

**Williston, Vermont**  
**2023**  
**Annual Report**  
**July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023**

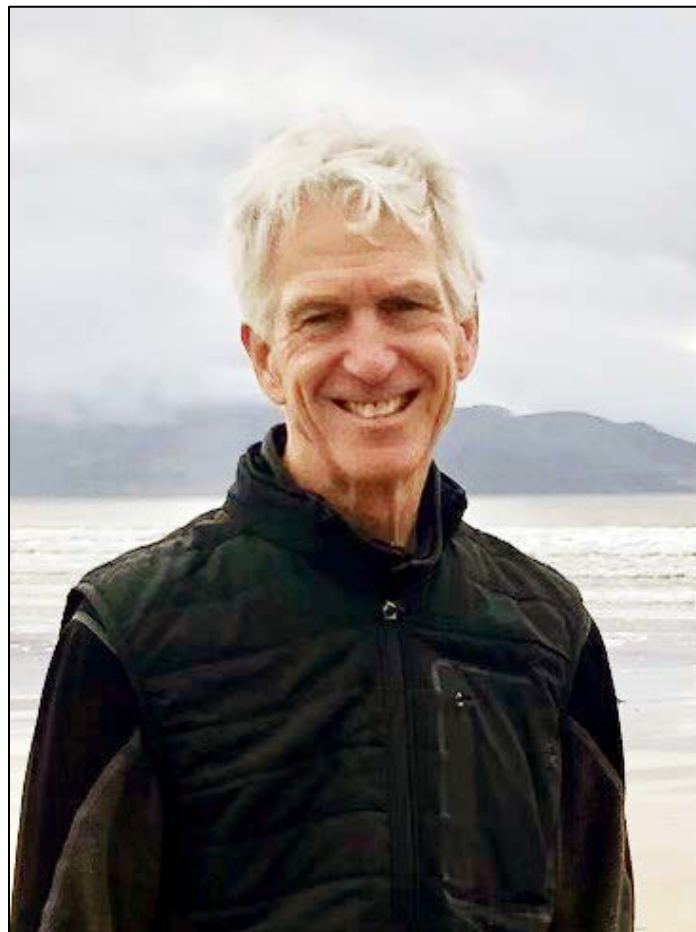


## Annual Report Dedication

This year's annual report is dedicated by the Williston Selectboard to Jeff Fehrs in appreciation for his many years of service to the community as an elected and appointed official.

**Jeff Fehrs** served as a member of the Williston Selectboard from 1998 to 2023. Throughout his remarkable quarter-century tenure, Jeff was a thoughtful steward of the public good. He demonstrated a profound level of care and compassion for the community, the Town staff, and the residents he represented.

Serving on a Selectboard is a role of dedication and genuine appreciation for a community. It comes with its peaks and valleys and a fair share of difficult decisions and positions to take. Jeff consistently provided a pragmatic and analytical voice for the Selectboard during hundreds of public policy decisions he was engaged in over the course of his service. He served the community well, and epitomized professionalism in public service to Williston.



Cover photo: Aerial view of Allen Brook Community Park. Photo courtesy of Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.

# IN MEMORIAM

Nelson Lefebvre  
School Director  
1963-1972

Died: June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022

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Donald Boss  
Parks & Recreation Committee  
1973-1977

Died: June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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Martha Burroughs  
Parks & Recreation Committee  
1987-1988

Died: November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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Leonard Mercia  
Zoning Board  
1966-1969

Died: November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023



## 2023 ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

JULY 1, 2022 – JUNE 30, 2023



ANNUAL MEETING: Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7pm  
Williston Central School Auditorium  
195 Central School Drive

TOWN BUDGET REVIEW IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING  
SCHOOL PRESENTATION TO FOLLOW

AUSTRALIAN BALLOT VOTING: Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024. 7am-7pm  
At the Williston Armory: 7846 Williston Road  
(Or vote early)



The online voter registration page can be found at [www.olvr.vermont.gov](http://www.olvr.vermont.gov)  
and the My Voter Page login can be found at [www.mvp.vermont.gov](http://www.mvp.vermont.gov)



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## GENERAL INFORMATION



Date of Incorporation	June 7, 1763
Total Area	30.4 Square Miles
County	Chittenden
Population	10,103 (U.S. Census 2020 Estimate)
Housing Units	4,690 (Approximate 2023 Grand List)
Registered Voters	8,529

### Williston Representatives to the Vermont Legislature

Erin Brady	Chittenden-2	<a href="mailto:ebrady@leg.state.vt.us">ebrady@leg.state.vt.us</a>
Angela Arsenault	Chittenden-2	<a href="mailto:aarsenault@leg.state.vt.us">aarsenault@leg.state.vt.us</a>
Noah Hyman	Chittenden-8	<a href="mailto:nhyman@leg.state.vt.us">nhyman@leg.state.vt.us</a>

### Vermont Senators Representing Chittenden Southeast

Virginia “Ginny” Lyons	<a href="mailto:vlyons@leg.state.vt.us">vlyons@leg.state.vt.us</a>
Thomas Chittenden	<a href="mailto:tchittenden@leg.state.vt.us">tchittenden@leg.state.vt.us</a>
Kesha Ram Hinsdale	<a href="mailto:kramhinsdale@leg.state.vt.us">kramhinsdale@leg.state.vt.us</a>

### How to Receive Information from the Town

There are many ways to receive information and connect with the Town.

- Town of Williston website: [www.town.williston.vt.us](http://www.town.williston.vt.us)
- On Facebook the Town, Police, Fire, Rec, Planning Departments have pages to “like”
- On Twitter
  - @TownWillistonVT (Town), @willistonpdvt (Police), @WillistonFDPIO (Fire)
- On YouTube (follow the link on the Town website homepage)
  - Find the latest episode of the Town’s TV Show “What’s Up Williston” and watch Selectboard and Development Review Board meetings
- Email Newsletter on the Town website under the “online forms” menu

## MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

### CATAMOUNT COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday                      5:30 p.m.                      Town Hall Annex

### CONSERVATION COMMISSION

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday    7:00 a.m.                      Town Hall Annex

### DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday              7:00 p.m.                      Town Hall Meeting Room

### DOROTHY ALLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY TRUSTEES

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday                      7:00 p.m.                      Dorothy Alling Memorial Library

### ENERGY COMMITTEE

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday    6:30 p.m.                      Town Hall Annex

### HISTORIC AND ARCHITECTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday              5:30 p.m.                      Town Hall Annex

### LAKE IROQUOIS RECREATION DISTRICT

1<sup>ST</sup> Tuesday                      4:30 p.m.                      Town Hall Annex

### PLANNING COMMISSION

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday              7:00 p.m.                      Town Hall Annex

### RECREATION & PARKS COMMITTEE

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday                      7:00 a.m.                      Town Hall Annex

### SELECTBOARD

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday              7:00 p.m.                      Town Hall Meeting Room

### CHAMPLAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CVSD) BOARD MEETINGS

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday                      6:00 p.m.                      See Meeting Agendas

### TOWN DEPARTMENT BUSINESS HOURS

Monday – Friday    8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Town Manager    Town Treasurer    Town Clerk**  
**Planning/Zoning    Recreation & Parks    Public Works**

**LISTERS:**              Monday - Friday                      9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**LIBRARY:**              Monday & Wednesday              10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
                                  Tuesday, Thursday & Friday              10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
                                  Saturday                      10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



## TOWN OF WILLISTON DIRECTORY OF SERVICES

### TOWN DEPARTMENTS

Town Manager	802-876-1168
Finance	802-876-1164
Human Resources	802-876-1176
Town Treasurer	802-878-5121
Public Works	802-878-1239
Planning & Zoning	802-878-6704
Recreation & Parks	802-876-1160
Assessor/Listers	802-878-1091
Town Clerk	802-878-5121
Dorothy Alling Mem. Library	802-878-4918
Police Department (non-emergency)	802-878-6611
Fire Department (non-emergency)	802-878-5622
<u>Schools</u> : Williston Central & Allen Brook	802-878-2762
CVU High School	802-482-7100

### **If you have questions regarding...**

### **Call**

### **Telephone**

Animal Control	Police	802-878-6611
Bicycle Registration	Police	802-878-6611
Building Permits/Zoning Compliance	Planning/Zoning	802-878-6704
Burning Permits	Fire Department	802-878-5622
Dog Licenses	Town Clerk	802-878-5121
Elections	Town Clerk	802-878-5121
Landfill/Recycling/Compost	CSWD	802-872-8100
Land Records	Town Clerk	802-878-5121
Marriage Licenses	Town Clerk	802-878-5121
Old Brick Church Rental	Manager's Office	802-876-1176
Passports	Town Clerk	802-878-5121
Policies & Ordinances	Town Manager	802-876-1168
Streets, Sidewalks & Snow	Public Works	802-878-1239
Property Value Assessments	Assessor	802-878-1091
Property Record/Lister Card/Tax maps	Assessor	802-878-1091
Tax Bills, Collections, All Payments	Town Treasurer	802-878-5121
Voter Registration	Town Clerk	802-878-5121
Vital Records (Birth/Death Cert.)	Town Clerk	802-878-5121
Water/Sewer/Stormwater Department		
-Billing	Public Works	802-878-1239
-General	Public Works	802-878-1239
-Weekend/Holidays	Pager	802-350-9702
-Emergency	Police	802-878-6611



## SERVICES AVAILABLE TO SENIOR CITIZENS

Williston provides a variety of services and opportunities for residents 55 and over.

