

# TOWN OF WELLS, VERMONT



Annual Report  
for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

March 1, 2023	Annual School District Informational meeting at 7:00pm at Wells Village School
March 6, 2023	Voters expecting to be absent on Town Meeting Day must request an absentee ballot by noon on March 6 <sup>th</sup> .
March 6, 2023	Pre-Town Meeting/Business meeting at 7:00pm at Wells Village School.
March 7, 2023	Annual Town Meeting – Polls for Australian Ballot open 10:00am - 7:00pm in the Wells Town Office.
April 1, 2023	Dog Licenses Due
May 10, 2023	Property taxes must be paid in full to avoid 8% penalty
June 12, 2023	Toxic Waste Removal at the Transfer Station 12:00pm – 2:00pm
June 30, 2023	Fiscal year 2022-2023 ends
July 1, 2023	Fiscal year 2023-2024 begins
September 2, 2023	Toxic Waste Removal at the Transfer Station 12:00pm – 2:00pm
September 10, 2023	First Payment of Property Taxes Due
November 10, 2023	Second Payment of Property Taxes Due
February 10, 2024	Third Payment of Property Taxes Due
May 10, 2024	Fourth Payment of Property Taxes Due

*On the Cover: Ariel photo of Lake St. Catherine, provided by  
Andrew Gioulis, VTLakeHouse.com*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>DATES TO REMEMBER</b> .....	INSIDE FRONT COVER
<b>DEDICATION</b> .....	2
<b>TOWN INFORMATION</b>	
General Information .....	3
Licenses & Permits .....	4
Voter Information.....	5-6
Vital Statistics.....	7
Health Officer Report .....	7
Town Officials .....	8
Select Board Report.....	9
Town Clerk/Treasurer Report.....	10
Budget.....	11-20
Appropriations .....	21
Factors for Tax Rate Calculation .....	22
Delinquent Tax Report.....	23
Auditor's Letter & Financials.....	24-29
Town Inventory .....	30
Sheriff Report.....	31
Fire Department Report.....	32
Fire Warden Report.....	32
Highway Report.....	33
Assessor's Report .....	34
Library Report .....	35
Library Treasurer's Report.....	36
Granville Rescue Squad .....	37
Historical Society Report.....	38
Cemetery Treasurer's Report.....	39
Lake St. Catherine Conservation Fund, Inc. Report & Cash Flow.....	40-41
Lake St. Catherine Association Report.....	42
Delaney Planning Committee Report.....	43
Our Neighbors' Table .....	44
<b>COMMUNITY AGENCY REPORTS</b> .....	45-67
<b>TOWN MEETING INFORMATION</b>	
2021 Town Meeting Minutes.....	68
2021 Town Meeting Election Results.....	69-70
2022 Town of Wells Warning.....	71-73
2022 Wells Springs Unified Union School District Warning.....	74-75
Notes.....	76
<b>COMMUNITY INFORMATION</b> .....	INSIDE BACK COVER



## **DEDICATION**

### **Felix Reed**

**1940 - 2022**

Many people will recognize this man as Felix Reed, Our Town Clerk-Nora calls him dad. We know him as the man who was always willing to lend a hand even before you asked him to. Felix passed away in July just after celebrating his 60th anniversary with his wife Karin. Felix and Karin moved to Wells with their three children, Felix Jr, Fay and Nora in 1972.

Felix was a dairy farmer, then worked as a custodian at Emma Lang Stevens hospital and rounded out his career at Dorset elementary school.

Felix and Karin always enjoyed going to tag sales and flea markets between VT and Maine. He was well known for his famous yard sales in the Town of Wells. He was an avid sugar maker over the years and made sure his children and grandchildren and his great grandchildren learned the art as well. He also assured that they could all be self-sufficient and taught them how to hunt, fish and to raise a garden. Felix was also a great fund raiser and put together a large auction for the Delaney Park to raise funds for items needed once the town purchased the property. He truly enjoyed the park and was very active in getting the trails up and going and always willing to help where needed with any project there. Felix was always willing to participate and volunteer where he could over the years. He was a former Delinquent tax collector, Town Constable, Dog Warden, planning commission member, member of the Wells vol Fire Dept and a long-time member of the MWA as well as serving as counsel for the MWA. He was still an active member on the Delaney Committee. He will be greatly missed by his family and his community.

# TOWN INFORMATION

## **Town Clerk/Treasurer Hours:**

Open to Public Monday-Thursday 8:00am-3:00pm

## **Transfer Station Hours:**

### ***SUMMER Memorial Day Weekend – Indigenous Peoples’ Day Weekend***

Wednesday	10:00am - 2:00pm
Saturday	10:00am - 2:00pm
Sunday	10:00am - 2:00pm

### ***WINTER Indigenous Peoples’ Day - Memorial Day Weekend***

Wednesday	10:00am - 2:00pm
Sunday	10:00am - 2:00pm

*\* Transfer Station will be closed on all Federal Holidays, will be open Saturdays if holiday falls on a Sunday*

## **Library Hours:**

### **Summer:**

Monday & Tuesday 9:00am – 1:00pm  
Thursday 3:00pm – 7:00pm  
Saturday 9:00am – 1:00pm

### **Winter:**

Monday & Tuesday 10:00am -1:00pm  
Thursday 2:00pm – 5:00pm  
Saturday 9:00am – 1:00pm

*\* We are always closed on Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays*

phone: 802-645-0611

email: wellslibraryvt@gmail.com

## **Church Services:**

### **St. Paul’s Episcopal**

PO Box 726  
Wells, VT 05774  
518-499-1850

Parish Mass Sunday 9:00am  
Children’s Program Sunday 9:00am  
William Davidson  
therevwd@aol.com

### **United Methodist**

PO Box 203  
Poultney, VT 05771  
802-884-8249

Sunday 8:15am  
Pastor Susan Hardman-Zimmerman  
shardman-zimmerman@susumc.org

### **St. Mary’s Catholic**

23 Bulkley Ave  
Granville, NY  
518-642-1262

Sunday 12:30 pm  
Wednesday 9:00am

## **LICENSES & PERMITS**

### **Dog Licenses**

All dogs six (6) months of age or older shall annually, on or before April 1, be licensed. The price is \$10.00 for spayed/neutered dogs, \$14.00 for non-spayed/non-neutered dogs. Rabies certificates must be signed by a duly licensed veterinarian and delivered to the Town Clerk BEFORE any dog can be licensed. The full text of the Wells Dog Ordinance can be found in the Town Clerk's office.

#### **DOG TOTALS**

Sex	#	Fees	State	Late	Total
Spayed	40	200.	200.	0	400.
Neutered	32	160.	160.	0	320.
Male	14	102.	70.	0	172.
Female	6	34.	30.	0	64.
Total		\$496.	\$460.	0	\$956.

### **Marriage Licenses**

Marriage Licenses can be obtained in the Town Clerk's office. The fee is \$70.00.

### **Fire Permits**

Contact our Fire Warden, Todd Fenton at 802-645-9522 or our Deputy Fire Warden, Don Preuss, at 802-417-1058.

### **Transfer Station Permits**

The transfer station is located on Bull Frog Hollow Road. The acquiring of a Transfer station permits from the Transfer Station by CHECK ONLY or Town Office is required prior to using the facility. Only Wells tax payers/residents will be able to obtain a transfer station access permit.

#### **Bag Fees**

**13-15 Gallon Bag                      \$2.00**

**30-33 Gallon Bag                      \$4.00**

**40-45 Gallon Bag                      \$6.00**

*\*Additional fees charged for dumping larger items*

ZERO SORT RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING IS MANDATORY & boxes must be broken down. All trash must be bagged.

### **Title 19 Sec.43 VSA Access Permits**

Road access permits must be filed with the Town and/or State before any new driveway or road is constructed. Changes to existing driveways and roads are also subject to Title 19, Sec 43, V.S.A.

### **DMV Renewals**

You can renew your vehicle's registration in the Town Office by bringing in your renewal, a check payable to the Vermont DMV for the proper amount for a 1 year or 2-year renewal. There is a \$3.00 clerk fee to process your renewal.

## **VOTER INFORMATION**

*Please contact the Wells Town Clerk for an application to be added to the voter checklist.*

### **Annual Meetings – March 6 – Voting March 7, 2023 10:00am – 7:00pm**

A voter who expects to be absent or who wishes to vote at home can apply for an absentee ballot up to the day before the election. The application form for the absentee ballot may be requested from the Town Clerk by mail, phone or in person. The request for the application may be made by the voter or anyone else as long as the request is in writing and proof is shown that he or she is authorized by the voter to do so.

#### **\*\*IMPORTANT!\*\***

***If, after receiving your mailed absentee ballot, you decide to vote in person, you may do so ONLY if you return the complete set of unmarked ballots, together with the envelopes intended for their return, to the Presiding Election Official at the time you appear at the polls to vote in person OR you will need to sign an affidavit in order to receive a new set of ballots. Failure to do so will result in your inability to vote.***

## **VERMONT VOTER RIGHTS**

### **❖ YOU MAY SEE A BALLOT IN ADVANCE**

- Your Town Clerk has sample ballots at least 10 days before election.

### **❖ YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO ASSISTANCE**

- Bring the person of YOUR CHOICE into the voting booth with you to help you vote (Not your employer or union representative).
- Ask an election official for assistance.
- Two election officials will help you. (NO ONE can tell you how to vote!)
- Bring a magnifying glass or other device to help you vote.
- If you are disabled or ill, ask the election officials to bring a ballot out to your car.
- Bring a list of candidates or articles into voting booth to help you vote. (You may NOT show your list to other voters or leave it in the booth).

### **❖ YOU CAN VOTE EARLY OR VOTE FROM HOME**

- You can vote in the Town Clerk's Office or take ballot home anytime 20 days before the election.
- Call the Town Clerk or sign a request form, the Town Clerk will send you a ballot by mail.

### **❖ YOU CAN GET A NEW BALLOT IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE**

- If you give your first ballot to an election official, you can get another ballot to vote.  
You can get up to three ballots.

## **YOUR BALLOT IS PRIVATE**

- No one has the right to see how you voted or to ask you how you voted.

## **❖ PLEASE ASK QUESTIONS**

- Election officials are here to help you understand how to vote. They cannot help you decide who to vote for and may not tell you candidates' names.

## **MY VOTER PAGE & ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION**

By using the My Voter Page, a registered voter can:

- \* Check registration status;
- \* View information on upcoming elections;
- \* Access voter specific elections information, including directions to a polling place and polling hours;
- \* View a sample ballot;
- \* Request and track an absentee ballot;
- \* and much more.

### **August Primary**

- Early/absentee voting for the August Primary election will be request- based: voters will need to submit a request for an absentee ballot.

### **General Election**

- For all State and Federal elections, the Secretary of State's Office is required to mail a ballot to all active registered voters for their use in early/absentee voting. The Town will only be responsible to accommodate requests for early ballots that come in after the state has performed the mailing.
- If, after receiving your mailed absentee ballot, you decide to vote in person, you may do so only if you return the complete set of unmarked ballots, together with the envelopes intended for their return, to the Presiding Election Official at the time you appear at the polls to vote in person.

We encourage voters to log into their My Voter Page to learn more.

Registered Voters can log in at: <http://mvp.sec.state.vt.us>

Online registration can be found at: <http://olvr.sec.state.vt.us>



**VITAL STATISTICS**  
**July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022**

Births	7
Marriages	12
Deaths	17

*All records are available to view during regular business hours Monday-Thursday 8:00am-3:00pm. Certified copies are available for a fee of \$10.00 per copy.*

**HEALTH OFFICER REPORT**

**DRINKING WATER**

If you own a home with a private well the Vermont Department of Health recommends the following testing schedule:

- Total coliform bacterial test every year
- Inorganic chemical test every five years (Test for arsenic, chloride, copper, fluoride, hardness, iron, lead, manganese, nitrate, nitrite, sodium and uranium). ARSENIC is a natural element found in some rocks and soils in Vermont. Arsenic may get into drinking water wells and can create health symptoms or concerns. The EPA sets federal drinking water standards. The standard for arsenic is 0.010 mg/L. Some private wells in Wells, VT have arsenic levels that exceed safe levels. Testing is strongly recommended for all wells.

-Gross alpha radiation screen every five years

You can order test kits from the Health Department Laboratory at 800-660-9997 or 802-338-4736—or use another certified drinking water lab. For a list of certified labs, visit: [healthvermont.gov/drinkingwaterlab](http://healthvermont.gov/drinkingwaterlab).

For a complete guide to testing of drinking water visit [healthvermont.gov/water](http://healthvermont.gov/water) or call 800-439-8550 or 802-863-7220.

**DOG BITES**

Please register your dogs with the Wells Town Hall and please keep your dogs up to date on RABIES vaccinations with your Veterinarian. Town Health Officers are notified each time a patient presents to a healthcare facility in Vermont or adjacent states after sustaining an animal bite. The Town Health Officer is responsible for verification of the Rabies vaccination status and to inform the dog owner of their responsibility to isolate and observe the dog for ten days following a bite-regardless of vaccination status.

This is a safety issue for both the dog owner/family and the patient.

Documents: Town Health Officer Manual, 2019, VT Dept of Health([healthvermont.gov/THO](http://healthvermont.gov/THO))

Vermont Department of Health([HealthVermont.gov](http://HealthVermont.gov))

Please feel free to contact me for any concerns regarding potential public health issues in Wells.

Valerie Vitale, MD Contact information: Wells Town Office 802-645-0486 or [wellstownclerk@comcast.net](mailto:wellstownclerk@comcast.net)

## TOWN OFFICIALS

Office	Name	Term	Exp. March
Town Moderator	Don Preuss	1	2023
Clerk/Treasurer	Nora Sargent	3	2025
Select Board	Fran Gilman	3	2023
	Paul Woodruff Jr.	3	2024
	Don Preuss (chair)	3	2025
Constable		2	
Unified School District	Eric Montbriand	2	2024
Directors	Sue Burke	3	2025
	Amanda Weeden	3	2023
Library Trustees	Annie Constantinos	5	2024
	Amanda Butler	5	2025
	MaryBeth Harrison	5	2026
	Michelle Bates	5	2027
	Lisa Mattison	5	2023
Planning Commission	William Chmielewski	3	2023
	Carole Duquette	3	2023
	Eleanor Jones	3	2024
	Janet West Jones	3	2024
	Sharon Corey	3	2024
	Cherry Hopson	3	2025
	Cheryl Woodruff	3	2025
Justices/Peace	Victoria Angis (D)	2	2025
Expires January	Cheryl Woodruff (D)	2	2025
	Jerry Stein (R)	2	2025
	Michelle Bates (R)	2	2025
	William Steinmetz (R)	2	2025

## **REPORT FROM THE WELLS SELECT BOARD**

It looks like this year has brought us back to some normalcy. As we have in the last few years, we have been able to secure a collection of grants allowing us to purchase some equipment and to complete several road projects.

A summary of these grants is:

Backroad Grant – Stone line ditching, replacing culvers and re-graveling as needed. On Lamb Hill Road, extensive ditching and stone face wall.

Grant in Aid – Stone line ditching on Bull Frog Hollow hills. The same was done on Snow Brook Lane with a new large culvert installed and the cleaning of the pond and redoing the dry hydrant which is the Fire Department's only water source in that area. Hill Top Road will receive graveling and ditching. After three tries, we received funding to purchase a large blower to clean debris from roads, ditches and culverts.

Through ARPA, two electronic speed limit signs have been purchased and are in use in various locations around town. A storage shed was purchased and installed at Town Hall. We were also able to purchase two mini splits – one for the Town Hall and one for the Library.

Structures Grant – A large project that will be undertaken in early Spring is the replacement of a sixty-year-old box culvert on East Wells Road.

Unfortunately, we did not receive a class II road grant but we were able to pave the north end of West Lake Road.

We have increased the number of random patrols by the Rutland County Sheriff Department.

