

---

*TOWN OF CASTLETON, VERMONT*

*162<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL REPORT*

---

For Fiscal Year  
July 01, 2022 – June 30, 2023



Community Health Center Rutland Region- Castleton

---

*Community Health Center Rutland Region- Castleton*

---

Community Health Castleton is one of nine clinics under the Community Health umbrella serving Rutland County and southern Addison County. The clinic has been with Community Health since 2004, but was serving the community for many years before that.

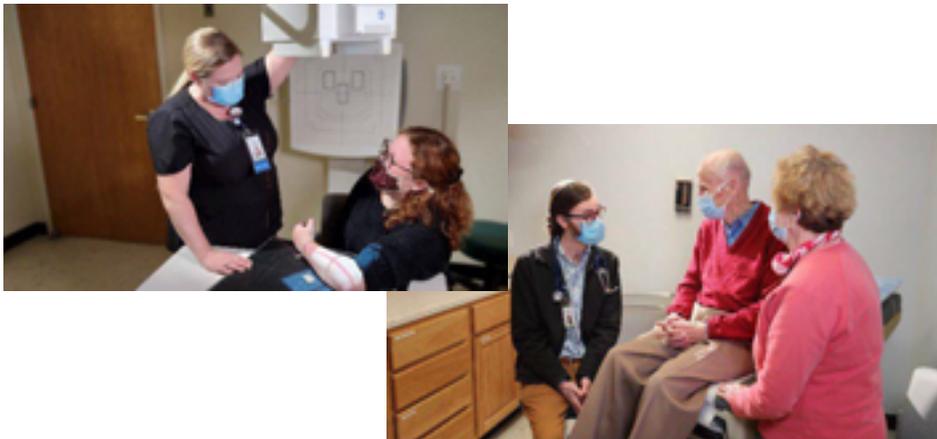
Community Health is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) and we qualify for enhanced reimbursement from Medicare and Medicaid. FQHCs provide care to an underserved area or population, offer a sliding fee scale, and deliver comprehensive services. Community Health provides care to all patients regardless of their ability to pay. We provide care to approximately 85% of Rutland County residents.

Community Health Castleton is the second largest clinic, after the Rutland Office. It cares for more than 19,000 patients a year and employs nearly 90 staff members. Of those, Community Health Castleton has 17 staff members to provide primary care services, including behavioral health care and counseling. There is also a Certified Diabetes Educator who can meet with individuals or provide group sessions. Additional services provided at Community Health Castleton include: care management, blood draws, radiology services and vaccines/immunizations.

In addition, Express Care Castleton is available for treatment of minor illness and injury for children and adults when your primary care provider is unavailable. There is also a walk-in care center in Rutland. Express Care is open 8:00am to 8:00pm every day.

Our mission is to be the foremost integrated community health center providing quality and collaborative care that is accessible to all people, in order to live their best lives and build stronger communities. Community Health Castleton is a model for this with their commitment to the care of their patients.

CHCRR.org



---

*In Remembrance*

---



**Joseph F. Bruno, Jr.** passed away on Friday, October 13, 2023, at the Helen Porter Rehabilitation Center in Middlebury, Vt. after a long illness. He was born June 25, 1956 to Joseph and Marjorie Bruno, Sr. He attended St. Mary's School, Hydeville School and Fair Haven Union High School. He married Lynn Sheldon on June 24, 1978. Joe owned Bruno Plumbing and Heating and was very active in the town of Castleton – serving on the Select Board, Planning Commission, and many other positions. He also served on the FHUHS School Board. He was an avid fisherman and hunter. He participated in many derbies and hunted in Maine & Ohio. He was also a motorcycle enthusiast. He enjoyed drag racing for C & D Chopper and attended the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally. Joe enjoyed restoring vintage cars. Joe is remembered by many for his friendship and contributions to our community.



**Jonas Howard Rosenthal**, 72 of Wells, died unexpectedly on Sunday October 2, 2022. Jonas relocated to Vermont in October of 1985 where he became the Poultney Town Manager. In 1986 he also became Poultny Village Manager until retiring in September 2016. He served the town and village of Poultny as: zoning administrator, dog wrangler, recreation director, traffic director, health officer & litter control officer. During his retirement he served the Town of Fair Haven as their Interim Town Manager and was currently serving the towns of Castleton & Pawlet as Zoning Administrator. Jonas served a 3-year term on the Vermont Community Development Board & was the President of the Board of Directors for the Young at Heart Senior Center. He was a past member of the Poultny Rotary Club, Poultny July 4th Committee, Poultny Downtown Revitalization Committee and Poultny Recreation Commission. Jonas was an accomplished grant writer securing

funding for many community projects and was instrumental in saving & restoring the Stonebridge Inn in 2005. The Poultny Public Library has dedicated The Rosenthal Room in his honor. Jonas was selected as the Poultny Area Chamber of Commerce Honorary Citizen of the Year in 2016. In 2018 the Vermont State House honored him with a resolution. He was also the recipient of the Frances B. Elwell Award for Municipal Management, Preservation Trust of Vermont Award, & the Vermont Downtown Program Green Mountain Award. Jonas dedicated his career to community improvement. We are grateful for his dedication & friendship.



**Honoree Fleming 1946-2023**

Submitted by Ron Powers. Fallen Majesty, William Butler Yeats

Although crowds gathered once if she but showed her face,  
And even old men's eyes grew dim, this hand alone,  
Like some last courtier at a gypsy camping-place Babbling  
Of fallen majesty, records what's gone.

The lineaments, a heart that laughter has made sweet,  
These, these remain, but I record what's gone. A crowd  
Will gather, and not know it walks the very street  
Whereon a thing once walked that seemed a burning cloud.

---

**IMPORTANT  
TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

---

Municipal Offices (802) 468-5319

Accounting	x 206
Treasurer	x 205
Administration Asst.	x 202
Assessor's Office	x 209
Health Officer	x 207
Tax Dept.	x 204
Town Clerk	x 201
Town Manager	x 203
Zoning Administrator	x 208

Other Town Departments

Castleton Free Library	468-5574
Crystal Beach	273-2424
Fire Department	468-5060
Highway Garage	468-2459
Police Department	468-2750
Transfer Station	468-3005
Wastewater Treatment Facility	468-5315

MUNICIPAL OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday      8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR HOURS

Tues & Thurs    1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

TOWN CLERK'S HOURS

Monday – Tuesday - Thursday  
8:00AM to 12:30PM & 1:00PM to 4:30PM  
Wednesday                      Friday  
9:30AM to 4:30PM      8:00AM to 12:00PM

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

Winter /October 1st – April 30th  
Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday:  
8:00 A.M.-4:00P.M.

Summer/ May 1st - September 30th  
Tuesday-Thursday: 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.  
Saturday: 8:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday	3:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
Tuesday	2:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday	2:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Thursday	3:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
Friday	10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Saturday	10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

---

*Water is governed by Fire  
Districts 1 & 3 For  
questions & payments:*

---

Castleton Fire District #1  
P.O. Box 227, Castleton, VT 05735  
Phone: (802) 468-8900

Castleton Fire District #3  
P.O. Box 306, Bomoseen, VT 05732  
Phone: (802) 278-8013  
castletonfiredistrict3@aim.com

Population- 4,457

Registered Voters 2839

Area- 26,688 acres, 38 square miles

Road Class:

I      1.096 miles

II     17.860 miles

III    36.110 miles

IV    4.370 miles

76.715 total road miles.

59.946 maintained by town.

Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Budget

Town Budget = \$3,552,352

Sewer Budget = \$726,027

Mailing Address for Town Offices  
& Town Clerk:  
**263 Rte. 30 N, Bomoseen VT 05732**

Remembrance	1
Important Phone Numbers	2
Elected Officials	3
Titled Positions	4
Meeting Schedules	5
Select Board Report	5
Town Manager's Report	5
Highway Department	7
Warning March 2023	8
Budget Summary	11
Comparison, General Fund	12
Independent Auditor's Report	13
Treasurer's Report	12
Tax & Sewer Collection Sum.	14
Tax Department Info. Page	15
Tax Rate Calculation	16
Grand List form 411	17
Town Meeting Minutes 2023	18
Ballot Results 2023	24
Wage Report	28
Cemetery Association Financials	29
Transfer Station	30
Assessor's Report	30
Volunteer Fire Department	31
Police Department	32
Fire Warden	34
Castleton Free Library	34
Recreation	35
First Responders	37
Wastewater Treatment Facility	37
Animal Control	38
Cemetery Association	38
Zoning	39
Planning Commission	40
Town Clerk	40
Vital Statistics	41
Dates to Remember 2024	44
<b>Appendices: Social Services information is available at the town office or online</b>	

---

*Elected Officials*

---

**TOWN CLERK**

Nedra Boutwell      3 years      2024

**CONSTABLE**

(1<sup>st</sup>) Silas Loomis      2 years      2025

**LIBRARY TRUSTEES (5)**

Joan E Brown      5 years      2028

Patricia Schroeder      5 years      2024

Patrick Keller      5 years      2025

Nancy Mark      5 years      2026

Vacant      5 years      2027

**TOWN MODERATOR**

Michael Finnegan      1 year      2024

**SLATE VALLEY MODIFIED UNIFIED**

**UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Toni Lobdell      3 years      2024

Tim Smith      3 years      2025

Julie Finnegan      3 years      2026

**SELECTMEN (5)**

Joe Mark      3 years      2024

Robert Spaulding      3 years      2025

Mary Lee Harris      1 year      2024

Richard Combs      3 years      2026

Jim Leamy      1 year      2024

**TREASURER**

Nancy Trudo (retired)      3 years      2024

Nedra Boutwell \*interim

**JUSTICES OF THE PEACE (12) 2 years\***

\*exp January 31, 2026

Michael Bethel      Patricia A. Diercksen

Yvonne DeLance      Gerard Ashton

Mary Beth Hadeka      Bonnie Hanley

Jennifer Jones      Deborah Rosmus

Toni Lobdell      Patricia Schroeder

Laura Sargent      Lilian Sheren

TITLED POSITIONS

**Animal Control Officer**

Chris Forrest

**Assessor**

Mary Jo Teetor Employee

**Cemetery Over Viewers**

Kenneth Flowers 2024  
 Raymond Ladd 2024  
 Jon Pintello 2024  
 Kevin Fenton 2024

**Development Review Board**

Patrick Keller 2024  
 Michael Holden 2024  
 Laura Sargent\* 2025  
 Heath Goyette 2026  
 John Alexander 2025  
 Yvonne DeLance 2025

**Fire Chief**

Heath Goyette 2024

**Forest Fire Warden**

Heath Goyette 2025

**Health Officers**

James P Leamy 2027  
 Michael Jones 2026

**Librarian**

Mary Kearns Employee  
 Sharon-Lovett Graf Employee  
 Ariana Hausman Employee

**Planning Commission**

Frank Johnson 2024  
 Elisabeth MacKay\* 2024  
 Jim Thomas 2024  
 Mike Holden 2024  
 Michael Scovner 2025

**Police Chief & Emergency Management Coordinator**

Peter Mantello Employee

**RCSWD Representative**

Timothy Gilbert 2024  
 James Leamy 2024

**Recreation Commission**

Martha Clifford\* 2026  
 Nancy Parker 2024  
 Amanda Stockwell 2025  
 Michael Hall 2026  
 Matthew Ryan 2024  
 Mary Droege 2024

**Road Commissioner**

Michael Jones Employee

**Emergency Management Director**

Michael Jones Employee

**Rutland Regional Planning Commission-Representative**

Elisabeth MacKay 2024  
 Frank Johnson 2024

**Tax Collector**

Michael Jones Employee

**Town Manager**

Michael Jones Employee

**Highway Foreman**

Jeff Davidson Employee

**Regional Ambulance Service Representative**

Aleda Dutton 2025

**Transfer Station Supervisor**

Jacob Wilcox Employee

**Tree Warden**

Scott Welch 2024

**Wastewater Treatment Facility**

Jeff Jordan Employee  
 Russ Hallett Employee

**Zoning Administrator**

Karen Oakman Employee

---

*Meetings are hosted at 273 Route 30N in the Fire Department Community Room. Remote attendance is also available. Please see the posted agenda for specific meeting information.*

---

**Select Board**

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month at 7:00 P.M. or as posted.

**Planning Commission**

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 P.M. or as posted.

**Recreation Commission**

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month at 5:30 P.M.

**Development Review Board**

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. or as posted.

---

*Select Board Report*

---

The attached FY25 budget, approved by the Select Board and now presented to the voters, deserves explanation.

Last year, in preparing the FY24 budget, the board made three decisions that decreased the overall budget's "bottom line": (1) the board used \$104,500 of the Town's allocated American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to pay for paving, thus lowering the normal paving budget by half; (2) it applied unassigned highway carryover totaling \$105,172 to cover three other highway department needs (winter road sand, gravel crushing, and replacement of half the deteriorated overhead doors at the Town garage (the cost of replacing the remaining four doors is in the FY25 budget); and (3) it chose to put a separate article on the ballot to fund operating expenses for the former Castleton Village School.

The one-time monies that permitted the first two of these decisions are no longer available for use; and given how strongly Town voters supported the CVS appropriation, the board decided that CVS expenditures should be added to the overall General Government Buildings budget.

Had we included CVS operating costs in last year's budget and not used one-time monies, the actual total difference between what it took to run the Town last year and what the select board is asking the citizens to allocate for next year is \$233,582, a 5.83% increase.

A few other comments:

- Total salaries declined in the proposed budget by \$18,988.
- Employee benefits, an expense we have no control over once contracts have been negotiated, have gone up 13.9%.
- The cost of many critical supplies—lumber, culverts, steel, etc.—increased dramatically during the pandemic.
- Purchased services, too, e.g., lawn mowing and vehicle repairs, have risen at rates exceeding inflation.
- Technology costs have grown substantially in the proposed budget, in part because we found that we had fewer software licenses than are required.

---

*Town Manager's Report*

---

I would like to thank the taxpayers/residents for their cooperation and support. Providing services to the residents of Castleton is a top priority for me and the departments that serve the community. This doesn't always go my way and there are some hiccups along the way, but I do use mistakes as an opportunity to grow and become a better leader and manager. That said, to provide the services that residents expect, it is a team effort by department heads and employees to support the critical mission of

providing public safety, public works, recreation and learning, and a myriad of administrative services to the community. As most can attest to, the increase in goods and services can make budgeting a challenge, especially since the proposed budget needs to be accepted by the Selectboard in January of each year so it can be placed on the ballot for Town Meeting Day in March. It can be a challenge to estimate or determine the costs of supplies and materials 4-18 months in advance, especially with items like home heating oil, gasoline, diesel, and specialty items for public safety and public works departments. It is a flawed system, but we typically are pretty accurate, however, there are occasions when we get it wrong.

