through debt financing and other grants. CVFiber cannot receive town tax dollars and will support its ongoing operations with subscription revenues.

Initial construction started in Calais in December 2022. We anticipate beginning service in Calais in the Spring of 2023. A map showing the town's six distribution areas in on the town's CVFiber page. We anticipate completing all areas in Calais by 2024. If you have not signed up to get notified when service is available you can do so at <https://cvfiber.net>.

The Town of Calais has generously provided \$200,000 of its American Rescue Plan Act CVFiber. This has been matched with \$200,000 from the Vermont Community Broadband Board. This money will help keep costs to subscribers down, Town allocations are used within the town and directly benefit our residents.

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## CVFiber Report (continued)

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By providing symmetrical high-speed broadband access, CVFiber and the other Vermont Communication Union Districts are closing the rural digital divide by providing future generations with capabilities that we cannot imagine. The education and work opportunities made available by symmetrical high-speed broadband access will be as transformational to rural Vermont today as electrification was in the mid-twentieth century.

Connectivity is only just the beginning. Please visit us at [cvfiber.net](http://cvfiber.net).

*David Healy, [dhealy@cvfiber.net](mailto:dhealy@cvfiber.net)  
Town of Calais Delegate, CVFiber Governing Board*



*CVFiber announces start of construction in Calais during a press conference in December at the Calais Town Hall.*

*Left to right: Jerry Diamantides, CVFiber Board Chair;  
Jennille Smith, CVFiber Executive Director; David Healy, CVFiber Town Delegate  
Photo Credit: Jeb Wallace-Brodeur*

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# Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission Report

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The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) provides planning, development, and project implementation services to its 23 municipalities in Washington and western Orange Counties. Municipalities in the region are entitled to equal voting representation by a locally appointed member to the governing Board of Commissioners. CVRPC has no regulatory or taxing authority; each year, we request a per capita assessment from our members in support of local and regional planning activities and to help offset costs and provide local matching funds needed for state and federal funding. Your continued support for local and regional planning is appreciated! CVRPC is your resource – please contact us at 802-229-0389 or [cvrpc@cvregion.com](mailto:cvrpc@cvregion.com) for assistance.

## **FY22 Calais Activities**

- Provided project management services and coordinated 2021 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan update.
- Briefed Selectboard on Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP) process and developed template for future planning.
- Coordinated with Selectboard and Treasurer to prepare 2021 FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant for Kent Hill culvert scoping study.
- Provided guidance to support Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC) appointment process.
- Provided information and guidance on ARPA project eligibility and prioritization process.
- Identified eligible roads for Grants in Aid construction funds and managed those funds.
- Updated the parcel data on the Town’s Web Map.
- Conducted pre-construction site visits for Municipal Roads Grants in Aid.
- Provided informational materials to the Town to investigate how they could modify speed limits.
- Reviewed and submitted 2022 Local Emergency Management Plan to Vermont Emergency Management.

<p><b>Regional Commissioner</b> John Brabant <b>Transportation Advisory Committee</b> David Ellenbogen</p>
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# Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission Report (continued)

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## CVRPC Projects & Programs

- **Municipal Plan and Bylaw Updates:** Focus on predictable and effective local permitting through educational initiatives, bylaw modernization and municipal plan updates.
- **Brownfields:** Complete environmental site assessments so properties can be sold, developed or redeveloped to benefit the economy, create/protect jobs and increase housing opportunities.
- **Transportation Planning:** Provide studies, plans, data collection, and traffic counts. Coordinate local involvement in transportation planning through the Transportation Advisory Committee.
- **Emergency Planning:** Prepare the region for natural disasters and other emergencies by coordinating with local volunteers and the State on emergency planning, exercises, and training.
- **Climate and Energy Planning:** Support projects to reduce municipal and residential energy burdens, reduce total energy consumption, expand renewable energy resources, and build climate and energy resilience.
- **Natural Resource Planning:** Protect water resources, improve water quality, promote ecological function, preserve forest blocks and habitat connectors, enhance recreational opportunities and support the agricultural and forest products industries.
- **Regional Plans:** Coordinate infrastructure, community development, and growth at the regional level through the preparation, adoption, and implementation of a regional plan.
- **Geographic Information System Services:** Collect, analyze, store and distribute data for regional projects and programs. Offer fee-for service GIS support to municipalities and non-governmental organizations.
- **Clean Water Service Provider:** Engage watershed and land conservation organizations, Regional Planning Commissions, Natural Resources Conservation Districts and municipalities to identify and fund water quality projects to achieve phosphorous reduction targets
- **Special Projects:** Complete special projects, such as downtown revitalization, recreation paths, farmland preservation, economic development, and affordable housing projects.
- **Grants:** Identify appropriate grant sources, define project scopes, and write grant applications.