We would be remiss if we did not mention the passing of two key players and employees of Wells. Felix Reed passed and all that knew Felix knew he was a big man with a big love for Wells. He held many positions in town most recently being on the Delaney Park Committee from its inception to his passing. Our second loss was Stan "Bum" Martelle, a long-time highway foreman. He could be counted on to take good care of our roads,

As always, the public is welcome to attend our Select Board meetings. The meetings are held every other Tuesday at Town Hall at 7:00pm.

Remember, it's your town! If you have an emergency call 911. Issues related to weather or any problem that is Select Board related (i.e., snow, ice, washout flooding, trees or limbs in the roadway) call any of your selectmen rather than relying on social media.

Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,  
Don Preuss, Chairman  
Paul Woodruff Jr.  
Fran Gilman

## **TOWN CLERK/TREASURER REPORT 2022**

I first want to thank you all for your support in this trying year that I personally had with the passing of my father, Felix Reed Sr. So many of you stopped in to check on me often and sent cards of well wishes. Your support helped us through this trying time. As many of you know my dad was always active in our community and took amazing pride in the Delaney project. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends and his community that he loved so much. We also lost our retired co-worker Stanley (Bum) Martelle Sr. this year. His dedication to the Town was always evident and he will be greatly missed.

It has been another busy and different year here at the office. We continue to face many challenges and obstacles but we will continue to move forward and come out better in the end. We continue to ask you to so as much business by email, mail, or phone as you can. We have a drop slot in the front door to accommodate your tax payments if you do not wish to mail them. Taxes are still due on the date indicated, so your May 10 payment will be due May 10, 2023 and as always post marks are not considered on time. So please plan accordingly to have them here prior to May 10, 2023 if you are mailing them.

We are still indexing and scanning the old records using the ARPA money we received Below is the link to our online files.

<https://www.axisgis.com/wellsvt/> <https://wells.lr-1.com/> . THANK YOU to the amazing team we have assembled to get our indexing and scanning done.

The beautification committee continues to work hard to raise money for the town so we can light up the Town again this year. So, THANK YOU for lighting up the Town this past year, and helping us continue this effort going forward.

The elections were very trying with the new procedures and the redistricting of the town and the new tabulator. I do believe we came through that learning a lot and we will have better procedures in place to make it easier when you come in to vote in the next federal election. As we encounter another year of elections, we ask that you have patients and know that we are just doing our jobs as instructed. We will NOT be mailing LOCAL election ballots to everyone unless we are instructed to do so. As always you can go online, fill out a form, or email us and we will get you a ballot mailed out.

We teamed up with the Highway dept. and Selectboard to work on grants this year with them as there have many grants available this year and the paper work can be over whelming. If we continue to work as a team, it all goes so much smoother.

Again, I want to thank everyone for their ongoing support and look forward to another great year. As I have said before, as long as we work as a team, we can achieve great things.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nora Sargent

# TOWN OF WELLS BUDGET

Account Name	Budget FY 21-22	Actual FY 21-22	Budget FY 22-23	Budget FY 23-24
<b>Revenue</b>				
Interest on Current Taxes	\$3,500.00	\$4,623.66	\$3,500.00	\$4,500.00
Tax Adjustment from State	\$10,000.00	\$12,008.00	\$10,000.00	\$12,000.00
Delinquent Tax Principal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$70,000.00
Interest on Delinquent Taxes	\$9,000.00	\$16,664.31	\$10,000.00	\$15,000.00
State Aid to Highways	\$85,900.00	\$99,446.95	\$85,900.00	\$90,000.00
Interest Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
Dog Licenses	\$500.00	\$325.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Liquor Licenses	\$210.00	\$280.00	\$140.00	\$280.00
ATV Sticker Revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Court Fines	\$250.00	\$5,579.50	\$2,500.00	\$5,000.00
Cemetery Reimbursement	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Overweight Permits	\$100.00	\$185.00	\$140.00	\$150.00
Current Use	\$8,000.00	\$12,208.40	\$9,000.00	\$12,000.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$119,960.00</b>	<b>\$138,820.82</b>	<b>\$123,980.00</b>	<b>\$212,830.00</b>

# TOWN OF WELLS BUDGET

Account Name	Budget FY 21-22	Actual FY 21-22	Budget FY 22-23	Budget FY 23-24
<b>Expenses</b>				
<b>Administration</b>				
Selectmen's Salary	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Clerical for Selectmen	\$800.00	\$960.00	\$1,040.00	\$1,040.00
Admin Asst Health Insurance	\$20,303.35	\$21,442.00	\$20,303.35	\$21,482.36
Admin Asst Dental Insurance	\$1,000.00	\$880.49	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
FICA - Town Portion	\$18,000.00	\$16,378.55	\$19,000.00	\$19,000.00
Medicare Expenses	\$4,000.00	\$3,830.36	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Unemployment Insurance	\$1,800.00	\$889.66	\$2,500.00	\$1,500.00
Office Supplies	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
Postage	\$2,700.00	\$4,109.29	\$2,900.00	\$2,900.00
Copier Lease	\$3,300.00	\$2,646.36	\$3,300.00	\$3,300.00
Advertising & Legal Notices	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Health Officer Expense	\$500.00	\$7.38	\$500.00	\$500.00
Officers Meetings & Schools	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Dues & Subscriptions	\$4,100.00	\$3,782.00	\$4,300.00	\$4,500.00
Appropriations	\$86,568.00	\$86,568.00	\$86,368.00	\$85,868.00

# TOWN OF WELLS BUDGET

Account Name	Budget FY 21-22	Actual FY 21-22	Budget FY 22-23	Budget FY 23-24
Insurance	\$35,000.00	\$17,566.89	\$35,000.00	\$30,000.00
Legal Services	\$3,000.00	\$1,920.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Printing & Binding	\$1,900.00	\$1,833.85	\$1,900.00	\$2,500.00
Contracted Services	\$2,900.00	\$2,800.00	\$2,900.00	\$2,900.00
Street Lights	\$4,000.00	\$3,734.92	\$4,000.00	\$4,300.00
Office Equipment/Software	\$2,000.00	\$1,769.90	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
NEMRC/Microsolve	\$13,450.00	\$9,573.24	\$13,450.00	\$12,000.00
USDA Mortgage Payment	\$9,608.00	\$10,489.77	\$9,431.72	\$0.00
Delaney Property Fund	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$2,000.00	\$3,281.49	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>\$234,229.35</b>	<b>\$210,960.15</b>	<b>\$229,193.07</b>	<b>\$214,090.36</b>
<b>Town Clerk</b>				
Town Clerk Salary	\$28,006.00	\$28,006.00	\$29,406.30	\$31,495.00
Town Clerk Health Insurance	\$20,303.35	\$19,562.06	\$20,303.35	\$21,482.18
Town Clerk Dental Insurance	\$1,000.00	\$812.76	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Town Clerk Mileage	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00

# TOWN OF WELLS BUDGET

Account Name	Budget FY 21-22	Actual FY 21-22	Budget FY 22-23	Budget FY 23-24
Town Treasurer Salary	\$17,921.00	\$17,921.00	\$18,817.05	\$20,134.00
Assistant	\$14,785.00	\$14,784.17	\$15,524.25	\$16,661.00
<b>Total Town Clerk</b>	<b>\$82,115.35</b>	<b>\$81,085.99</b>	<b>\$85,150.95</b>	<b>\$90,872.18</b>
<b>Town Office</b>				
Heat Town Office	\$2,000.00	\$1,765.50	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Town Office Phone	\$2,200.00	\$2,493.28	\$2,200.00	\$2,850.00
Maintenance Town Office	\$7,750.00	\$5,226.18	\$7,750.00	\$7,750.00
Town Office Electric	\$2,500.00	\$1,717.20	\$2,500.00	\$2,700.00
Town Building Fund	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Security System	\$600.00	\$440.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
<b>Total Town Office</b>	<b>\$17,550.00</b>	<b>\$14,142.16</b>	<b>\$17,950.00</b>	<b>\$18,800.00</b>
<b>Elections</b>				
Elections- Wages and Printing	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$4,500.00	\$3,000.00
<b>Total Elections</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>	<b>\$4,500.00</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>
<b>Audit Expenses</b>				
Auditors Salary	\$13,000.00	\$98.50	\$13,000.00	\$10,000.00
<b>Total Audit Expenses</b>	<b>\$13,000.00</b>	<b>\$9,850.00</b>	<b>\$13,000.00</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>



## TOWN OF WELLS BUDGET

Account Name	Budget FY 21-22	Actual FY 21-22	Budget FY 22-23	Budget FY 23-24
<b>Assessors</b>				
Assessors Salary	\$11,500.00	\$11,494.02	\$12,075.00	\$13,100.00
Professional Assessor Services	\$9,000.00	\$7,050.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00
Assessors Mileage Reimb.	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Reappraisal Fund	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Dues/subscriptions	\$4,450.00	\$5,799.50	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Printing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Assessor Expenses</b>	<b>\$30,350.00</b>	<b>\$29,743.52</b>	<b>\$32,275.00</b>	<b>\$33,300.00</b>
<b>Library</b>				
Library Salaries	\$12,060.32	\$12,043.46	\$13,390.00	\$17,831.00
Heat Library	\$1,500.00	\$1,361.75	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Library Phone	\$500.00	\$559.17	\$600.00	\$650.00
Library Electric	\$1,100.00	\$970.30	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00
<b>Total Library Expenses</b>	<b>\$15,160.32</b>	<b>\$14,934.68</b>	<b>\$16,890.00</b>	<b>\$21,381.00</b>

TOWN OF WELLS BUDGET

Account Name	Budget FY 21-22	Actual FY 21-22	Budget FY 22-23	Budget FY 23-24
<b>Law Enforcement</b>				
Law Enforcement	\$14,500.00	\$15,540.75	\$18,000.00	\$28,000.00
Constables Mileage Reimb.	\$500.00	\$26.88	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment for Constables	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Law Enforcement</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>	<b>\$15,567.63</b>	<b>\$18,000.00</b>	<b>\$28,000.00</b>
<b>Poundkeeping</b>				
Poundkeeping	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$1,000.00
<b>Total Poundkeeping</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Fire Warden</b>				
Equipment for Fire Warden	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
<b>Total Fire Warden</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>

# TOWN OF WELLS BUDGET

Account Name	Budget FY 21-22	Actual FY 21-22	Budget FY 22-23	Budget FY 23-24
<b>HIGHWAY - SUMMER</b>				
Labor/Summer	\$66,950.00	\$67,287.17	\$70,298.00	\$75,219.00
Materials	\$40,000.00	\$39,969.79	\$50,000.00	\$60,000.00
Resurfacing	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$80,000.00
Culvert Purchases	\$6,000.00	\$4,376.40	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
<b>Total Summer Highway</b>	<b>\$182,950.00</b>	<b>\$181,633.36</b>	<b>\$197,298.00</b>	<b>\$222,219.00</b>
<b>Highway - Winter</b>				
Labor/Winter	\$73,200.00	\$67,965.70	\$76,860.00	\$82,241.00
Materials	\$75,000.00	\$62,720.56	\$75,000.00	\$85,000.00
Independent Contracting	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
<b>Total Winter Highway</b>	<b>\$149,700.00</b>	<b>\$130,686.26</b>	<b>\$153,360.00</b>	<b>\$168,741.00</b>
<b>Highway Vehicles</b>				
Repair & Maint. Vehicles	\$30,000.00	\$39,320.25	\$35,000.00	\$45,000.00
Fuel, Gas & Oil	\$35,000.00	\$43,230.89	\$35,000.00	\$45,000.00
Vehicle Replacement Fund	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
Vehicle Communications	\$2,000.00	\$1,728.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
<b>Total Highway Vehicles</b>	<b>\$117,000.00</b>	<b>\$134,279.14</b>	<b>\$122,000.00</b>	<b>\$142,000.00</b>

# TOWN OF WELLS BUDGET

Account Name	Budget FY 21-22	Actual FY 21-22	Budget FY 22-23	Budget FY 23-24
<b>Highway Meetings</b>				
Meetings & Schools	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Highway Meetings</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Highway Equipment</b>				
Small Tools for Highway	\$1,000.00	\$31.99	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Uniforms for Highway Employ.	\$4,000.00	\$3,987.72	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
Equipment Rental	\$2,000.00	\$86.80	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
<b>Total Highway Equipment</b>	<b>\$7,000.00</b>	<b>\$4,106.51</b>	<b>\$7,500.00</b>	<b>\$7,500.00</b>
<b>Highway Street Signs</b>				
Street Signs	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
<b>Total Highway Street Signs</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Highway Insurance</b>				
Highway Workers Health Ins.	\$69,132.96	\$62,581.26	\$69,133.00	\$65,000.00
Highway Workers Dental his.	\$3,300.00	\$2,698.28	\$3,300.00	\$3,300.00
<b>Total Highway Insurance</b>	<b>\$72,432.96</b>	<b>\$65,279.54</b>	<b>\$72,433.00</b>	<b>\$68,300.00</b>

# TOWN OF WELLS BUDGET

Account Name	Budget FY 21-22	Actual FY 21-22	Budget FY 22-23	Budget FY 23-24
<b>Highway Buildings</b>				
Highway Dept. Phone	\$500.00	\$999.23	\$1,000.00	\$1,700.00
Maint. Highway Building	\$500.00	\$425.90	\$500.00	\$500.00
Electricity	\$2,100.00	\$2,105.08	\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00
Miscellaneous	\$900.00	\$449.45	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Highway Building Fund	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
Surplus Transfer	\$0.00	\$14,618.49	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Highway Buildings</b>	<b>\$34,000.00</b>	<b>\$48,598.15</b>	<b>\$34,900.00</b>	<b>\$35,600.00</b>
<b>TOTAL HIGHWAY EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$564,582.96</b>	<b>\$564,582.96</b>	<b>\$588,491.00</b>	<b>\$645,360.00</b>
<b>Other Buildings</b>				
Maint. Other Town Buildings	\$19,500.00	\$18,862.91	\$19,500.00	\$19,500.00
<b>Total Other Buildings</b>	<b>\$19,500.00</b>	<b>\$18,862.91</b>	<b>\$19,500.00</b>	<b>\$19,500.00</b>

TOWN OF WELLS BUDGET

Account Name	Budget FY 21-22	Actual FY 21-22	Budget FY 22-23	Budget FY 23-24
<b>Transfer Station</b>				
Labor/Transfer Station	\$12,731.00	\$6,535.60	\$13,368.00	\$14,000.00
Materials	\$2,800.00	\$4,573.31	\$2,800.00	\$5,000.00
Electricity	\$600.00	\$462.51	\$600.00	\$600.00
Disposal of Waste	\$3,000.00	\$863.77	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
<b>Total Transfer Station</b>	<b>\$19,131.00</b>	<b>\$12,435.19</b>	<b>\$19,768.00</b>	<b>\$22,600.00</b>
<b>Rutland County Tax</b>				
Rutland County Tax	\$16,500.00	\$15,104.24	\$16,500.00	\$16,500.00
<b>Total Rutland County Tax</b>	<b>\$16,500.00</b>	<b>\$15,104.24</b>	<b>\$16,500.00</b>	<b>\$16,500.00</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$1,030,718.98</b>	<b>\$990,569.43</b>	<b>\$1,061,818.02</b>	<b>\$1,124,703.54</b>
<b>Net Revenue &amp; Expenditures</b>	<b>\$(910,758.98)</b>	<b>\$(851,748.61)</b>	<b>\$(937,838.02)</b>	<b>\$(911873.54)</b>