The need for talented, dedicated, and conscientious employees exists for all professional organizations, and we are no exception. Attracting and retaining good employees can be a challenge. The Town has two unions (Police and DPW) which can present its own set of challenges when trying to negotiate with prospective employees. In some cases, the wages the Town is able to offer to a highly qualified prospect are below what may be considered a "fair wage". This makes filling vacancies difficult in some situations. Having vacancies in a two-five employee department can lead to operational deficiencies when trying to provide critical services to the community. These deficiencies can be highly visible to residents when it comes to the condition of our roads, ditches, culverts, bridges, parks, and recreational facilities. I am the facilitator of negotiations between the Selectboard and the union. I remain hopeful that the end result of collective bargaining will allow me the resources needed to attract and retain good employees so critical services to the community are not interrupted or degraded.

The Town anticipates a general fund budget surplus of approximately \$227,000. The Selectboard must determine whether to ask the voters to obligate the funds for a specific purpose or let it remain in the General Fund of the Town where if undesignated, will be included as revenue when determining the tax rate in the next fiscal year. Since the cost of goods and services continues to increase, some doubling or tripling over the prior fiscal year, I anticipate a significant increase in the next proposed budget year (7/1/2024-6/30/2025), which also includes employee wages and benefits. A general fund budget surplus can be used as revenue into the next fiscal year to help offset inevitable budget increases.

The Town hired Karen Oakman as Zoning Administrator. It will take some time for Karen to become familiar and comfortable with the complexity of municipal zoning, so I ask permit applicants to be patient with the permit process as Karen grows into her new position. She is intelligent, conscientious, and dedicated to providing the best service possible to the community.

Thanks to Bo Elliott Ramos who joined us as the first full-time Parks and Recreation Director. Bo brought enthusiasm to this role and worked collectively with the Recreation Commission to build sports & indoor programming at the former Castleton Village School before moving on. The town has since hired life-long resident John Alexander as Parks & Recreation Director. Be on the lookout for advertising as Rec continues to grow additional programming for our youth, adults, and seniors.

I would like to thank the Castleton Garden Club, Dr. (Ret) Peter Dierksen, and the Recreation Director for volunteering their personal time to help beautify the Town Office and the Park & Ride. The flowers they planted enhanced the aesthetics of these two locations, and are greatly appreciated.

Penta Corporation completed approximately 80% of the \$2.2M 20-Year upgrades at the Wastewater Treatment Facility by June 30, 2023, with the remaining 20% scheduled for completion by October 2023. Based on the anticipated revenue and operating expenses, I recommended to the Board of Sewer Commissioners a modest rate increase of \$15 per equivalent unit per user.

The Selectboard decided to consider three extensions of the wastewater collection system. The first extension will be on Crystal Heights. The two other potential extensions being considered are Depot Terrace and Creek Road, as far as Woodard's Marine. Expanding water and wastewater service in the community is extremely expensive yet needed to foster economic development and growth. The best component to containing property taxes is to encourage economic growth and build the tax base. In most cases, businesses need reliable water, wastewater, Internet, and power. The Town is limited on potential growth locations where these services/utilities currently exist, so without expanding into areas where these services/utilities don't exist but has growth potential, growth within our community will be stagnant. Low or no growth directly impacts what we all pay for taxes. Cutting the operating budget that provides for the critical services we all want in our community will do little to reduce the tax rate but would negatively impact the amount and quality of the services we all expect. Therefore, we have to be open to growth and invest in our own community to provide for a mechanism that would lower property taxes.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Michael A. Jones  
Town Manager

---

*Highway Department*

---

We have experienced some employee turnover during the fiscal year and I, am happy to be serving the Castleton Community as Highway Foreman. We have a talented & dedicated crew with decades of experience.

In addition to the Highway Department's regular year-round maintenance, we cleaned culverts throughout the town notably a complex culvert replacement and stormwater project on Little Rutland Road. The FEMA project on Belgo Rd was finally able to be completed. Several roads had ditches cleaned and touched up as well. Fall grading was not 100% completed due to the grader being out of commission for a few months, we plan on making grading a top priority in 2024. Paving continues to be a challenge as costs have risen and the weather was often uncooperative, however; we were able to have several roads and parking lots paved and lined. The Town was awarded grants for projects on West Castleton and Griffin Rd, the latter has been started and will be completed early summer of 2024. We are looking to address Stormwater through mapping and digital inventories to bring roads up to compliance. Grant writing continues and is an important process to help fund Town road projects.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jeff Davidson, Foreman



*Robert Ward Retired this year after 24 years as our Town Mechanic. Congratulations Bob!*

**TOWN OF CASTLETON  
WARNING**

The legal voters of the Town of Castleton, in the County of Rutland, and the State of Vermont, are hereby warned to meet in person at the **Herrick Auditorium**, Vermont State University at Castleton or remotely via Zoom on **Monday, March 4, 2024 at 6:30 pm** for the informational Town Meeting; and on the first Tuesday in March, being **March 5, 2024 at 8:00 am** at the Town of Castleton Public Safety Building (aka the Castleton Fire Station) at 273 Rte. 30 N in said Town to vote by Australian Ballot on Articles 1 through 45. Polls close at 7:00 pm on March 5, 2024.

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87660328556>

Meeting ID: 876 6032 8556  
Phone 929 205 6099

**THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES WILL BE VOTED ON MARCH 5, 2024 BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT ARTICLES 1 – 45**

Article 1. To elect Officers for the following terms: two (2) Select Board members for 1 year; one (1) Select Board member for 3 years; One (1) Library Trustee for 5 years; One (1) Library Trustee for 3 years remaining of a 5 year term; One (1) Town Moderator for 1 year; One (1) Town Clerk for 3 years; One (1) Treasurer for 3 years

Article 2. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$29,406 for Legislating?

Article 3. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$2,224 for Ordinances & Proceedings?

Article 4. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$202,443 for Managing Municipalities?

Article 5. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$12,929 for Conducting Elections?

Article 6. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$47,071 for Collection, Custody & Disbursement of Funds?

Article 7. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$121,787 for Accounting?

Article 8. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$18,000 for Auditing?

Article 9. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$40,725 for Tax Listing?

Article 10. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$45,222 for Tax Collecting?

Article 11. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$93,374 for Document Recording/Issue?

Article 12. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$27,000 for Legal Services?

Article 13. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$49,470 for Municipal Planning & Zoning?

Article 14. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$2,650 for Community Development & Economic Revitalization?

Article 15. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$264,575 for General Government Buildings? (Includes former CVS)

Article 16. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$33,200 for General Government Equipment?

Article 17. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$648,196 for the Police Department?

Article 18. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$43,482 for Emergency Medical Services? (Includes Regional Ambulance Service, Inc. & RAS/Castleton First Responders)

Article 19. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$262,807 for the Fire Department?

Article 20. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$8,250 for Emergency Management?

Article 21. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,433,382 for the Highway Department?

Article 22. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$24,750 for Town Lands?

Article 23. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for Historical Cemeteries?

Article 24. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$31,000 for the Hillside Cemetery?

Article 25. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,373 for Health Regulating & Inspecting?

Article 26. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$6,329 for Animal Control?

Article 27. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$20,745 for the Constable?

Article 28. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$376,477 for the Transfer Station?

Article 29. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$198,464 for Recreation?

Article 30. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$14,200 for Memorial Day Decorations/July 4th Parade?

Article 31. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$118,186 for Library Administration?

Article 32. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,884 for Prevention/Control of Forest Fires?

Article 33. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$11,130 for Tree Warden?

Article 34. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$43,000 for Rutland County Tax?

Article 35. Will the voters approve expenditures totaling \$7,000 to cover the one-time costs of hosting a free-admission public "Ethan Allen in Castleton Day" 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in Castleton on May 9, 2025?

Article 36. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$3,500 for the support of ARC - Rutland Area, determining that the program serves the residents of the Town with advocacy, resources, and community for citizens with developmental disabilities and their families? (Not included in the budget)

Article 37. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$3,600 for administrative support of Castleton Cares, Inc., determining that the program serves the residents of the Town with emergency assistance to local people in need. (Not included in the budget)

Article 38. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$25,000 for the support of Castleton Community Seniors, Inc., determining that the program serves residents of the Town with the operation of the Castleton Community Center (The Old Homestead)? (Not included in the budget)

Article 39. Shall the Town of Castleton vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$3,500 for the support of the partial funding of Marble Valley Regional Transit Districts (The Bus) public transit service to the residents of the Town? (Not included in the budget)

Article 40. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$6,720 to support the Rutland Area Visiting Nurses & Hospice (\$550 to support Rutland Area Hospice & \$6,170 to support RAVNAH Home and Community Health Services)? (Not included in the budget)

Article 41. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$4,088 for the support of Rutland Mental Health Services, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with counseling, substance abuse and emergency services? (Not included in the budget)

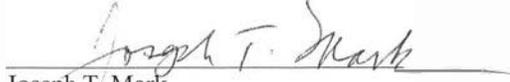
Article 42. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$900 for the support of RSVP and the Volunteer Center, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with volunteering opportunities and community services? (Not included in the budget)

Article 43. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$2,000 for the support of Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with elder services? (Not included in the budget)

Article 44. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$1,000 for the support of Vermont Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with services to enable the blind and visually impaired to achieve and maintain independence? (Not included in the budget)

Article 45. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$2,725 for the support of BROCC-Community Action in Southwestern Vermont, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with weatherization, emergency food and small business development? (Not included in the budget)

Approved by the Selectboard at Castleton, Vermont this 22nd day of January 2024:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph T. Mark

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard A. Combs

\_\_\_\_\_  
James P. Leamy

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Lee Harris

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert V. Spaulding

**SELECT BOARD**

### Castleton FY 2022-2025 Budget Summary

REVENUE	Budget	Actual YTD	Budget	Actual YTD	Budget	Actual YTD	Proposed	Difference to prior year	
	FY21-22	6/30/22	FY22-23	06/30/23	FY23-24	06/30/24	Budget	budget	
							FY24-25	\$	%
TAXES PENALTY INT-CURRENT	\$2,039,244	\$2,068,242	\$2,432,009	\$2,491,461	\$2,414,587		\$2,350,500	-\$64,087	-2.7%
PENALTY INT ON DELQNT TAX	\$45,000	\$39,639	\$45,000	\$36,288	\$37,000		\$36,500	-\$500	-1.4%
LICENSES/PERMITS/FEES	\$14,500	\$16,916	\$15,500	\$19,984	\$18,000		\$19,000	\$1,000	5.6%
GRANTS	\$626,795	\$662,636	\$604,105	\$681,410	\$659,800		\$691,000	\$31,200	4.7%
COPIER	\$300	\$138	\$300	\$57	\$300		\$300	\$0	0.0%
TRANSFER STATION REVENUES	\$345,277	\$358,065	\$338,835	\$312,129	\$326,928		\$329,150	\$2,222	0.7%
TOWN CLERK & MISC	\$77,600	\$111,756	\$85,950	\$85,969	\$79,750		\$86,150	\$6,400	8.0%
RECREATION PROGRAMS	\$44,792	\$42,602	\$56,833	\$65,337	\$62,426		\$64,000	\$1,574	2.5%
INTEREST DIVIDENDS	\$3,000	\$2,584	\$2,500	\$25,604	\$18,000		\$25,000	\$7,000	38.9%
GIFTS & DONATIONS	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	0.0%
REFUNDS & OTHER	\$5,600	\$22,364	\$5,600	\$18,992	\$6,800		\$7,500	\$700	10.3%
SURPLUS/DEFICIT APPLIED	\$279,747	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$224,918		\$227,000	\$2,082	0.0%
INS & OTHER REIMB	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	0.0%
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$3,481,855</b>	<b>\$3,324,941</b>	<b>\$3,586,632</b>	<b>\$3,737,232</b>	<b>\$3,848,509</b>		<b>\$3,836,100</b>	<b>-\$12,409</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>