### TRANSPORTATION

**SSTA's** mission is to provide accessible transportation for people who have specialized mobility needs. Call 802-878-1527 at least 24 hours ahead of time to schedule your ride. There is a suggested donation of \$2.50 for each one way trip.

### HOUSING

**Whitney Hill Homestead:** 44-unit, independent-living, mixed income facility, located in the heart of the village. 802-878-0997

**Williston Woods:** 116-unit, owner occupied, mobile home Co-Op, located 2 miles north of the village off North Williston Road. 802-879-4797

**Eagle Crest:** 60-unit, independent-living, mixed income facility, located in Blair Park near Taft Corners. 802-878-0524

**Falcon Manor:** 60-unit independent-living, mixed income facility, located in Blair Park near Taft Corners. 802-878-0524

**Taft Farms Independent Living Center:** 65-unit, independent-living, mixed income facility, located off Route 2 near Taft Corners. 802-879-3333

### SOCIAL

**Green Mountain Passport** available for \$2.00 at the Town Clerk's Office and allows free entry to all Vermont State Parks. Must be 62 or over or a veteran. Apply in person.

**Lake Iroquois Recreation District** offers discount season passes to seniors. Passes are available at the beach. Cash or check only.

**Recreation & Parks Department** offers various exercise and activity programs.

See [www.willistonrec.org](http://www.willistonrec.org) for a list of what programs are being offered.

### EMERGENCY/MEDICAL

**Williston Fire** provides rapid access to emergency medical care – Call **911** in case of emergency

**Agency on Aging** is a resource for information about services available. Operates meal sites throughout the region. Call for a schedule or information. 802-865-0360

**Vermont Center for Independent Living** is a resource for seniors and others in need of some assistance such as equipment, counseling, referrals, living independently. Toll-free and TYY (800) 639-1522.

## LISTING OF TOWN AND SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTED OFFICIALS

*All terms expire in March (elected) or June (appointed), unless noted otherwise*

<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Elected Official</u></b>	<b><u>Term Expires</u></b>
Champlain Water District	Liz Royer	2026
Justice of the Peace	<div> <div> Angela Arsenaault  Ellie Beckett  Charity Clark  Joanna Cole (resigned/moved)  Greta D'Agostino  Joshua Diamond  Debbie Ingram  Ted Kenney </div> <div> Tony Lamb  Ginny Lyons  Terry Macaig  Andy Mikell  Ben Rose  Carter Smith  Gordon St. Hilaire </div> </div>	February 1, 2025
Library Trustees	Diane Downer Karla Karstens Shari Westman Stephen Perkins Brian Goodwin Barbara Mieder Charity Clark	2024 2024 2025 2026 2027 2027 2028
Listers	Lauren Koumjian Harold Cort Linda Levitt	2024 2025 2026
School Director CVSD	Josilyn Adams Brendan McMahon Angela Arsenaault Erin Henderson	2024 2024 2025 2026
Selectboard	Mike Isham Greta D'Agostino Ted Kenney Terry Macaig Jeanne Jensen	2024 2024 2025 2025 2026
Town Clerk	Sarah Mason	2026

## LISTING OF TOWN APPOINTED OFFICIALS

<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Appointed Official</u></b>	<b><u>Term Expires</u></b>
Asst. Town Clerk	Jennifer Munson	2026
	Ginger Morton	2026
Catamount Community Forest Cmte.	Mike Isham	2024
	Reed Parker	2025
	Danielle Doucette (Vice Chair)	2024
	Hans Buehler	2024
	Terry Marron (Chair)	2026
Cemetery Commision	Cameron Clark	2024
	Drew Nelson	2025
	Jack Price	2026
	Shannon Hiltner	2027
	Hazel Winter	2028
Chittenden Solid Waste District	Kelton Bogasky	2025
	Caylin McCamp (alternate)	2025
Clean Water Advisory Committee	Christine Dougherty	2024
	Bruce Hoar (alternate)	2024
Clock Winder	Brian Meisenzahl	Indef
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	Erik Wells	Indef
Conservation Commission	Reed Carr (Vice Chair)	2024
	Eric Howe (Chair)	2025
	Gary Hawley	2025
	David Westman	2026
	Terry Marron	2026
	Kim Coleman	2027
	Laura Meyer	2027
Development Review Board	Jill Spinelli Quong (Alternate)	2024
	John Hemmelgarn (Vice Chair)	2024
	Scott Rieley	2024
	Peter Kelley (Chair)	2025
	Paul Christenson	2025
	Nathan Andrews	2026
	David Turner	2026
Emergency Preparedness Coordinator	Aaron Collette, Fire Chief	Indef
Forest Fire Warden	Aaron Collette, Fire Chief	2027
Green Mountain Transit Board Of Commissioners	Amy Brewer	2026
	Chapin Kaynor (alternate)	2026

## LISTING OF TOWN APPOINTED OFFICIALS

<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Appointed Official</u></b>	<b><u>Term Expires</u></b>
Health Officer	Terry Macaig	
Deputy Health Officer	Ted Kenney	
Historical & Architectural Advisory Committee (HAAC)	Karen Fragnoli-Munn	2023
	Emily Morton (Chair)	2024
	Alex Pintair	2024
	Chelsea Levis	2024
	Brian Forrest	2025
	John Marcotte (Vice Chair)	2025
	Vacant	2026
Lake Iroquois Recreation District	Kim Conant	2024
Old Brick Church Trustees	Bob Pasco	2023
	John Butterfield	2024
	Sara Fitts-Pratt	2025
	Alice Beisiegel	2026
	Marge Butterfield	2027
Planning Commission	Alex Daley	2023
	Catherine LaMar (Vice Chair)	2024
	Shayla Livingston	2024
	Chapin Kaynor	2025
	Jill Pardini	2026
	Meghan Cope (Chair)	2026
	Ellie Beckett	2027
Recreation & Parks Committee	Eric Kelley	2023
	Danielle Doucette (Vice Chair)	2024
	David Cannamela	2024
	Cindy Provost	2025
	Robert Metz (Chair)	2025
	Carolyn Tesini	2025
	Tim Armstrong	2026
Regional Planning Commission	Andy Watts	2024
	Vacant (Alternate)	2024
Regional Planning Commission (TAC)	Bruce Hoar	2024
	Christine Dougherty (Alternate)	2024
Regional Planning Commission (PAC)	Matt Boulanger	2025
	Melinda Scott (Alternate)	2025



## LISTING OF TOWN APPOINTED OFFICIALS

<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Appointed Official</u></b>	<b><u>Term Expires</u></b>
Social Service Organizations Funding Committee	Alice Fothergill	Indef
	Cindy Provost	Indef
	Michelle Desautels	Indef
	James Thornton	Indef
	Michelle Rath	Indef
	Camille George	Indef
	Jessica Schwartz	Indef
Town Manager	Erik Wells	2026
Town Meeting TV Trustee	Helen Morgan Parmett	Indef
Town Treasurer	Mary Gratton	Indef
Tree Warden	Bruce Hoar	2024
Winooski Valley Park Dist. Rep.	F. Reid Willis	2024
Zoning Administrative Officer	Matt Boulanger	Indef

## USER FEES AND PAYMENT DUE DATES

### PROPERTY TAXES

Property Taxes are due in three (3) installments:  
August 15 -- November 15 -- February 15

A 1% interest charge is assessed on the 16<sup>th</sup> of each month for late payments for the first three (3) months and 1.5% after three (3) months.

**\*IMPORTANT:** An additional 1% *penalty* is assessed on any unpaid balances after the final tax installment due date of February 15<sup>th</sup>.

### WATER/SEWER/STORMWATER BILLS

Water/sewer/stormwater bills are due in four (4) installments:  
March 31 -- June 30 -- Sept 30 -- Dec 31

A 10% interest charge is assessed on anything received after the due date.

### Clerk

Certified Copy of a Vital Record	\$10.00
Document Recording (per page)	\$15.00
Mylar Recording	\$25.00
Motor Vehicle Registration Renewal	\$ 3.00
Green Mtn. Passport for Seniors	\$ 2.00
Marriage License	\$80.00
Notary Public Services	No Fee
Passport Processing Fee	\$35.00
Passport Photo	\$15.00
Dog License	
Spayed or Neutered	\$13.00
Not Spayed or Neutered	\$17.00
After April 1 (Fixed)	\$17.00
After April 1 (Not Fixed)	\$23.00

*\*Current Rabies Certificate Required*

### Planning & Zoning

#### Administrative Permits

Simple Administrative Permit	\$30.00
Sign Permit with Master Sign Plan	\$30.00
Sign Permit – Other	\$60.00
Major Administrative Permit <i>minimum</i>	\$30.00
<i>(\$5.00 per \$1000 of construction costs)</i>	
Boundary Line Adjustment	\$100.00
Home Business Permit	\$30.00
Recording of Administrative Permits	\$15.00

#### Administrative Certificates

Certificate of Compliance – Residential	\$150.00
Certificate of Compliance – All Other	\$200.00
Temporary Certificate of Compliance	\$200.00
Zoning Compliance	\$30.00

#### Miscellaneous

Peddler License:	Per Year	\$75.00
	Per Quarter	\$25.00
Temporary Event Permit		\$25.00

### Police

Fingerprinting	\$25.00
VIN Verification	\$5.00

### Lake Iroquois Beach Permit

Lake Iroquois is open to the residents of Williston, Hinesburg, Richmond, and St. George, as well as the public. Season pass or day passes are available for sale at the beach. Cash or check only. Discounted price for Seniors.