## APPROPRIATIONS

<u>AGENCY NAME</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
Rutland County Parent Child Center Inc.	\$ 300	300
Fire Department	15000	15000
Fire Department - Truck	20000	20000
Granville Rescue Squad	8000	8000
Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force	100	100
Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging	1000	1000
Rutland Mental Health Services	1030	1030
VT Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired	500	500
Rutland County Humane Society	150	150
NewStory Center	150	150
The Vermont Center for Independent Living	160	160
BROC Community Action	475	475
VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region	2303	2303
Green Up Vermont	100	100
Vermont Adult Learning	400	400
Vermont Cares	200	200
Lake St. Catherine Association	12000	12000
Lake St. Catherine Conservation Fund, Inc.	20000	20000
NeighborWorks of Western Vermont	200	200
Our Neighbors' Table	2000	2000
Poultney-Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District	500	500
Child First Advocacy Center	800	800
<u>Rutland County Restorative Justice Center</u>	<u>1000</u>	<u>500</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 86368.00</b>	<b>85868.00</b>



FACTORS FOR TAX RATE CALCULATION  
2022-2023

GRAND LIST:	\$ 1,827,560.00
HIGHWAY BUDGET:	\$ 588,491.00
LESS STATE AID:	\$ 85,900.00
TOTAL LIABILITY:	\$ 502,591.00
HIGHWAY TAX RATE: (Liability divided by Mun. Grand list)	.2750

---

<b>GENERAL BUDGET:</b>	\$ 473,328.00
AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY REVENUE:	\$ 38,080.00
TOTAL LIABILITY:	\$ 435,248.00
GENERAL TAX RATE:	.2382
LOCAL AGREEMENT:	$4800/1827560=.0026$
FINAL MUNICIPAL TAX RATE:	.5158
HOMESTEAD RATE:	1.6078
NON-RESIDENTIAL RATE:	1.6365
RESIDENTIAL:	2.1236
NON-RESIDENTIAL:	2.1523



# DELINQUENT TAX REPORT AS OF JANUARY 2023

NAME	2020-2021	2021-2022
Bubb, Gary	*	\$1029.64
Cannata Trust		\$20643.99
Cole, Robert	*	\$2673.71
Fenton, Scott		\$3082.19
Flynn, John R		\$1140.11
Gould, Clarence III	*	\$4501.02
Hayward, Glen	*	\$3960.85
Martelle, Bruce W		\$1960.57
Matteson, William	*	\$2723.46
Perkins, Anthony		\$444.93
Perrillo, Joseph II		\$2279.31
Rosen, Brett	*	\$12910.61
Schubert, James		\$2862.27
Secretary of Housing		\$1912.78
Swenor, Matthew G		\$331.63
Tatko, Joseph		\$10443.67
Thomas, Keith J		\$3674.44
Thomas, Keith JR		\$3548.36
Turicum LLC		\$5265.47
Vanguilder, Donna A		\$1029.09
Whitman, Josi	*	\$2791.46
<b>TOTALS FOR ALL YEARS</b>	*	<b>\$89,209.56</b>

*\*Multiple Years Owed. This is the total amount due for all years. Due to new public record privacy rules, we can only show total amounts due for all years of delinquent taxes per property. All properties with unpaid taxes from 2021-2022 and prior will be eligible for tax sale after May 10, 2023 if a payment schedule has not been set up.*



*Proven Expertise & Integrity*

October 11, 2022

Selectboard  
Town of Wells  
Wells, Vermont

We were engaged by the Town of Wells, Vermont and have audited the financial statements of the Town of Wells, Vermont as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022. A complete copy of the audited financial statements, including our opinion thereon, will be available for inspection at the Town Office.

*RHR Smith & Company*

Certified Public Accountants

SCHEDULE 1

TOWN OF WELLS, VERMONT

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGETARY BASIS  
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance
	Original	Final	Amounts	Positive (Negative)
Budgetary Fund Balance, July 1	\$ 695,875	\$ 695,875	\$ 695,875	\$ -
Resources (Inflows):				
Property taxes	931,259	931,259	919,348	(11,911)
Intergovernmental	95,900	95,900	111,475	15,575
Permits and licenses	1,060	1,060	6,888	5,828
Interest income	-	-	886	886
Other revenue	2,500	2,500	7,367	4,867
Amounts Available for Appropriation	1,726,594	1,726,594	1,741,839	15,245
Charges to Appropriations (Outflows):				
General government	387,905	387,905	359,069	28,836
Public safety	15,600	15,600	15,868	(268)
Public works	38,631	38,631	31,580	7,051
Highway	484,583	484,583	473,757	10,826
Intergovernmental	16,500	16,500	15,104	1,396
Transfers to other funds	87,500	87,500	102,118	(14,618)
Total Charges to Appropriations	1,030,719	1,030,719	997,496	33,223
Budgetary Fund Balance, June 30	\$ 695,875	\$ 695,875	\$ 744,343	\$ 48,468

## SCHEDULE B

## TOWN OF WELLS, VERMONT

COMBINING BALANCE SHEET - NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2022

	Special Revenue Funds	Capital Projects Funds	Permanent Funds	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
ASSETS				
Due from other funds	\$ 213,080	\$ 314,288	\$ 3,023	\$ 530,391
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 213,080</u>	<u>\$ 314,288</u>	<u>\$ 3,023</u>	<u>\$ 530,391</u>
LIABILITIES				
Due to other funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
FUND BALANCES				
Nonspendable	-	-	-	-
Restricted	213,080	195,253	3,023	411,356
Committed	-	119,035	-	119,035
Assigned	-	-	-	-
Unassigned	-	-	-	-
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	<u>213,080</u>	<u>314,288</u>	<u>3,023</u>	<u>530,391</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	<u>\$ 213,080</u>	<u>\$ 314,288</u>	<u>\$ 3,023</u>	<u>\$ 530,391</u>

## TOWN OF WELLS, VERMONT

COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN  
FUND BALANCES - NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

	Special Revenue Funds	Capital Projects Funds	Permanent Funds	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
REVENUES				
Intergovernmental	\$ 180,574	\$ 172,000	\$ -	\$ 352,574
Charges for services	36,548	-	-	36,548
Other income	<u>25</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>217,147</u>	<u>172,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>389,147</u>
EXPENDITURES				
General government	181,660	-	-	181,660
Public works	32,789	-	-	32,789
Other	<u>-</u>	<u>77,617</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>77,617</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>214,449</u>	<u>77,617</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>292,066</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	<u>2,698</u>	<u>94,383</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>97,081</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	5,000	32,500	-	37,500
Transfers (out)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	<u>5,000</u>	<u>32,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,500</u>
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	7,698	126,883	-	134,581
FUND BALANCES - JULY 1	<u>205,382</u>	<u>187,405</u>	<u>3,023</u>	<u>395,810</u>
FUND BALANCES - JUNE 30	<u>\$ 213,080</u>	<u>\$ 314,288</u>	<u>\$ 3,023</u>	<u>\$ 530,391</u>

## STATEMENT C

## TOWN OF WELLS, VERMONT

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2022

	General Fund	Equipment Fund	Highway Surplus Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,562,945	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,562,945
Accounts receivable (net of allowance for uncollectibles):					
Delinquent taxes receivable	173,322	-	-	-	173,322
Other	50	-	-	-	50
Due from other funds	-	138,036	115,548	530,391	783,975
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>\$ 1,736,317</u>	<u>\$ 138,036</u>	<u>\$ 115,548</u>	<u>\$ 530,391</u>	<u>\$ 2,520,292</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>					
Accrued expenses	\$ 8,152	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,152
Due to other governments	62,037	-	-	-	62,037
Due to other funds	783,975	-	-	-	783,975
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<u>\$ 854,164</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>\$ 854,164</u>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>					
Prepaid taxes	13,648	-	-	-	13,648
Deferred property tax	124,162	-	-	-	124,162
<b>TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<u>137,810</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>137,810</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>					
Nonspendable	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted	-	-	115,548	411,356	526,904
Committed	-	138,036	-	119,035	257,071
Assigned	-	-	-	-	-
Unassigned	744,343	-	-	-	744,343
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCES</b>	<u>744,343</u>	<u>138,036</u>	<u>115,548</u>	<u>530,391</u>	<u>1,528,318</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES</b>	<u>\$ 1,736,317</u>	<u>\$ 138,036</u>	<u>\$ 115,548</u>	<u>\$ 530,391</u>	<u>\$ 2,520,292</u>

## STATEMENT E

## TOWN OF WELLS, VERMONT

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

	General Fund	Equipment Fund	Highway Surplus Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>REVENUES</b>					
Taxes:					
Property	\$ 919,348	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 919,348
Intergovernmental	111,475	-	-	352,574	484,049
Permits and licenses	6,888	-	-	-	6,888
Charges for services	-	-	-	36,548	36,548
Investment income, net of unrealized gains/(losses)	886	-	-	-	886
Miscellaneous	7,367	-	15,720	25	23,112
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<u>1,045,964</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,720</u>	<u>389,147</u>	<u>1,450,831</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
Current:					
General government	359,089	-	-	181,660	540,729
Public safety	15,868	-	-	-	15,868
Public works	31,580	-	-	32,789	64,369
Highway	473,757	66,841	66,149	77,617	684,364
Intergovernmental	15,104	-	-	-	15,104
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>895,378</u>	<u>66,841</u>	<u>66,149</u>	<u>292,066</u>	<u>1,320,434</u>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>150,586</u>	<u>(66,841)</u>	<u>(50,429)</u>	<u>97,081</u>	<u>130,397</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>					
Transfers in	-	50,000	14,618	37,500	102,118
Transfers (out)	(102,118)	-	-	-	(102,118)
<b>TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>	<u>(102,118)</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>14,618</u>	<u>37,500</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES</b>	<u>48,468</u>	<u>(16,841)</u>	<u>(35,811)</u>	<u>134,581</u>	<u>130,397</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES - JULY 1</b>	<u>695,875</u>	<u>154,877</u>	<u>151,359</u>	<u>395,810</u>	<u>1,397,921</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES - JUNE 30</b>	<u>\$ 744,343</u>	<u>\$ 138,036</u>	<u>\$ 115,548</u>	<u>\$ 530,391</u>	<u>\$ 1,528,318</u>

## TOWN INVENTORY 2022-2023

### HIGHWAY INVENTORY:

2018 International 10-yard dump truck	3 Chainsaws
2015 International 14-yard dump truck	4 Wings
2008 International 14-yard dump truck	4 Snow Plows
2008 Chevy 1 ton dump truck	1 Push Blade
2013 Cat 307 D excavator	1 York Rake
2013 Cam 10-ton equipment trailer	5 Mobile VHF radios
2016 John Deere 5100M tractor	3 Portable VHF radios
2016 21' Tiger boom mower	Assorted Hand Tools
1995 John Deere 310 back-hoe	Camera System
2002 Galion 850 motor grader	2 Portable water pumps
2 Stainless Steel Hydraulic Sanders	2 Weed eaters
Tow behind Road Roller	1 Weed eater w/ power broom
1 Trailer with 925 Gallon Poly Tank Spray Bar & Pump	
2019 Doosan 220 Loader	Detach bucket and forks
Ditch Blower	2 Digital Speed Signs
1-Apple iPad	

### LAND AND BUILDINGS:

Town Office:	.92 acres of land- 1064 VT Route 30
Storage Shed:	1064 VT Route 30
Town Garage:	4.1 acres of land - 32 South Street
Woodland:	42.9 acres on Bull Frog Hollow Road
Transfer Station:	17.7 acres of land on Bull Frog Hollow Road
MWA:	11.8 acres on VT Route 30; leased to the MWA
Village Library:	.75 acres of land on the "Green" Route 30 & East Wells Rd
Delaney Property:	193 acres and Pavilion – 1268 North Street

### EQUIPMENT

50 Conference chairs	2 Brother scanners
3 Tables	tabulator
4 Computers	6 Laptops
2 Printer/Scanner	1 Laminator
1 RICOH Copier/Scanner	1HP Laser Printer
1 Canon large copier/scanner	1 Safe
4 Fireproof File cabinets	7 Desks and chairs
1 Digital camera	1 Conference Table
1 Lenovo Server with keyboard & monitor	1 Back up hard drive
1 Aluminum Dock & 12 Picnic Tables	
Outdoor Grills & Outdoor Patio Set (Telescope donation)	

### LIBRARY INVENTORY

1 Epson ET-3710 Series Printer	3 10.2" Retina Display iPads
3 Logitech universal keyboards for iPad	1 Desktop HP computer
1 GROViewBL-43 Projector	1 Large Flat Screen TV
1 10'x13' Canopy Tent	1 10'x20' Canopy Tent
1 24"x36" Outdoor display sign with cover	1 Laminator
8 sets of snowshoes (4 adult & 4 children)	1 Pair headphones for desktop PC
1 pair Bluetooth headphones	1 cold/hot water cooler



## Town of Wells Sheriff's Report 2022

Thus far in the contract Rutland County Sheriffs have responded to 41 incidents had one criminal arrest, preformed 69 traffic stops issuing 70 tickets, as well as 17 warnings in the town of Wells. Deputies have mentioned positive feedback both from the board as well as citizens of Wells on the successful impact the patrols have had on speed and criminal activity in the town. I would like to say it's a privilege to work in the town of Wells and thank the citizens of Wells for their positive feedback and support for the Sheriff's patrols, we hope to continue serving the citizens of Wells for many years to come.

Respectfully submitted  
Sheriff  
David J. Fox

### Sheriff Department Stats for Wells January 1, 2022 – October 31, 2022

The following items were provided by Rutland County Sheriff's Dept.

Hours Worked: 254.45

Total Fines (Estimate) \$5,730.50

Total Other Incidents: 32

#### Other Incidents:

Accident-Property Damage	2	Motor Vehicle Complaint	1
Animal Problem	6	Service of APO	2
Assist-Agency	3	SORC	2
Assist-Citizen	4	Suspicious	1
Criminal – No License	1	Theft	1
Family Fight	1	Threatening	2
Fraud	1	VIN Inspection	1
Harassment	1	Welfare Check	1
Information	1	Littering	1

## Wells Volunteer Fire Department

The Wells Volunteer Fire Department Inc. ended the year 2022 with a big decrease in calls with a total of 39. In the last end of the year, we have lost a past member to the fire department. Richard Pauquette, we at the fire department would like to give our deepest thanks and sympathy for his dedicated service. We will still be replacing the old chassis of the truck with a brand-new chassis. This we found will be the best for the department, both operationally and financially. Currently we are looking at a cab and chassis. We greatly appreciate the strong support we get from the Town and townspeople. With the help of the Town and a grant we were able to repair a dry hydrant on Snow Brook Lane. We had a good year of training, with our members getting well over 40 hours of training. Recruiting new members is still hard. But we have gotten 1 firefighter and 3 new auxiliary members this last year. The Firefighter I course is offered free through the state of VT. Don't want to be a full trained firefighter we will train you in what you are interested in. Please, if you are interested feel free to stop by on Tuesday nights which is our regular drill night, or stop a firefighter. Let's hope to have a very safe 2023. Thanks again you for all your support.

Respectfully submitted  
Chief Todd Fenton  
Stay Safe

*"IF YOU DON'T VOLUNTEER, WHO WILL?"*

## Fire Warden Report

A big thanks to everyone for their help in 2022 with their calls for permits and heads up calls to let me know that they were burning so that the fire dept. didn't have to respond. I personally gave out over 50 permits. We had 0 brush calls for 2022, which is awesome. A friendly reminder that burn barrels are illegal in the state of VT. If I see a burn barrel in your yard I will be stopping to investigate. Fire pits are allowed for the burning of wood. A clean wood burning brush pile burns with gray smoke, black smoke is bad sign and will attract our attention. Also remember that your burn piles CAN NOT burn through the night. Please call for permit, it is required to burn brush (ONLY BRUSH). There is to be NO burning of pressure treated lumber, painted wood, drywall, construction materials or other garbage (NO GARBAGE!) Burning in the winter months is allowed without a permit. Remember though ONLY if the ground is snow covered. Please remember that Spring time is the worst season for brush fires in Vermont. Please do not use accelerants to start your fires, especially gasoline. Gas being one of most dangerous things that can be used. A heads-up call is always appreciated. Let's have a safe and incident free 2023.