EXPENSES	Budget	Actual YTD	Budget	Actual YTD	Budget	Actual YTD	Proposed	Difference to prior	
	FY21-22	06/30/22	FY22-23	06/30/23	FY23-24	06/30/24	Budget	year budget	
							FY24-25	\$	%
LEGISLATING	\$26,542	\$26,153	\$26,618	\$25,874	\$28,714		\$29,406	\$692	2.4%
ORDINANCES & PROCEEDINGS	\$1,965	\$878	\$1,965	\$977	\$2,224		\$2,224	\$0	0.0%
MANAGING MUNICIPALITIES	\$182,428	\$171,284	\$184,500	\$179,443	\$192,822		\$202,443	\$9,621	5.0%
CONDUCTING ELECTIONS	\$8,804	\$6,484	\$12,271	\$7,995	\$9,808		\$12,929	\$3,121	31.8%
COLLECT CUST. DISB FUNDS	\$48,159	\$46,523	\$48,817	\$40,410	\$46,238		\$47,071	\$833	1.8%
ACCOUNTING	\$104,833	\$102,486	\$111,624	\$104,756	\$115,867		\$121,787	\$5,920	5.1%
AUDITING	\$12,000	\$10,500	\$12,000	\$28,400	\$15,000		\$18,000	\$3,000	20.0%
TAX LISTING	\$34,434	\$23,695	\$34,383	\$31,674	\$38,043		\$40,725	\$2,682	7.0%
TAX COLLECTING	\$42,597	\$42,593	\$42,592	\$32,521	\$41,040		\$45,222	\$4,182	10.2%
DOCUMENT RECORDING/ISSUE	\$80,878	\$85,105	\$83,051	\$83,473	\$86,602		\$93,374	\$6,772	7.8%
LEGAL SERVICES	\$20,000	\$27,432	\$20,000	\$22,159	\$25,000		\$27,000	\$2,000	8.0%
MUNICIPAL PLANNING/ZONING	\$41,738	\$30,264	\$43,711	\$36,910	\$45,702		\$49,470	\$3,768	8.2%
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION	\$7,490	\$2,251	\$8,255	\$2,918	\$8,657		\$2,650	-\$6,007	-69.4%
GEN GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS	\$192,850	\$170,065	\$191,828	\$171,108	\$189,962		\$189,845	-\$117	-0.1%
GEN GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS-CVS				\$35,595	\$90,519		\$74,730	-\$15,789	-17.4%
GEN. GOVERNMENT EQUIPMENT	\$23,439	\$32,921	\$27,450	\$43,883	\$27,450		\$33,200	\$5,750	20.9%
POLICE DEPARTMENT	\$526,025	\$509,333	\$531,182	\$538,980	\$584,898		\$648,196	\$63,298	10.8%
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SVCS.	\$36,218	\$34,851	\$36,218	\$35,730	\$38,782		\$43,482	\$4,700	12.1%
FIRE DEPARTMENT	\$167,144	\$148,403	\$169,575	\$171,863	\$194,288		\$262,807	\$68,519	35.3%
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	\$8,750	\$1,498	\$8,550	\$6,557	\$8,450		\$8,250	-\$200	-2.4%
HIGHWAY	\$1,155,379	\$1,407,829	\$1,165,291	\$928,644	\$1,176,033		\$1,433,382	\$257,349	21.9%
TOWN LANDS	\$3,400	\$740	\$3,900	\$6,292	\$23,517		\$24,750	\$1,233	5.2%
HISTORICAL CEMETERIES	\$5,000	\$719	\$5,000	\$9,000	\$5,000		\$5,000	\$0	0.0%
HILLSIDE CEMETERY	\$29,000	\$29,000	\$29,000	\$29,000	\$30,000		\$31,000	\$1,000	3.3%
HEALTH REG & INSPECTING	\$1,443	\$1,317	\$1,443	\$1,434	\$1,445		\$1,373	-\$72	-5.0%
ANIMAL CONTROL	\$5,469	\$2,712	\$5,467	\$2,851	\$5,717		\$6,329	\$612	10.7%
CONSTABLES	\$29,803	\$6,671	\$20,773	\$10,174	\$20,745		\$20,745	\$0	0.0%
TRANSFER STATION	\$345,277	\$293,136	\$341,695	\$289,492	\$377,221		\$376,477	-\$744	-0.2%
RECREATION	\$113,797	\$86,717	\$204,382	\$153,817	\$182,336		\$198,464	\$16,128	8.8%
MEMORIAL DAY DECORATIONS/JULY 4TH PARADE	\$3,300	\$11,287	\$10,150	\$14,174	\$12,200		\$14,200	\$2,000	16.4%
LIBRARY	\$116,000	\$122,180	\$116,000	\$116,000	\$116,000		\$118,186	\$2,186	1.9%
PREV/CONTROL FOREST FIRES	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500	\$3,061	\$1,884		\$1,884	\$0	0.0%
TREE WARDEN	\$10,161	\$6,101	\$10,159	\$9,242	\$10,312		\$11,130	\$818	7.9%
OTHER GOVERNMENT	\$43,000	\$35,304	\$43,000	\$40,262	\$43,000		\$43,000	\$0	0.0%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$3,428,822</b>	<b>\$3,468,232</b>	<b>\$3,552,352</b>	<b>\$3,214,667</b>	<b>\$3,795,476</b>		<b>\$4,238,731</b>	<b>\$443,255</b>	<b>11.7%</b>

---

***The Financial Statements of the Town of Castleton, Vermont for the year ended June 30, 2023 have been audited by RHR Smith & Company of Buxton, Maine. The full report will be available for viewing on the Town's website [www.castletonvermont.org](http://www.castletonvermont.org) or at the Castleton Town Clerk's Office.***

---

Treasurer's Report Of Cash Balances

As of 06/30/23

Operating Account Checking	\$1,436,558.92
Total Operating	\$1,436,558.92
Cash on Hand/In Transit	\$500.00
M & T Reserve	\$1,166,724.09
TD Bank Reserve	\$836,844.51
Total Reserve	\$2,003,568.60
TD Bank ARPA Account	\$1,222,450.90
Total ARPA	\$1,222,450.90

Verified to Auditors Report

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy L Trudo

## TAX & SEWER COLLECTION SUMMARY

### **CURRENT REAL & PERSONAL PROPERTY**

Original Amount Billed	\$ 9,973,484.20
Adjustments:	
Additions	\$ 959.90
Deletions	\$ (11,885.07)
Adjusted Total Amount to Collect	\$ 9,962,559.03
Collections	\$ (9,713,903.07)
Advance Payments	\$ (27,560.79)
Small Balance Adjustments	\$ (39.06)
NEMRC Adjustments	\$ 2,318.75
Total Outstanding Current Taxes as of 6/30/23	<u>\$ 223,374.86</u>

### **DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE & PERSONAL PROPERTY**

For Collection 07/01/22	\$ 373,801.48
Adjustments:	
Small Balance Adjustments	
NEMRC Adjustments	\$ (829.89)
Abatements	
Collections	<u>\$ (246,666.47)</u>
Total Outstanding Delinquent Taxes as of 6/30/23	\$ 126,305.12

**TOTAL OUTSTANDING TAXES AS OF 06/30/23** \$ 349,679.98

### **CURRENT SEWER**

Original Amount Billed	\$ 711,554.44
Adjustments:	
Additions	
Deletions	
Adjusted Total Amount to Collect	\$ 711,554.44
Advance Payments	\$ (3,849.32)
Small Balance Adjustments	\$ (31.62)
NEMRC Adjustment	\$ (1,321.33)
Collections	<u>\$ (668,028.57)</u>
Total Outstanding Current Sewer as of 06/30/23	\$ 38,323.60

### **DELINQUENT SEWER**

For Collection 07/01/22	\$ 44,899.22
Adjustment:	
Deletions	\$ (191.33)
Small Balance Adjustment	
Collections	<u>\$ (36,536.33)</u>
Total Outstanding Delinquent Sewer as of 06/30/23	\$ 8,171.56

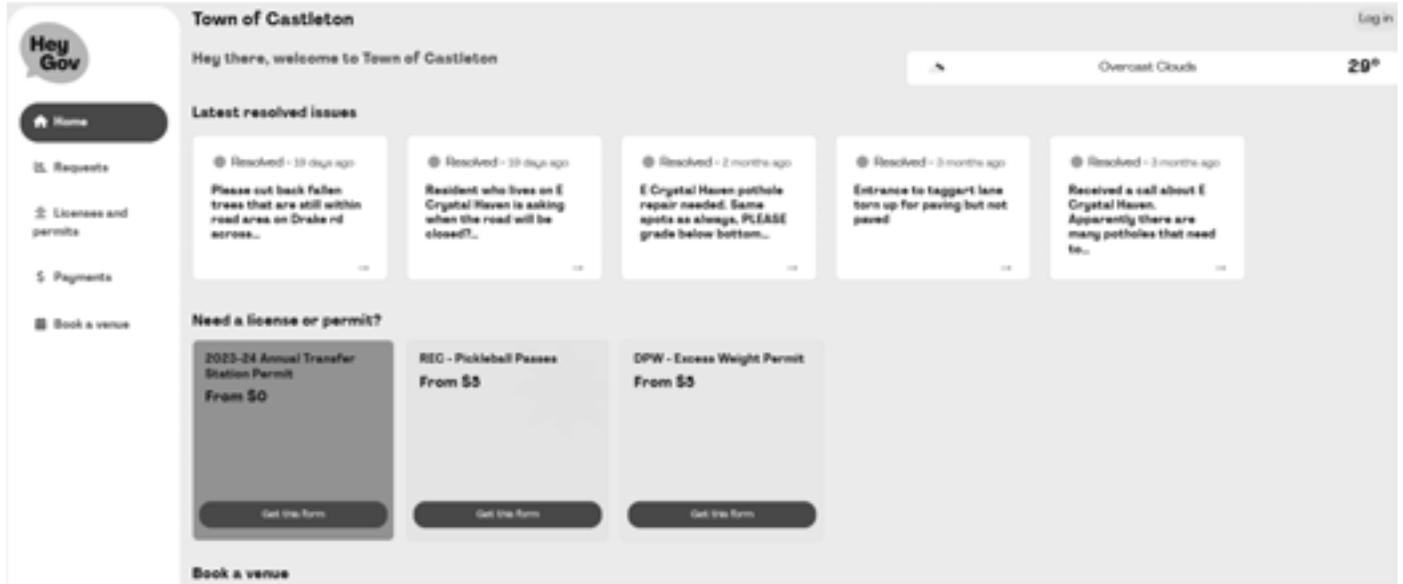
**TOTAL OUTSTANDING SEWER AS OF 06/30/23** \$ 46,495.16

**Hey Castleton!** In May 2023, we introduced a new platform to our online services called



**Hey Gov** has allowed us to better connect with our Castleton community by providing a place to engage more easily with various town departments. From viewing & paying property taxes, purchasing permits, reserving a pavilion, joining recreation programs, submitting road issues, to completing zoning applications and more!

*You are able to interact from the comfort of... well... anywhere you choose that has internet!*



***Wait! What if I don't use a computer, tablet or smartphone?***

Don't hit that panic button just yet. Our staff will continue to be available to assist you. Implementing this platform has helped reduce the wait time when completing a form is required, by offering an alternative solution to those who prefer digital processing.

**Hey311 Requests** - Reporting of incidents through Hey311 will help us to provide swift resolution to your concerns. You will be able to take photos of reportable issues in town. Submissions will be pinned to a map and the resolution will be tracked so you can see the status of your inquiry and will receive an email when it has been resolved. Any emergencies should always be reported to 9-1-1.

**Licenses & Permits** – Complete an application for a permit or register for a recreational program. We are adding more options in more departments so check back often. You can choose to pay online at the time of application or in person. Simply select your preferred method prior to submission. Payment information is encrypted and not stored.

**Payments** - Here you can view tax or sewer amounts due and make a payment online by debit or credit card or by check! You will need your parcel id (Not SPAN #) and the last name as shown on your tax bill. Convenience fees are associated with online payments and will always be shown prior to submitting your payment. Currently the rates are 2.9% plus 30 cents for cards and a cap of \$5.00 for checks.

**Book a Venue** – Schedule your fingerprinting appointment (not TSA appointments) or reserve a pavilion.

Learn more by visiting our Online Services page on our website,

***castletonvermont.org***

or download the free HeyGov app from the app store.

**TAX RATE CALCULATION 2023 - 2024**

	Town	School		Total		Total Town + Homestead
		Homestead	Non-residential	Town + Homestead	Town + Non-residential	+ Non-residential
Amount to be raised by taxes	2,401,721.19	2,985,641.62	5,126,153.73	5,387,362.81	7,527,874.92	10,513,516.54
Municipal & Education Grand List @ 07/12/23	5,007,604.04	2,041,743.57	2,954,385.18			
Tax Rate = Amt to be raised by taxes Grand List (rounded)	0.47961 0.4796	1.46230 1.4623	1.73510 1.7351			
				1.9419	2.2147	
Municipal & Education Grand List @ 07/12/23 x Tax Rate	5,007,604.04 0.4796	2,041,743.57 1.4623	2,954,385.18 1.7351			
Total to be raised by taxes (rounded)	2,401,721.19	2,985,641.62	5,126,153.73	5,387,362.81	7,527,874.92	10,513,516.54
Variance (due to rounding)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

(Taxable properties only - State and Non-tax status properties are not listed below)

REAL ESTATE Category/Code	Parcel Count	Municipal Listed Value	Homestead Ed Listed Value	Nonhmstd Ed. Listed Value	Total Education Listed Value
Residential I R1	1,310	303,061,922	152,276,303	150,785,619	303,061,922
Residential II R2	277	73,013,000	45,775,660	27,237,340	73,013,000
Mobile Homes-U MHU	93	2,639,000	1,548,100	1,090,900	2,639,000
Mobile Homes-L MHL	43	3,359,700	1,302,188	2,057,512	3,359,700
Seasonal I S1	170	45,067,800	2,267,006	42,800,794	45,067,800
Seasonal II S2	11	1,243,600	0	1,243,600	1,243,600
Commercial C	102	32,297,800	0	32,297,800	32,297,800
Commercial Apts CA	15	6,483,700	0	6,483,700	6,483,700
Industrial I	5	4,335,800	0	4,335,800	4,335,800
Utilities-E UE	8	14,934,357	0	14,934,357	14,934,357
Utilities-O UO	1	5,000	0	5,000	5,000
Farm F	11	5,271,000	2,035,700	3,235,300	5,271,000
Other O	23	2,353,800	468,700	1,885,100	2,353,800
Woodland W	13	1,273,500	0	1,273,500	1,273,500
Miscellaneous M	278	14,182,900	0	14,182,900	14,182,900
<b>TOTAL LISTED REAL</b>	<b>2,360</b>	<b>509,522,879</b>	<b>205,673,657</b>	<b>303,849,222</b>	<b>509,522,879</b>
P.P. Cable	1	825,305		825,305	825,305
P.P. Equipment	0	0			
P.P. Inventory	0	0			
<b>TOTAL LISTED P.P.</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>825,305</b>		<b>825,305</b>	<b>825,305</b>
<b>TOTAL LISTED VALUE</b>		<b>510,348,184</b>	<b>205,673,657</b>	<b>304,674,527</b>	<b>510,348,184</b>
<b>EXEMPTIONS</b>					
Veterans 10K	30/30	300,000	260,000	40,000	300,000
Veterans >10K		900,000			
<b>Total Veterans</b>		<b>1,200,000</b>	<b>260,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>300,000</b>
P.P. Contracts	1	825,305			
Contract Apprv VEPC	0/0	0	0	0	0
Grandfathered	0/0	0	0	0	0
Non-Apprv (voted)	3/3	786,475			
Owner Pays Ed Tax	0/0	0			
<b>Total Contracts</b>	<b>4/3</b>	<b>1,611,780</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
FarmStab Apprv VEPC	0/0	0	0	0	0
Farm Grandfathered	0/0	0	0	0	0
Non-Apprv (voted)	0/0	0			
Owner Pays Ed Tax	0/0	0			
<b>Total FarmStabContr</b>	<b>0/0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Current Use	48/48	6,416,700	1,239,300	5,177,400	6,416,700
<sup>1</sup> Special Exemptions	10		0	3,659,309	3,659,309
Partial Statutory	2/2	359,300	0	359,300	359,300
<b>Sub-total Exemptions</b>		<b>9,587,780</b>	<b>1,499,300</b>	<b>9,236,009</b>	<b>10,735,309</b>
<b>Total Exemptions</b>		<b>9,587,780</b>	<b>1,499,300</b>	<b>9,236,009</b>	<b>10,735,309</b>
<b>TOTAL MUNICIPAL GRAND LIST</b>		<b>5,007,604.04</b>			
<b>TOTAL EDUCATION GRAND LIST</b>			<b>2,041,743.57</b>	<b>2,954,385.18</b>	<b>4,996,128.75</b>
<b>NON-TAX</b>					
86 NON-TAX PARCELS ARE NOT INCLUDED ON THE 411					

TOWN OF CASTLETON  
 INFORMATIONAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES & RESULTS  
 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2023, AT 6:30PM  
 CASTLETON UNIVERSITY, JEFFORDS CENTER AUDITORIUM  
 VIA ZOOM VIRTUAL & PUBLIC MEETING

PRESENT: Michael Finnegan, Moderator; Michael Jones, Town Manager; James Leamy Selectboard Chair; Richard Combs, Selectboard Vice Chair; Robert Spaulding, Selectboard Member; Joseph Mark, Selectboard Parliamentarian; Mary Lee Harris, Selectboard Member; Nedra Boutwell, Town Clerk, Peter Mantello, Police Chief; Silas Loomis, First Constable; Jared Sammis, Representative; Perry Ragouzis, Tim Smith & Julie Finnegan; School Board members, and approximately 70 members of the public and zoom participants.