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# Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District Report

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The Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District (CVSWMD) serves 19-member cities and towns and approximately 52,000 residents. CVSWMD's mission is to provide education, advocacy, and services for residents and businesses in reducing and managing their solid waste in order to protect public health and the environment. CVSWMD is committed to providing quality programming, meeting state mandates, and providing information and resources to our member communities. The per capita assessment has been established at \$1.00 for fiscal year 2024.

Calais's appointed representative to CVSWMD's Board of Supervisors is Bill Powell; John Brabant serves as an alternate.

CVSWMD continues to provide valuable programs and services to its residents, including:

- ***Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC):*** The ARCC is located in Barre City, Vermont. We work with the State of Vermont to recycle TVs, computers and computer peripherals, architectural paint, household batteries, mercury bulbs and thermostats for free for Vermont residents. We also accept dozens of hard-to-recycle items that cannot be recycled in curbside recycling. In FY22, 403,896 lbs. of materials were collected and diverted from the landfill.
- ***Grants:*** In FY22, CVSWMD awarded \$33,218 in grant funding to towns, businesses, organizations and schools in our District. Through our Municipal Services Program (MSP), the city of Barre received \$5,000 and the town of Chelsea received \$2,764 for solid waste management projects. Samuel Morey Elementary School and Walden School were granted \$2,000 and \$2,500 respectively through our School Zero Waste (SZW) program to reduce solid waste and achieve sustainability goals. And, finally, the Green Mountain Returned Peace Corp Volunteers received \$285 from our Organizational Waste Reduction and Reuse Program (OWRRP) for their Pedals for Progress collection event in Montpelier. Green-Up Day grants of \$400 are available to each of CVSWMD's member municipalities.
- ***Outreach and Education:*** CVSWMD maintains its website with useful information on what can (and can't) be recycled, what is landfill banned (and how to dispose of those), what can be recycled at our Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC), what can be composted, how to safely store and dispose of household hazardous waste, leaf and yard

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## Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District Report (continued)

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waste disposal, and an A-Z Guide providing guidance to dispose of all types of waste. CVSWMD provides monthly newsletters and is active on social media, communicating waste management information and program updates to residents. Our knowledgeable staff provides guidance to residents and local businesses regarding all their waste management questions and concerns.

- **Household Hazardous Waste:** In FY22, CVSWMD held five one-day collections throughout the District and helped 637 resident households dispose of their hazardous waste. CVSWMD continues to work to acquire land and site a year-round collection facility within the District that will be conveniently accessible to all residents, and small business generators of waste.
- **School Program:** The School Zero Waste Program continued to deliver services to CVSWMD member schools in FY22. A total of 941 students in grades K-12 were reached through the delivery of 97 programs and initiatives that included: programs on living sustainably, recycling, and composting; support of student Farm-to-School groups, recognition of student leadership efforts in on-campus food scrap disposal, school community zero-waste events, field trips to the Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC), and support for the 2022 VT Youth Climate Rally. Informational take-home packets were provided for primary grade students, which reached upwards of 350 households. School food services departments continued to be supported in reducing cafeteria waste, and school custodial and facilities staff were supported in proper disposal of books, batteries, mercury-containing bulbs, and electronic waste through the ARCC, as well as the management and proper disposal of school-generated hazardous waste via District collection events. Our School Zero Waste Coordinator also tabled at 3 farmers markets and one community event.
- **Compost and Zero Waste:** CVSWMD sells Green Cone food digesters, Soil Saver composting bins, recycling bins, and kitchen compost buckets to district residents at discounted rates. We also continue to offer our Event Kit and Bin Loan programs on a first-come, first-serve basis to help reduce and manage waste at events held within the District.

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## Department of Health Report

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Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the Vermont Department of Health. Your district office is at the address and phone number above. We provide essential services and resources to towns in Washington and Orange counties in order to protect and promote the health and well-being of people in Vermont. For example, in the past year and beyond, the Barre Local Health Office:

***Protected communities from COVID-19:*** Since the pandemic began three years ago our doors have remained open, and we've been able to serve communities thanks to individuals, families, schools, businesses, first responders, and countless others that worked with us to meet the needs of local towns. We provided vaccine, testing, and information, along with other key public health services.

***Worked to prevent and control the spread of disease:*** In collaboration with community partners, since response efforts began, we hosted over 100 COVID-19 vaccination clinics and provided over 7,900 COVID-19 doses. Since August 2021, all local health offices have also documented and helped manage 8,125 COVID-19-related situations, including 1,271 COVID-19 outbreaks.

***Ensured local preparedness for future emergencies:*** We worked with partners like schools, skilled nursing facilities, shelters, and emergency personnel to ensure effective pandemic response and support preparedness to distribute medicine, supplies, and information during public health emergencies. This year, we responded to the emergence of human monkeypox virus by sharing information and providing vaccine to community members. As of November 15, 2022, 25 hMPXV vaccine doses have been administered locally.