BE SAFE BURN SAFE

Todd Fenton, Fire Warden

## 2022 Wells Highway Report

This year has been a busy one for the Highway Department. We finished the 2022 Better Roads grant for Lamb Hill Road with the stone lining of ditches with approximately 221 tons of 10-inch fractured stone, upgrading 2 culverts and graveling the road surface. Lamb Hill Road from East Wells Road to High Chapparral Rd and High Chapparral Road were the worst with the multiple mud seasons, we hauled approximately 244 yards of 3-inch stone to keep it passable. With mowing and general maintenance of grading, rolling and chloriding of the roads we added approximately 2142 yards of crushed or screened gravel to the road surfaces this summer. We also completed the 2022 Grants and Aid project on Bullfrog Hollow Road and Snow Brook Lane. We hauled 427 tons of 10-inch fractured stone from Wallingford Crushed Stone for these projects. We also hauled 2000 yards of winter sand. We will be submitting grant forms for the Municipal Roads program for class 2 roads for paving and a Structures Grant for a box culvert on East Wells Road and a short section of West Lake Road to continue with culvert, ditching and road upgrades. I would like to thank Nora and Sherry for the help with phone calls, sending e-mails and rescanning paperwork to close out the grants. This year we said goodbye to one of the hardest working men we've had the pleasure of knowing and working with, with the passing of Stanley (Bum) Martelle who worked for the Town of Wells for many years. We want to thank everyone for their patience and remember please stay alert for changing conditions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wells Highway Crew  
David Ricard Sr.  
Doug Haskins  
John Bates



## **Report from the Wells Assessor's Office**

This report includes the results of the new Grand List with all the exemptions included.

The Grand List for 2022 is 1,827,560. The Grand List for 2021 was 1,826,308.

Please be sure you file the HS-122. This will qualify you for the resident tax rate.

Do not forget the Household income declarations HI-144. You must file this form with your Vermont tax returns for you to receive the prebate. We recommend you check with your tax advisor to be sure you qualify.

The Town of Wells has partnered with NEMRC as our Town Assessor. We will continue to be professional and proactive to keep our Town of Wells financially sound. As always, we are here to answer all of your questions at the Town Office at 802-645-0486.

### **In Memory**

Stanley (Bum) Martelle passed away in August, 2022. Bum was married to his wife Natalie for 57 years, they had 3 children Stanley Jr, Bruce and Russell.

Bum worked in construction for many years and was a beloved member of the Highway crew for the Town of Wells. He was always the most caring man and knew everyone's schedules for work and made sure they could always get in and out for work.

Bum was a member of the MWA since the age of 15.

## **Wells Village Library 2022 by Librarian, Gina Ellis**

In every measurable way, it has been a successful year. Patronage rose, book and resource acquisitions increased, programming and events attracted growing audiences, and we established substantive collaborations throughout our community. This was no small feat, and it's you we have to thank. As technology and streaming services continue to make an indelible mark on the societal landscape, it's been argued bricks and mortar libraries have become obsolete. Thankfully, Wells is among countless communities nationwide that understand libraries' unique and inherent value. The library experience is irreplaceable. After all, there are many ways to measure relevance and success; it's not all about numbers and instant access. There are intangibles that defy analyzation, yet are essential. Take, for example, this year's Time Capsule Ceremony. Your presence and the fellowship that grew out of that beautiful July afternoon have lingered through these successive months and will for years to come. So many of us came together toward a shared vision inspired by one of our own – Walter West. Walter relayed a memory of burying a capsule in the 1940s under the direction of his school teacher, Theodore Jerome, at a one-room schoolhouse on Saw Mill Hill Road. In that one simple exchange with the schoolhouse's current property owners, Walter set off a Wells-wide endeavor that the library enthusiastically helped realize. No technology, streaming service, nor any other form of modern informational exchange can match this kind of meaningful, neighborly experience – the library experience. While we at Wells Village Library understand the appeal of the digital age, we utilize its offerings to augment and enhance our services, not replace them. Consider our patron iPads. We're proud to offer them, but they don't provide the one-to-one caring exchanges that occur each day our doors are open. This is why we continually assess our community role and seek ways to bridge whatever gaps exist between our services and your needs and expectations. Chances are, we'll eventually provide whatever technological magic you seek, but we'll always provide much more – that extra effort, those little details, and the special gatherings like our Winter Solstice Bell Ringing. We strive every day to ensure we're building good relationships and using the library's full capacity to best serve Wells, our patrons and the broader community. Recently, our library celebrated its 78th Anniversary. Former Wells resident, Annie Huyck, donated the former Universalist Church to the town in October 1944. What a gift! To this day, the cornerstone of our success involves staying true to our founding benefactress' vision. Annie was generous, warm, and charitable. By all accounts, she wished the library to be a safe, inclusive, vibrant, integral treasure to Wells. We believe it is. From our burgeoning collaboration with both Lake Saint Catherine organizations to our annual stream of programs and events, we provide an array of diverse offerings all while ensuring you find upon our shelves the latest best sellers and all your old favorites. So, as we set our sights on a new year, we recommit our best to you, friends and neighbors. From fundraising to patronage to event attendance, you enable us to realize our aspirations. Because of you, we have a new garden along the Route 30 side of our building. You are generous with your talents like Edgar Corey who built the lovely cover to protect our heat pump during winter. You are the best fundraiser bakers the world has ever known. And, you are reliable, dedicated and skillful volunteers for whom we are ever grateful. The Wells Village Library belongs to all of us. We are its stewards. Sure, we can share statistics like how we welcomed more than 2,100 visits from you and town guests this year, but we'd rather simply invite you in to make yourself comfortable and have a cup of tea. Remember – while the library may soon offer a streaming service, we have yet to learn of a streaming service that will offer you tea.

**Wells Village Library Treasurer's Report  
July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022**

**Beginning Balance Wells Village Library Fund.....\$ 10, 957.53**

Income:

Donations	\$ 707.00
Fundraising Events	\$ 2,627.00
Grants	\$ 2,375.00
Printing & Book Sales	\$ 284.00
Misc	\$ 1,123.07

Disbursements:

Programs	\$ 3,417.88
Books	\$ 791.61
Supplies	\$ 286.72
Postage	\$ 526.28
Technology Maintenance & Equipment	\$ 33.73
Annual Subscriptions & Memberships	\$ 457.98
Facility	\$ 154.92
Misc.	\$ 1,293.46

**Ending Balance Wells Village Library Fund.....\$ 11,111.02**

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Mattison  
Wells Village Library Treasurer



Granville Rescue Squad, Inc  
East Potter Ave. P.O. Box 153 Granville, NY 12832  
Telephone (518) 642-1830  
[www.granvillerescue.com](http://www.granvillerescue.com) / [granvillerescue@yahoo.com](mailto:granvillerescue@yahoo.com)

To the Citizens of Towns Served:

Thank you for the opportunity to have served you over the past year.

As of October 31, Granville Rescue has handled 1811 calls in 2022, traveling over 63,000 miles. Of these calls, 115 occurred in the Town of Wells.

We routinely respond to calls for mutual assistance outside of our area. Other neighboring ambulances also assist our agency when the system is overwhelmed with calls and our resources are depleted.

Our service is licensed in New York and Vermont as an advanced life support agency. Volunteer members are supplemented by employees to provide 24 hour a day, 7 days a week emergency medical coverage. Our roster has over 50 members and staff, ranging from drivers to para medics. In 2022, members participated in over 12,000 hours of emergency call time and in excess of 2500 hours of training. We do offer community CPR and first aid training, depending on instructor availability, as well as the "Stop the Bleed" program.

An Advanced EMT course was held at the Granville Rescue building over the winter. From this we were able to gain five new Advanced EMTs. Additionally, three members became certified as Paramedics in 2022. We congratulate them and thank them for their dedication.

Our agency was awarded a grant for additional "Lucas" CPR devices. This unit is capable of performing chest compressions on a patient freeing up personnel to perform other tasks on a cardiac arrest. A second large grant has allowed us to purchase Glide scope video laryngoscopes. This device assists in locating difficult airway anatomy to better maintain an artificial airway.

Granville Rescue would like to thank the citizens, businesses, local governments, fire, police, and neighboring EMS agencies, as well as highway departments for their continued support and assistance. Anyone with questions, concerns, or interest can stop by our building on Potter Avenue in Granville or visit our website at [www.granvillerescue.com](http://www.granvillerescue.com).

The members and staff of Granville Rescue wish everyone a healthy 2023!

## **Wells Historical Society Wells Town Report 2022**

The Wells Historical Society now has 35 members as of the close of 2022. Our mission continues to be the collection and preservation of information and artifacts related to the history of our wonderful community of Wells. We also continue to seek Wells family histories.

Events this year include:

April's maple sugar report was given by Tom Bates. Karen Holcomb shared and donated some wonderful postcards. Lochlea Playhouse signage project on hold.

In June we were involved in providing items for the Wells Town Time Capsule project. We also provided a Wells Historical Society display for the Lake St Catherine Conservation Fund project held at the town's Lakeside Park.

Elections were held in August. President: Joe Capron / Vice

President: Victoria Angis / Secretary: Trish Capron / Treasurer: Sharon Corey / three new trustees. A very special Spinning Wheel program and demonstration was given by Nora Rubenstein.

October saw a wonderful display and discussion of the many great memories of Idylwild Park with photos, baskets and trays and a 'Water Wagon' sign.

Meetings for 2023 are on the first Wednesdays four times a year: April 5th, June 7th, August 2nd, October 4th.

For more information contact: Joe Capron at 802-645-0200 or check out our website through the Town of Wells website. We are also on Facebook.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joe Capron  
President





**Wells Cemetery Improvement Corporation**  
**Treasurer's Report**  
**March 10, 2021 to March 9, 2022**

**TD Money Market Account Balance**  
**3/9/2021** **\$39,184.94**

**Annual Income:**

Dividends on stock:

AT&T	62.40
Comcast	192.00
Putnam	2.70
Verizon	1,242.16

Total of Dividends	1499.26
Grave opening fee	165.00
Perpetual Care	3600.00
Bank interest	20.16
Plot East Wells Cemetery	250.00

**Total Annual Income:** **5534.42**

**Opening Balance +Total Annual Income** **44,719.36**

**Annual Outflows:**

PO Box annual fee	70.00
Newspaper posting of annual meeting	0.00
Bank service charge	4.00
Cemetery maintenance to Town of Wells 2020-2021	2,500.00

**Total annual outflow:** **2,574.00**

**TD North Money Market Account Balance 3/9/2021** **42,145.36**

## **Lake St. Catherine Conservation Fund, Inc.**

The directors of the Lake St. Catherine Conservation Fund (LSCCF) are pleased to submit our annual report regarding the progress we have made in maintaining and improving the ecological health of Lake Saint Catherine, with a particular focus on Little Lake.

New officers were elected in during the annual membership meeting. Robin Barley is now President, Karla Dendor Vice President and Tina Peterson remained on as Secretary Treasurer.

We removed nearly 1,700 cubic yards of harvested vegetation from the lake and introduced a new emphasis, using the harvester to skim floating segments of milfoil before they could reestablish themselves.

This is down by about 20% but we feel that next year will increase again as the native weeds are filling in at a rapid rate. But great news the herbicide is working short term. We continue to build on the Harvesting program as this is a critical component of improving the lake conditions.

As reported to you last year the DEC required LSCCF to remove the Aeration System. Very disappointing but we have removed the system successfully.

We know that herbicide use is not going to solve Little Lake's core problem, namely the muck. With the option of using aeration closed, at least for now, however, we needed to adjust. We are focuses on harvesting and dredging and continue to research other methods.

We had several community outreach programs that worked together with LSCA – Libraries Loves Lakes and a program to identify other methods to remove milfoil. The annual fishing Derby contributed to our fundraising efforts again this year and was a great success. We are running the Lottery again this year. We were sponsored by the Modern Woodman as the benefactor of their Super Bingo event which contributed \$5,000 .

The bottom line is that the fight to restore Little Lake to its former glory continues. We have more and more people on our side – scientists, politicians and most importantly, the people of Wells and friends who visit this beautiful spot. If we stay unified and committed, we will succeed. The future of Little Lake and the economic health of the Town of Wells depend on it! Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,

Robin Barley  
LSCCF President

**Lake St Catherine Conservation Fund, Inc.**  
**Fiscal Year CASH FLOW**

July 1, 2021- June 30, 2022

<b>BEGINNING BALANCE 7/1/2021</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>36,768</b>
<b>INFLOWS</b>		
Dues and Donations	\$	11,995
LakeWise Grant Contribution from 2021	\$	1,400
Town of Wells Grants from 2021 rec 2022	\$	20,000
VT DEC Grant-in-Aid Program 2021	\$	6,844
Net Amount from Fishing Tournament 2022	\$	3,109
Gross amount from Monthly Lottery	\$	24,000
Net Amount from 2022 Calendar	\$	1,133
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>105,249</b>
<b>OUTFLOW</b>		
Outreach and Publications	\$	207
Bank Fees & Charges	\$	27
Dues, Subscriptions, Web Site Support	\$	812
Insurance Policies	\$	5,615
Trailer Registrations	\$	104
Permits for Fishing Derby	\$	100
PayPal Fees	\$	237
Postage & USPS	\$	171
Monthly Lottery Payout	\$	7,000
Other expenses	\$	258
Aeration Operating Expenses	\$	0
Biomass Scan April 2022	\$	1,850
Herbicide Application	\$	10,414
Water Sampling DFWI	\$	135
Harvesting Program Expense	\$	34,318
Dredging Project Expense	\$	0
<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>61,248</b>
<b>ENDING BALANCE 6/30/22</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>44,001</b>



The Lake St. Catherine Association (LSCA) had another successful year implementing our lake management programs for the benefit of Lake St. Catherine, with excellent support from the lake community.

**Lake St. Catherine Watershed Action Plan (LWAP):** In partnership with the Poultney Mettewee Natural Resources Conservation District (PMNRCD), Castleton University, and Fitzgerald Environmental Associates, the LSCA kicked off this 3-year project by holding a stakeholder meeting at the Wells Lakeside Park in July. Members of the lake community gathered to learn how our partners and lake experts will perform various in-lake and watershed based measurements, testing, and studies to identify current or potential future issues, and design a comprehensive, long-term plan to address them. The LSCA is now poised to integrate our existing programs into a broader watershed plan with a focus on the prevention of pollutant loads (phosphorus, nitrogen, sediments) that enter into LSC from sources outside the waterbody. We plan to use the success of these building blocks to expand our work in the watershed and focus on prevention for the future.

**Lake Wise Program:** Using a grant received from the Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP), the LSCA encouraged lake residents to have their shoreline and property assessed as part of the program. Lake Wise is a program developed by Vermont's Lakes and Ponds to recognize outstanding efforts by homeowners who live along a lakeshore to protect the water quality and habitat along the shoreline and within the near-shore area of the lake. Stormwater can carry excess nutrients into the water and contribute to problems which affect both human and wildlife health including; lower oxygen levels in the water, toxic algae blooms, and excessive plant growth. As part of the program this year, and at the time of the writing of this report, our partners the PMNRCD and Castleton University performed numerous assessments, and implemented multiple projects. 10 LSC properties earned the Lake Wise Award this year, including the first on Little Lake, and in the lower channel at Lake's End.

**Greeter Program - Boat Launch Monitoring:** Our Greeter Program is very important to the health of Lake St. Catherine. Our Greeters have been trained to identify aquatic invasive species (AIS) - like spiny waterflea, asian clams, water chestnut, starry stonewort and zebra mussels (many of which are only a lake away) - to stop them from entering LSC at the boat launch in Wells and the State Park in Poultney. They also educate boaters about the importance of looking for these invasives on their boat or trailer so they are not spread to LSC or another lake. Each year, they do a fantastic job checking vessels and educating the lake community on the dangers of invasive species for Lake St. Catherine. They are on duty from Memorial Day through Labor Day - working on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. They also cover holidays and fishing tournaments.