Michael Finnegan called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and asked everyone to join him with the Pledge of Allegiance. The members at the head table introduced themselves and Mr. Finnegan introduced Perry Ragouzis, President of the Castleton University Student Government Association. Perry gave a brief update, explained student involvement and service is up. The SGA has three events every week and has invested in the dining hall and sustainability projects on campus and hybrid projects.

Mr. Finnegan then introduced Jared Sammis, State Representative for Castleton. Jared spoke about the new H30 bill that is going to put a moratorium on herbicide in Lake Bomoseen and thanked everyone that came out to support the bill. Mr. Sammis stated that S5, the Affordable Heat Act, has passed the Senate 19 to 10 and will move to the State House. Jared stated he does not support the bill and will be working with others to try to push that through. There are about 400 bills that are going through various committees, please reach out to Jared for more information. Senator Terry Williams was present tonight in support of our local libraries, he is working to introduce a bill to help save our libraries.

Tim Smith and Julie Finnegan from the Slate Valley Unified Union School District spoke in regards to the school budget. Tim is the board chair and felt the school budget increase warranted an explanation. The budget is just over 28 million dollars, about 1.8 million greater than last year, 6.94% increase. The budget is 75% salary and benefits, raises are a 4.5% increase, health insurance is going up almost 13%. Transportation, fuel, and maintenance costs have also increased. Tim stated there are three things that impact the tax rates, expenditures are first, second is what he calls the political black box in Montpelier where the legislature can decide how to utilize the surplus funds in the education fund and set the yield, that effects our tax rate. The third is the Covid related impact on our property values, it is forcing the CLA, Common Level of Appraisal, down. Julie Finnegan, school board member, spoke about the new middle school being moved to the high school; there have been growing pains, however things are going well. They are looking to create more space for the middle school.

Town Moderator, Mr. Finnegan proceeded to read the following articles to the public for discussion.

**Article 1.** To elect Officers for the following terms: to be voted on March 7, 2023

Two (2) Select Board members for 1 year: Yvonne L DeLance	337
Mary Lee Harris	455
Jim Leamy	437
One (1) Select Board member for 3 years: Richard "Dick" Combs	580
One (1) Library Trustee for 5 years: Susan "Sue" DeCarolis	675
One (1) Constable for 2 years: Silas R Loomis	679
One (1) Town Moderator for 1 year: Michael Finnegan	72

**Article 2.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$28,714 for Legislating? (*Prior year \$26,618*)  
No discussion **Yes 553** No 190

**Article 3.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$2,224 for Ordinances & Proceedings? (*Prior year \$1,965*)  
No discussion **Yes 575** No 171

**Article 4.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$192,822 for Managing Municipalities? (*Prior year \$184,500*)  
No discussion **Yes 563** No 180

**Article 5.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$9,808 for Conducting Elections? (*Prior year \$12,271*)  
No discussion **Yes 684** No 72

**Article 6.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$46,238 for Collection, Custody & Disbursement of Funds? (*Prior year \$48,817*)  
No discussion **Yes 645** No 100

**Article 7.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$115,867 for Accounting? (*Prior year \$111,624*)  
No discussion **Yes 559** No 188

**Article 8.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$15,000 for Auditing? (*Prior year \$12,000*)  
No discussion **Yes 538** No 207

**Article 9.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$38,042 for Tax Listing? (*Prior year \$34,383*)  
No discussion **Yes 511** No 230

**Article 10.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$41,040 for Tax Collecting? (*Prior year \$42,592*)  
No discussion **Yes 628** No 109

**Article 11.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$86,602 for Document Recording/Issue? (*Prior year \$83,051*)  
No discussion **Yes 513** No 215

**Article 12.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for Legal Services? (*Prior year \$20,000*)  
Ken Flowers asked why there is a 20% increase. Mr. Combs stated it is mainly the amount of legal services that the Town has been incurring in the past few years. Mr. Jones stated it was reduced from 30,000 a few years ago. Meredith Fabian asked why the Town was paying for legal services that are countering other legal services the Town paid for. Mr. Combs asked if this was regarding the Developmental Review Board. Mrs. Fabian stated yes as the town hired an attorney to advise the DRB on the proposed Sand Hill Project and now has filed a motion in court to support the developer, this seems counterproductive. Mr. Combs stated 80% of the selectboard did not agree with the DRB's decision. Mr. Jones stated the town hired M Bent to assist the DRB to write decisions and navigate the process, she then could not represent the Town due to conflict of interest, so we hired another attorney.  
**Yes 518** No 216

**Article 13.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$45,702 for Municipal Planning & Zoning? (*Prior year \$43,711*)  
No discussion **Yes 523** No 212

**Article 14.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$8,657 for Community Development & Economic Revitalization? (*Prior year \$8,255*)  
No discussion **Yes 590** No 152

**Article 15.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$189,962 for General Government Buildings? (*Prior year \$191,828*)  
Mary McIntyre asked what the General Government buildings are? Mr. Combs replied the lions share are the Town Office and the Public Safety building, \$115,000 is the bond for the Public Safety Building, this also includes heat, lights, cleaning services. **Yes 625** No 111

**Article 16.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$27,450 for General Government Equipment? (*Prior year \$27,450*)  
No discussion **Yes 637** No 99

**Article 17.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$584,898 for Police Department? (Prior year \$531,182) No discussion **Yes 549** No 199

**Article 18.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$38,782 for Emergency Medical Services? (Includes Regional Ambulance Service, Inc. & RAS/Castleton First Responders) (Prior year \$36,218) No discussion **Yes 689** No 61

**Article 19.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$194,288 for Fire Department? (Prior year \$169,575) Susan DeCarolis asked if the Fire Department was buying new equipment? Heath Goyette stated the lion's share of the increase is to go to reserve to purchase new equipment. Mr. Combs stated there is an increase in fire apparatus costs of about \$18,000. Mr. Jones explained they have added half to this year's budget and will add half to next year also for reserve, for about \$18,750. **Yes 612** No 134

**Article 20.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$8,450 for Emergency Management? (Prior year \$8,550) No discussion **Yes 646** No 88

**Article 21.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,176,034 for Highway Department? (Prior year \$1,165,292) No discussion **Yes 612** No 133

**Article 22.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$23,517 for Town Lands? (Prior year \$3,900) Ken Flowers asked what is involved with Town lands? Mr. Spaulding explained the mowing budget is now included in this line item, to include the Police/Fire Department, Town Office, park & ride, Dewey field, t-ball field and the village school, Town Green, the Triangle's at Pencil Mill Rd, Staso Rd, South St and North Rd and the common area above Crystal beach. **Yes 365** No 358

**Article 23.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for Historical Cemeteries? (Prior year \$5,000) No discussion **Yes 679** No 63

**Article 24.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$30,000 for the Hillside Cemetery? (Prior year \$29,000) No discussion **Yes 646** No 96

**Article 25.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,445 for Health Regulating & Inspecting? (Prior year \$1,443) No discussion **Yes 650** No 86

**Article 26.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$5,717 for Animal Control? (Prior year \$5,467) No discussion **Yes 591** No 149

**Article 27.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$20,745 for the Constable? (Prior year \$20,773) No discussion **Yes 661** No 85

**Article 28.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$377,221 for Transfer Station? (Prior year \$341,695) Susan Day asked how the food waste composting is going and is there any other changes? Mr. Mark stated they didn't anticipate any changes; one ongoing change is the volatility of the recycling markets. Also tipping fees and district surcharge are up. Composting has exceeded the supervisor's expectation; this is a good thing however also represents an increase in cost. Robert Grace commented that the roustabout, Ryan Denno, does a heck of a job, good guy! Mr. Jones explained that Ryan is no longer working with us. **Yes 564** No 182

**Article 29.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$182,336 for Recreation? (Prior year \$185,630) No discussion **Yes 631** No 124

**Article 30.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$12,200 for Memorial Day Decorations/July 4th Parade? (Prior year \$10,150) No discussion **Yes 525** No 227

**Article 31.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$116,000 for Library Administration? (Prior year \$116,000) No discussion **Yes 669** No 84

**Article 32.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,884 for Prevention/Control of Forest Fires? (Prior year \$1,500) No discussion **Yes 640** No 108

**Article 33.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$10,312 for Tree Warden? (Prior year \$10,159) No discussion **Yes 559** No 184

**Article 34.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$43,000 for Rutland County Tax? (Prior year \$43,000) No discussion **Yes 629** No 111

**Article 35.** Shall the Town establish a Fire Department Reserve (non-vehicle) Fund to be used for the replacement of tools and equipment that meet or exceed the Town's capital expenditure threshold of \$5,000? (e.g., Self-contained Breathing Apparatus, Extrication Tools, Air Bottles, Communication Equipment, Ice Water Rescue Equipment, Wildland Fire Equipment, Air Tank Refill Station, etc.) No discussion **Yes 635** No 118

**Article 36.** Shall the Town appropriate \$90,519 for the annual operating costs of the former Castleton Village School so it can be used for Recreation programming? (Not included in the budget) (With the expectation that the Town of Hubbardton pay its contractually mandated 11% share of said expenses). Bo Ramos, New Director of Parks and Recreation, gave an update. Since January they have opened the doors to youth basketball and softball registration, indoor walking, pickleball and other adult pickup sports. Bo expressed appreciation to the Selectboard and the volunteers for all the support. Sue DeCarolis asked about the building being audited. Mr. Mark explained there have been two, one is an appraisal and the other was a lease rate. There was also an assessment of deferred maintenance, the largest of these is roof maintenance. Laurie Kamuda stated she doesn't have kids or use any town services; however the possibilities are endless for the rec and she supports it. Tim Smith asked about holding on to the building for three years, does the article address this? Mr. Mark stated no, the selectboards from Hubbardton and Castleton would have to meet and vote on it again, the Selectboard has asked for a meeting with Hubbardton and have not heard back. Tim also asked where each Selectboard member stands on selling the CVS building. Mr. Combs would vote No to selling, same as his last vote. Mr. Leamy supports selling with a lease that would provide adequate space for Rec. Mr. Spaulding would vote to sell the building with a lease for Rec. Mr. Mark stated he had voted to sell the building and would now vote to keep it. Mrs. Harris would now vote to keep the building. Yvonne DeLance, running for a one-year Selectboard seat, stated she would support keeping the building. Ted Day asked if anyone has looked into how much space Rec needs and how much space could be leased to generate income? Mr. Mark said there have been discussions and it would vary by the party interested. Mr. Jones stated he has been approached by people interested in renting space in the building. Mr. Spaulding asked what the expenses are to date and is there a way to recoup them? Mr. Mark said the expenses are \$22,000 and for the fiscal year will be approximately \$36,000. We gained many gallons of oil with the building, which helps with the expenses, however about two thousand gallons were water. It has been mentioned that we could use ARPA funds for this. Sue Day mentioned that part of the \$200,000 surplus could be used to cover Rec. Jennifer Larson stated she also doesn't use many town services, however she feels the town needs a rec center for vibrancy. There is an opportunity to raise revenue through rent and will help the town to grow. Mary McIntyre spoke in favor of keeping CVS, approximately 30 people showed up to help clean the building before the Christmas bazaar. The sporting events are well turned out and the socialization is great. We could rent space, have Fiends of Rec; modeled after the Friends of the Library, and we have people willing to help write grants. **Yes 511** No 249

**Article 37.** Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$3,500 for the support of ARC - Rutland Area, determining that the program serves the residents of the Town with advocacy, resources, and community for citizens with developmental disabilities and their families? (Not included in the budget) No discussion. **Yes 589** No 136

**Article 38.** Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$3,600 for administrative support of Castleton Cares, Inc., determining that the program serves the residents of the Town with emergency assistance to local people in need. (Not included in the budget) No discussion **Yes 632** No 101

**Article 39.** Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$25,000 for the support of Castleton Community

Seniors, Inc., determining that the program serves residents of the Town with the operation of the Castleton Community Center (The Old Homestead)? (Not included in the budget) JoAnn Riley would like to thank everyone for their support over the years. They are celebrating their 25th anniversary this year! JoAnn shared information about the center and its programs. **Yes 633 No 100**

**Article 40.** Shall the Town of Castleton vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$3,500 for the support of the partial funding of Marble Valley Regional Transit Districts (The Bus) public transit service to the residents of the Town? (Not included in the budget) No discussion **Yes 579 No 146**

**Article 41.** Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$6,720 to support the Rutland Area Visiting Nurses & Hospice (\$550 to support Rutland Area Hospice & \$6,170 to support RAVNAH Home and Community Health Services)? (Not included in the budget) No discussion **Yes 630 No 104**

**Article 42.** Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$4,088 for the support of Rutland Mental Health Services, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with counseling, substance abuse and emergency services? (Not included in the budget) No discussion **Yes 601 No 130**

**Article 43.** Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$900 for the support of RSVP and the Volunteer Center, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with volunteering opportunities and community services? (Not included in the budget) No discussion **Yes 583 No 148**

**Article 44.** Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$2,000 for the support of Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with elder services? (Not included in the budget) No discussion **Yes 629 No 101**

**Article 45.** Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$1,000 for the support of Vermont Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with services to enable the blind and visually impaired to achieve and maintain independence? (Not included in the budget) No discussion. **Yes 646 No 83**

**Article 46.** Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$2,725 for the support of BROCC-Community Action in Southwestern Vermont, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with weatherization, emergency food and small business development? (Not included in the budget) No discussion. **Yes 596 No 133**

**Article 47.** Shall the Town authorize cannabis retailers in town pursuant to 7 V.S.A. Section 863? Tim Smith asked what does Castleton have to gain or lose, financially, from having a pot shop? Janet Currie stated she is the one that brought the petition for the third time. She currently has a cultivation, wholesale, manufacturing, and processing license and hopes to have a retail license. It's not pot, it's cannabis. Janet explained there are shoppers in Castleton from all over the area, Castleton is a hub. How will this raise or change the economics? I have to pay property taxes as a business. The 1% tax would have to be voted on and would affect every retail business in town. There are 12,000 cars that go through the intersection of Route 4 and Route 30, it's one of the busiest intersections, it would bring people into my shop and that means more people in other shops. Janet stated there is a 20% tax on her product, 6% is sales tax and 14% goes to the state. Mary McIntyre stated Janet has put this on the ballot for the third time, she had talks that were very educational after the first vote and wanted to know if Janet would be doing anymore informational sessions. Janet said she would if there was interest. Janet stated the State of Vermont brings in \$3.1 billion dollars in tourism, that is something to think about. We have Lake Bomoseen, we are near Killington, people can come right off Route 4. Mr. Combs asked if the product sold in her store would be safer than product sold on the street. Janet explained that because she has a license, everything has to be tested, for inorganic materials, pesticides, strength, etc. **No 402 Yes 335**

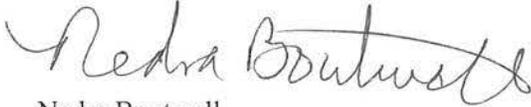
Mr. Finnegan wanted to share a few comments before we adjourn. Last month as most of us know there was a tragic event, the serious fire at Gilmores Home Center. Later in the month we had a breakfast at the Legion and the outpouring of support from this community was overwhelming and heartening. Over \$17,000 was raised and the donations that came in from area businesses really make you want to live in this community. 765 breakfasts were

served.