**OFFICIAL TOWN  
WARNING  
TOWN OF WILLISTON  
MARCH 4 & 5, 2024**

*Please note the starting time*  
**Town Meeting Activities (March 4, 2024)**  
7:00 PM Official Town Meeting

**Following Official Meeting:**  
- Town Australian Ballot Articles Public  
Information Hearing  
- School Budget Presentation

**The legal voters of the Town of Williston are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Williston Central School Auditorium in Williston, Vermont at 7:00 PM on Monday, March 4, 2024, for the Annual Town Meeting. Following the meeting, the Articles to be voted by Australian ballot will be reviewed during a public information hearing and there will be an opportunity for questions and comments.**

**Article 1:** To elect a Moderator

**Article 2:** Shall the voters authorize that current taxes be paid to the Town Treasurer in three equal installments with due dates of August 15, November 15 and February 15 as authorized by 32 V.S.A. § 4871?

**Article 3:** Shall the voters of the Town of Williston accept the reports of the Town Officials as presented in the Town Report?

**Article 4:** To transact any other business to be brought before said meeting.

**The legal voters of the Town of Williston are hereby warned and notified to meet on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at Vermont Army National Guard Armory located at 7846 Williston Road beginning at 7:00 AM, at which time the polls will open, until 7:00 PM, at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot upon the following articles:**

<b>Article 5:</b>	Shall the voters authorize General Fund Expenditures of \$15,353,518 of which \$8,080,011 shall be raised by taxes, for the year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025?
<b>Article 6:</b>	Shall the voters authorize the construction of an expansion of the Town Hall parking lot by approximately 6,400 square feet and the issuance of general obligation bonds of the Town in an amount not to exceed Seven Hundred Thousand, and 00/100 Dollars (\$700,000.00), subject to reduction by grants in aid and other state and federal funds then available to the Town, to pay the capital costs and related other costs of the project?
<b>Article 7:</b>	Shall the voters authorize the construction and installation of a fire suppression system within the Old Brick Church at an estimated total project cost of Four Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$400,000.00) and the issuance of general obligation bonds of the Town in an amount not to exceed Four Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$400,000.00), subject to reduction by grants in aid and other state and federal funds then available to the Town, to pay the capital costs and related other costs of the project?
<b>Article 8:</b>	Shall the voters elect to the Selectboard one member for a term of two years beginning March, 2024?
<b>Article 9:</b>	Shall the voters elect to the Selectboard one member for a term of three years beginning March, 2024?
<b>Article 10:</b>	Shall the voters elect to the Board of Listers one member for a term of three years beginning March, 2024?

<b>Article 11:</b>	Shall the voters elect to the Board of Listers one member to fill an unexpired term of three years that began March, 2022?
<b>Article 12:</b>	Shall the voters elect to the Library Board of Trustees two members for a term of five years beginning March, 2024?
<b>Article 13:</b>	Shall the voters elect to the Champlain Valley School District Board two directors for a term of three years beginning March, 2024?


**HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE:** There is no deadline to register to vote. You will be able to register to vote on the day of the election. You can register prior by visiting the town clerk's office or going online to [www.olvr.vermont.gov](http://www.olvr.vermont.gov)

**REQUEST EARLY or ABSENTEE BALLOTS:** You or a family member can request early or absentee ballots at any time during the year of the election in person, in writing, by telephone, email, or online at [www.mvp.vermont.gov](http://www.mvp.vermont.gov)

Dated this 23rd day of January 2024  
Williston Selectboard

### Williston Selectboard

  
Terry Macaig

  
Ted Kenney

  
Jeanne Jensen

  
Greta D'Agostino

  
Mike tsham



**WARNING**  
**CHAMPLAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING**  
**MARCH 4, 2024 AND MARCH 5, 2024**

The legal voters of the Champlain Valley School District, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Champlain Valley Union High School Room 160 in the Town of Hinesburg at five o'clock (5:00pm) in the evening on March 4, 2024, to transact any of the following business not involving voting by Australian ballot, and to conduct an informational hearing with respect to Articles of business to be considered by Australian ballot on March 5, 2024.

Virtual Zoom participation details: <https://cvsdvt-org.zoom.us/j/82796942094> Meeting ID: 827 9694 2094  
Passcode: cvsd11. Zoom Meeting phone participation: 1-646-876-9923 Passcode: 049722

ARTICLE I: To elect a moderator, clerk and treasurer.

ARTICLE II: To hear and act upon the reports of the school district officers.

ARTICLE III: Shall the voters of the Champlain Valley School District authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenues for the next fiscal year?

ARTICLE IV: Shall the voters of the Champlain Valley School District authorize the Board of School Directors to provide a mailed notice of availability of the Annual Report to residents in lieu of distributing the Annual Report?

ARTICLE V: To establish the date of the Champlain Valley School District Annual Meeting of Monday, March 3, 2025 at 5pm at CVU High School and recessed and opened back up at Australian ballot voting on Town Meeting Day.

ARTICLE VI: To transact any other business proper to come before the meeting.

**BALLOT QUESTIONS**

The legal voters of the Champlain Valley School District, are hereby notified and warned to meet at their respective polling places on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at seven o'clock in the forenoon (7:00am), at which time the polls will open, and seven o'clock in the afternoon (7:00pm), at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot on the following articles of business:

ARTICLE VII: Shall the voters of the Champlain Valley School District approve the expenditure by the Board of School Directors of the sum of One Hundred Five Million, Eight Hundred One Thousand, One Hundred Eighty Five Dollars (\$105,801,185) which is the amount the Board of School Directors has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024?

ARTICLE VIII: Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Champlain Valley School District in an amount not to exceed Three Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand Dollars (\$395,000), subject to reduction from the application of available state and federal grants-in-aid and reserves, be issued for the purpose of financing the cost of purchasing three (3) school buses, the aggregate cost of such purchases is estimated to cost Three Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand Dollars (\$395,000)?

ARTICLE IX: Shall the voters of the Champlain Valley School District authorize the Board of School Directors to allocate its current fund balance, without effect upon the District tax levy, of Three Million, Two Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand, Five Hundred Forty-Seven Dollars (\$3,275,547) as revenue for future budgets?

ARTICLE X: Shall general obligation bonds or notes of Champlain Valley School District in an amount not to exceed Three Million, Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$3,500,000), subject to reduction from the application of available state and federal grants-in-aid and reserves, be issued for the purpose of financing the cost of making certain public school building improvements, namely (1) Charlotte Central School building mechanical, electrical, paving and energy efficiency upgrades (\$1,450,000), (2) Champlain Valley Union High School grounds and building repairs and replacements (\$50,000), (3) Shelburne Community School building and grounds repairs, electrical and HVAC and upgrades (\$1,900,000), (4) Williston Central School flooring (\$50,000), and (5) Allen Brook School fire alarm system (\$50,000), the aggregate cost of such improvements estimated to be Three Million, Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$3,500,000), **State funds may not be available at the time these projects are otherwise eligible to receive state school construction aid. The District is responsible for all costs incurred in connection with any borrowing done in anticipation of the receipt of school construction aid.**

#### POLLING PLACES

Charlotte	Charlotte Town Hall
Hinesburg	Hinesburg Town Hall
Shelburne	Shelburne Town Center – Gymnasium
Williston	Williston Armory
St. George	St. George Town Hall

Ballots shall be transported and delivered to the Champlain Valley Union High School in the Town of Hinesburg and there commingled and counted by members of the Boards of Civil Authority of several towns under the supervision of the District Clerk of the Champlain Valley School District.

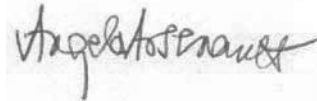
The legal voters of the Champlain Valley School District are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee/early voting relative to said annual meeting shall be as provided in Section 706u of Title 16, and Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Adopted and approved at a duly noticed, called and held meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Champlain Valley School District on January 23, 2024. Received for record and recorded in the records of the Champlain Valley School District on January 23, 2024.