***Stayed attentive to people and communities most underserved:*** We provided services and resources to people who are more likely to experience adverse health outcomes due to health inequities. For example, we provided vaccine at schools, shelters, senior housing, farms, food distribution sites, and more.

***Collaborated with Town Health Officers around environmental health:*** To help Vermonters better understand the relationship between their environment

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## Department of Health Report (continued)

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and their health, we collaborated with towns and other local partners. Find information about environmental health including lead, cyanobacteria (blue-green algae), food safety, drinking water, climate change, healthy homes, healthy schools, and more at [www.healthvermont.gov/environment](http://www.healthvermont.gov/environment).

***Provided WIC services and resources to families and children:*** Provided WIC nutrition education and support to 1,337 individuals between July 1, 2021 and June 31, 2022, while enabling them to save on groceries so they can have more to spend on other things their family needs. WIC also empowers families with breastfeeding/chestfeeding support and provides referrals to other health and nutrition services. Learn more at [www.healthvermont.gov/wic](http://www.healthvermont.gov/wic).

***Supported student health and youth empowerment:*** According to the Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey, only 58% percent of students in Washington County, and only 54% in Orange County, agree or strongly agree that they “believe they matter to people in their community.” Regionally, efforts like mentoring and after-school enrichment programs help to ensure youth feel valued and included.

***Promoted health in all policies:*** Health is not just individual behaviors and access to care, it’s also housing, transportation, food access, education, natural resources, and other social determinants of health. We worked with towns, schools, worksites, healthcare providers, and other community organizations to establish plans, policies, and programming that improve health and wellness. To achieve health, we must continue to work together to improve opportunities for health across all sectors and periods of our lives.

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## Cross Vermont Trail Association Report

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We are celebrating the first year of the Cross Vermont Trail Winooski Bridge being open to the public! Since the ribbon cutting last June, a steady stream of people have enjoyed the bridge and the first 1.5 miles of new trail leading to it. The bridge won “Project of the Year” at the 2022 Vermont Bike-Ped Conference.

Winooski Bridge Ribbon Cutting was held June 4, 2022. Over 70 people gathered on the bridge (it held!) and cheered as the large red ribbon was cut with lopping shears. More seriously, we dedicated the bridge to the memory of Esther Salmi and Tom Smith. “Their commitment to fitness and respect for the environment live on in those who appreciate the outdoors.”

You can help us keep the momentum going. Ambitious work is planned for the year ahead, and you can help. Contact us at [crossvermont.org](http://crossvermont.org) to learn more.

### **CVTA is working to:**

- Build many more miles of trail on either side of the Winooski Bridge - up to the U-32 School and on across East Montpelier from the Montpelier Bike Path to the Montpelier & Wells River Railtrail east of Route 14. This remainder of the Winooski Bridge trail project is being completed and opened in phases over the course of 2023 - 2024.
- Secure permission from additional landowners to keep moving the Cross Vermont Trail route off of the road. In 2022 we closed on four additional permanent trail easements, and are looking ahead to many more.
- Provide leverage to community partners to achieve our larger vision of joining together local paths into a logical network connecting villages, schools, and wild natural areas. With the ultimate goal of a complete off road trail across the whole State.
- Maps and signs all along the trail route will be getting a long due reboot in 2023, with a special focus on improving accessibility and inclusiveness.

CVTA’s mission is to create and maintain a multi-use trail across Vermont through the Winooski and Wells River Valleys between Lake Champlain and the Connecticut River. Our vision is: public recreation that is inviting and accessible to all; safe off-road travel to desired destinations; convenient locations for healthy outdoor activity; permanent greenway for easy local access to the natural world; and collaboration of landowners, community

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## Cross Vermont Trail Association Report (continued)

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groups and local governments to foster regional trail networks with the Cross Vermont Trail as the connection among them.

Join us at this summer's Central Vermont Cycling Tour, a group bike ride on scenic back roads around Montpelier, starting and ending at Morse Farm Maple Sugarworks. Always the last Sunday in June - 6/25/2023.

The Cross Vermont Trail Association, formed in 1999, is an incorporated, private non-profit organization that is member-based and volunteer-driven. CVTA is funded by winning competitive grants and through individual donations from trail users. Residents of all towns through which the trail route passes are invited to get involved. Get better trails near where you live. Maps, guidebook, and more information on the trail routes are available at <https://crossvermont.org/>, or call at 802-498-0079.

*Greg Western, Executive Director*



*U-32 students and Vermont Youth Conservation Corps build  
the new section of the CVTA Trail in the school forest.*

*Photo Credit: CVTA*

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## Social and Community Service Appropriation Requests

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The organizations below have requested appropriations from the Town of Calais voters for FY'23.