**Milfoil Control:** In 2022, the LSCA partnered again with the Lake St. Catherine Conservation (LSCCF) to apply the herbicide ProcellaCOR EC on approximately 35 acres of milfoil in Little Lake on June 20th. The treatment was highly effective in reducing milfoil in the treatment area. There were also 2 small spot treatments in Big Lake totaling 9 acres. Also, our diver assisted suction harvesting team (DASH) worked throughout the summer hand-pulling milfoil in 6 locations, covering approximately 76 acres, and removing 252 buckets of milfoil (buckets are 17.5 gallons each).

**Libraries Love Lakes:** Using a grant received by the LCBP, and in partnership with the Wells Village Library and the Lake St. Catherine Conservation Fund, an educational event was hosted at the Wells Lakeside Park on July 3rd. Nine organizations were on hand to provide family-friendly opportunities for stewardship-based, hands-on, lake-related learning, and the day ended with boat tours on the lake. Learning will continue at the Wells Village Library as a new section called the 'Lake St. Catherine Collection' will be open to the public on September 17th. The new section will contain on-topic literature, flora and fauna life-cycle models, borrowable binoculars, dip nets, and much more.

**Other Initiatives:** Other initiatives included: two free boating license classes, placement and maintenance of the buoys and markers around the lake, organization of volunteer opportunities for Green Up Vermont Day, and Milfoil Cleanup Community Day, the annual LSCA Boat Parade, Dockside Chats with LSCA Trustees, grant writing, workshops & trainings, and constant communication of LSC news via our website ([www.lakestcatherine.org](http://www.lakestcatherine.org)) and Facebook pages.

Thank you for your continued support of the Lake St. Catherine Association!

Submitted by,

Jim Canders, President, LSCA

Lake St. Catherine Association • P.O. Box 631, Wells, VT 05774 • [www.lakestcatherine.org](http://www.lakestcatherine.org)

## DELANEY COMMITTEE REPORT 2022

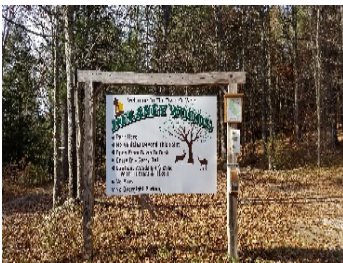
We have accomplished many things this year at the Lakeside Park, sidewalks and the apron have been completed. Many Thanks to the town crew for all of the work preparing the ground work for the sidewalks and grading for water drainage. The selectman volunteered to build 5 new picnic tables, 2 of which were built so they are handicap accessible, and all were completed and placed in the pavilion. Thank you to the select board. A walking path has been created around the field for our walkers. Hopefully next spring we will put a sitting bench on the knoll for people to enjoy an elevated view of the lake and the mountains. We have seen the park and the pavilion being used by many people and organizations. Rules of use and reservation of the pavilion can be viewed on the Town website([www.WellsVT.com](http://www.WellsVT.com)). Delaney woods are still being used by many hikers and bicyclists. At the parking area for Delaney Woods you will find a sketch of all of the trails to explore. Thank you to SVT for maintaining the trails. More information can be viewed at [Slatevalleytrails.com](http://Slatevalleytrails.com).

While this has been a rewarding year for the committee, it has come with challenges. Our town lost one of the hardest working members with the passing of Felix Reed, he was a true Icon and a great friend who will be GREATLY missed. We would also like to thank Cathy Walker, Tracee Rupe and Tim Makepeace for their years of dedication to the Delaney committee and all of the work they have done. We are sad to see them leave the committee. We welcome 3 new members to the committee Frank Callahan, Candy Fox and Rich Young. The committee meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 7:00pm at the Wells Town Office. Please check our Agendas and Minutes on the Town's website, and please attend if you want to learn more or have comments or questions.

MANY thanks to the residents of the town of Wells for supporting these valuable assets for all to enjoy.

Respectfully submitted,

Fran Gilman, Chairman /Treasurer, Grace Larson, Secretary  
Frank Callahan, Candy Fox and Rich Young





PO Box 912  
Wells, VT 05774

Located at Modern Woodmen of America Annex Building.  
Food distribution boxes can be found at the Wells Town Hall  
and Wellsmere Farm.

It has been another volatile year for food shelves and a challenging year due to Covid 19. The need has grown exponentially this year all over the state. One in three Vermonters are now taking advantage of a food program.

Our Neighbors' Table has been busy keeping up with the demand. We are even delivering to almost a dozen families on top of the folks that come to the food shelf. Fortunately, The Vermont Foodbank has come through with extra food, meals, fresh local meats and produce to help.

We are always looking for ways to support our Wells residents in achieving healthy nutrition that is important to a happy lifestyle.

Please contact us if you or anyone you know could use some help while we all get through this difficult time.

Email us at [mmorey1025@yahoo.com](mailto:mmorey1025@yahoo.com) or call 802-884-5431.

**Hours: Every Wednesday 4-5pm**  
***Open by appointment, for emergencies or deliveries.***

Visit us on Facebook (Our Neighbors' Table)

As a 501c3 our financials are open to public viewing at any time.

*Our Neighbors' Table is a network partner of*



## **COMMUNITY AGENCY REPORTS**

### **Rutland County Vermont Adult Learning Annual Report Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022**

Vermont Adult Learning (VAL), is a non-profit, seven-county organization providing individuals 16 years of age and older confidential education and literacy services with no cost to students. We provide basic instruction in reading, writing, math and technology. Vermont residents can access our services and earn a high school diploma from their town of residence, or a GED. We also offer citizenship classes for individuals wishing to become an American citizen as well as instruction in ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages). We are the only official GED testing site in Rutland County.

Our flexible pathways provide students with the opportunity to obtain a high school diploma with many options and resources including dual enrollment at local colleges, technical classes at Stafford Tech, online classes, internships and other creative options.

During this past year, Vermont Adult Learning started EnergyWorks, a workforce training program for jobs in the weatherization, solar panel installation, and heat pump installation fields. Participants partake of technical training, job readiness training and coaching, and job shadowing opportunities. If you like working with your hands and want to get started in a growing field, this could be for you.

Vermont Adult Learning served 1073 students statewide in fiscal year 2022. 144 students were served in our Rutland Center where we provided approximately 5193 hours of education. We provided 374 hours of instructional service to 2 students from Wells, including 1 student between the ages of 16-21.

Classes are five days a week, Monday – Friday, with evening classes available. VAL staff have successfully adapted our classes to an online format following the COVID19 pandemic. This has lessened the transportation barriers many of our students faced but increased the need for technology supports. In response, we have been able to supply our students with Chromebooks so they may remain engaged in their educational pursuits.

We greatly appreciate the continued support of the voters of Wells.

**Contact: Chris Ettori, Regional Director**  
**Email: [cettori@vtadulthoodlearning.org](mailto:cettori@vtadulthoodlearning.org)**  
**Or call 775-0617 ext. 5011**



**Rutland Office: 802-786-5990**  
**Bennington Office: 802-442-5436**  
**Helpline: 1-800-642-5119**

## **Report to the Citizens of Wells**

This report describes the services that the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging (SVCOA) provided to elders in Wells during SVCOA's most recent annual reporting period of 10/1/2021 through 9/30/2022.

### ***Nutrition Support***

The Council helped provide 2,640 meals that were delivered to the homes of 15 elders in your community. This service is often called "Meals on Wheels". In addition, 8 Wells elders came together at a luncheon site in your area to enjoy a nutritious meal and the company of others; 51 meals were provided.

Additionally, SVCOA provided 12.25 hours of one-on-one nutrition support, including nutrition assessments and resource connections and referrals, to 12 residents of Wells.

### ***Case Management Assistance:***

SVCOA case management and outreach staff helped 10 elders in your community for a total of 165.25 hours. Case managers meet with an elder privately in the elder's home or at another agreed upon location and assess the elder's situation. They will work with the elder to identify needs and talk about possible services available to address those needs. If the elder desires, the case manager will link the client to appropriate services, coordinate and monitor services as necessary, and provide information and assistance to caregivers. Case managers also help elders connect with in-home assistance programs, including a program called Choices for Care. This program is especially helpful to frail elders facing long term care placement who still wish to remain at home.

### ***Other Services and Support:***

1) "Senior Helpline" assistance at 1-800-642-5119. Our Senior HelpLine staff provide telephone support to elders and others who need information on available programs and community resources; 2) Medicare and health benefit counseling information and assistance through our State Health Insurance Program; 3) Legal service assistance through the Vermont Senior Citizens Law Project; 4) Information about elder issues and opportunities via various agency articles and publications 5) Nutrition education and counseling services provided by SVCOA's Registered Dietician; 6) Senior Companion support for frail, homebound elders; 7) Outreach services to elders dealing with mental health issues through our Elder Care Clinician. This service is provided in cooperation with Rutland Mental Health; 8) Transportation assistance; 9) Caregiver support, information and respite to family members and others who are providing much needed help to elders in need of assistance; 10) Money Management programs that offer either a volunteer bill payer or representative payee services to elders and younger disabled individuals.



**VERMONT ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED**  
***HELPING ACHIEVE INDEPENDENCE IN A VISUAL WORLD SINCE 1926***

The Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired's 2022 Fiscal Year saw the organization's continued success in adapting to the ever-evolving COVID-19 pandemic.

This is an excellent time for VABVI not only to reflect on changes from the past several years, but also set goals based on an increased number of clients and schools and other public environments being re-opened. As projected in recent years, the aging population of our state promises a continued increase of clientele. We believe that the innovations developed as a result of the pandemic are a demonstration of VABVI's ability to accommodate increased demand in even the least ideal circumstances. Moving forward, it is exciting to imagine the strides we will make in enabling blind and visually impaired Vermonters to be more independent, develop adaptive skills, and improve their quality of life.

**SMART Device Training Program:** The SMART Device Training Program has served a higher number of Vermont seniors each year we've offered it, especially because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to social distancing protocols, technology has become essential for our clients to be able to live independently while remaining social and connected to their communities. Clients who received technology training prior to COVID-19 have reported that the skills learned in this program have been invaluable throughout the pandemic, and clients who sought out our help during the pandemic will continue to use SMART Technology in the future.

**PALS (Peer-Assisted Learning and Support) Group:** PALS Groups, held throughout Vermont, are monthly meetings where members share coping strategies and discuss the practical, social and emotional challenges of vision loss. While PALS groups have been operating remotely via Zoom and telephone over the past two years, arrangements are being made to resume in-person meetings by the end of 2022.

**HAPI (Helping Adolescents Prepare for Independence):** The HAPI program enables Teachers of the Visually Impaired and Certified Vision Rehabilitation Therapists to work one-on-one with students to practice daily living skills.

**IRLE Summer Camp (Intensive Residential Life Experience):** IRLE camp helps VABVI students develop social skills, meet fellow visually impaired peers, learn independent living skills, and improve self-advocacy skills. This year's camp took place in Upstate New York at Six Flags Great Adventure Lodge and nearby attractions such as rail biking and bowling.

In FY22 VABVI served 1,145 clients in the state of Vermont, including 1 adult and 1 student in Wells, and 87 adults and 28 students in Rutland County.

For more information about VABVI's services or volunteer opportunities, please contact Samantha Gougher, Development Associate, at [sgougher@vabvi.org](mailto:sgougher@vabvi.org). Thank you very much for your support!



November 28, 2022

To the Citizens of the Town of Wells,

On behalf of BROC Community Action and the thousands of people with low-income or living in poverty that we serve throughout Rutland and Bennington Counties, we want to express our thanks and gratitude for supporting us over the years on Town Meeting Day. BROC Community Action assists families and individuals in crisis and help provide a sustainable path forward.

Over the past year, BROC Community Action assisted **27** residents of the Town of Wells. Whether they need food at the BROC Community Food Shelf, senior commodities, housing counseling, homelessness assistance, weatherization, heating and utility assistance, forms assistance for benefits such as 3SqVT, budget and credit counseling and resources and referrals; we are here.

People come to us cold, hungry, homeless, jobless or facing major health conditions every day. Your town appropriation helps ease the struggle for nearly 10,000 people who seek assistance from us each year as we meet the basic needs of their families and provide a path forward whenever possible.

***Respectfully, our appropriation request for the upcoming fiscal year remains \$475.00.***

We truly value our collaboration with Wells as we assist those most in need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Thomas L. Donahue, CEO  
[tdonahue@broc.org](mailto:tdonahue@broc.org)

## Local Health Office Annual Report 2022

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

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

**Ensured local preparedness for future emergencies:** We worked with partners like schools, hospitals, and emergency personnel to ensure effective pandemic response and support preparedness to distribute medicine, supplies, and information during public health emergencies. This year, we responded to the emergence of human monkeypox virus by sharing information and providing vaccine to community members. As of November 15, 2022, 12 hMPXV vaccine doses have been administered.

**Stayed attentive to people and communities most underserved:** We provided services and resources to people who are more likely to experience adverse health outcomes due to health inequities. For example, we provided vaccine at schools without access, shelters, meal and food distribution sites, farms, and more.

**Worked to prevent and control the spread of disease:** In collaboration with community partners, since COVID-19 response efforts began, we hosted over 75 COVID-19 vaccination clinics and provided 5,959 COVID-19 doses. Learn more at <https://www.healthvermont.gov/disease-control/covid-19>

**Collaborated with Town Health Officers around environmental health:** To help Vermonters better understand the relationship between their environment and their health, we collaborated with towns and other local partners. Find information about environmental health including lead, cyanobacteria (blue-green algae), food safety, drinking water, climate change, healthy homes, healthy schools, and more at [www.healthvermont.gov/environment](http://www.healthvermont.gov/environment).

**Provided WIC services and resources to families and children:**

Provided WIC nutrition education and support to 1,695 individuals (Federal Fiscal Year 2022) while enabling them to save on groceries so they can have more to spend on other things their family needs. WIC also empowers families with breastfeeding/chestfeeding support and provides referrals to other health and nutrition services. Learn more at [www.healthvermont.gov/wic](http://www.healthvermont.gov/wic).

**Supported student health and youth empowerment:** According to the Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey, only 52% percent of students in Rutland County agree or strongly agree that they "believe they matter to people in their community." Regionally, efforts like mentoring and afterschool enrichment programs help to ensure youth feel valued and included.

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

Learn more about what we do at <https://www.healthvermont.gov/local/Rutland>



[www.greenupvt.org](http://www.greenupvt.org)

## **Green up Day May 6, 2023**

**Green Up Day on May 7, 2022** was a wonderful success thanks to 19,141 volunteers statewide who participated on Green Up Day. The infographic shows that all your hard work to beautify Vermont is crucial and that it makes where we get to live, work, and play, a truly special place. As one of Vermont's favorite unofficial holidays, it is imperative for today and future generations to build pride, awareness, and stewardship for a clean Vermont environment, as well as keep residents civically engaged.

Support from your municipality is essential to our program. Funds help pay for Green Up Day supplies, promotional outreach, and educational resources including activity books, contests for kids, and a \$1,000 scholarship. We are requesting level funding again for Green Up Day 2023.

Green Up Vermont initiatives are year-round for further our impact with waste reduction initiatives, additional clean-up efforts, and educational programs.

Green Up Vermont is a private nonprofit organization that relies on your town's support to execute the tradition of cleaning up our roads and waterways, while promoting civic pride, and community engagement. **Thank you for your support of this crucial program that takes care of all our cities and towns.**

Your donations make a huge impact and can be made on Line 23 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form or anytime online at **[www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org)**.

Visit our website, like us on Facebook (@greenupvermont), and follow us on Instagram (greenupvermont).  
**[greenup@greenupvermont.org](mailto:greenup@greenupvermont.org)** (802)-522-7245



ANNUAL REPORT TO  
The Town of Wells

2022

The Rutland County Humane Society is dedicated to advocating for and working towards a responsible and humane community. We provide shelter and adoption opportunities for pets that are homeless and promote animal welfare through community programs that benefit both animals and people.