ATTEST:



Lynne T. Jaunich, District Clerk



Angela M. Arsenault, Chairperson

# CHAMPLAIN WATER DISTRICT

## WARNING

The legal voters of the Champlain Water District, residing in the following municipalities: Town of Colchester, City of Winooski, Town of Shelburne, Village of Jericho, City of South Burlington, Town of Williston, Town of Milton, Town of Essex, and City of Essex Junction are hereby notified and warned to meet at the following locations:

- Colchester  
Colchester High School, 131 Laker Lane, Colchester, VT
- Winooski  
Senior Citizens Center, 123 Barlow Street, Winooski, VT
- Shelburne  
Town Center Gymnasium, 5420 Shelburne Road Route 7, Shelburne, VT
- Jericho  
Mount Mansfield Union High School, 211 Brown's Trace Road, Jericho, VT
- South Burlington  
Orchard School, 2 Baldwin Avenue, South Burlington, VT  
F.H. Tuttle Middle School, 500 Dorset Street, South Burlington, VT  
Chamberlin School, 262 White Street, South Burlington, VT  
City Hall Senior Center, 180 Market Street, South Burlington, VT
- Williston  
The Armory, 7846 Williston Road, Williston, VT
- Milton  
Milton Town Office, 43 Bombardier Road, Milton, VT
- Essex Town  
Essex Middle School, 60 Founders Road, Essex, VT
- Essex Junction  
Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl Street, Essex Junction, VT

on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, between the hours of seven o'clock (7:00) in the forenoon (a.m.), at which time the polls will open, and seven o'clock (7:00) in the afternoon (p.m.), at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot upon the following Article of business:

## ARTICLE I

Shall Three Million Two Hundred Thousand dollars (\$3,200,000.00) of unexpended infrastructure bond proceeds authorized at the September 13, 2022, special meeting of the Champlain Water District be expended for the implementation of a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition ("SCADA") upgrade, the cost thereof estimated to be Three Million Two Hundred Thousand dollars (\$3,200,000.00)?

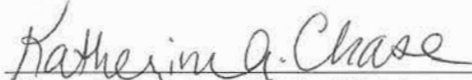
The legal voters of the Champlain Water District are further notified that voter qualification, registration, and absentee voting relative to said special meeting shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

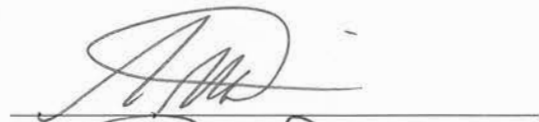
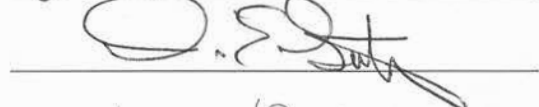
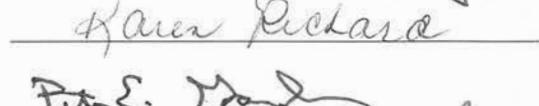
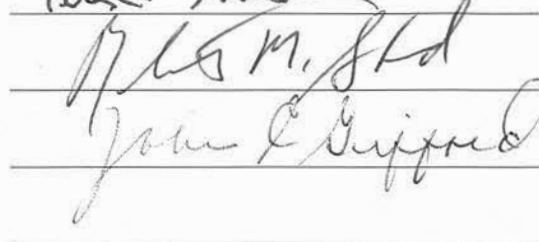
The legal voters of the Champlain Water District are further notified that informational meetings will be held at the following locations, dates, and times for the purpose of explaining the subject proposed water system improvements.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TIME</u>
February 20, 2024	Essex Junction - Lincoln Hall	7:00 p.m.
February 27, 2024	South Burlington - CWD Facility	7:00 p.m.

Adopted and approved at a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Champlain Water district duly called, noticed and held on December 12, 2023. Received for record and recorded in the records of the Champlain Water District on December 13, 2023.

ATTEST:

  
Katherine A. Chase  
Clerk, Champlain Water District

  
  
Karen Richards  
  
Peter E. Moad  
  
John E. Gifford

Board of Commissioners  
Champlain Water District



**LIST OF CANDIDATES FOR TOWN AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS  
TO BE VOTED ON MARCH 5, 2024**

TWO LIBRARY TRUSTEES FOR A TERM OF 5 YEARS:

**DIANE DOWNER**

**KARLA KARSTENS**

ONE LISTER FOR A TERM OF 3 YEARS:

**LAUREN KOUMJIAN**

ONE LISTER FOR AN UNEXPIRED TERM THAT BEGAN MARCH 2022:

ONE SELECTBOARD MEMBER FOR A TERM OF 3 YEARS:

**GRETA D'AGOSTINO**

ONE SELECTBOARD MEMBER FOR A TERM OF 2 YEARS:

**MIKE ISHAM**

TWO CHAMPLAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT DIRECTORS FOR A TERM OF 3 YEARS:

**BRENDAN MCMAHON**

**SARAH SHOWALTER-FEUILLETTE**



**TOWN OF WILLISTON  
PROPOSED BUDGET**

**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR  
JULY 1, 2024 TO JUNE 30, 2025**

**TOWN OF WILLISTON  
OVERVIEW OF TAX RATE FOR FY 2025  
MUNICIPAL TAX RATE ONLY**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
General Government (net of other revenue)	\$ 1,525,287	\$ 1,845,707
Public Works (net of related revenue)	1,790,348	2,132,295
Public Safety (net of related revenue)	5,838,595	6,659,110
Capital Projects & Debt Service	1,628,413	1,537,899
Environmental Reserve Fund	50,000	40,000
Affordable Housing Trust	-	-
Sales Tax Revenue	(3,215,000)	(3,660,000)
Rooms, Meals & Alcohol Tax	<u>(400,000)</u>	<u>(475,000)</u>
Total to be Raised by Taxes	\$ 7,217,643	\$ 8,080,011
Actual/Estimated Grand List	21,467,387	21,487,387
Tax Rate per \$100 Valuation	0.3362	0.3760

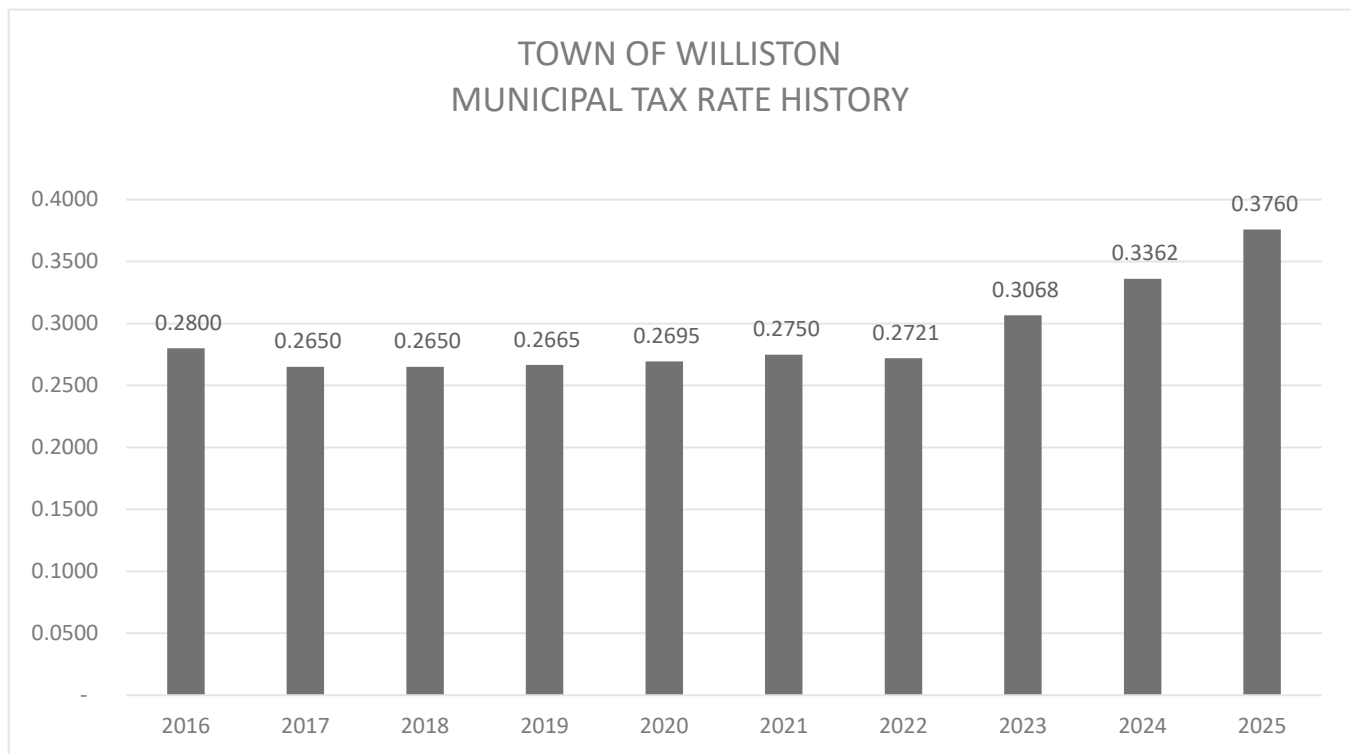
**Note: The municipal tax rate shown for FY 2025 is only an estimate. The actual municipal tax rate will be set in early July.**

**You should receive your tax bills for municipal taxes by July 15, 2024. The first installment for the 2024-2025 property tax is due on August 15, 2024.**