Central Vermont Adult Basic Education	\$1,000
Central Vermont Council on Aging	\$1,400
Central Vermont Economic Development Corp.	\$ 500
Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice	\$4,150
Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center	\$ 800
Circle (formerly Battered Women's Shelter)	\$ 700
Community Connections	\$1,000
Community Harvest of Central Vermont	\$ 250
Family Center of Washington County	\$ 500
Friends of the Winooski River	\$ 400
Good Beginnings of Central Vermont	\$ 300
Good Samaritan Haven	\$1,500
Green Mountain Transit	\$ 859
Green Up Vermont	\$ 100
Montpelier Senior Activity Center	\$5,300
Mosaic Vermont (formerly Sexual Assault Crisis Team)	\$ 200
Old West Church Association	\$1,823
OUR House of Central Vermont	\$ 250
People's Health and Wellness Clinic	\$1,500
Rural Community Transportation	\$ 975
Twin Valley Senior Center	\$3,500
Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired	\$ 650
Vermont Center for Independent Living	\$ 800
Washington County Diversion Program	\$ 300
Washington County Mental Health Services	\$1,400
Washington County Youth Service Bureau/Boys & Girls Club	\$ 500
Woodbury/Calais Food Shelf	\$ 443

**TOTAL** **\$31,100**

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## **Kellogg-Hubbard Library Report**

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**Our mission**, updated for 2022, is to empower community members to become lifelong learners by providing easy access to materials, online resources, programs and a welcoming place. Our vision is to be a resilient, inclusive and innovative library that continually learns and adapts to meet the changing needs of our community.

**Library Lending** was incredibly strong in fiscal year 2022 with 357,636 physical circulations (books, DVDs, CDs, magazines); and 35,612 digital circulations (e-books, audiobooks, streaming video and online magazines). We have 575 library patrons from Calais who borrowed 13,204 items from our collection, plus digital library use, which we can't separate by town.

**Library programs** are still recovering from the pandemic; we offered 163 free programs for adults with 1,997 attendees and 136 free programs for children with 3,298 attendees. Check out our YouTube channel! You can find recordings of many of our programs there.

**At the KHL** you can borrow from our physical collection, our digital collection (available 24/7 online), and from libraries statewide. We deliver library materials to homebound patrons and to outreach sites in our member towns, including Maple Corner and the Adamant Co-op. For many, the library is a warm (or cool) space, a public bathroom, and a place to feel welcome.

**2022 feels closer to our “new normal”.** We circulated more items, both physical and digital, than ever before. We're back to pre-pandemic foot traffic, including a large number of after-school kids using our basement hang-out space, or attending chess club, or attending our other after school crafts and activities. Our public computers are packed every day. Community groups are back to using our meeting rooms, with hundreds of bookings this year. Fifteen children from Calais completed our summer reading challenge and many more attended programs, especially the programs we held in Calais. We are over a year out from eliminating overdue fines for patrons and we've nearly finished our roughly 25 building updates and maintenance projects paid for by our last capital campaign.

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## Kellogg-Hubbard Library Report (continued)

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**We have a new strategic plan** adopted by the trustees in September 2022, which you can read on our website. The plan frames our goals for the next three years, including our commitment to diversity equity and inclusion. DEI is embedded in the work of a public library; we're actively working to make our collection more diverse, to make our board of trustees more broadly diverse and ensure that everything from our website to our policies are more accessible and equitable.

**The Library is funded** annually through tax support from the municipalities we serve (55%), income from our endowment (26%), private contributions and fundraisers (18%) and miscellaneous income (1%). Our funding requests are per capita based; the same way libraries across Vermont measure their municipal tax support. This year we are requesting level-funding from Calais, \$29,898 or \$18 per capita. The state average per capita support for Libraries is \$37.60. Our total budget is \$1,012,289. I extend the sincere thanks from everyone at the KHL to Craig Line, who has served as the Calais representative on our board for the last nine years. Our new Calais representative beginning in January is Jeff Dean and our Co-Directors are Jessie Lynn and Carolyn Brennan.

**Thank you for your continued support!**



*A library patron enjoys a new outdoor spot to sit and read.*

*Photo Credit: Colleen Beamish*

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## Washington Central Unified Union School District Board of Directors

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<b>Town</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Board Email</b>
Berlin	Diane Nichols-Fleming	dnicholsfleming@u32.org
Berlin	Vera Frazier	vfrazier5477@aol.com
Berlin	Jonathan Goddard	jgoddard@u32.org
Calais	Maggie Weiss	mweiss@u32.org
Calais	Daniel Keeney	dkeeney@u32.org
Calais	Kari Bradley (Vice Chair)	kbradley@u32.org
East Montpelier	Lindy Johnson	ljohnson@u32.org
East Montpelier	Flor Diaz Smith (Chair)	fdiazsmith@u32.org
East Montpelier	Eric Andersen	eandersen@u32.org
Middlesex	Ursula Stanley	ustanley@u32.org
Middlesex	Chris McVeigh	cmcveigh@u32.org
Middlesex	Joshua Sevits	jsevits@u32.org
Worcester	Natasha Eckart-Baning	neckartbaning@u32.org

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# Warning for the Washington Central Unified Union School District

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The legal voters of the Washington Central Unified Union School District, a municipal corporation consisting of the Towns of Berlin, Calais, East Montpelier, Middlesex, and Worcester, Vermont are hereby notified and warned to meet in their respective towns at the polling places hereinafter named on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, to vote by Australian ballot on Articles 1 through 8 as outlined below.