Mr. Jones thanked everyone for coming, thanked Castleton University for hosting, MacArthur Stein, and his team for putting everything together, along with Lori Phillips and Liz MacKay for hosting Zoom. Mr. Jones also wanted to give a plug to Bo, as Recreation Director.

Mr. Finnegan called for a motion to adjourn; First Constable, Silas Loomis made the motion; Heath Goyette seconded. All in favor Meeting adjourned 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Nedra Boutwell  
Town Clerk

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town Moderator

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Selectboard Member



Results

771 voters

BALLOT 1 OF 2

OFFICIAL BALLOT  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
CASTLETON, VERMONT  
March 07, 2023

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- Use BLACK Pen to fill in the oval. DO NOT USE PENCIL.
- To vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballot, fill in the oval to the right of the name of that person.
- To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write his or her name in the blank space provided and fill in the oval to the right of the write-in line.
- Do not vote for more candidates than the "VOTE for NOT MORE THAN #" for an office.
- If you make a mistake, tear, or deface the ballot, return it to an election official and obtain another ballot. DO NOT ERASE.

LIBRARY TRUSTEE <small>(Vote for not more than ONE)</small>		TOWN ARTICLES	
SUSAN "SUE" DECAROLIS <b>675</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Article 2. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$28,714 for Legislating? (Prior year \$26,618)	YES <b>645</b> NO <b>100</b>
(Write-in)	<input type="radio"/>		
TOWN MODERATOR Michael Finnegan <b>712</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		Article 6. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$46,238 for Collection, Custody & Disbursement of Funds? (Prior year \$48,817)
For One Year Term <small>(Vote for not more than ONE)</small>	<input type="radio"/>	YES <b>553</b> NO <b>190</b>	Article 7. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$115,867 for Accounting? (Prior year \$111,624)
(Write-in)	<input type="radio"/>		
SELECT BOARD <small>(Vote for not more than ONE)</small>		Article 3. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$2,224 for Ordinances & Proceedings? (Prior year \$1,965)	YES <b>559</b> NO <b>188</b>
RICHARD "DICK" COMBS <b>580</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		Article 8. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$15,000 for Auditing? (Prior year \$12,000)
(Write-in)	<input type="radio"/>	YES <b>575</b> NO <b>171</b>	
SELECT BOARD <small>(Vote for not more than TWO)</small>		Article 4. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$192,822 for Managing Municipalities? (Prior year \$184,500)	YES <b>538</b> NO <b>207</b>
YVONNE L. DELANCE <b>337</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		Article 9. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$38,042 for Tax Listing? (Prior year \$34,383)
MARY LEE HARRIS <b>455</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	YES <b>563</b> NO <b>180</b>	
JIM LEAMY <b>437</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		Article 5. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$9,808 for Conducting Elections? (Prior year \$12,271)
(Write-in)	<input type="radio"/>	YES <b>511</b> NO <b>230</b>	
(Write-in)	<input type="radio"/>		
CONSTABLE <small>(Vote for not more than ONE)</small>			
SILAS R. LOOMIS <b>679</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	YES <b>684</b> NO <b>72</b>	
(Write-in)	<input type="radio"/>		

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

Article 10. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$41,040 for Tax Collecting? (Prior year \$42,592)	Article 16. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$27,450 for General Government Equipment? (Prior year \$27,450)	Article 22. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$23,517 for Town Lands? (Prior year \$3,900)
YES <b>628</b>	YES <b>637</b>	YES <b>365</b>
NO <b>109</b>	NO <b>99</b>	NO <b>358</b>
Article 11. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$86,602 for Document Recording/Issue? (Prior year \$83,051)	Article 17. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$584,898 for Police Department? (Prior year \$531,182)	Article 23. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for Historical Cemeteries? (Prior year \$5,000)
YES <b>513</b>	YES <b>549</b>	YES <b>679</b>
NO <b>215</b>	NO <b>199</b>	NO <b>63</b>
Article 12. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for Legal Services? (Prior year \$20,000)	Article 18. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$38,782 for Emergency Medical Services? (Includes Regional Ambulance Service, Inc. & RAS/Castleton First Responders) (Prior year \$36,218)	Article 24. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$30,000 for the Hillside Cemetery? (Prior year \$29,000)
YES <b>518</b>	YES <b>689</b>	YES <b>646</b>
NO <b>216</b>	NO <b>61</b>	NO <b>96</b>
Article 13. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$45,702 for Municipal Planning & Zoning? (Prior year \$43,711)	Article 19. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$194,288 for Fire Department? (Prior year \$169,575)	Article 25. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,445 for Health Regulating & Inspecting? (Prior year \$1,443)
YES <b>523</b>	YES <b>612</b>	YES <b>650</b>
NO <b>292</b>	NO <b>134</b>	NO <b>86</b>
Article 14. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$8,657 for Community Development & Economic Revitalization? (Prior year \$8,255)	Article 20. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$8,450 for Emergency Management? (Prior year \$8,550)	Article 26. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$5,717 for Animal Control? (Prior year \$5,467)
YES <b>590</b>	YES <b>646</b>	YES <b>591</b>
NO <b>52</b>	NO <b>88</b>	NO <b>149</b>
Article 15. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$189,962 for General Government Buildings? (Prior year \$191,828)	Article 21. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,176,034 for Highway Department? (Prior year \$1,165,292)	Article 27. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$20,745 for the Constable? (Prior year \$20,773)
YES <b>625</b>	YES <b>612</b>	YES <b>661</b>
NO <b>141</b>	NO <b>133</b>	NO <b>85</b>

Results

GO TO NEXT BALLOT AND CONTINUE VOTING



Results

OFFICIAL BALLOT  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
CASTLETON, VERMONT  
March 07, 2023

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- Use BLACK Pen to fill in the oval. **DO NOT USE PENCIL.**
- To vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballot, fill in the oval to the right of the name of that person.
- To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write his or her name in the blank space provided and fill in the oval to the right of the write-in line.
- Do not vote for more candidates than the "VOTE for NOT MORE THAN #" for an office.
- If you make a mistake, tear, or deface the ballot, return it to an election official and obtain another ballot. **DO NOT ERASE.**

Article 28. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$377,221 for Transfer Station? (Prior year \$341,695)	Article 32. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,884 for Prevention/Control of Forest Fires? (Prior year \$1,500)	Article 35. Shall the Town establish a Fire Department Reserve (non-vehicle) Fund to be used for the replacement of tools and equipment that meet or exceed the Town's capital expenditure threshold of \$5,000? (e.g., Self-contained Breathing Apparatus, Extrication Tools, Air Bottles, Communication Equipment, Ice Water Rescue Equipment, Wildland Fire Equipment, Air Tank Refill Station, etc.)
YES 564	YES 640	
NO 182	NO 108	
Article 29. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$182,336 for Recreation? (Prior year \$185,630)	Article 33. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$10,312 for Tree Warden? (Prior year \$10,159)	
YES 631	YES 559	YES 635
NO 124	NO 184	NO 118
Article 30. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$12,200 for Memorial Day Decorations/July 4th Parade? (Prior year \$10,150)	Article 34. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$43,000 for Rutland County Tax? (Prior year \$43,000)	Article 36. Shall the Town appropriate \$90,519 for the annual operating costs of the former Castleton Village School so it can be used for Recreation programming? (Not included in the budget) (With the expectation that the Town of Hubbardton pay its contractually mandated 11% share of said expenses).
YES 525	YES 629	
NO 227	NO 141	
Article 31. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$116,000 for Library Administration? (Prior year \$116,000)		
YES 669		YES 511
NO 84		NO 249

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

Article 37. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$3,500 for the support of ARC - Rutland Area, determining that the program serves the residents of the Town with advocacy, resources, and community for citizens with developmental disabilities and their families? (Not included in the budget)

YES 589

NO 136

Article 38. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$3,600 for administrative support of Castleton Cares, Inc., determining that the program serves the residents of the Town with emergency assistance to local people in need. (Not included in the budget)

YES 632

NO 101

Article 39. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$25,000 for the support of Castleton Community Seniors, Inc., determining that the program serves residents of the Town with the operation of the Castleton Community Center (The Old Homestead)? (Not included in the budget)

YES 633

NO 100

Article 40. Shall the Town of Castleton vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$3,500 for the support of the partial funding of Marble Valley Regional Transit Districts (The Bus) public transit service to the residents of the Town? (Not included in the budget)

YES 579

NO 146

Article 41. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$6,720 to support the Rutland Area Visiting Nurses & Hospice (\$550 to support Rutland Area Hospice & \$6,170 to support RAVNAH Home and Community Health Services)? (Not included in the budget)

YES 630

NO 104

Article 42. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$4,088 for the support of Rutland Mental Health Services, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with counseling, substance abuse and emergency services? (Not included in the budget)

YES 601

NO 130

Article 43. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$900 for the support of RSVP and the Volunteer Center, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with volunteering opportunities and community services? (Not included in the budget)

YES 583

NO 148

Article 44. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$2,000 for the support of Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with elder services? (Not included in the budget)

YES 629

NO 101

Article 45. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$1,000 for the support of Vermont Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with services to enable the blind and visually impaired to achieve and maintain independence? (Not included in the budget)

YES 646

NO 83

Article 46. Shall the Town deem necessary and appropriate \$2,725 for the support of BROCC-Community Action in Southwestern Vermont, determining that the program serves residents of the Town with weatherization, emergency food and small business development? (Not included in the budget)

YES 596

NO 133

Article 47. Shall the Town authorize cannabis retailers in town pursuant to 7 V.S.A. Section 863?

YES 335

NO 402

Results

YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING

**Town of Castleton  
Personnel Wage/ Health Insurance Summary  
FY 2022-2023**

<b>Employee</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>Health Insurance Paid by Town</b>	<b>Employee</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>Health Insurance Paid by Town</b>
ABBAS SYED H.	66126.58		LEWIS JOANNE L.	3905.75	
ALLISON NANCY M.	3555.63		LINK BETHANY R.	432	
BOUTWELL NEDRA A.	43010.43	18571.44	LOOMIS SILAS R.	4980	
BRUNO JAMES A.	8397		LOVETT-GRAFF SHARON	26290	
CARRARA ISABELLA L.	230.52		MANTELLI PETER J.	110855.58	26092.87
CHALMERS EVAN D.	40703.77	19157.27	MARK JOSEPH T.	1050	
CLARK BRENT W.	58372.49	8490.09	MCGANN GAIL D.	3124.78	
CLARK CONWAY A.	1336.59		MCGRAW KENNETH J.	11894	
CLIFFORD MARTHA J.	10653.04		MINER MARIAH S.	3069	
COMBS MELANIE J.	59524.61	18571.44	MYLES KENNETH S.	660	
COMBS RICHARD A.	1050		O'CONNOR MICHAEL R.	1075	
COUSINEAU LOUISE M.	824.35		PARKER KIRSTEN A.	2655	
CUNNIFF CHAYSE M.	263.55		RAYMOND TANNER E.	2752.5	
DAVIS JILL M.	3041.59		REED ISABEL R.	23365.5	5525.82
DENNO RYAN R.	17874.07		REGAN KATHERINE E.	276.78	
DEREMER NANCY E.	3043		RICE JOSEPH C.	11761.73	
DOTY AUSTIN C.	579.92		ROSENTHAL JONAS H.	6146.74	
DUCHARME KATRINA R.	10094.57		SARGENT LAURA A.	240	
ETTORI CHRISTINE A.	46148.89		SAVAGE EDWARD J.	14252.16	
FABRICIUS DAVID K.	15388.79		SEGUIN SEAN M.	4919.4	
FIGLIO MARK J.	2789.7		SHUTTS ROBERTA M.	200	
FORREST CHRISTOPHER	32647.14	6277.8	SMITH MICHAEL J.	49504.41	9285.73
FOWLER ABIGAIL R.	2445		SPAULDING ROBERT V.	1050	
GOYETTE HEATH C.	54455.8	18571.43	STEVENS SCOTT A.	1287.96	
GREEN MICHAEL C.	3194.58		STEWART GRAHAM R.	5709.76	
GRENIER KYLEIGH H.	1203.74		STEWART KAREN L.	42040.95	17921.4
HALLETT RANDALL R.	43978.12	26178.73	STOLIKER ERICA D.	360	
HARRIS MARY L.	1050		STROBRIDGE ASHLEY M	60	
HARVEY ALLISON M.	4695		SZAREJKO JUSTIN A.	93199.14	9285.72
HAUSMANN ARIANA L.	8080		TEETOR MARY JO	18347.65	
HAYES EDWARD C.	33743.79	9285.71	THAYER LISA A.	1548.75	
HUEBEL NANCY L.	50		THOMAS JAMES E.	2556.25	
JONES MICHAEL A.	88085.31		TRUDO NANCY L.	12366.56	
JORDAN JEFF L.	46869.11	26092.87	WARD ROBERT B.	50731.8	18571.44
KEARNS MARY E.	41037.5		WASHBURN PENNY L.	11174.65	
KNAPP BRYCE A.	612.5		WEBSTER NATHAN C.	72496.56	8490.06
LAFRANCOIS NANCY L.	250		WELCH SCOTT T.	3131.89	
LANFEAR BECKY L.	4775		WILCOX JACOB A.	1230	
LARAMIE CAROLINE M.	351.5		WILLIAMS JANNETTE K	1966.25	
LASANTE MELINDA M.	300		WILLIAMS DAVID B.	2920	
LEAMY JAMES P.	1700		WOOD ERIN M.	2545.64	
			Totals- Employees Reported: 82		
			<u>1370667.32</u>		<u>246369.82</u>