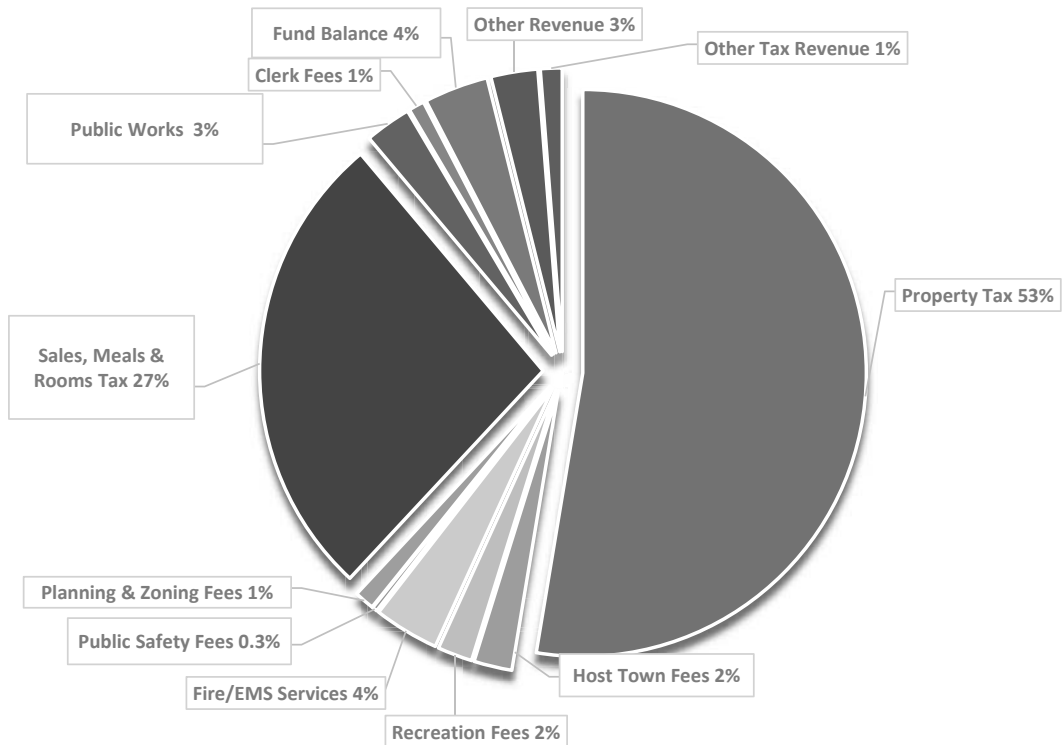
If your house is valued at:	Your Municipal Taxes FY 2024	Your Municipal Taxes FY 2025
\$ 100,000	336.21	376.04
\$ 200,000	672.43	752.07
\$ 300,000	1,008.64	1,128.11
\$ 400,000	1,344.86	1,504.14
\$ 500,000	1,681.07	1,880.18
\$ 600,000	2,017.29	2,256.21

## TOWN OF WILLISTON MUNICIPAL TAX RATE HISTORY

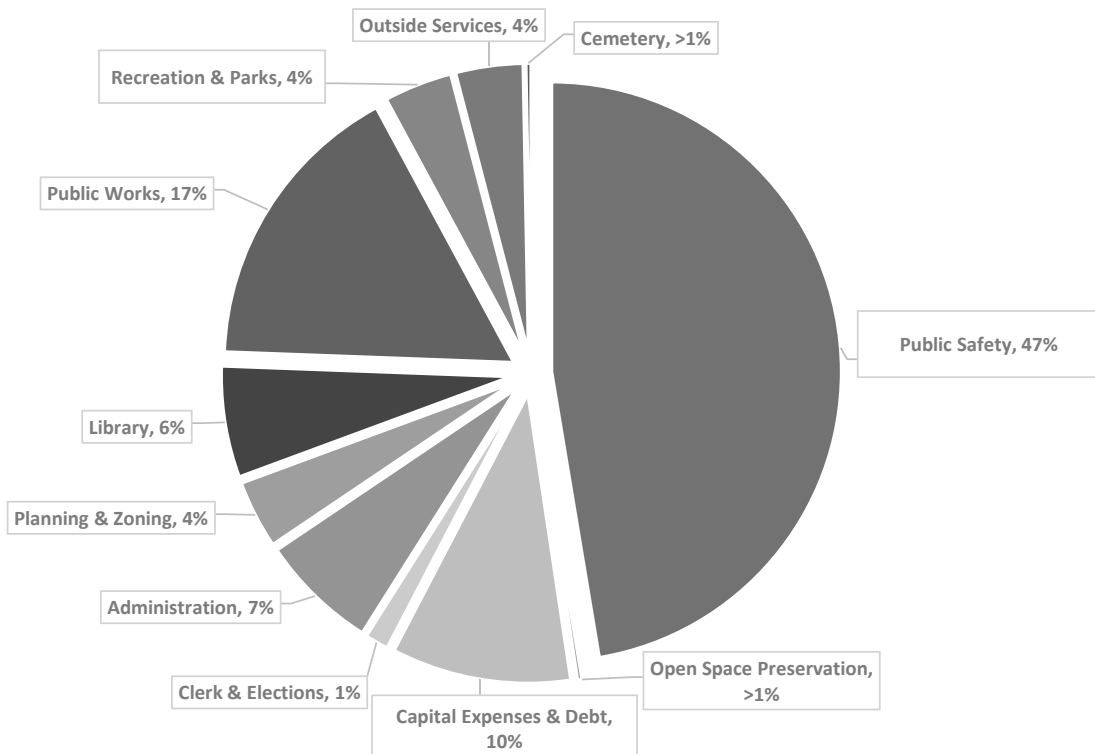
<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Rate Charged</u>	<u>Grand List</u>
2016	\$ 0.2800	\$ 17,116,442
2017	\$ 0.2650	\$ 18,918,528
2018	\$ 0.2650	\$ 19,409,700
2019	\$ 0.2665	\$ 19,769,700
2020	\$ 0.2695	\$ 20,230,900
2021	\$ 0.2750	\$ 20,638,967
2022	\$ 0.2721	\$ 20,615,248
2023	\$ 0.3068	\$ 20,976,882
2024	\$ 0.3362	\$ 21,281,805
2025	\$ 0.3760 Estimated	\$ 21,487,387



### Proposed Operating Revenue FY 2025 Town of Williston Municipal Budget



### Proposed Operating Expense FY 2025 Town of Williston Municipal Budget



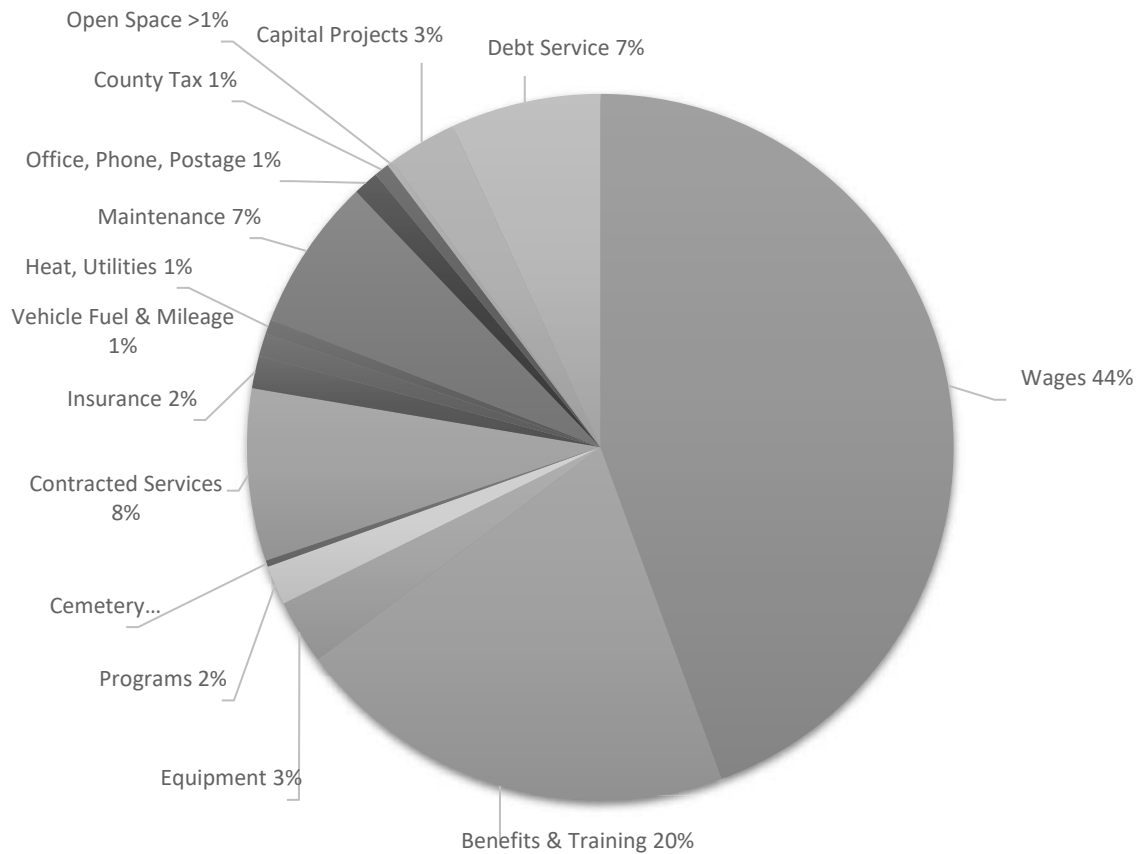
**Town of Williston**  
**FY2025 General Government**  
**Proposed Budget Summary**