We also serve our community by providing information and referral services to people dealing with animal issues.

The RCHS shelter is the largest program of the agency, taking in more than 1,000 animals in 2021.

Our agency is funded through fees for service, town funding, membership, donations and special events. No funding comes from the state or federal government or national organizations. We sincerely thank those who support our operations. We can only save lives with your help.

The Rutland County Humane Society took in 7 animals from the Town of Wells from November 1, 2021 through October 31, 2022.

Please call us at 802-483-9171 or visit our website at [RCHSVT.org](http://RCHSVT.org) if you would like more information about the Rutland County Humane Society.

**RCHS is dedicated to advocating for and working towards a responsible and humane community. We provide shelter and adoption opportunities for pets that are homeless and promote animal welfare through community programs that benefit both animals and people.**



In the year 2022, 28 towns in Rutland County supported the work of Rutland Mental Health Services through town giving. Our agency is committed to providing quality services regardless of an individual's ability to pay. The generous support of towns such as the Town of Wells assures that quality services are available for their families, friends and neighbors. Services provided to town residents include:

- Individual Counseling for Children, Adults and Families
- Substance Abuse Treatment Services
- Emergency/Crisis Services
- Developmental Disability Services

During fiscal year 2022, Rutland Mental Health Services provided 313 hours of services to 17 Wells residents. We value our partnership with the Town of Wells in providing these much-needed services and thank you for your continued support.

**Dick Courcelle**

Chief Executive Officer

Rutland Mental Health Services, Inc

# VNA & HOSPICE

of the Southwest Region  
Serving Bennington and Rutland Counties

## **Town of Wells**

To the Officers and Citizens of Wells:

In 2021, the VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region provided Wells residents with exceptional home care, hospice, and community health services. From medically fragile infants with hi-tech needs to seniors who wish to remain independent at home, and those who are facing a terminal illness, we continue to bring medically necessary health care wherever it is needed, regardless of the location of residence, or complexity of health issues.

In the face of shrinking government and state reimbursements and rising healthcare costs, VNAHSR has continued to identify community needs and provide essential cost-effective healthcare services Wells's most vulnerable individuals.

Last year VNAHSR's dedicated staff made more than 116,571 to 3,900 patients. *In the Wells, we provided 2,169 visits to 53 individuals.*

Thank you for your continued support. With your vote of confidence, we will continue to fulfill our promise to your community to enhance the quality of life of all we serve through comprehensive home and community health services.

Sincerely,



Sara C. King, CEO  
VNA & Hospice of the  
Southwest Region



Dan DiBattista, President  
Board of Directors

Main Office: 7 Albert Cree Drive | Rutland, VT 05701  
1.800.244.0568 | [www.vermontvisitingnurses.org](http://www.vermontvisitingnurses.org)  
Locations in Bennington, Dorset and Manchester



Vermont CARES has been providing support services to Vermonters living with HIV/AIDS and their family members for more than thirty years thanks to ongoing support from the Town of Wells. Vermont CARES is poised to lead our state to our goal of zero new HIV infections by the year 2020 because of our solid strategy of care, prevention, and advocacy. Funding from the Town of Wells would allow our staff to provide an array of HIV-related services to reach this ambitious statewide goal.

This year **we are requesting \$200** from the Town of Wells. Residents of Wells at risk of, or living with, HIV are chiefly served from our Rutland office, which is one of our busiest hubs, serving roughly 30-35 community members weekly. This office has expanded services offered in the last year, and we are proud of our community presence in Rutland County, made possible thanks to our ongoing support from the Town of Wells.

**Detail for how we propose to spend such a contribution** is as follows:

A town contribution of \$200 would allow Vermont CARES to pay for more than 10 hours of staff time (10.66 hours at roughly \$18.72 per hour), providing services including HIV testing, risk reduction counseling, and, for Wells residents who know they have HIV, resources such as housing support, HIV medication payment support, transportation to medical appointments, and related wrap-around services.



The Poultney Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District (PMNRCD) is a non-profit organization with a mission to develop programs to facilitate the conservation of healthy soil and clean water. PMNRCD has been providing environmental support, education, and outreach to the 14 towns in the district watersheds for over 80 years. In addition to a five-member board, five employees staff the District: District Manager, Hilary Solomon; Agricultural Outreach Specialist, Jennifer Alexander; Native Plant Nursery Manager and Program Coordinator, Sadie Brown; Agricultural Outreach Specialist, Rachael Burt; and Program Assistant, Averie Noble.

**Stormwater Management** The District is currently working with several towns on implementing 'green stormwater' projects. We worked this past season in Castleton, Poultney, Fair Haven and Wells to design and/or implement stormwater projects with grant funds, and are planning on continuing this work in other local towns. We finished work on a Stormwater Master Plan for the Poultney River Watershed which identified stormwater runoff issues and proposed high priority mitigation projects. This past year, we worked with homeowners around lakes in the watershed and installed many small shoreline plantings through our Lake Education and Action Program (LEAP). In addition to implementing buffer plantings and small stormwater treatment practices, we completed Lake Wise Assessments along Lake Bomoseen and Lake St. Catherine, resulting in 105 recommendations for homeowners to implement lake friendly practices in their yards. We plan to continue both programs with shoreline homeowners in the coming year.

**Clean Water Service Provider** The Poultney Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District and the Rutland Regional Planning Commission have been named as the South Lake and Southern Lake Champlain Direct Clean Water Service Provider and are working with many partners around the state to create the new watershed-wide project funding mechanism. This new process aims to keep decision-making local and aims to be a very open and inclusive process. The process will include open meetings and valuable input from local and regional experts, as well as local groups interested in focusing on water quality.

**Agricultural Programs** The District assists farmers who apply manure and fertilizer to their fields through farm-specific, nutrient management plans via a statewide partnership program. The District provides agronomic and water quality guidance to local farms, writes grants to implement water quality improvement projects on farms, and provides rental of a no-till seed planter and soil aerator, which help to improve soil health.

**Champlain Valley Native Plant Restoration Nursery** PMNRCD collaborates with Poultney's Champlain Valley Nursery and area residents to make improvements to water quality. Many restoration plantings (over 4,000 seedlings) were completed in the District to create habitat and to control erosion. The Nursery also serves as an educational center, providing field trip opportunities for elementary students and internships for high school and college students. Plants are available to local landowners through our tree sale or on-site. Visit our website for more information.

*The Poultney-Mettowee watershed consists of all the lands that drain to the Poultney or Mettowee Rivers and their tributaries.*

## THE VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING #03-0271000

For over 43 years, The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) has been teaching people with disabilities and the Deaf how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. VCIL employees (85% of whom have a disability) conduct public education, outreach, individual advocacy and systems change advocacy to help promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities into community life.

In FY'22 (10/2021-9/2022) VCIL responded to thousands of requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information, referral and assistance and program services for individuals living with a disability. VCIL Peer Advocate Counselors (PACs) provided one-on-one peer counseling to 158 individuals to help increase their independent living skills and 6 peers were served by the AgrAbility program. VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) assisted 172 households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; 80 of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) provided 91 individuals with information on assistive technology; 39 of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. 454 individuals had meals delivered through our Meals on Wheels (MOW) program for individuals with disabilities under the age of 60. Our Vermont Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (VTEDP) served 29 people and provided 16 peers with adaptive telecommunications enabling low-income Deaf, Deaf-blind, Hard of Hearing and individuals with disabilities to communicate by telephone. Due to the pandemic VCIL was able to start a new (temporary) program, Resilience and Independence in a State of Emergency (RISE) which served over 600 people in the 2 years it was funded. The Rise Program helped provide an array of items or services if the needs were directly related to the Covid-19 epidemic.

VCIL's central office is located in downtown Montpelier and we have five branch offices in Bennington, Chittenden, Franklin, Rutland and Windham Counties. Our PACs and services are available to people with disabilities throughout Vermont.

During FY'22, 2 residents of Wells received services from the following programs:

- RISE Fund  
(\$2,500.00 spent on pandemic related needs)
- Information Referral and Assistance (I,R&A)



NewStory  
CENTER  
TURNING THE PAGE ON VIOLENCE

## New Story Center Annual Report 2022

For 43 years NewStory Center has been the single agency in Rutland County supporting survivors of domestic and sexual violence by working to end the cycle of violence through support, education, prevention, and collaboration.

During FY22, NewStory Center served 728 survivors and their children through direct services such as emergency shelter, medical advocacy, legal advocacy, case management, clinical services, support groups, and the 24/7 crisis hotline. Additionally, we provide training and technical assistance to our community partners, including local law enforcement, to ensure a more effective community response to domestic and sexual violence.

The Board and Staff of NewStory Center thank the voters of Wells for their support of our agency. Your generosity allows us to, not only provide survivors with necessities and ongoing advocacy, but also affords us the ability to grow and expand our services to better serve your community.

**NewStory Center is** requesting the sum of \$150, to be voted on at the town meeting in March 2023, to support victims in Rutland County. We are very thankful for the help that the people of Wells have given us in the past, and would be very grateful for your continued support of our mission. We provided services for at least **3 residents of Wells** this past year. As our services are confidential, in some cases we might not be informed as to where our clients live.

NewStory Center, Inc  
P.O. Box 313, Rutland, VT 05702 / [www.nscvt.org](http://www.nscvt.org)  
Crisis: (802) 775-3232 / Office: (802) 775-6788 / Fax: (802) 747-0470



Rutland County Parent Child Center, Inc  
61 Pleasant Street, Rutland, Vermont 05701-5009  
Phone: 802-775-9711 Fax: 802-775-5473

## **2022-2023 Annual Report**

To all whom it may concern;

The Rutland County Parent Child Center is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to removing the barriers that perpetuate poverty for children and families throughout Rutland County. RCPCC provides many services to the community, including: two Early Childhood Education Centers (ECE), Early Developmental Assessments and Interventions (CIS), educational opportunities and enrichment for at-risk youth (Learning Together and Sevens Club), family navigation services (Parenting Classes, Playgroups, etc.), and food security support (Food Pantry). All services are provided at no cost or with substantial financial assistance for working families. Overall, we have served over 800 parents/caregivers, and over 1200 children in Rutland County in 2022. We are expecting the need to only grow in 2023.

As is true everywhere, the COVID-19 pandemic has continued to heighten the needs of families in Rutland County, and we will continue to increase our capacity and scope of services. Our food pantry continues to be one of the largest in the state, by volume and clients served. Additionally, we are set to break-ground on our long-dreamt project at One PCC Place. This is a 6,000 sq. ft. 2Gen Campus on Chaplin Avenue in Rutland City where we will deliver quality whole-family programming in newly renovated space. With all the reverence RCPCC is requesting a continuance of last year's total of \$300.

Thank you so much for your continued support, and furthering the assistance that we strive to achieve within the entirety of our community.

**Matthew Bravo CFO**

**Pronouns:** [he/him/they/them](#) |

**Phone:** 802.417.9921 | **Email:** [matt.bravo@rcpcc.org](mailto:matt.bravo@rcpcc.org)



110 Marble Street, West Rutland, VT 05777  
(802)438-2303 / [nwwvt.org](http://nwwvt.org) /  
[info@nwwvt.org](mailto:info@nwwvt.org)

On behalf of our board of directors, staff and customers at NeighborWorks of Western Vermont, we want to sincerely thank you for your continued support! My name is Heather Starzynski, the executive director at NWWVT.

While it was once again a challenging year for so many, we are pleased to report that with continued generous funding from our incredible partners, the state of Vermont, and Wells, we were once again able to assist many Vermonters with affordable housing services including homebuyer education and counseling, down payment assistance, home repair and energy loans and grants, home energy audits and energy efficiency projects, and housing improvement assistance to landlords. Below is a summary of the specific services we were able to provide throughout our service area.

In the last fiscal year (January- December 2021), our services comprised of:

- 302 Low-cost, Comprehensive HEAT Squad Energy Audits and 92 Home Energy Improvement Projects were completed for which homeowners received a rebate from Efficiency Vermont.
- 25 Energy Loans, totaling \$460,477, were made to help homeowners make energy improvements to their home.
- 34 Down Payment Assistance Loans totaling\$ 1,011,010 were made to assist homebuyers make it over the 20% down payment barrier.
- 26 Home Repair Loans totaling\$ 138,931 were made to homeowners to make health and safety upgrades.
- 1 first mortgage loan in partnership with Habitat for Humanity was made in the amount of \$149,900 to a first- time home buyer.
- 126 families attended Homebuyer Education and of those, and of those 32 became homeowners.
- 218 households participated in homeownership or financial coaching.

Again, thank you for your support as we wouldn't otherwise be able to provide these services.

Sincerely

Heather Starzynski, Executive Director



Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force  
Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD)  
170 Lower Sumner Hill Road, Sumner, ME 04292  
(802) 828-4582 | dryhydrantguy@yahoo.com | www.vacd.org

On behalf of the Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force, I am writing to request your support for the Vermont Rural Fire Protection (RFP) Program, formerly called the Dry Hydrant Grant Program. The RFP program helps Vermont communities protect lives, property, and natural resources by enhancing fire suppression resources. Program Manager and Engineering Technician Troy Dare helps local fire departments identify appropriate sites for dry hydrants and other rural water supply systems, designs installations, and finds financial resources to support the costs of construction. During the **25+ years** of the program, almost **1200 grants** totaling over **\$2.6 million** have been provided to Vermont towns for the installation of new rural fire protection systems, as well as for replacements and repairs.

The Rural Fire Protection Program is managed by the Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD). VACD is the membership association of Vermont's fourteen Natural Resources Conservations Districts, whose mission is to work with landowners and communities to protect natural resources and support the working landscape throughout the state.

We have made several adjustments to the Rural Fire Protection Grant Program in recent years, including changing the name from Dry Hydrant Grant Program to Rural Fire Protection Program to better reflect the diverse range of projects we support. We have increased the maximum grant award amount from \$5,000 to \$10,000 per project. New rural fire protection systems, along with repair, replacement, relocation, and upgrades of existing systems, and drafting site development, are eligible for grant funding on an ongoing basis. And we now consider applications from Vermont towns and fire departments on a revolving basis throughout the year rather than just once a year. The annual expense of the Rural Fire Protection Program in FY 2022 was **\$285,901**, of which **\$165,422** was paid in grants to support the construction and repair of **27 rural fire protection projects** throughout Vermont. The remaining budget covered site assessments, project design and program oversight. Most of our funding comes from the Division of Fire Safety of the Vermont Department of Public Safety, through annual appropriations by the Vermont Legislature. In addition, the program receives support from the US Forest Service through the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation. Unfortunately, these grants do not completely cover the costs of the program. Therefore, we are respectfully requesting that you include a \$100 appropriation in your town budget to support the Rural Fire Protection Program. In FY 2022, we received over **\$9,000** in town appropriations from **over 90 towns**. We are deeply grateful for your ongoing support.

**216** Vermont communities have benefitted from the Rural Fire Protection program. Our goal is to extend this support to all Vermont towns and continue to assist local fire departments in reducing the risk of injury, loss of life, and damage to property and natural resources, thereby improving the safety and welfare of Vermont communities.



## Child First Advocacy Center

Dear Citizens of Wells,

The Child First Advocacy Center (CFAC) serves as a central agency through which reports of suspected child abuse can be channeled for investigation and victim recovery. CFAC was established in 1995 and became a fully Accredited Member of the *National Children's Alliance (NCA)* in 2004. We share with NCA the passion to minimize the traumatic effect of child abuse upon the children and families of our community. CFAC is a non-profit organization serving Rutland County to assist families in the discovery, intervention, treatment and prevention of child sexual abuse, severe physical abuse and children affected by violence. We provide a safe comfortable environment for the forensic quality and child appropriate interviews, training for professionals and collateral referral services for victims and their non-offending family members. Our agency serves families of all socio-economic levels and is committed to providing quality services regardless of the ability to pay.