Castleton Cemetery Association - Hillside  
2023

Beginning Balance ...(1-1-2023).....\$ 63,589.35

RECIEPTS

Lot Sales..... \$ 8,460.00  
Burials...Full \$ 6,708.00 Cremations.. \$ 9,125.00 .....\$ 15,833.00  
Town Appropriation.....\$ 30,000.00  
Lion's Club Donation..... \$ 1,000.00

TOTAL RECIEPTS.....\$ 118,882.35

EXPENDITURES

Personal Services.....\$ 23,274.51  
Operating Expences ( including Railroad Lease).....\$ 4,623.32  
Office Expenses.....\$ 1,078.62  
Insurance..... \$ 1,155.00  
Professional Services.....\$ 3,996.00  
Gas / Parts/Labor.....\$ 1,,500.86  
Taxes.....\$ 10,205.61  
Transfer from checking to Perpetual Care / Savings.....\$ 1,692.00  
Corner Posts.....\$ 484.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES.....\$ 48,009.92

Ending balance ( 12-31-2023).....\$ 70,872.43

**Castleton Cemetery Association**  
**2023**  
**Perpetual Care / Savings Account**

Beginning balance (1-1-2023).....	\$ 23,424.61
Interest earned .....	\$ 4.27
Transferred from checking .....	\$ 1,692.00
Ending balance (12-31-2023) .....	\$ 25,120.88

---

### *Transfer Station*

---

In the last year the Transfer Station has continued to strive to make your visit a pleasant experience. As the cost of goods and services goes up around us, our Transfer Station crew continues to help the public dispose of their waste in the most cost-effective way possible. The easiest way by far is to recycle as much as possible. We see a good number of items go into the garbage that could have gone elsewhere and saved space in bags. On the Rutland County Solid Waste District there is a comprehensive list of the dos and don'ts of Recycling. On average we generate about 20 tons of trash a week, through comprehensive recycling we could easily reduce that amount by up to 20%. As outside costs continue to rise the only way we can keep our prices down is by reduction of volume. So, recycle, recycle, recycle!

Our Transfer Station provides a spot to dispose of your food waste for free in our compost bins. With VT act 148 in full effect, it is important that we separate our food scraps. Additionally, many electronics have been banned from landfills, we provide an area to dispose of electronic devices, be aware, some items have a small disposal charge.

Many Transfer Stations in the state do not accept controlled items like tires and freon appliances, lucky enough we do! These items do have an associated cost, as we must pay to dispose of them as well. As a reminder refrigerators and freezers need to have doors removed, per state law. As always, we continue to offer collection for yard debris, tree waste and brush (under 6"), along with clean concrete.

Green Up Day is coming on May 4th. Remember to leave your collected roadside litter on the side of the road, properly bagged so the town road crew can pick it up. A list of places you can acquire your Green Up bags will be provided. The Saturday following Green Up day will be our free day where you can drop off certain items for free. You can find the list of

free disposable items on the Town of Castleton website.

Through diligence and attention from both our Operators and our neighbors we can reduce our out flow of refuse and manage to keep our costs level where everything around us is rising. We ask that as a community we all continue to follow the rules and keep up good practices. We appreciate our customers and always look forward to seeing old and new friends and neighbors.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jacob Wilcox, Chief Operator



---

### *Assessor Department*

---

An annual reminder to all residents: If you reside in the Town of Castleton as of April 1, please be sure to complete the HS-122 form when your Vermont income tax is filed. Many out of state preparers overlook or are not aware of this important piece of the VT individual tax return. The HS-122 is your homestead declaration for your principal dwelling. Also, include HI-144 (household income) as the partner form needed to determine your eligibility for income sensitivity payments. Go to the State of Vermont website at <http://tax.vermont.gov> for instructions and due dates. The Town receives this information directly from the State Tax Department. This annual filing will determine your homestead status as well as any State-funded property tax offset for those who qualify.

Our veterans should be sure to speak with your VA office about the criteria and application for eligibility for a special exemption. If you have questions about these applications, feel free to

call the office and we will do what we can to provide contact information or go to [www.veterans.vermont.gov](http://www.veterans.vermont.gov) Eligibility must come from the VA directly to our office.

We receive the determination of the CLA (common level of appraisal) as each year begins, and COD (common level of dispersion) for the upcoming tax year. These numbers are a result of yearly sales studies that consider the previous three years of data. The CLA is applied to the calculation that determines tax rates. As many know the change in the market the last few years has resulted in price/sales increases in Castleton. Our equalization study for 2023 resulted in the CLA of 70.02% and COD of 22.51%. It is currently the COD (common level of dispersion) above 20% that drives the mandatory reappraisal orders from the department of tax. The Town proactively contracted with Tyler Technologies to conduct a town wide reappraisal that is just completed by April 1, 2025. All property owners will be hearing from them over the next several months to obtain updates and information, schedule site visits and inspections of real property in the Town of Castleton. There will be more information to come in the coming months on this important review.

General maintenance of entering property transfers, initializing site visits for permits open & new, inventory updating & maintaining the grand list are also constant. Property owners: Please feel free to contact this office for appointments. I make every effort to reach out to property owners & set appointments before visiting your property. If no one is home, a card with contact information will be left on the door handle. It is helpful to discuss with the homeowner any upgrades and interior changes that have been done before the abstract is filed. These processes can be helpful in keeping with the stability of the CLA & COD over time. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Town tax maps are available on line if you go to the assessor page of the town site. The annual spring map update is an opportunity to integrate any prior discrepancies. We encourage property owners to file mylar surveys with the Town

Clerk to ensure accuracy in the maintenance of the town's records. This is also critical for research purposes when property is transferring ownership. The spring update will occur with whatever information is on file by April 1, 2024. So please submit anything new before the end of March.

The Assessor's office is charged with gathering accurate information to be fair & equitable. Your participation in the process is critical to ensuring accuracy of the information used to determine fair market value.

There is always a lot to do, I look forward to serving the Castleton community & encourage folks to call or visit if they have questions. I am happy to schedule appointments upon request.

Respectfully Submitted,  
MaryJo Teetor, Assessor

---

*Fire Department*

---

2022-2023 was not a normal year for the Fire Department. Early in the year we had a group of firefighters put in many hours to work on rewriting our vehicle replacement schedule as asked for by the town. This group came up with timeline for replacing all of our major equipment. This reduces our number of fire trucks and hopefully makes us more efficient in the long run. Part of this included a group of fire fighters and the town manager traveling to Pennsylvania to look at a platform ladder truck with a pump and water on board. We also brought a mechanic from Har-rod with us to help inspect vehicle. We now hope to have this truck in our station in early 2024!

The other busy part of the year, unfortunately, was the call volume. In town, we lost one home to fire, and, as everyone knows, our local hardware store Gilmores Home Center. It was, and continues to be a staple of our community. We also helped with eight structure fires via mutual aid.

We would also love to give thanks to our

Rutland County mutual aid group. Without your help, these calls would not be possible. For those unaware, 9 fire departments and Rutland regional assisted with the Gilmore's fire. We had over 100 firefighters on scene, and only a couple of minor injuries reported.

On a good note, we are excited to have a lot of new faces join the department. That being said, our volunteer numbers are up, but we are always looking for new members. If interested, stop by the firehouse any Wednesday night around six. We can answer any questions you may have so you can grab an application. You could also give me a call at 802 342-0167 and I will happily return your call. All are welcome! There is even a Junior program available for ages 16-18 to become involved.

Thank you also to the Firefighter's Association members for all of your support through the year. Your generous support is very much appreciated.

In closing, thank you to the entire community for your support over the years, and the men and women who give their time and energy selflessly. We appreciate the support.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Heath Goyette, Castleton Fire Chief

---

*Police Department*

---

As the 2022 - 2023 year closed on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 the Castleton Police Department experienced a year of expanded call responses, investigations, and community services for the residents. We are blessed to receive continuing support from the Castleton residents, volunteers, and businesses for the equipment, tools, and resources to professionally conduct our law enforcement duties. The Town of Castleton has a strong core volunteer group that assists the Police Department with food deliveries, providing food, gas cards, and other resources for the residents.

The following statistical report reflects the past year administration from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Castleton Officers responded to 7,501 service calls. This year's total exceeded the prior year's by approximately 300 calls. The increase in call volume can be attributed to the services requested from the community and increased criminal activity.

Listed below are the summary totals of the of the call types:

<u>Calls for Service:</u>	
Abandon Vehicle	2
Accident-Fatality	0
Accident-Personal Injury	9
Accident-Property Damage	74
Agency Assist	120
Alarm (Residential/Business)	45
Alcohol Offense	12
Animal Problem Complaint	28
Arson	1
Assault Complaint	6
Attempt to Locate	27
ATV Complaint	1
Background Check	9
Boating Incident	2
Burglary	5
Child Abuse Investigation	1
Citizen Assist	80
Citizen Dispute	48
Conditions of Release Violation	14
Community Outreach	83
Custodial Dispute	3
Death Investigation	11
Directed Patrols	1803
Disorderly Conduct	5
DLS-Criminal	2
DUI-Alcohol/Drugs	12
E911 Hang Up	20
Embezzlement	1
Family Fight/Domestic	68
Fingerprints	403
Fire Department Assist	25
Fireworks Complaint	2
Fish & Game Complaint	2
Foot Patrol	326
Found Property	12
Fraud Complaint	16
Intoxicated Person	9
Juvenile Problem	22

Littering Complaint	3	Emergency Services	1
Medical Emergency	74	Negligent Operation	6
Mental Health Emergency	11	Operating w/o Owners Consent	1
Missing Person	9	Petit Larceny	3
Motorist Assist	46	Prohibited from Possessing Firearms	1
Motor Vehicle Complaint	76	Possession of Stolen Property	1
Noise Disturbance	35	Resisting Arrest	1
Overdose	5	Restraining Order Violation	3
Parking Complaint	10	Retail Theft	3
Property Watch		Unlawful Mischief	2
(Residential/Business Check)	1918	Unlawful Trespass	7
Public Speaking Event	14	Uttering Forged Instrument	1
Recovered Stolen Property	1	Wanted Person	6
Restraining Order Violation	4	<b>Total Arrests:</b>	<b>115</b>
Service of Abuse Prevention Order	16		
Sexual Assault	3	<u>Tickets:</u>	
Sex Offender Registry Check	24	Animals at Large (Municipal)	6
Stalking Complaint	1	Defective Equipment	6
Suicide Attempt	2	Disorderly Conduct (Municipal)	4
Suspicious Person/Circumstance	148	Driving on Roadways Laned for Traffic	9
Theft Complaint	47	Electronic Device (Cell Phone)	3
Theft-Automobile	4	Failure to Use Child Restraint	7
Threatening Complaint	9	Failure to Yield to Emergency Vehicle	1
Traffic Hazard	40	Fictitious License	3
Traffic Stop	1450	Following Too Close	2
Trespassing Complaint	20	Illumination Required	1
Utility Problem	6	Inspection Violation	45
Unsecure Premise	3	Insurance Violation	16
Vandalism Complaint	9	Littering	2
VIN Inspection	40	Misuse of Plates	2
Wanted Person	8	No License (Expired/Revoked)	10
Welfare Check	73	No Registration	21
<b>TOTAL CALLS</b>	<b>7501</b>	Noise in the Night (Municipal)	6
		Operating Suspended License- Civil	13
<u>Arrests:</u>		Open Container (Municipal)	10
Accidents Duty to Stop	1	Passing School Buses	1
Assault on Law Enforcement	3	Passenger Restriction	1
Assault (Simple/Aggravated)	6	Possession of Marijuana	2
Attempting to Elude	2	Seat Belt Violation	4
Burglary	1	Speeding Violation	671
Conditions of Release Violation	13	Starting Parked Vehicle	2
Contributing to Juvenile Delinquency	1	Stop Sign Violation	6
Criminal No-License	5	Traffic Control Devices	4
Criminal Threatening	4	Underage Drinking/Possession Violation	16
Disorderly Conduct	4		
Domestic Assault	5	Unreasonable & Imprudent Speed	6
DUI-Alcohol/Drugs	23		
Driving License Suspended	2	<b>TOTAL TICKETS:</b>	<b>889</b>
Embezzlement	1	<b>TOTAL WRITTEN WARNINGS</b>	<b>771</b>
Fugitive from Justice	2		
Interference with access to			

There were a total of 115 arrests (an increase of 23% from 2022) for Vermont State criminal violations and Castleton officers issued 889 Vermont Civil Traffic Violations during the past year.

The Department's full-time employees include the following: Officer Justin Szarejko, Officer Ed Hayes, Officer Josh Piatek, and Officer "Naj" Abbas, Part-time officers include: Officer Mark Fiore, Officer Scott Stevens, and Officer Katrina Williams. The Castleton Police Department will continue to serve and perform in accordance with the laws and ordinances of the Town of Castleton, and the State of Vermont.

We thank the Castleton Town Manager, Mike Jones and the Castleton Select Board for their support of the Police Department.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Chief Peter Mantello

---

*Fire Warden*

---

2022-2023 was a normal year here for the town as far as fire warden. There were 131 fire permits issued, and only one forest fire which appeared to be caused by a vehicle and consumed only a small amount of land. I would also like to mention that the fire department received a grant for new lightweight wild land gear. It was a 50% match from the state.

In closing, I would like to say thank you to the firefighters who put their time and energy into the department, as well as to the amazing community which provides the wonderful support and resources needed to do our jobs. If you need a permit, or have any questions, please reach out to me at 802 353-0605. In most cases, at least a 24-hour notice is needed for permit approval because I may need to assess the proposed burn.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Heath Goyette, Castleton Fire Warden

---

*Castleton Free Library*

---

Fiscal year 22-23 was another year of changes at the CFL. We broke ground on the Accessibility Project that will provide equal access to the library for all. The project includes an expanded and paved parking lot with lighting, a sidewalk connecting the parking lot to the rear entrance, an elevator connecting the ground floor to the main floor, and a new, fully accessible bathroom on the main floor. We were able to provide these improvements to the community through grants, donations, and fundraising.