<b>Revenues</b>	<b>Budget FY 2025</b>	<b>Approved FY 2024</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
<b>Taxes</b>				
Property Taxes	8,275,011	7,417,643	857,368	11.56%
Local Options tax	4,135,000	3,615,000	520,000	14.38%
	<u>12,410,011</u>	<u>11,032,643</u>	<u>1,377,368</u>	<u>12.48%</u>
<b>User Fees</b>				
Town Clerk	138,500	182,000	(43,500)	-23.90%
Planning & Zoning	175,000	190,000	(15,000)	-7.89%
Police	43,000	38,000	5,000	13.16%
Fire/EMS	571,000	495,500	75,500	15.24%
Recreation & Parks	305,500	275,500	30,000	10.89%
	<u>1,233,000</u>	<u>1,181,000</u>	<u>52,000</u>	<u>4.40%</u>
<b>Other</b>				
Public Works	406,710	391,292	15,418	3.94%
Host Town Fees	335,000	335,000	-	0.00%
Fund Balance-ERF	30,000	-	30,000	100.00%
Fund Balance-Taxes	532,987	548,772	(15,785)	-2.88%
Fund Balance-Capital	-	147,500	(147,500)	-100.00%
Transfer In Impact Fees	45,400	45,370	30	0.07%
ARPA Funding	75,000	125,000	(50,000)	-40.00%
Education Tax Collection Fee	85,000	75,000	10,000	13.33%
Cemetery	10,500	9,825	675	6.87%
Interest and Other Revenue	189,910	86,475	103,435	119.61%
	<u>1,710,507</u>	<u>1,764,234</u>	<u>(53,727)</u>	<u>-3.05%</u>
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<u>15,353,518</u>	<u>13,977,877</u>	<u>1,375,641</u>	<u>9.84%</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Capital Expenses	1,537,899	1,628,413	(90,514)	-5.56%
Finance	483,820	508,960	(25,140)	-4.94%
Fire/Ems	3,766,675	3,331,380	435,295	13.07%
Town Manager's Office	528,099	345,660	182,439	52.78%
Library	954,640	913,595	41,045	4.49%
Open Space Preservation	40,000	50,000	(10,000)	-20.00%
Cemetery	44,925	39,255	5,670	14.44%
Community Services	578,575	546,434	32,141	5.88%
Planning & Zoning	584,665	585,635	(970)	-0.17%
Police	3,506,435	3,040,715	465,720	15.32%
Public Works	2,539,005	2,181,640	357,365	16.38%
Recreation & Parks	585,880	591,670	(5,790)	-0.98%
Town Clerk	202,900	214,520	(11,620)	-5.42%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>15,353,518</u>	<u>13,977,877</u>	<u>1,375,641</u>	<u>9.84%</u>

**Town of Williston**  
**FY 2025 Operating Budget Proposal by Expenditure**

	Proposed FY 2025	Approved FY 2024	Change	% Change
1 Wages	6,820,775	5,962,120	858,655	14.40%
2 Benefits & Training	3,118,570	2,688,495	430,075	16.00%
3 Equipment	454,445	389,510	64,935	16.67%
4 Programs	277,186	245,235	31,951	13.03%
5 Cemetery	44,925	39,255	5,670	14.44%
6 Contracted Services	1,209,253	1,139,844	69,409	6.09%
7 Insurance	228,300	183,315	44,985	24.54%
8 Vehicle Fuel & Mileage	160,820	145,310	15,510	10.67%
9 Heat, Utilities	102,935	97,195	5,740	5.91%
10 Maintenance	1,072,725	1,151,255	(78,530)	-6.82%
11 Office, Phone, Postage	179,905	155,730	24,175	15.52%
17 County Tax	105,780	102,200	3,580	3.50%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>13,775,619</b>	<b>12,299,464</b>	<b>1,476,155</b>	<b>12.00%</b>
12 Open Space	40,000	50,000	(10,000)	-20.00%
13 Capital Projects	485,400	619,603	(134,203)	-21.66%
14 Debt Service	1,052,499	1,008,810	43,689	4.33%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,577,899</b>	<b>1,678,413</b>	<b>(100,514)</b>	<b>-5.99%</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>15,353,518</b>	<b>13,977,877</b>	<b>1,375,641</b>	<b>9.84%</b>

**FY 2025 OPERATING BUDGET PROPOSAL BY  
EXPENDITURE**



Town of Williston  
Proposed Operating Budget FY 2025

	Actual FY 2021	Actual FY 2022	Draft FY 2023	Approved FY 2024	Proposed FY 2025
<b>REVENUE</b>					
<i>Tax Revenue</i>					
Property Taxes - Town, Highway, Capital	5,644,178	5,632,378	6,565,407	7,217,643	8,080,011
Interest on Taxes Due	39,580	44,318	98,997	50,000	40,000
Penalty on Taxes Due	5,144	5,902	6,738	5,000	5,000
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	145,181	152,063	156,183	145,000	150,000
Sales, Rooms, Meals & Alcohol	3,405,704	3,707,789	3,898,958	3,615,000	4,135,000
<b>Subtotal Tax Revenue</b>	<b>9,239,787</b>	<b>9,542,450</b>	<b>10,726,283</b>	<b>11,032,643</b>	<b>12,410,011</b>
Tax Rate	0.2750	0.2721	0.3068	0.3362	0.3760
<b>REVENUE FROM OTHER SOURCES</b>					
<i>Town Clerk Revenue</i>					
Recording Legal Documents	203,825	138,894	91,881	130,000	87,500
Copies of Vital Statistics	1,360	1,952	2,096	2,000	2,000
Issuing Licenses-Muni. Portion	761	843	949	800	800
Passport Revenue	1,300	28,235	37,567	30,000	30,000
Use of Town Copier	12,996	10,686	7,731	9,000	7,500
Vault Time	1,742	1,045	1,197	1,000	1,000
Miscellaneous - Town Clerk	617	160	3,697	-	-
Alcohol Beverage Licenses	3,820	3,895	3,535	3,800	3,800
Dog Licenses & Fees	5,555	5,932	6,244	5,400	5,900
<b>Subtotal Town Clerk Revenue</b>	<b>231,976</b>	<b>191,642</b>	<b>154,897</b>	<b>182,000</b>	<b>138,500</b>
<i>Planning Revenue</i>					
Planning Fees	20,560	55,620	21,760	30,000	25,000
Permits	158,987	179,656	130,982	160,000	150,000
<b>Subtotal Planning Revenue</b>	<b>179,547</b>	<b>235,276</b>	<b>152,742</b>	<b>190,000</b>	<b>175,000</b>
<i>Fire/EMS Revenue</i>					
Ambulance Revenue	382,307	504,344	529,674	490,000	563,500
Fire Fees	3,328	9,822	5,430	3,500	5,500
Program Fees	60	1,425	2,231	2,000	2,000
HHS Stimulus Grant	1,875	-	-	-	-
<b>Subtotal Fire/EMS Revenue</b>	<b>387,570</b>	<b>515,591</b>	<b>537,335</b>	<b>495,500</b>	<b>571,000</b>
<i>Police Revenue</i>					
Police Fees	5,843	12,825	17,066	10,000	10,000
Court Fines	15,780	8,100	15,938	8,000	13,000
False Alarm Fees	10,600	21,615	19,700	20,000	20,000
<b>Subtotal Police Revenue</b>	<b>32,223</b>	<b>42,540</b>	<b>52,704</b>	<b>38,000</b>	<b>43,000</b>
<i>Recreation Revenue</i>					
Day Camps	19,273	125,200	100,399	120,000	120,000
Contracted Camps	13,012	70,033	40,523	50,000	60,000
Recreation Programs	16,347	47,219	60,845	45,000	50,000
Special Events - Recreation Revenue	100	-	-	500	500
R.E.C. Zone Programs	-	-	-	-	15,000
Field Use	10,945	24,055	21,955	20,000	25,000
Contracted Programs	9,945	41,998	29,225	40,000	35,000
<b>Subtotal Recreation Revenue</b>	<b>69,622</b>	<b>308,505</b>	<b>252,947</b>	<b>275,500</b>	<b>305,500</b>
<i>Highway Revenue</i>					
State Aid	212,245	191,069	176,867	165,208	165,210
Consulting Engineers	-	1,500	500	-	-
Rental of Highway Property	88,470	86,730	84,795	82,746	78,840
Miscellaneous - Highway Revenue	61,715	52,354	44,896	14,130	15,580
Quarry Fees	-	-	65,799	24,380	36,500
Stormwater Project Revenue	94,805	100,738	89,691	86,939	95,080
Highway Paving Grants	-	-	156,814	-	-
Right of Way Use Fee	17,787	14,800	14,705	17,889	15,500
FEMA HI Storm Damage	39,846	-	7,969	-	-
<b>Subtotal Highway Revenue</b>	<b>514,868</b>	<b>447,191</b>	<b>642,036</b>	<b>391,292</b>	<b>406,710</b>