**ARTICLE 1.** To elect a Clerk for a term of one (1) year.

**ARTICLE 2.** To elect a Treasurer for a term of one (1) year.

**ARTICLE 3.** To elect a Moderator for a term of one (1) year.

**ARTICLE 4.** To elect the following School Directors:

Berlin	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term
Calais	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term
East Montpelier	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term
Middlesex	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term
Worcester	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term

**ARTICLE 5.** To fix the annual compensation of the Union School District officers.

Clerk	\$500.00
Treasurer	\$6,600.00
Directors	\$1,100.00 each
Chair	\$2,200.00

**ARTICLE 6.** Shall the voters of the Washington Central Unified Union School District approve the school board to expend \$38,921,331 which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$23,022 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 12.86% higher than spending for the current year.

**ARTICLE 7.** Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors of Washington Central Unified Union School District to hold any audited fund balance as of June 30, 2023 in a reserve fund to be expended under the control and direction of the Board of School Directors for the purpose of operating the school?

**ARTICLE 8.** Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money in anticipation of the receipt of revenues for the 2023-2024 school year?

**ARTICLE 9.** Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors to convey approximately 3.8 acres of undeveloped land that is now a part of the Berlin Elementary School Property to the Town of Berlin for use as part of the New Town Center?

# Warning for the WCUUSD (continued)

### Polling Places and Times:

Berlin Municipal Office 108 Shed Rd. Berlin 10:00 AM-7:00 PM

Calais Elementary School 321 Lightening Ridge Rd. in Calais 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

East Montpelier Elementary School 665 Vincent Flats Rd. in East Montpelier 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

Rumney Elementary School 433 Shady Rill Rd. in Middlesex 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

Doty Elementary School 24 Calais Rd. in Worcester 10:00 AM-7:00 PM

A public hearing will take place on Monday, March 6, 2023 at 5:30 PM to provide information on the articles to be voted by Australian Ballot at the municipalities' respective Town Meetings on Tuesday, March 7, 2023. The public hearing will be at U-32 Middle & High School 930 Gallison Hill Rd., Montpelier, VT 05602 in Rm 128/131. There will be a virtual option as well. <https://tinyurl.com/yckpbt48> Meeting Id: 852 5014 1942 Password: 675432 Phone: 1-929-205-6099

Upon closing of the polls, the ballots shall be transported and delivered to the East Montpelier Elementary School at 665 Vincent Flats Road in the Town of East Montpelier where they will be commingled and counted by members of the Boards of Civil Authority of district towns under the supervision of the Clerk of the Washington Central Unified Union School District.

The legal voters of Washington Central Unified Union School District are further notified that voter qualification, registration, and absentee voting relative to said annual meeting shall be as provided in Sections 553 and 706 (u) of Title 16, and Chapters 43, 51, and 55 of title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated

### SCHOOL DIRECTORS

  
Rosalie "Rosie" Laquerre, WCUUSD Clerk

  
Flor Diaz-Smith, Chair (East Montpelier)

  
Ursula Stanley (Middlesex)

  
Karl Bradley, Vice-Chair (Calais)

  
Chris McVeigh (Middlesex)

  
Diane Nichols-Fleming (Berlin)

  
Joshua Sevits (Middlesex)

Vera Frazier (Berlin)

  
Mickalyn Garrity LeClerc (Worcester)

  
Jonathan Goddard (Berlin)

  
Jonas Eno-Van Fleet, Clerk (Worcester)

  
Margaret "Maggie" Weiss (Calais)

  
Natasha Eckert Basing (Worcester)

  
Daniel Keeney (Calais)

  
Malinda "Lindy" Johnson (East Montpelier)

  
Eric Andersen (East Montpelier)

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# Warning for the Central Vermont Career Center School District

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Central Vermont Career Center School District  
Warning  
for  
March 7, 2023  
VOTE

The legal voters of the Central Vermont Career Center School District who are residents of the City of Barre and the Towns of Barre, Berlin, Cabot, Calais, Duxbury, East Montpelier, Fayston, Marshfield, Middlesex, Montpelier, Moretown, Plainfield, Roxbury, Waitsfield, Warren, Waterbury and Worcester are hereby notified and warned to meet at their respective polling places on Tuesday, March 7, 2023. Polls close statewide at seven (7:00) o'clock in the afternoon (p.m.). Voting will take place by Australian ballot upon the following Articles of business:

**Article 1:**

To elect two members to the Central Vermont Career Center School District Board for the ensuing term commencing March 7, 2023 as follows:

- One at-large director from Montpelier Roxbury Public Schools to serve a term of three years.
- One at-large director from the Washington Central Unified Union School District to serve a term of one year.