In calendar year 2022, The Child First Advocacy Center served 160 clients and 155 family members. **We were able provide direct wrap around services and support to four Wells families as they began their recovery from the effects of trauma.** In addition, we continue to provide community awareness and education at no cost, in an effort to provide adults with the ability to recognize, react and respond appropriately to child sexual abuse and increase each school district's ability to complete the legislatively mandated ACT 1 initiative also known as Child Sexual Abuse Awareness training for Educators, Community Members and Student's grades K-12.

The Child First Advocacy Center is requesting funds in the amount of \$800 to continue our efforts in supporting families in your community.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Child First Advocacy Center Multidisciplinary Team, we want to thank you for your continued support and dedication. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need further information.

Sincerely,

Wendy Loomis, Executive Director

802-747-0200 or [wendy.loomis@partner.vermont.gov](mailto:wendy.loomis@partner.vermont.gov)

## TIME TO SPAY AND NEUTER YOUR CATS AND DOGS!

The VT Spay Neuter Incentive Program (VSNIP), under the VT Department of Children & Families, is administered by VT Volunteer Services for Animals Humane Society. **Funded by a \$4.00 fee added to the licensing of dogs, this monetary resource is limited by the number of dogs licensed, which is required by law at six months of age.** By statute, unlicensed dogs can be confiscated. Puppies and kittens can have the first rabies vaccination after 12 weeks of age. If unable to schedule an appointment with a veterinary office for this vaccination, Tractor Supply Stores hold monthly clinics. Call for their schedules. After the vaccination, contact your town clerk and provide proof of the rabies vaccination to license your dog. Rabies IS in Vermont and it IS deadly.

### Licensing a dog:

- 1) Helps identify your dog if lost.
- 2) Provides proof your dog is protected from rabies in the event your dog is bitten by a rabid animal {but still needs immediate medical attention}.
- 3) Protects your animal if they bite another animal {or person – which could result in the quarantine of your dog or possibly euthanized in order to test for rabies if not currently vaccinated}.
- 4) Pays for this necessary program addressing the population situation in VT.

For a VSNIP Application and a List of Participating Offices, send a 10" SASE: Self-Addressed, Stamped Envelope to: VSNIP, PO Box 104, Bridgewater, VT 05034. Note if your request is for a cat, dog or both. Once fully completed, please mail it back. If approved, you will receive a Voucher and instructions. The cost for the surgery to you is only \$27.00, providing there are no complications. Fellow Vermonters pays the balance of your account from funds collected at the time of dog licensing. Please be SURE your cat or dog is completely flea and tick free **before** the visit, or you will be charged for treatment. Pain medication is highly recommended **after** the surgery, but would be your responsibility. It is also wise to buy an "E" collar to avoid having sutures pulled out. These are the right choices!

Animals left UN-neutered are more prone to forms of cancer. Thank veterinarians for their participation in this important program. **These altruistic veterinarians are the backbone of the program!** If your veterinarian is not a participant, please encourage them to join. Several veterinarians have retired, leaving a reduced number of participating offices. VSNIP offices are accepting less reimbursement than what they would usually charge for their services. We NEED them :) Let them know you appreciate the difference they have made in our state over the years when euthanasia was the routine means of animal over-population control. Those days are behind us ~ let's keep it that way!

Sue Skaskiw, Administrator 1-800-HI VSNIP (1-844-448-7647)



## **Rutland County Solid Waste District | Annual Report – Calendar Year 2022**

The Rutland County Solid Waste District offers a variety of solid waste, recycling, waste education, household hazardous waste, composting and administrative support programs for our eighteen member municipalities, residents, and businesses. Some services are also available to non-district communities on a fee for service basis. In addition, the District operates a regional drop-off center and transfer station at 14 Gleason Road in Rutland City. District program, facility and rate and program information and obtaining your required annual permit on our web site, [www.rcswd.com](http://www.rcswd.com). This year, The District has had many new challenges amid COVID-19. Being deemed essential by Governor Scott we remained on the job in full force. Each of our employee raised for the occasion in implementing the guidelines from the CDC, VOSHA, and VBOH. The District also has developed many efficiencies. A new annual permit can be obtained from the convenience of your home or business via [www.rcswd.com/permits](http://www.rcswd.com/permits). Debit and credit cards will all be accepted as an added means of payment accepted at our facilities. A small convenience fee will be charged. The RCSWD did complete the Districts Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP) for the 2020-2025. The State requires that all communities have a current SWIP in place that meets the requirements of the State's Material Management Plan and delineates how solid and hazardous waste will be managed in the District towns for a five-year period. Milestones will need to be reported back as required. The community's involvement in drafting and developing this document was encouraged. The District has worked and will continue to engage local businesses informing them about recycling composting and hazardous waste and the programs that we offer. The District will also be working with local schools on many of these same issues. To this end, RCSWD was awarded a USDA, rural development grant this year. This will assist the District in providing an expanded outreach program to member towns with 2,000 or fewer residents. This will include reaching out to every household and business in these towns. It will include working with town Boards, employees, residents, and businesses. This will include seeking what each town needs to reduce reliance on landfills through waste reduction, reuse, and recycling programs. Pre and post surveys will assist in measuring these efforts. The District was also awarded a grant from the State to assist in replacing our 1997 Ford Box Truck. This truck passed its useful life with a Ford F650 with a 26-foot box to continue our 32 HHW Rover event to member towns.

Another USDA award will assist the District in replacing our red-lined 1980 Kamatsu Excavator with a new Caterpillar 131G Excavator. This will assist in managing program materials at our regional transfer station. Our website has been updated! This is your virtual Solid Waste Administration Office. Appointments, permits, and so much information and detail at your fingertips 24 -hours a day. Please see our 2022 Annual Report Book which covers greater detail and all our programs to include but not limited to: Waste Disposal: During 2022, residents and businesses in our member municipalities disposed of approximately 36,931 tons of municipal solid waste which includes the construction and demolition activity along with a significant amount of bulky waste. Recycling: The District owns a Material Recovery Facility (MRF), recycling center in Rutland City that is leased to Casella Waste Management for their operations. The MRF accepts Zero Sort recycling from transfer stations, commercial haulers and large generators for processing and sale for re-use. The facility currently receives approximately 36,931 tons of recyclables a year from a large geographical area. Since we began tracking material in 2013 the facility has processed over 259,843.27 tons of recyclables. Household Hazardous Waste: Rutland County Solid Waste District operates an extensive Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program for district residents and small business generators. The program operates year-round from the Gleason Road facility by appointment. An additional 32 events are scheduled collections at twelve town transfer stations within eighteen member towns through the spring, summer, and fall. The HHW program collects and safely disposes of dozens of hazardous, flammable, and toxic materials. The RCSWD HHW also collects electronic waste and has collected over 45.95 tons of material. Other Programs: The District also offered waste management education, and reduction programs, construction, demolition waste, clean wood, and composting. The District is continuing with its "Merry Mulch" program in collecting and processing over 1,200 Christmas trees annually. The District also has been working local organizations including the Rutland Master Gardener's Club, 350 Rutland County, the Rutland Dismas House, Rutland Neighborhood Program, and Vermont Southwestern Council on Aging, Rutland Hospital and Women's Network & Shelter and the Rutland County Humane Society and our valued haulers.

Mark S. Shea, District Manager



### **TOWN OF WELLS**

The Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC) is a resource for towns, a platform for ideas and inspires a vision for our future. We balance local desires, best practices, and regional planning for communities that are vibrant today and strong for years to come. The RRPC and Town of Wells continued working together in 2022 on many community development and planning initiatives. Some highlights include:

- Worked with town to review Section 248 applications to Public Utilities Commission for solar electric generation facilities.
- Provided technical assistance to town staff for flood hazard area bylaw administration.
- Assisted the town pursue Village Center Designation.
- Held village traffic safety site visit with Town Selectboard and VTrans to evaluate conditions and potential safety countermeasures.
- Conducted traffic study of West Lake Road.
- Provided technical assistance regarding Electric Vehicle Charging Equipment.
- Worked with the town to ensure goals were met in VDECTactical Basin Plan Report Card for the South Lake Champlain Watershed.
- Worked with the Town to educate it about the upcoming CWSP South Lake Champlain Basin funding for phosphorous reduction projects to be administered by RRPC and Poultney Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District.
- Worked with EMD to update 2022 Local Emergency Management Plan and adopt Rutland Region Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement.
- Worked with Selectboard to appoint Regional Emergency Management Committee voting members for 2022-2023 fiscal year.
- Worked with Road Foreman to complete FY22 Grants in Aid construction projects (8 segments improved), purchase blower through FY22 GIA equipment purchase program, and apply for FY23 GIA construction program funding.
- Worked with Road Foreman on MRGP and erosion inventory training to ensure permit compliance and meet 2022 15% milestone – achieved 15% target!
- Provided GIS and mapping support.

If you feel inspired to participate in local or regional planning, want to be paired with opportunities to grow your community, or just want to learn more, please visit or give us a call—we'd love to hear from you! Because together we grow strong communities!

**The Opera House / 67 Merchants Row / Rutland, Vermont**

P.O. Box 430 / Rutland, Vermont 05701 [RutlandRPC.org](http://RutlandRPC.org)

(802) 775-0871

*Cooperative planning in the region*

## **Rutland County Restorative Justice Center Report**

The Rutland County Court Diversion and Restorative Justice Center (doing business as Rutland County Restorative Justice Center) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit agency (EIN 03-0279824) that is requesting to be included on the Wells town appropriation for \$500, we received \$1000 in FY 22 and are seeking to become an item on your ballot once again. We greatly appreciate the past support of Wells and hope to continue out work in fiscal year 2024.

Our agency strives to make Rutland County a healthier and safer community for all residents. Our mission is to engage community members in responding to the needs of crime victims, the community, and those who violate the law, holding the latter accountable in a manner that promotes responsible and restorative behavior. Our programming is designed for a range of individuals, such as at-risk and truant youth and those with mental health and substance use treatment needs. We focus on fostering accountability, repairing the harm caused by crime, skills development, and connection to treatment and education.

In fiscal year 2022 the RCRJC's seven programs served 331 participants who chose community support and accountability over the traditional criminal justice system. In FY 22 RCRJC helped: 119 people connect with volunteers to address the harm they caused in the community through restorative panels; 29 youth complete the Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument(YASI) to determine risks and need of the youth; 99 adjudicated, at-risk, or truant youth work to improve school/appointment attendance, therapeutic treatment engagement, one-to-one support and community-based visits, case plan and court hearing support, coping skills, time management, and community and family connections; 140 youth gain skills through our five-week social and emotional intelligence (SEI) course; 54 youth aged 16-21 participate and complete the Youth Substance Awareness Safety Program that identifies and educates youth about dangers of substances for which they received varying violations; 33 people seek substance misuse treatment and 55 people work towards reduced fines, violation issues, and reinstatement of their driver's licenses.

Our agency has served Rutland County for decades, and we look forward to continuing to meet the needs of our community members for many more years to come. We sincerely appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

Maggie Ganguly

*Executive Director, Rutland County Restorative Justice Center  
50 Center Street, Rutland, Vermont 05701 / (802) 775-2479  
info@rutlandrestorativejustice.org*



## U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Dear Veteran,

The White River Junction Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center would like to connect with Veterans in Vermont and New Hampshire who have served in the military and who may not be utilizing the full comprehensive VA medical benefits package that is available. We are forever grateful for your service and wish to remind you that you may be eligible for important healthcare benefits and additional services. If you are not enrolled in VA healthcare or if you are enrolled but not currently utilizing services, we encourage you to consider how we may be able to support your healthcare needs and overall well-being!

The VA offers a wide variety of services ranging from assistance for Veterans seeking primary care services to various social support services. We have a robust mental health department offering one-on-one counseling, peer support (Veterans helping Veterans), group sessions, telehealth and more. We are proud to offer designated treatment areas for our women Veterans at the Women's Comprehensive Care Clinic in White River Junction.

The White River Junction VA Medical Center has seven community-based outpatient clinics located in Bennington, Rutland, Brattleboro, Newport and Burlington, Vermont; in New Hampshire we offer services in Keene and Littleton. **If you would like to enroll in VA Healthcare, please call (802) 295-9363 at extension 5118 or 6281.** A single form - VA form 10-10EZ – and a copy of the DD214 is all that you need when applying. If you have any enrollment questions you can also send them directly to our enrollment email address: [VHAWRJVeteranEligibility@va.gov](mailto:VHAWRJVeteranEligibility@va.gov)

The American Legion, Disabled American Veterans and the Veterans of Foreign Wars have full time service officers that are knowledgeable about our programs. These independent organizations serve all Veterans including nonmembers in processing disability and pension claims. They can be reached in White River Junction at:

American Legion	802-296-5166
Disabled American Veterans	802-296-5167
Veterans of Foreign Wars	802-296-5168

Thank you for your service to our nation. On behalf of the White River Junction VA Medical Center team, we look forward to serving you.

Sincerely,

Becky Rhoads, Au.D.  
Associate Medical Center Director

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES  
February 28, 2022  
VIRTUAL MEETING-WELLS TOWN OFFICE

**VOTERS& GUEST PRESENT: 9**

**MODERATOR:** Don Preuss

The meeting was called to order by Town Moderator, Don Preuss at 7:00PM.

Fran Gilman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Representative Sally Achey joined us, she spoke on the redistricting and they want Wells to be split in two. Sally gave an overview of what is happening in the state and what affects us most. Some of the issues are broad band, cell towers.

Don entertained a motion to allow nonvoters to speak Fran Gilman made a motion Don Preuss seconded. Motion passed.

A moment of silence was observed.

Don read the town warning and went through each article one line at a time.

Article 1- No discussion.

Article 2- there were no questions on the reports Fran Made a motion to accept the reports, seconded by Don.

Article 3- Tammy Holcomb asked if we were looking to hire another transfer attendant as the budget was not reduced. Don said we were not actively looking but wanted to keep the option open in case we needed a backup.

Article 4-7 no discussion

Article 8- Jeremy made a presentation on behalf of the Lake St. Catherine Association Article 9- 28 No discussion.

Motion was made to adjourn at 7:28 P.M. by Fran Gilman. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Don Preuss Motion passed.



Don Preuss, Moderator



Nora Sargent, Town Clerk/Treasurer

**OFFICIAL BALLOT**  
**ANNUAL TOWN OF WELLS MEETING BALLOT**  
**WELLS, VERMONT**  
**MARCH 1, 2022**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS**

To vote for a candidate whose name appears on the ballot, fill in the oval to the right of that candidate. To vote for a candidate whose name does not appear on the ballot, write that candidate's name on a "write-in" line provided and fill in the oval in the box to the right of your "write-in" entry.