Town of Williston  
Proposed Operating Budget FY 2025

	Actual FY 2021	Actual FY 2022	Draft FY 2023	Approved FY 2024	Proposed FY 2025
<i>Cemetery Revenue</i>					
Lot Sales	-	6,500	9,000	6,000	6,000
Memorial Garden Fees	-	-	4,200	2,025	1,800
Cornerstone Fees	-	1,735	2,550	1,800	2,700
<b>Subtotal Cemetery Revenue</b>	-	8,235	15,750	9,825	10,500
<i>Library Revenue</i>					
Miscellaneous - Other Revenue	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500
<b>Subtotal Library Revenue</b>	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500
<i>Interest and Other Revenue</i>					
Interest Earned on Investments	39,472	11,361	115,227	40,000	130,000
Miscellaneous - Other Revenue	1,230	1,480	6,851	9,500	21,410
Host Town Fees	-	291,890	296,056	300,000	300,000
CSWD Compost Fees	-	10,233	8,822	9,000	9,000
CSWD MRF Fees	-	24,898	25,563	26,000	26,000
Temporary Events Fees	-	-	250	1,475	1,000
Building Rental	650	-	3,150	1,000	3,000
Reimbursement for Town Services	26,400	26,400	26,400	30,000	30,000
From Reserves for Tax Reduction	-	-	-	548,772	532,987
From Reserves for ERF	-	-	-	-	30,000
Reserves for Capital Projects (now in capital budget)	-	-	-	40,000	-
Reserves for Capital Equipment (now in capital budget)	-	-	-	107,500	-
ARPA Funding General Operations	-	-	-	125,000	75,000
Transfers In	16,113	45,348	47,885	45,370	45,400
Transfer in - Host Town Fund (Capital)	326,850	-	-	-	-
Education Tax Collection Service Fee	70,259	70,297	72,967	75,000	85,000
<b>Subtotal Interest and Other Revenue</b>	480,974	481,907	603,171	1,358,617	1,288,797
<b>Total Revenue from Other Sources</b>	5,496,889	6,145,459	6,576,958	6,760,234	7,273,507
<b>Property Taxes</b>	5,644,178	5,632,378	6,565,407	7,217,643	8,080,011
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>11,141,067</b>	<b>11,777,837</b>	<b>13,142,365</b>	<b>13,977,877</b>	<b>15,353,518</b>

## EXPENDITURES

### Capital Expenses

#### *Capital Projects*

Capital Projects - Operating Budget	154,400	64,273	35,000	55,300	16,500
Capital Equipment - Operating Budget	94,510	403,200	497,779	564,303	468,900
Capital Equipment - Host Town Funded	326,850	-	-	-	-
Transfer Between Funds	-	329,945	(141,940)	-	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>575,760</b>	<b>797,418</b>	<b>390,839</b>	<b>619,603</b>	<b>485,400</b>

#### *Debt Services*

Library Roof, Principal	20,000	20,000	20,000	-	-
Library Roof, Interest	976	888	(86)	-	-
Muddy Brook Principal	-	-	45,000	45,000	45,000
Muddy Brook Interest	-	13,928	16,468	16,189	15,885
PS Building, Principal	320,000	320,000	320,000	320,000	320,000
PS Building, Interest	68,321	57,829	43,061	28,780	12,395
Fire Engine, 18, Principal	-	-	39,159	39,159	39,159
Fire Engine, 18, Interest	7,390	6,890	6,981	6,189	5,245
Sidewalk Bond, Principal	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000
Sidewalk Bond, Interest	14,003	11,506	7,719	4,138	(475)
Ambulance Debt, Principal (note & bond)	29,514	31,341	31,952	32,850	80,540
Ambulance Debt, Interest (note & bond)	6,486	4,659	4,048	3,155	10,070
PW Facility Principal	240,000	240,000	240,000	232,500	240,000
PW Facility Interest	128,619	121,327	113,283	104,780	88,500
2021 Fire Truck Principal	-	-	70,000	70,000	70,000
2021 Fire Truck Interest	-	33,006	26,424	26,070	25,630
Town Hall Parking Lot Interest	-	-	-	-	7,120
Old Brick Church Interest	-	-	-	-	13,430
	<b>915,309</b>	<b>941,374</b>	<b>1,064,009</b>	<b>1,008,810</b>	<b>1,052,499</b>

#### **TOTAL Capital Expenses**

<b>1,491,069</b>	<b>1,738,792</b>	<b>1,454,848</b>	<b>1,628,413</b>	<b>1,537,899</b>
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### Finance

#### *Board of Listers*

Listers' Salaries	444	447	143	850	350
Assistant Assessor's Salary	30,645	32,469	36,178	36,000	41,900
Clerical Salary	15,200	15,229	18,282	18,445	-
Benefits	3,864	3,966	4,509	4,735	6,850
Mileage	-	-	-	100	200
Professional Services	140	105	1,200	-	1,200
Contracted Assessor	23,547	27,418	28,515	25,600	30,275
Service Contracts	4,724	4,960	5,708	5,000	6,000
Office Supplies	343	347	1,096	600	500
Office Equipment	-	-	-	2,000	3,000
Telephone & Postage	222	213	244	300	300
Tax Maps	-	-	1,000	3,000	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>79,129</b>	<b>85,154</b>	<b>96,875</b>	<b>96,630</b>	<b>90,575</b>

#### *Cash Receipts & Management*

Treasurer Salary	40,919	-	-	-	-
Treasurer Staff Salary	-	-	-	-	-
Benefits	23,331	-	-	-	-
Mileage	-	-	-	-	-
Training & Conferences	70	-	-	-	-
Service Contracts	-	-	-	-	-
Property & Casualty Insurance	4,564	-	-	-	-
Office Supplies	838	-	-	-	-
Office Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
Telephone & Postage	3,042	-	-	-	-
Building Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>72,764</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

Town of Williston  
Proposed Operating Budget FY 2025

	Actual FY 2021	Actual FY 2022	Draft FY 2023	Approved FY 2024	Proposed FY 2025
<b>Finance</b>					
Department Salary	119,862	186,187	216,278	231,200	243,840
Benefits	43,591	73,897	85,274	97,185	95,270
Mileage	-	77	528	650	650
Training & Conferences	60	1,818	1,719	1,930	1,985
Audit Fees	23,836	23,541	29,507	32,400	24,320
Service Contracts	-	1,292	1,397	1,045	2,140
Property & Casualty Insurance	-	924	3,943	3,970	-
Computer Equipment	-	2,601	1,410	-	3,000
Computer Applications	741	985	3,972	5,090	5,930
Tax & Other Fees	-	167	177	-	200
Office Supplies	-	3,369	4,443	3,500	4,150
Office Equipment	-	5,143	2,753	2,000	2,000
Bank Fees	4,972	4,419	1,389	1,000	4,000
Telephone & Postage	-	5,445	5,195	5,760	5,760
Building Maintenance	-	12,483	13,906	26,600	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>193,062</b>	<b>322,348</b>	<b>371,891</b>	<b>412,330</b>	<b>393,245</b>
<b>TOTAL Finance Department</b>	<b>344,955</b>	<b>407,502</b>	<b>468,766</b>	<b>508,960</b>	<b>483,820</b>
<b>General Administration</b>					
<b>General Overhead</b>					
Town Custodial Services	13,244	9,195	9,875	16,465	-
Professional Services	3,250	6,750	1,575	2,500	2,500
Legal Services	39,463	38,154	42,228	37,000	40,000
Service Contracts	-	962	928	540	600
Property & Casualty Insurance	5,394	3,933	7,886	7,935	-
Town Report	1,275	418	604	1,200	1,000
Office Supplies	3,390	1,243	796	1,225	1,030
Telephone & Postage	2,264	1,028	1,318	1,340	1,390
Heat	962	1,061	1,050	1,090	-
Utilities	3,126	3,339	3,250	3,510	-
Building Maintenance	4,054	4,844	4,607	5,535	-
Other Expenses	-	2,029	2,952	2,500	3,500
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>76,422</b>	<b>72,956</b>	<b>77,069</b>	<b>80,840</b>	<b>50,020</b>
<b>Selectboard</b>					
Salaries - Selectboard	5,990	5,755	5,755	6,520	6,760
Benefits - Selectboard	458	440	440	520	560
Professional Services	-	2,360	30,168	-	2,500
Computer Equipment	-	920	485	-	-
Regular Expenses	19,572	18,261	21,328	21,375	21,875
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>26,020</b>	<b>27,736</b>	<b>58,176</b>	<b>28,415</b>	<b>31,695</b>
<b>Technology</b>					
Computer Equipment	2,202	4,572	259	500	500
Computer Applications	43,843	40,804	37,736	45,655	53,104
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>46,045</b>	<b>45,376</b>	<b>37,995</b>	<b>46,155</b>	<b>53,604</b>
<b>Town Manager's Office</b>					
Manager's Salary	86,998	75,243	80,356	81,200	102,790
Manager's Staff Salary	6,085	17,724	33,895	31,375	75,260
Accrued Sick & Vacation	29,662	-	-	-	-
Salary Discretionary	8,600	-	-	27,500	40,500
Benefits	27,388	42,986	42,762	47,175	71,445
Mileage	-	-	91	500	500
Training & Conferences	1,318	3,266	1,323	2,500	4,750
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>160,050</b>	<b>139,219</b>	<b>158,427</b>	<b>190,250</b>	<b>295,245</b>
<b>Human Resources Office</b>					
Salary	-	-	-	-	64,650
Benefits	-	-	-	-	25,885
Training & Conferences	-	-	-	-	2,600
Office Supplies	-	-	-	-	1,000
Telephone & Postage	-	-	-	-	400
Computer Equipment	-	-	-	-	3,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>97,535</b>
<b>TOTAL General Administration</b>	<b>308,537</b>	<b>285,287</b>	<b>331,667</b>	<b>345,660</b>	<b>528,099</b>