**Article 2:**

Shall the voters of the Central Vermont Career Center School District approve the school board to expend \$4,135,602, which is the amount the school board has determined necessary for the support of the Central Vermont Career Center for the ensuing fiscal year?

The legal voters and residents of the Central Vermont Career Center School District are further warned and notified that an informational meeting will be held in room 136 at the Central Vermont Career Center in the City of Barre and virtually via Google meet on February 27th, 2023 commencing directly after the annual meeting which begins at six o'clock (6:00) in the afternoon (pm) for the purpose of explaining the articles to be voted on by Australian ballot. A recording of this forum will be placed on the CVCC website at [cvcc.org](http://cvcc.org).

The legal voters of the Central Vermont Career Center School District are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting relative to said election shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51, and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Adopted and approved at a meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Central Vermont Unified Union School District held on January 9, 2023. Received for the record and recorded in the records of the Central Vermont Career Center School District on January 10, 2023.

**For Your Information**

Central Vermont Career Center School District  
Warning  
for  
March 7, 2023

Central Vermont Career Center  
Board of Directors



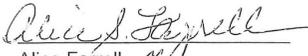
Tina Lunt, Clerk  
Central Vermont Career Center School District



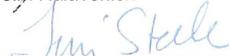
Jill Remick, Chair



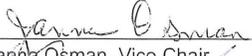
Flor Diaz Smith, Clerk



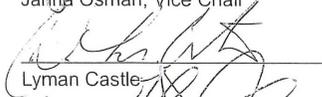
Alice Farrell

  
Jim Halavonich

Terri Steele



Janna Osman, Vice Chair



Lyman Castle



J. Guy Isabelle



Jason Monaco



Jonathan Young

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## Dog Licenses

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Per state law, it is every dog owner's responsibility to register your dog(s) in the town in which they live, no later than April 1st each year.

Calais does not register dogs in-person at the Town Office. To license your dog(s), mail or drop into the secure dropbox: (1) your dog's current rabies certificate, (2) payment to the Calais Town Office, 3120 Pekin Brook Rd, East Calais, VT, 05650. Fees are: \$9 for each spayed/neutered dog; \$13 for each intact dog. Licenses and dog tags will be mailed to you.

Licensing a dog:

- ❖ helps identify your dog if lost,
- ❖ provides proof your dog is protected from rabies in the event your dog is bitten by a rabid animal, or in the event your dog bites an animal or person – which could result in quarantine or possible euthanasia, and
- ❖ helps pay for VSNIP (see below), addressing canine overpopulation in Vermont.

Every dog in town needs to be licensed annually and needs to wear a current tag. If your dog needs updated rabies shots, you have until April 1, 2023 to submit payment and proof of vaccine for the license. You can ask your veterinarian to email a copy of the rabies certificate to [CalaisVtAssistantTownClerk@gmail.com](mailto:CalaisVtAssistantTownClerk@gmail.com).

The Hardwick Veterinary Clinic will conduct outdoor Rabies Clinics every Saturday in March 2023, 8:30-9:30 am. \$25/dog. No appointment required. First come, first serve. Call 802-472-8400 for details.

Please register your dogs. It is the State law, it helps keep everyone safe, it makes it easier to return lost dogs, and it saves Calais Animal Control Officers a lot of time and worry.

### **Vermont's Spay/Neuter Incentive Program "VSNIP"**

The Vermont Spay Neuter Incentive Program, aka "VSNIP", helps low income Vermont residents spay/neuter cats and dogs for \$27.00. The balance is paid by fellow Vermonters when their dogs are licensed by an added \$4.00 fee, which is the major funding for this important program.

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## Dog Licenses (continued)

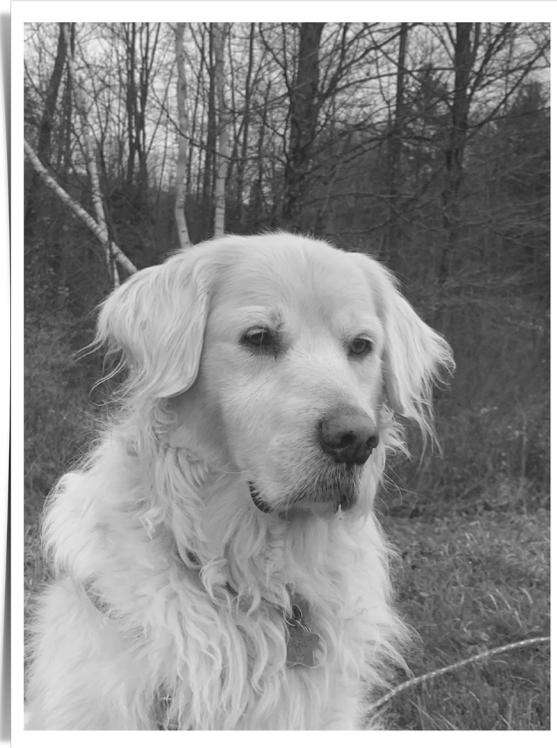
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A current rabies vaccination is required to register. Farmers should especially be aware that one rabid cat or dog can affect an entire population of animals on the premise. The answer is neutering through VSNIP, which includes a rabies vaccination and the first of the two part distemper series.