<p><b>TOWN MODERATOR</b></p> <p>(1 Yr Term) <span style="float: right;">Vote for not more than ONE</span></p> <p><b>DONALD PREUSS</b> <span style="float: right;">121</span></p> <p><span style="float: right;">(Write-in)</span> <span style="float: right;">6</span></p>	<p><b>TOWN TREASURER</b></p> <p>(3 Yr Term) <span style="float: right;">Vote for not more than ONE</span></p> <p><b>NORA REED SARGENT</b> <span style="float: right;">154</span></p> <p><span style="float: right;">(Write-in)</span> <span style="float: right;">0</span></p>	<p><b>PLANNING COMMISSION</b></p> <p>(3 Yr Term) <span style="float: right;">Vote for not more than ONE</span></p> <p><b>CHERYL WOODRUFF</b> <span style="float: right;">149</span></p> <p><span style="float: right;">(Write-in)</span> <span style="float: right;">0</span></p>
<p><b>SELECT BOARD</b></p> <p>(3 Yr Term) <span style="float: right;">Vote for not more than ONE</span></p> <p><b>DONALD PREUSS</b> <span style="float: right;">136</span></p> <p><span style="float: right;">(Write-in)</span> <span style="float: right;">9</span></p>	<p><b>LIBRARY TRUSTEE</b></p> <p>(5 Yr Term) <span style="float: right;">Vote for not more than ONE</span></p> <p><b>MICHELLE BATES</b> <span style="float: right;">140</span></p> <p><span style="float: right;">(Write-in)</span> <span style="float: right;">1</span></p>	<p><b>CONSTABLE</b></p> <p>(2 Yr Term) <span style="float: right;">Vote for not more than ONE</span></p> <p><b>TIMOTHY P. OLIVER SR</b> <span style="float: right;">131</span></p> <p><span style="float: right;">(Write-in)</span> <span style="float: right;">4</span></p>
<p><b>TOWN CLERK</b></p> <p>(3 Yr Term) <span style="float: right;">Vote for not more than ONE</span></p> <p><b>NORA REED SARGENT</b> <span style="float: right;">155</span></p> <p><span style="float: right;">(Write-in)</span> <span style="float: right;">0</span></p>	<p><b>PLANNING COMMISSION</b></p> <p>(3 Yr Term) <span style="float: right;">Vote for not more than ONE</span></p> <p><b>CHERRY HOPSON</b> <span style="float: right;">143</span></p> <p><span style="float: right;">(Write-in)</span> <span style="float: right;">1</span></p>	

TOWN ARTICLES		
<p><b>ARTICLE 3:</b></p> <p>Shall the town vote to appropriate a sum not to exceed \$1,061,818.02 to be used to defray the general expenses of the town and for maintaining highways?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>YES</b> <span style="float: right;">136</span></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>NO</b> <span style="float: right;">25</span></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE 6:</b></p> <p>Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$20,000.00 to the Wells Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. for the purchase of a new fire truck?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>YES</b> <span style="float: right;">139</span></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>NO</b> <span style="float: right;">28</span></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE 9:</b></p> <p>Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$6,000.00 to the Granville Rescue Squad for their services to the Town of Wells?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>YES</b> <span style="float: right;">157</span></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>NO</b> <span style="float: right;">13</span></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 4:</b></p> <p>Shall the town of Wells vote to utilize non-tax revenue to reduce the fiscal year 2022 tax commitment? The amount approximates \$123,980.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>YES</b> <span style="float: right;">143</span></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>NO</b> <span style="float: right;">124</span></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE 7:</b></p> <p>Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$15,000.00 to the Wells Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. to help defray operating and insurance expenses?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>YES</b> <span style="float: right;">148</span></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>NO</b> <span style="float: right;">15</span></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE 10:</b></p> <p>Shall the town vote to appropriate \$2,303.00 to the Rutland Area VNA &amp; Hospice?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>YES</b> <span style="float: right;">141</span></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>NO</b> <span style="float: right;">22</span></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 5:</b></p> <p>Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$20,000.00 to the Lake St. Catherine Conservation Fund, Inc.?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>YES</b> <span style="float: right;">134</span></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>NO</b> <span style="float: right;">49</span></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE 8:</b></p> <p>Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$12,000.00 to the Lake St. Catherine Association?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>YES</b> <span style="float: right;">108</span></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>NO</b> <span style="float: right;">55</span></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE 11:</b></p> <p>Shall the town vote to appropriate \$2,000.00 to Our Neighbors Table?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>YES</b> <span style="float: right;">126</span></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>NO</b> <span style="float: right;">39</span></p>

**VOTE BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT**

# TOWN ARTICLES CONTINUED

<p><b>ARTICLE 12:</b></p> <p>Shall the town vote to appropriate \$1,030.00 to the Rutland Mental Health?</p> <p>YES <u>122</u></p> <p>NO <u>39</u></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE 18:</b></p> <p>Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$475.00 to BROCC-Community Action in Southwestern Vermont?</p> <p>YES <u>122</u></p> <p>NO <u>38</u></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE 24:</b></p> <p>Shall the town vote to appropriate \$150.00 to the Rutland County Humane Society?</p> <p>YES <u>134</u></p> <p>NO <u>28</u></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 13:</b></p> <p>Shall the town vote to appropriate \$1,000.00 to the Rutland County Restorative Justice Center?</p> <p>YES <u>107</u></p> <p>NO <u>52</u></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE 19:</b></p> <p>Shall the town vote to appropriate \$400.00 to the Vermont Adult Learning Center?</p> <p>YES <u>123</u></p> <p>NO <u>39</u></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE 25:</b></p> <p>Shall the town vote to appropriate \$150.00 to New Story Center (formerly Rutland County Women's Network &amp; Shelter, Inc.)?</p> <p>YES <u>127</u></p> <p>NO <u>34</u></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 14:</b></p> <p>Shall the town vote to appropriate \$1,000.00 to the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging?</p> <p>YES <u>126</u></p> <p>NO <u>32</u></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE 20:</b></p> <p>Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$300.00 to Rutland County Parent Child Center?</p> <p>YES <u>120</u></p> <p>NO <u>40</u></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE 26:</b></p> <p>Shall the town vote to appropriate \$100.00 to Green Up Vermont?</p> <p>YES <u>129</u></p> <p>NO <u>39</u></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 15:</b></p> <p>Shall the town vote to appropriate \$800.00 to the Child First Advocacy Center?</p> <p>YES <u>120</u></p> <p>NO <u>47</u></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE 21:</b></p> <p>Shall the town vote to appropriate \$200.00 to Vermont Cares?</p> <p>YES <u>117</u></p> <p>NO <u>47</u></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE 27:</b></p> <p>Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$100.00 to Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force?</p> <p>YES <u>130</u></p> <p>NO <u>32</u></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 16:</b></p> <p>Shall the town vote to appropriate \$500.00 to the VT Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired?</p> <p>YES <u>132</u></p> <p>NO <u>30</u></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE 22:</b></p> <p>Shall the town vote to appropriate \$200.00 to Neighbor Works of Western Vermont?</p> <p>YES <u>112</u></p> <p>NO <u>42</u></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE 28:</b></p> <p>Shall the Town authorize cannabis retailers in town pursuant to 7 V.S.A. §863?</p> <p>YES <u>76</u></p> <p>NO <u>85</u></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 17:</b></p> <p>Shall the town vote to appropriate \$500.00 to the Poultney-Mettowee Natural Resources?</p> <p>YES <u>122</u></p> <p>NO <u>38</u></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE 23:</b></p> <p>Shall the town vote to appropriate \$160.00 to the Vermont Center for Independent Living?</p> <p>YES <u>124</u></p> <p>NO <u>38</u></p>	<p><b>ARTICLE 29:</b></p> <p>Shall the Town authorize retail portions of integrated licensee operations in town pursuant to 7 V.S.A. §863?</p> <p>YES <u>82</u></p> <p>NO <u>72</u></p>

VOTE BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT



**WARNING**  
**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**  
**March 6, 2023 and March 7, 2023**

The legal voters of the Town of Wells, County of Rutland, State of Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at Wells Village School Multi-Purpose Room on Monday, March 6, 2023 at seven o'clock in the evening to transact any business not involving a vote by Australian ballot, and on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at the Wells Town office meeting room at ten o'clock in the morning; on those days to consider and set upon the following propositions:

- \* 1. To elect Town Officers as required by law for the ensuing year.
- \* 2. To receive reports of the Town Officers for the past year.
- \* 3. Shall the Town vote to appropriate a sum not to exceed \$1,124,703.54 to be used to defray the general expenses of the town and for maintaining highways?
- \* 4. Shall the Town vote to utilize non-tax revenue to reduce the fiscal year 2023 tax commitment? The amount approximates \$212,830.00
- \* 5. Shall the town establish a reserve fund to be called the Tax Relief Reserve Fund to be used for off-setting taxes in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2804?
- \* 6. Shall the town appropriate \$100,000 from the general surplus fund to fund the tax relief reserve fund?
- \* 7. Shall the town appropriate \$200,000 from the general surplus fund to fund the highway building reserve fund?
- \* 8. Shall the town establish a reserve fund to be called the Law Enforcement reserve Fund to be used for funding law enforcement in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2804?
- \* 9. Shall the town vote to deposit into the Law enforcement fund any fines and fees collected by law enforcement?
- \* 10. Shall the town vote to eliminate the office of constable pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2651a(d)?
- \* 11. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$20,000.00 to the Lake St. Catherine Conservation Fund, Inc.?
- \* 12. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$20,000.00 to the Wells Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. for the purchase of a new fire truck?
- \* 13. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$15,000.00 to the Wells Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. to help defray operating and insurance expenses?
- \* 14. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$12,000.00 to the Lake St. Catherine Association?
- \* 15. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$8,000.00 to the Granville Rescue Squad for their services to the Town of Wells?
- \* 16. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$2,303.00 to the Rutland Area VNA & Hospice?

- \* 17. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$2,000.00 to Our Neighbors' Table?
- \* 18. Shall the town vote to appropriate \$1,030.00 to the Rutland Mental Health Services, Inc.?
- \* 19. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$500.00 to the Rutland County Restorative Justice Center?
- \* 20. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$1,000.00 to the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging?
- \* 21. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$800.00 to the Child First Advocacy Center?
- \* 22. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$500.00 to the Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired?
- \* 23. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$500.00 to the Poultney-Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District?
- \* 24. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$475.00 to BROCC-Community Action in Southwestern Vermont?
- \* 25. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$400.00 to the Vermont Adult Learning Center?
- \* 26. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$300.00 to the Rutland County Parent Child Center?
- \* 27. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$200.00 to Vermont Cares?
- \* 28. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$160.00 to the Vermont Center for Independent Living?
- \* 29. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$150.00 to the Rutland County Humane Society?
- \* 30. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$150.00 to New Story Center (formerly Rutland County Women's Network & Shelter, Inc.)?
- \* 31. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$100.00 to Green Up Vermont?
- \* 32. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$100.00 to Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force?

- \* 33. To transact any other lawful business to come before the meeting.
- \* Means that these will be on Australian Ballot, March 7, 2023.  
The business part of the meeting will be held on March 6, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Polls for Australian Ballot will be open March 7, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00p.m

Dated Wells, VT this 17 day of January, 2023

  
Don Preuss Chair, Select Board

  
Paul Woodruff Jr.

  
Fran Gilman

A true copy. Attested and duly recorded as required by law.

Attest:   
Nora Sargent, Wells Town Clerk

**WELLS SPRINGS UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT WARNING**  
**Annual School District Meeting March 1, 2023 and March 7, 2023**

The legal voters of the Wells Springs Unified Union School District consisting of the towns of Middletown Springs and Wells, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Wells Village School in said Town or virtually at the following link: [meet.google.com/fcz-yywr-gzp](https://meet.google.com/fcz-yywr-gzp) or join by phone (US)+1 516-387-4878 PIN: 286 911 850# at seven o'clock in the evening on Wednesday, March 1, 2023, to transact any of the following business (Articles 1-6) not involving voting by Australian ballot. All virtual attendees will be considered passive participants that will be allowed to ask questions and comment during the meeting. **Virtual attendees will not be allowed to vote. Only in person attendees will be able to vote.** Upon the conclusion of the business not involving Australian ballot, the meeting is to be adjourned and reconvened in the respective polling places hereinafter named on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 from 7:00a.m. until 7:00p.m. in Middletown Springs and from 10:00a.m. until 7:00p.m. in Wells at which time the polls will close, to transact any business involving voting by Australian ballot (Articles 7-9)

**March 1, 2023**

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| Article 1. | To elect a moderator for a term of one (1) year.                                      |
| Article 2. | To elect a clerk for a term of one (1) year.  |
| Article 3. | To elect a treasurer for a term of one (1) year.                                      |
| Article 4. | To hear the reports of the School Board and other District officials and act thereon. |
| Article 5. | To hear a presentation from the School Board on the proposed 2023-2024 budget.        |
| Article 6. | To transact any other lawful business that comes before the meeting.                  |

**March 7, 2023**

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| Article 7. | A. To elect one school director from the Town of Middletown Springs for a term of three (3) years.<br>B. To elect one school director from the Town of Wells for a term of three (3) years.  |
| Article 8. | School Budget: Shall the voters of the Wells Springs Unified Union School District approve the school board to expend <b>\$5,782,862.10</b> which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of <b>\$20,617</b> per equalized pupil which is <b>7.51%</b> more than last year. |

Article 9.                Shall the voters authorize the Board of School Directors to transfer \$125,000.00 of fiscal year 2022 year-end surplus to the District's Capital Improvement Reserve Fund?

Said persons and voters are warned and notified that voter qualifications, registration, absentee voting, and voter procedures shall be in accordance with Chapters 43 and 51 of Title 17 Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Said persons and voters are further warned and notified that pursuant to 17 V.S.A. Section 2680 (h). Article 5 constitutes a Public Hearing on the proposed budget.

### **Polling Places and Times**

**Middletown Springs: Historical Society 7:00A.M. – 7:00P.M.**  
**Wells Town Hall 10:00A.M. – 7:00P.M.**

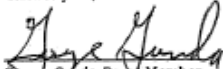
Approved by the Wells Springs Unified Union School District Board of Directors in a public meeting and Dated at Wells, Vermont this 11<sup>th</sup> day of January 2023.

  
Eric Montribrand, Board Chair

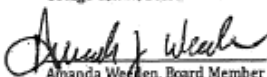
  
Meredith Morgan, Board Vice-Chair

  
Kara Haynes, Board Clerk

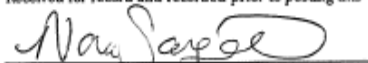
  
Sue Burke, Board Member

  
George Gonda, Board Member

  
Matt Heering, Board Member

  
Amanda Weeden, Board Member

Received for record and recorded prior to posting this

  
Wells Springs Unified Union School District Clerk

NOTES:

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

### MONTHLY MEETINGS

**Select Board** at the Town Office every other Tuesday at 7:00pm

**Planning Commission** at the Village School 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month

**School Board** at rotating locations 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month

**Delaney Committee** at the Town Office 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 7:00pm

### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### **Wells Town Office**

Physical Address: 1064 State Route 30, Wells, VT 05774

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 585, Wells, VT 05774 / [www.wellsvt.com](http://www.wellsvt.com)

#### **Select Board:**

[wellselectman@comcast.net](mailto:wellselectman@comcast.net)

802-645-0486 ext. 12

Don Preuss

802-417-1058

Paul Woodruff Jr.

802-645-0033

Fran Gilman

802-645-9034

#### **Town Clerk/Treasurer:**

Nora Sargent

[wellstownclerk@comcast.net](mailto:wellstownclerk@comcast.net)

802-645-0486

Fax 802-645-0464

**Listers** (Hours by appointment only)

[wellstownclerk@comcast.net](mailto:wellstownclerk@comcast.net)

802-645-0486

**Library** [www.wellslibrary.com](http://www.wellslibrary.com)

802-645-0611

**Wells Village School**

802-645-0386

**Sheriff Department**

802-775-8002

**Fire and/or Rescue**

**911**

**Vermont State Police**

**911**

**Community Resource Helpline**

**211/vermont211.org**

Fire Department (non-emergency)

802-645-0233

Rescue (non-emergency)

518-642-1830

**Suicide Prevention & Mental Health Crisis**

**988**

**Health Officer**, Valerie Vitale, MD

802-645-0486

**Fire Warden**, Todd Fenton

802-645-9522

**Deputy Fire Warden**, Don Preuss

802-417-1058

**Game Warden**, Justin Turner

802-595-8754

Dispatcher

802-442-5421

**Cemetery**, Charlie Holcomb

802-325-3732

**Post Office**

802-645-0822

**Rutland County State Legislators**

**District #1-** Patricia McCoy [pmccoy@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:pmccoy@leg.state.vt.us)

802-236-0115

**District Rutland-Bennington-**Robin Chestnut-Tangerman

[rchestnuttangerman@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:rchestnuttangerman@leg.state.vt.us)

802-282-5535

**TOWN OF WELLS  
PO BOX 585  
WELLS, VT 05774**

**Presorted Standard  
U.S POSTAGE PAID  
Permit #165  
Burlington, VT**