We continue to be open 28 hours a week providing books, DVDs, computer access, and more! Our "Library of Things" has expanded. Our newest addition is costumes! We now have over 40 costumes to lend for adults and children. Our total lending collection contains 22,465 items. This does not include 31,705 online e-books and audiobooks that we are able to offer through Libby (via our membership to the Green Mountain Library Consortium) and The Palace Project (with the Vermont Department of Libraries). We had 8,161 visits to the library this year and a total circulation of 12,490 items.

Numerous programs for all ages were presented. Story hour continued Fridays at 10:30 for our littlest patrons. For older kids we had many special programs as well as the ongoing Lego Club, Dungeons and Dragons Club, and Chess Club. We continue to host two book discussion groups as well as provided book copies for the Castleton Community Center's book group. Our second annual Ladybug Release Party was a success kicking off our Summer Reading Program. We had over 100 attendees for the "Tree of Remembrance" gathering and enjoyed collaborating with the Castleton Woman's Club and the other members of the "Christmas in Castleton" team to make the holidays memorable. Working with The Bridge Initiative, the Town of Castleton and the Recreation Department, a great time was had by one and all

at the 4th of July Afterparty held on the library's lawn. For the first time, we participated in the Vermont Fairy Tale Festival at the Sherburne Library in Killington along with 30 other Vermont libraries. We had over 300 visitors to our "Clever Tom and the Leprechaun" booth where we made crafts, were told jokes and enjoyed the day. The Castleton University International students continued their presentations sharing facts and photos of their home countries. With the help of the Vermont Department of Health we were able to distribute more than 1,700 free Covid tests to our community.

Thank you to all the people who have given the gift of their time to the library this year: The Friends of the Castleton Free Library and our dedicated weekly volunteers without whom the library would not function; Sue DeCarolis, Sally Grace, Normandie Keller, Mary Waite, Joan Eaton, Libby Laramie, Cindy Martin, Holly Hitchcock, and Joyce Thomas. Our Board of Trustees continue to go above and beyond to keep the library a vital resource for our community; Nancy Mark, Patricia Schroeder, Pam Arel, Joanie Brown, and Pat Keller.

More thanks to the towns of Castleton and Hubbardton for their continued support. We'd especially like to thank Castleton for the gift of ARPA funds that will help to preserve and restore our beautiful old building.

Everyone is welcome at the library. So please don't hesitate to stop by or reach out to us with any questions or suggestions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Kearns, Library Director

---

*Recreation Commission*

---

The Recreation Commission is, basically, a volunteer board charged with the development, management, and expansion

of recreation opportunities for Castleton residents of all ages. It was commissioned in the early 1970's with its own set of by-laws and has been providing recreational opportunities ever since. The Commission consists of 9 members. Commission members who run programs that organize and supervise activities receive a stipend, as does the Commission chair.

Its upkeep and programming responsibilities cover two athletic fields for spring and fall youth athletic programs. During the winter months the former CVS building allows the Recreation Commission to offer indoor youth and adult programming. Also, the Commission is responsible for the upkeep, maintenance, and operation of Crystal Beach.

#### **Former CVS Utilization**

Rec has offered three sessions of adult pickleball a week which have proven to be very popular. In collaboration with the Castleton Senior Center, indoor walking was offered three mornings per week. Twice weekly Yoga classes were also held. Local soccer teams rented gym space for practice. CVS also provided essential indoor space for Castleton Youth Basketball program K-4 grade girls and boys. Evening adult pick-up basketball was offered during the winter. In addition to these programs CVS provides storage space for all rec. sports equipment; rooms for community groups to meet; meeting locations for Recreation Commission meetings and office space for the Recreation Director. In 2022 the gym was also utilized for the Castleton Christmas Market vendors and collaboration a between Recreation and the library provided July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration activities on the shared lawn.

#### **Preschool Programming**

With a variety of opportunities opening up due to the availability of the former CVS building Castleton Recreation has formed a partnership with Castleton Library's preschool programming. Age appropriate activities were offered in the gym and the media room. This partnership allowed Castleton Recreation to

realize the full spectrum of preschool through adult recreation activities for Castleton residents.

### **Crystal Beach**

Crystal Beach, the Town Jewel, is open to the public from Memorial Day through Labor Day, 10 am to 8 pm daily. The maintenance staff consists of one full-time maintenance staff and four part-time maintenance staff. Half of the maintenance staff are scheduled two weeks prior to Memorial Day and two weeks after Labor Day to open and close the beach. The four gate personnel are scheduled from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Swimming lessons were offered and well attended, again this season. Gail McGann, instructor, once again has done a phenomenal job developing and growing her program. She provides 12 different levels of lessons starting at 10:00 a.m. and ending at 4:00 p.m. Her program accommodates non-swimmers through experienced deep-water swimmers and Gail includes water safety instruction, as age appropriate. The swimmers are fortunate to learn under her direction.

Sailing Camp, under the direction of Joe Mark and many committed volunteers, once again, taught area youth how to sail. The camp ran in two one week sessions depending on sailor's skill level. The program was very well attended and the participants learned sailing skills that can be used throughout their lives. This has become a very popular Recreation activity and fills up quickly.

### **Summer Adventure Camp**

The Summer Adventure Camp has become the highly sought after activity for safe and fun summer programming for area youth. In the Summer of 2022, the Castleton Recreation Commission, again, sponsored a summer camp for Castleton and area youth. The camp ran five days a week for six weeks from the first week of July through the second week of August. Campers were based out of CVS two days and Crystal Beach for three days. This format

allowed the campers to have access to swimming each day thanks to Vermont State University. A variety of summer fun activities were offered along with some field trip opportunities. In addition to daily swimming, a host of sports and games, arts and craft, and tennis at the University were provided campers.

### **Youth Programming**

Castleton baseball program continues to be affiliated with Rutland County Little League (RCLL). Practices remained in Castleton and games were typically played on other fields. There were teams at each level, pre-K group, 1-2 grade group. These teams are instructional in nature and the children play within the group. We fielded one 3-4 grade team and one 5-6 grade team; we welcomed players from Benson and Orwell. The older teams will play in the Rutland Recreation Little League. Fall soccer was also offered for youth from K through grade 4. Castleton youth basketball had teams from K – grade 4. Each team practices several evenings during the week and games are played twice per week at the CVS building.

The Recreation Commission would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our first full-time Castleton Recreation Director, Bo Elliot Ramos, who decided to move on at the end of Oct. Bo's energy and commitment were inspiring. They worked diligently on designing and implementing new recreational opportunities for all ages. Bo's organizational skills helped create a guide to managing year-long programming, leaving Castleton Recreation a stronger and more well-rounded program. We wish them success in their future adventures.

The Recreation Commission would also like to THANK the voters of the Town of Castleton who believe that recreation is a vital part of a safe, healthy and thriving community and have supported us throughout this year.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Martha Francis-Clifford  
Castleton Recreation Commission, Chairperson

---

*First Responders*

---

The Regional Ambulance-Castleton First Responders are comprised of local volunteer residents, Castleton Police Officers and Castleton University Students, who provide prehospital emergency medical treatment to patients, before transport to the hospital. During Fiscal Year 2022-2023, Castleton First Responders were dispatched to 540 emergency calls in Castleton, which increased from 466 calls the prior year. Regional Ambulance Service continues to provide an excellent advanced service to Castleton residents and now have a substation located in West Rutland, which will improve response times to Castleton. We would like to congratulate Walter Ducharme on his retirement (June 30th, 2023) after serving the residents of Castleton for 32 years and retired as the Field Chief. Officer Justin Szarejko of the Police Department was selected by Regional Ambulance to take over as the Field Chief following Walters retirement. In the coming year, our hopes are to recruit more members to meet the need of the increasing call volume as well as seek grant funding for new and improved equipment to best serve our community. I would like to thank our team of Volunteers and Castleton Police Officers for their dedication to serving the Town of Castleton and providing excellent patient care to our residents in their time of need. I would also like to thank the Castleton Fire Department for their assistance on our calls, it is greatly appreciated. If you are looking for a way to serve your community and would like more information about the Castleton First Responders, please contact Justin Szarejko at [Justin.Szarejko@vermont.gov](mailto:Justin.Szarejko@vermont.gov).

Member Roster:

Justin Szarejko, Field Chief (Police/EMT)  
Edward Hayes, (Police/EMT)  
Scott Stevens, (Police/EMT)  
Tyler Duczeminski (EMT)  
Grant Thurston (EMT)  
Robert Sterling (EMT)

Lori Delance (EMT)  
Justin LaFond (Paramedic)

Respectfully submitted,  
Justin Szarejko, Field Chief

---

*Wastewater  
Treatment Facility*

---

The 20-year upgrade project has begun. This is a huge undertaking! We continue to maintain & trouble shoot pump stations. We are working hard to upgrade parts, pumps and keep the lines clear. Please be mindful of what goes down your pipes. The biggest culprits we see are rags & grease. The Sucker Brook Pump Station has required a lot of attention, and a new generator was installed onsite to help bridge any power gaps related to weather. With the increase in rainfall these pumps are working harder than ever during storms. We understand the frustration when a problem occurs and request your patience & understanding as we work to keep 60 residential and all main pump stations in good working order. Adhering to these rules will reduce negative impacts to the environment while cutting costs at the treatment plant, and reduce emergency calls for backed up pipes.

The staff at the Wastewater Treatment Facility extends an invitation to any interested parties to tour the facility. Please call 468-5315 for an appointment so that we may accommodate your visit.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Russ Hallett, Chief Operator  
24 Hour Emergency Number (802) 773-5549

## Don't flush this!

Even though some products such as wipes and baby diapers claim to be "flushable," they are not.

Please keep these things out of our toilets and drains:

### Cloggers, binders, and floaters

- disposable diapers (child and adult)
- cleaning wipes of any kind
- tampons and tampon applicators
- sanitary napkins and panty liners
- napkins, tissues, & paper towels
- plastics, condoms, gloves
- cotton balls, swabs, Q-Tips
- facial tissue or paper towels
- bandages or bandage wrappings
- pet poop or cat litter
- hair & toilet bowl scrub pads
- textiles—towels, rags, clothes
- needles and sharps
- fruit stickers, peels, and seeds
- shells: nuts, eggs, or other
- dental floss or cigarette butts
- **fats, oils, and grease**



### Toxics

- automotive fluids
- paint, solvents, sealants and thinners
- poisons and hazardous waste
- lye, acids, bleach
- sanitizers & disinfectants, cleaners
- salts (water softeners)

### Nutrient elements & high calorie waste

- fertilizers (contain nitrogen and phosphorus)
- phosphorus based cleaners
- ammonia (nitrogen based)
- food waste, coffee grounds
- large amounts of milk, blood, coffee
- beer, wine, liquor



### Drugs

- medicine, vitamins, pills

---

### Animal Control

---

Please keep your dog up to date with rabies shots & register him/her annually with the Town Clerk. It is difficult to identify the owner of an unregistered dog in the event of an emergency. Please be a responsible pet owner & a good neighbor. To contact Animal Control: (802) 342-2933.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Chris Forrest, Animal Control Officer

---

### Castleton Cemetery Association

---

Our season at the Hillside Cemetery started with a large amount of downed trees from winter storms. Kevin Eagan and his crew came to our rescue by cleaning up the debris. We attempted to collect reimbursement from the VLCT/Town insurance company for the work but they denied our claim. We in turn appealed the denial and our claim was denied again.

With unusual weather conditions this year, Sexton Mike Eagan and our employees, Reggie Beayon and Matt Fisher, performed remarkably in keeping our cemetery grounds in excellent condition. We have received many compliments in return for their hard work. Under the supervision of Nancy Trudo, the Wreaths Across America Project to honor our veterans was well attended.

Our appreciation goes out to Mary and Tom Kearns for the restoration work of the West Section working map. They restored the map compiled by Florence and John Reil. With the generous donation from the Castleton Lions Club the map now proudly hangs in the Castleton Town Clerk's office. We give thanks to our Secretary MaryAnn Jakubowski for continuing her work on updating the lot owners and burial records. After she completed the West Section work, a book of lot owners in numerical order was created for each section. The book includes names and service of veteran's who are buried in our cemetery. A copy was presented to our local American Legion.

New cedar signposts, section markers, and solar post caps were installed which identify the location of each section of the cemetery. The work was a combined effort of trustees, an employee, volunteers and friends with a generous donation of stone by the Hadeka Stone Corporation.

Under the supervision of Trustee John Pellegrino, our Tool Shed is being repainted. After the pressure washing to remove the peeling paint by Raymond Ladd, the shed got a primer coat of paint. Again, trustees along with employee Reggie Beayon stepped up to help.

The final coat of paint will be applied in the spring time.

During January to access entrance to our cemetery, a large vehicle broke through the rear entrance gate. By the expertise of local welder Terry Morse, we now have a new and stronger gate to protect our grounds.

We take this opportunity to thank Ron Sweeney for his dedication in serving as a trustee and welcome our new member, James Roberts, who replaces him. We also thank the town voters for their support. The board members listed below have invested countless hours attending meetings for the purpose of caring for the future of the cemetery. It is a privilege to serve as their President.

Respectfully submitted,  
John D. Burke, President

Trustees:

John Pellegrino, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Silas Loomis, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

MaryAnn Jakubowski, Secretary

Phyllis Blanchard, Treasurer

Michael Eagan, Sexton

Aleda Dutton

Richard Hall, Jr.

Lois Ladd

Joan Lord

Julie Marcy

James Roberts

Non-Voting Team Members

Jeanne Eagan

Raymond Ladd

---

*Zoning*

---

The Zoning Administrator (ZA) received 44 permit applications during the past fiscal year. This represents a decrease of 16 applications compared to FY 2021-22. The number of single-family dwellings increased by 8 from the previous year.

This year the Development Review Board (DRB) met 14 times to review 9 permit application requests. Many of these applications involved either an Appeal of the Zoning Administrator's decision, Site Plan Review and

Conditional Use Permits for non-conforming parcels. (Meaning that they did not meet the minimum lot size required in the Zoning District).