Animals live longer and happier when they're spayed and neutered, are less likely to fight for territory, and mark what they claim to be "theirs"!

To receive a VSNIP application, send a 9" self-addressed, stamped envelope to: VSNIP, PO Box 104, Bridgewater, VT 05034. Indicate if it's for a cat, dog or both. For more information, call 1-844-448-7647. Please visit our website: [www.VVSAHS.org](http://www.VVSAHS.org)



*Oscar, a Golden Retriever rescue from Istanbul, Turkey,  
at home on West County Road in Calais.*

*Photo Credit: Richard Maizell*

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## Trash and Recycling

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**Calais Transfer Station:** Operated by Brian Perry & Sons, 472-6080  
Moscow Woods Road, East Calais  
Saturdays, 8:00 am to 12:00 noon

**Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC):**  
540 North Main Street, Barre  
Mon/Wed/Fri, 12:00 to 5:30 pm and  
3rd Saturday of the month 9:00am to 1:00pm  
www.cvswmd.org or call 476-1900

**Electronics Recycling:** www.vtecycles.org or call  
1-855-6ecycle

**Hazardous Waste and Special Collections:**  
www.cvswmd.org or call  
229-9383

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## Fireworks Permits

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To request a fireworks permit, contact the East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD) at 225-6247, or stop by anytime during front office hours to pick up a permit application. Applications cannot be copied or reproduced and are good for only one show.

According to Vermont State Law, you must submit a signed application and a site map a minimum of 15 days in advance of a fireworks display. Any person not shooting the display on their own property must also show proof of permission from the land owner.

A site visit is typically made and the only officials authorized to sign fireworks permits are the EMFD Chief and the two Deputy Chiefs. Any permit not submitted 15 days in advance will not be approved.

For further information, contact the Vermont Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety, 479-7561, <https://firesafety.vermont.gov/>

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## 2022 Town Meeting Results

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**WARNING**  
**Town of Calais Annual Meeting**  
**Tuesday, March 2, 2022**

The legal voters of the Town of Calais are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Calais Elementary School in Calais at 321 Lightning Ridge Road, on Tuesday, March 1, 2022, to transact the following business by Australian ballot. Polls will be open from 7 am to 7 pm.

Legal voters are further warned that a public informational hearing on Articles 3 through 26 will take place via electronic means on Saturday, February 19, 2022, at 10 am. For information on how to participate in this public informational hearing, please see the Public Informational Hearing Notice and Agenda posted herewith.

**Article 1.** To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year. **Elected: Gus Seelig**

**Article 2.** To elect the following town officials:

Selectboard Member	3- year term	<b><u>Elected: Mark B Mihaly</u></b>
Selectboard Member	2-year term	<b><u>Elected: John D Brabant</u></b>
Lister	3- year term	<b><u>Elected: John McCullough</u></b>
Trustee of Public Funds	3-year term	<b><u>Elected: Steven L. Killoran</u></b>
Cemetery Commissioner	5-year term	<b><u>Elected: Shari Fitch</u></b>

**Article 3.** Shall the voters approve total highway and general fund expenditures of \$1,480,473 of which \$1,164,433 shall be raised by taxes and \$316,040 by non-tax revenue? **Approved**

**Article 4.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$42,500 for the operation and maintenance of the cemeteries? **Approved**

**Article 5.** Shall the voters appropriate \$29,898 for the Kellogg Hubbard Library? **Approved**

**Article 6.** Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$28,444 as requested by the following organizations in the Calais and the Central Vermont area: **Approved**

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## 2022 Town Meeting Results (continued)

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Calais Historical Society	\$ 200
Central Vermont Adult Basic Education	\$ 1,000
Central Vermont Council on Aging	\$ 1,400
Central Vermont Economic Development Corp.	\$ 500
Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice	\$ 4,150
Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center	\$ 800
Circle (formerly Battered Women's Shelter)	\$ 700
Community Connections	\$ 1,000
Community Harvest of Central Vermont	\$ 250
Family Center of Washington County	\$ 500
Friends of the Winooski River	\$ 300
Good Beginnings of Central Vermont	\$ 300
Good Samaritan Haven	\$ 1,500
Green Mountain Transit	\$ 859
Green Up Vermont	\$ 100
Montpelier Senior Activity Center	\$4,900
Mosaic Vermont (formerly Sexual Assault Crisis Team)	\$ 200
Old West Church Association	\$ 200
Our House of Central Vermont	\$ 250
People's Health and Wellness Clinic	\$ 1,500
Rural Community Transportation	\$ 975
Twin Valley Senior Center	\$ 3,000
VT Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired	\$ 650
Vermont Center for Independent Living	\$ 800
Washington County Diversion Program	\$ 300
Washington County Mental Health Services	\$ 1,400
Washington County Youth Service Bureau/Boys & Girls Club	\$ 500
Woodbury/Calais Food Shelf	\$ 210
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$28,444</b>

**Article 7.** Shall the voters exempt from taxation real property of the Maple Corner Community Center, for a period of five years pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 3840? Approved

**Article 8.** Shall the voters exempt from taxation real property of the Calais Community Recreation Association, also doing business under the name Calais Recreation Association Inc., for a period of 5 years pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 3840? Approved

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## 2022 Town Meeting Results (continued)

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**Article 9.** Shall the voters exempt from taxation real property of the Aldrich Memorial Association, for a period of five years pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 3840? Approved

**Article 10.** Shall the voters exempt from taxation real property of Adamant Community Club Inc, for a period of five years pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 3840? Approved

**Article 11.** Shall the voters exempt from taxation real property of the Adamant Cooperative, Inc., for a period of five years pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 3840? Approved

**Article 12.** Shall the voters authorize payment of property taxes in two equal installments, with the due date of the first installment on or before 4 pm on a date that falls not less than 30 days after the tax bills are mailed, but not earlier than September 1, 2022, and due date of the second installment shall be on or before 4 pm on Tuesday, November 15, 2022? Approved

**Article 13.** Shall each property tax installment payment be made via one of the following options: Approved

1. by delivery to the Treasurer by 4 pm on or before the due dates as set forth in Article 12
2. by U.S. Postal Service, with postmark on or before the due dates as set forth in Article 12; or
3. by credit card payment via [www.calaisvermont.gov](http://www.calaisvermont.gov) by 4 pm on or before the due dates as set forth in Article 12?

**Article 14.** Shall interest in the amount of 0.5% per month or any part of a month, be charged on unpaid taxes? Approved

**Article 15.** Shall the Town allow an interest-free grace period of seven (7) calendar days following each due date as set forth in Article 12 during which no interest shall be charged? Approved

**Article 16.** Shall a delinquent tax penalty be set at 3% of the total amount of the 2022 delinquent tax? Approved

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## 2022 Town Meeting Results (continued)

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**Article 17.** Shall the town allow a penalty-free grace period of seven (7) calendar days after Tuesday, November 15, 2022, during which no delinquent tax penalty shall be charged? *Approved*

**Article 18.** Shall the voters exempt business personal property from taxation pursuant to 32 V.S.A. §3849? *Approved*

**Article 19.** Shall the town appropriate the sum \$62,837 to fund the operation of the East Montpelier Fire Department, paid in quarterly installments starting July 1, 2022? *Approved*

**Article 20.** Shall the town appropriate the sum \$121,083 to fund the operation of the East Montpelier Ambulance, paid in quarterly installments starting July 1, 2022? *Approved*

**Article 21.** Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to borrow an amount not to exceed \$66,667, for a term not to exceed five years, for the purchase of a fire engine truck for the East Montpelier Fire Department? *Approved*

**Article 22.** Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$17,850 to the Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department for the Department's Truck Replacement Fund, paid July 1, 2022? *Approved*

**Article 23.** Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$35,370 to fund the operation of Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department, paid in quarterly installments starting July 1, 2022? *Approved*

**Article 24.** Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$31,000 to the Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department for the Department's Capital Replacement Fund, paid January 1, 2023? *Approved*

**Article 25.** Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to replace fencing in the Robinson and Old West Church cemeteries? *Approved*

**Article 26.** Shall the Town of Calais inform and provide notice to its residents when sources of radiation, such as, but not limited to, that generated by cell towers/transmitters, WIFI tower transmitters and 5G antennas, are being proposed for licensing and installation within the town limits? *Approved*

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## 2022 Town Meeting Results (continued)

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Dated at Calais, Vermont the 24<sup>th</sup> day of January 2022 by the Calais Selectboard.

Denise Wheeler, Chair

Denise Wheeler

Sharon Winn Fannon, Vice Chair

Sharon Winn Fannon

John D. Brabant

John Brabant

Marc B. Mihaly

Marc Mihaly

Rick Kehne

Rick Kehne

Received for record  
January 24, 2022  
Attest.

Town Clerk

**Town of Calais**  
3120 Pekin Brook Road  
East Calais, VT 05650