In summary, the type of permit applications received were:

I. Single Family Residential (includes removal & replacement and/or construction of a new single- family residence)	11
II. Renovations & additions to existing buildings (Mostly residential use; includes decks & porches)	11
III. Replacement and /or construction of accessory structures (Sheds, garages, and other structures over 120 sq. ft.)	17
IV. Change of use: (single to multi-family and commercial)	2
V. Miscellaneous Permits	1
VI. Subdivision/Simple Parcel/Lot Line Adjustment	2
VII. Agricultural Buildings (to qualified farmers)	0
VIII. Municipal/School/Public Utilities/State Activities	0
IX. Permits withdrawn or denied	0
<b>Total Permits 2022-2023</b>	<b>44</b>

Zoning Administrator Office Hours are Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from 1:00-4:00 PM & by appointment. Please call Karen Oakman at (802) 468-5319 x 208 or email [zoning@castletonvt.org](mailto:zoning@castletonvt.org).

Respectfully Submitted,  
Karen Oakman, Zoning Administrator

---

*Planning Commission*

---

The Planning Commission carries on a continuous review of the zoning ordinances, initiates proposals for amendments as required, and receives and evaluates proposals for amendments from others. The Commission serves as a guide and counsel to other agencies of Castleton's government in matters relating to the zoning ordinances. The Planning Commission is also responsible for reviewing and updating the Castleton Town Plan every five years.

The Planning Commission meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm in the Fire Department Community Room.

During July 2022 to June 2023 the Planning Commission spent meeting hours working on a revision to the town's zoning ordinance and Subdivision Regulations with edits to combine them into one document: The Unified Development Regulations. The new document will be complete later in 2023. We are thankful to Ed Bove from the Rutland Regional Planning Commission who has been an enormous help to us with our ordinance document overhaul.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Your Planning Commission

---

*Town Clerk*

---

Looking to 2024, it is going to be a busy election year! Remember, absentee ballots must be requested by the voter for any election other than the November 5<sup>th</sup> General Election. Ballots may be obtained by written request (forms are available at the Town Clerk's office or on our website), by calling to request a ballot, or log on to your voter page at [mvp.vermont.gov](http://mvp.vermont.gov). If your mailing address has changed, please update that information with us. Also please remember this

March 5<sup>th</sup> is the Presidential Primary, it is the ONE election every four years, where you will be asked which party ballot you wish to vote! August 13<sup>th</sup> is the Vermont Primary Election. Castleton votes at the Castleton Fire Department / Public Safety Building at 273 Route 30 North and polls are open from 8am to 7pm on election day.

The Town Clerk's office is responsible for maintaining all land documents, vital records and town records as required by Vermont Statutes. Other varied duties include maintaining Vermont Property Transfer Tax Returns, filing survey maps, election duties and voter registration, Clerk of the Board of Civil Authority and Board of Abatement, marriage licenses, oaths and appointments, notary services, Green Mountain Passports, certified copies, land posting, hunting & fishing licenses, dog licenses, and DMV renewals.

2,811 pages of Land Records were received and recorded by this office, July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023. Land records are \$15.00 per page to record, set by State Statute and copies of land records may be purchased for \$1.00 per page in the office or you can search online at <https://i2h.uslandrecords.com/VT/Castleton/D/Default.aspx>.

Certified copies of Vital Records, Birth, Death, and Castleton marriages are available for \$10.00. These copies are issued on Vermont State-issued engraved, forgery-proof paper. Please note:

people who request a certified copy of a birth or death certificate must present valid identification and complete a brief, standardized application. Castleton had 20 Births, 46 Deaths and 37 Marriages recorded from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

The Vermont State Department of Liquor has gone to a new online system for applying, approving, and issuing of all liquor and tobacco licenses. This office issued the following Liquor Licenses for the 2023 licensing period:

- 9 First Class Liquor Licenses (7 with Outside Consumption Permits)
- 8 Second Class Liquor Licenses

Dog Licenses are required in Vermont to provide proof that your dog is vaccinated for rabies. The license tag on your pet's collar also helps to quickly identify the animal if it gets lost. **379** dog licenses have been issued in the 2023 calendar year. Vermont law requires all dogs 6 months or older to be registered by April 1 of each year. After April 1, there is a penalty fee in addition to the regular license fee. New licenses will be issued beginning January 2, 2024. A current rabies certificate and proof of spaying or neutering, if appropriate, is needed. Fees are:

<b><u>On or before April 1, 2024:</u></b>	
<b>Spayed or Neutered Dogs</b>	<b>\$13.00</b>
<b>Unspayed &amp; Un-neutered Dogs</b>	<b>\$17.00</b>
<b><u>After April 1, 2024:</u></b>	
<b>Spayed or Neutered Dogs</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>
<b>Unspayed &amp; Un-neutered Dogs</b>	<b>\$21.00</b>

## Rabies Clinic



We have a **Rabies Clinic** scheduled **April 6<sup>th</sup>** from **1pm to 3pm** at the Castleton Fire Station, rabies shots will be \$15.00 and the Hubbardton and Castleton Town Clerks will be there so you can license your dogs at the same time. I will **not** be charging the late fees until after this clinic.



The Town Clerk can renew registrations for cars, trucks, trailers, motorcycles, snowmobiles, and motorboats. For us to process the renewal we must have the renewal form that the DMV

mails to you and a check or money order made out to VT DMV. There is also a separate \$3.00 fee due to the Town Clerk. We cannot accept renewals that are more than 60 days old, except for snowmobiles.



We also sell Vermont Hunting & Fishing Licenses for your convenience.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve the residents of Castleton, it has been my pleasure.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Nedra Boutwell

---

### VITAL STATISTICS: BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES

JULY 1, 2022 – JUNE 30, 2023

---

*\*Due to the laws regarding adoption and legitimization of children and the Town's liability exposure, Births will no longer be published in the Town Report. Vermont still has an "open records" law, therefore, anyone is welcome to view the Birth Records at the Town Clerk's Office during business hours.*

<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Suffix</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Town of Residence</u>
10/11/2022	Balch	Judith		77 years	Castleton
2/9/2023	Barber	Eric		49 years	Castleton
6/19/2023	Barber	Kenneth	JR	38 years	Castleton
6/3/2023	Bishop	Julia		94 years	Castleton
8/30/2022	Briggs	Christine		73 years	Bomoseen
4/21/2023	Brooks	Alice		94 years	Bomoseen
10/25/2022	Brough	Margaret		93 years	Castleton
4/15/2023	Brown	Doris		77 years	Bomoseen
1/12/2023	Buffum	Charles		82 years	Castleton
12/31/2022	Burditt	Claire		89 years	Castleton
5/22/2023	Chader	Joan		80 years	Bomoseen
11/18/2022	Chase	Nancy		69 years	Bomoseen
6/16/2023	Crow	Theodore		74 years	Castleton
10/23/2022	Duffy	Charlene		84 years	Castleton
4/8/2023	Edgerton	Terri		68 years	Bomoseen
8/13/2022	Ferguson	Gordon	SR	92 years	Wells
5/21/2023	Fowler	Donald		68 years	Castleton
2/22/2023	Garrigan	Joseph		56 years	Castleton
5/14/2023	Gillen	Mary		77 years	Castleton
7/19/2022	Ingerson	Madeline		79 years	Castleton
2/4/2023	Kelly	Bernice		87 years	Castleton
7/6/2022	Kenosh	Kristen		56 years	Bomoseen
7/19/2022	Knapp	Harold		84 years	Castleton
7/19/2022	Lawyer	Chris		71 years	Castleton
3/19/2023	Maynard	William		94 years	Bomoseen
10/29/2022	McLaughlin	Maureen		73 years	Castleton
4/1/2023	McMaster	Mary		84 years	Castleton
9/27/2022	Mormando	Joseph		41 years	Rutland City
4/30/2023	Muratorri	Jane		76 years	Hydeville
9/5/2022	Muzzy	Gary		59 years	Castleton
7/7/2022	Nelson	Danielle		80 years	Castleton
10/30/2022	Nichols	Rachel		79 years	Castleton
7/22/2022	Perry	Zanah		71 years	Bomoseen
11/4/2022	Pritchard	Edward		86 years	Castleton
12/23/2022	Ricard	Joyce		51 years	Castleton
1/17/2023	Ripchik	Michael		59 years	Fort Myers
4/15/2023	Rogers	Rollin		94 years	Castleton
10/26/2022	Smith	Anna		85 years	Castleton
1/2/2023	Stanyon	Nancy		79 years	Castleton
11/1/2022	Stevenson	John		81 years	Hydeville
7/99/2022	Sullivan	Mary		78 years	Bomoseen
3/8/2023	Swenor	Regina		84 years	Castleton
5/31/2023	Thomas	Paul		75 years	Castleton
12/27/2022	Vaughan	Arthur		89 years	Castleton
3/2/2023	White	Steven		70 years	Castleton
9/24/2022	Wiggin	Ramsey		37 years	Castleton

## TOWN OF CASTLETON Marriage Administration

## Marriage Listing by Marriage Date

07/01/22 - 06/30/23

Date	Applicant A	Applicant B
07/05/22	MALOUIN, NICHOLAS ELLIOTT	DRAZIN, MOLLY HANNA
07/05/22	LOUIS, GREGORY EMMANUEL	HERBERT, SUZANNAH RAY
07/07/22	ROCZNIAK, ALEXANDER DAVID	KRIEGER, HEATHER HELENE
07/21/22	BISHOP, JUSTIN MICHAEL	BRIGGS, TIFFANY LYNN
07/22/22	HUGHES, LEONARD RYAN	ANDERSON, MOLLY GUNN
07/29/22	FORBES, TRE JAMMEL ALASTAIR	SIDLA, RACHEL MARY
08/03/22	DORAN, CHRISTIAN WILLIAM	CLARK, ABIGAIL BARLETTA
08/04/22	FLEMING, JOHN MICHAEL	WAITE, STEPHANIE LYNN
08/15/22	FERRARO, MICHAEL MAURICE	BONAFINE, JULIA ALEXANDRA
08/22/22	RACANELLI, GIANCARLO	DIMURO, KAYLA NICOLE
08/29/22	KLAUZENBERG, ETHAN JOHN	ALEXANDER, SARAH MAE
09/01/22	BRESKY, JASON ISAAC	BRODKA, MARLENE KATHERINE
09/01/22	MCSHANE, JOHN ANDREW	MACKAY, KELLY MAJORIE
09/02/22	DEMATTIES, EDWARD ROSS	ABBOTT, ANGELA ANN
09/09/22	SAARI, DEREK STEVEN	MCLEAN, KELLEEE LEE
09/23/22	TOLIN, WILLIAM C	WHITE, PAMELA ANN
09/26/22	HEGEL, MICHAEL DEAN	MOORE, SABRINA ANN
09/26/22	GIPE, GARY LEE	GORDON, DOREEN A
09/26/22	LOVDAL, LARSON GIOVANNI OSCAR	SURDOVAL, ALISON ROSE
09/27/22	GRIESEL, CONNOR ARTHUR	CONROY, CAITLIN ANNE
10/13/22	TOUPIN, COREY SCOTT	COSTA, REBEKAH ELIZABETH
10/28/22	PHILLIPS, RAYMOND SHANE	MCCARTHY, MIKAYLA MARIE
11/07/22	HAYWARD, BENJAMIN STANDISH	ALLEN, OLIVIA HOPE HAMPTON
12/06/22	MONGEUR, RAYMOND LEON	SCOTT, LYNDA DIANNE
12/13/22	GAVELIS, DEREK ALLAN	SWYLER, KAREN LOUISE
02/01/23	BROWN, MATTHEW ROGER	BUTLER, KELSEY MORGAN
05/11/23	FARRELL, MICAH MEYER	SULLIVAN, LILY MAY
05/11/23	KEKER, STEVEN RAY	WOODRUFF, KASEY LEE
06/02/23	WEBB, JESSE MICHAEL	HOEHN, GRETA VON
06/07/23	HANSON, CRAIG ANDREW	COLTEY, NANCY JEAN
06/07/23	DONAHUE, DANIEL THOMAS	MANGANO, JESSICA MARIE
06/08/23	YORK, JEFFREY DAVID	GIBBS, BRENNAN NOEL
06/13/23	CASSIDY, AARON MARK	POTTER, BRIANNA LYNN
06/16/23	KNAPP, ANDREW CHRISTOPHER	TAYLOR, KELLEY ANN
06/21/23	APKARIAN, JOSEPH SIMONE	HOUSTON, CAITLIN FAE
06/26/23	DOUGHERTY, MICHAEL JOSEPH	CAHILL, MEGHAN ELIZABETH
06/28/23	DUNSTER, PATRICK LESLIE	MOUND, BRIANNE ALICIA

Total Records: 37

---

*Dates to Remember in 2024*

---

February 28	Due date for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter of the 2023/2024 property taxes
March 4	Informational Town Meeting: Herrick Auditorium at Vermont State College Castleton 6:30PM Monday, March 4, 2024. A remote option for attendance is available.
March 5	Primary Election & local Town & School District Offices, Budget vote 8:00am – 7:00pm Castleton Fire Station at 273 VT Route 30 North
March 31	Due date for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter of the 2023/2024 sewer service charge
April 1	Last day to register dogs without a penalty.
April 18	Homestead Declaration due. Visit <a href="http://www.myVTax.vermont.gov">www.myVTax.vermont.gov</a> for more information.
April 6	Rabies Clinic 1:00-3:00pm, Castleton Fire Station
May 1	Last day for Office of Veteran’s Affairs to receive application for tax exemption due to their Veteran’s Exemption Eligibility Statement.
May 4	Green Up Day
May 31	Due date for the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of the 2023/2024 property tax and sewer charges
June 1	Castleton Village Farmer’s Market. Thursday’s from 3:30pm-6 *June to October
June 30	Last day to pay property taxes or sewer charges by 4:00pm without any penalties.
July 4	4th of July Parade & Fireworks
August 3	Shrine Football Game at Castleton University – Parade (TBA) & Game to Follow
August*	Lion’s Club Auction on “The Green” (date to be determined)  Castleton Women’s Club Colonial Day (date to be determined)
August 13	Statewide Major Party Primary Election 8:00am – 7:00pm, Castleton Fire Station
August 31	Due date of the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of the 2023/2024 property taxes
September 30	Due date of the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of the 2023/2024 sewer service charge
November 5	Vermont General Election 8:00am – 7:00pm, Castleton Fire Station
November 30	Due date for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of the 2023/2024 property taxes
December 14	Village Holiday Celebration: Tree lighting, Winter Christmas Market, Fireworks & Parade. Wreaths Across America
December 31	Due date for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of the 2023/2024 sewer service charge