Town of Williston  
Proposed Operating Budget FY 2025

	Actual FY 2021	Actual FY 2022	Draft FY 2023	Approved FY 2024	Proposed FY 2025
<b><u>Dorothy Alling Memorial Library</u></b>					
<i>Library Operations</i>					
Department Salary	323,289	455,661	480,152	517,405	539,000
Benefits	92,923	127,267	130,908	172,250	184,640
Training & Conferences	2,317	1,724	2,595	3,070	3,305
Travel & Fees	70	309	385	2,000	2,000
Books	84,920	89,635	88,305	87,000	91,455
Bookmobile	1,001	1,692	2,420	2,080	2,580
Service Contracts	-	1,278	1,327	1,920	2,220
Computer Equipment	-	5,564	7,309	7,500	8,000
Computer Applications	-	4,400	4,168	5,220	5,500
Office Supplies	10,077	8,434	8,643	8,700	8,850
Telephone	1,052	1,446	2,099	1,550	2,220
Postage	2,074	1,509	1,968	2,000	2,200
Small Equipment Purchases	-	2,718	2,325	3,000	3,150
Program Presenters and Materials	-	14,938	16,947	16,500	17,200
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>517,723</b>	<b>716,575</b>	<b>749,551</b>	<b>830,195</b>	<b>872,320</b>
<i>Building Overhead</i>					
Janitorial Services	14,105	11,301	12,110	13,600	14,230
Town Custodial Services, incl. benefits	8,737	3,059	3,172	5,550	-
Heating Fuel	3,258	3,380	3,579	4,630	4,020
Utilities	6,336	7,846	8,985	7,985	9,350
Maintenance & Repairs	13,323	28,874	12,639	14,520	15,060
Land Rental	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Property & Casualty Insurance	13,226	6,226	12,452	12,115	14,660
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>83,985</b>	<b>85,686</b>	<b>77,937</b>	<b>83,400</b>	<b>82,320</b>
<i>Special Programs</i>					
Program Wages	57,292	-	-	-	-
Benefits	14,945	-	-	-	-
Program Presenters and Materials	15,870	-	-	-	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>88,107</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<i>Computer/Reference Services</i>					
IT/Reference Wages	28,646	-	-	-	-
Benefits	11,322	-	-	-	-
System & Equipment Maintenance	17,173	-	-	-	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>57,141</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL Dorothy Alling Memorial Library</b>	<b>746,956</b>	<b>802,261</b>	<b>827,488</b>	<b>913,595</b>	<b>954,640</b>
<b><u>Community Services</u></b>					
<i>Land &amp; Housing Preservation</i>					
Environmental Reserve Fund (ERF)	70,000	70,000	75,000	50,000	40,000
Affordable Housing Trust	20,000	15,000	10,000	-	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>90,000</b>	<b>85,000</b>	<b>85,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>
<i>Health</i>					
Health Officer Stipend	646	834	807	825	850
Visiting Nurse Assoc.	30,760	30,760	30,760	32,500	32,500
Employee Health & Safety Programs	177	1,467	237	1,000	1,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>31,583</b>	<b>33,061</b>	<b>31,804</b>	<b>34,325</b>	<b>34,350</b>
<i>Regional Services</i>					
Chitt.Co. Regional Planning	23,161	23,266	23,333	24,635	25,375
Clock Winding	-	-	807	825	850
Winooski Valley Park Dist.	35,059	37,204	38,689	41,124	42,800
Greater Burlington Inds.Corp.	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
County Tax	91,793	95,139	100,821	102,200	105,780
Vt. League of Cities & Towns	11,933	11,933	12,828	14,500	15,520
WFC Steeple Contribution	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Chittenden County Public Safety Authority	-	34,008	-	-	-
Lake Iroquois Association	15,000	10,000	15,000	10,000	10,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>178,946</b>	<b>214,550</b>	<b>194,478</b>	<b>196,284</b>	<b>203,325</b>

Town of Williston  
Proposed Operating Budget FY 2025

	Actual FY 2021	Actual FY 2022	Draft FY 2023	Approved FY 2024	Proposed FY 2025
<i>Social Services</i>					
Social Service Organizations	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	32,000
Residents Assistance	-	-	-	1,000	1,000
Community Partnerships	-	4,199	4,250	5,950	6,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>34,199</b>	<b>34,250</b>	<b>36,950</b>	<b>39,000</b>
<i>Transportation Services</i>					
GMT Bus Service	198,469	206,122	214,210	224,900	230,800
Elderly & Disabled Transportation	25,500	24,436	27,012	30,975	48,100
GMT ADA Program	9,571	5,156	18,208	23,000	23,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>233,540</b>	<b>235,714</b>	<b>259,430</b>	<b>278,875</b>	<b>301,900</b>
<b>TOTAL Outside Services</b>	<b>564,069</b>	<b>602,524</b>	<b>604,962</b>	<b>596,434</b>	<b>618,575</b>
<b><u>Planning, Zoning and Conservation</u></b>					
<i>Planning &amp; Zoning</i>					
Department Salary	208,462	240,694	300,993	330,390	350,620
Stewardship Coordinator	311	6,234	4,519	6,830	6,900
Benefits	85,819	103,044	126,419	145,540	159,270
Mileage	-	767	941	1,000	1,000
Training & Conferences	3,615	2,069	7,686	4,000	7,500
Subscriptions & Dues	842	1,742	1,540	1,850	1,850
Professional Services	2,127	2,566	86	-	500
Misc. Planning Studies	38,930	18,735	10,770	15,500	15,500
Service Contracts	-	3,193	6,329	4,980	5,700
Property & Casualty Insurance	4,565	2,692	5,396	5,440	-
Advertising	2,466	5,088	3,312	4,400	4,400
Heating Fuel	959	1,237	1,288	1,500	-
Building Utilities	1,932	1,980	2,318	2,205	-
Computer Applications	-	737	710	800	950
Office Supplies	1,256	2,751	1,907	3,000	3,000
Equipment	3,851	5,607	1,661	3,500	3,500
Printing	1,986	212	41	-	-
Telephone & Postage	2,086	1,551	1,932	1,850	2,000
GIS Data Management	1,450	1,550	7,825	6,850	4,825
Building Maintenance	17,243	16,786	15,766	29,300	-
Miscellaneous & Tools	-	111	164	400	400
Trail Planning and Engineering	250	1,780	172	2,000	2,000
Trail Maintenance & Repair	-	8,038	10,694	11,300	11,750
Catamount Community Forest	-	1,846	2,515	3,000	3,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>378,150</b>	<b>431,010</b>	<b>514,984</b>	<b>585,635</b>	<b>584,665</b>
<i>Conservation</i>					
Conservation Salary	22,935	-	-	-	-
Conservation and Trails Intern	1,304	-	-	-	-
Benefits - Conservation	9,672	-	-	-	-
Mileage, Conservation & Trails	128	-	-	-	-
Training, Conferences, Dues	517	-	-	-	-
Office Supplies, Mailings, Ads	218	-	-	-	-
Match for Grants and Studies	-	-	-	-	-
Trail Planning and Engineering	1,811	-	-	-	-
Trail Maintenance & Repair	12,734	-	-	-	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>49,319</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL Planning, Zoning &amp; Conservation</b>	<b>427,469</b>	<b>431,010</b>	<b>514,984</b>	<b>585,635</b>	<b>584,665</b>

Town of Williston  
Proposed Operating Budget FY 2025

	Actual FY 2021	Actual FY 2022	Draft FY 2023	Approved FY 2024	Proposed FY 2025
<b>Fire/EMS</b>					
<i>Administration</i>					
Administration Salary	196,833	233,119	233,318	257,795	293,740
Benefits	91,413	107,998	109,905	116,185	130,695
Subscription & Dues	1,173	1,606	1,155	1,800	1,650
Public Safety Consultant	14,609	14,609	-	-	-
Service Contract	-	1,351	1,399	1,670	2,450
Computer Equipment	-	2,477	11,172	11,350	13,400
Computer Apps/Dev	-	23,486	30,028	28,502	32,345
Office Supplies	21,128	3,121	4,942	3,500	2,500
Office Equipment	17,605	1,261	280	2,040	1,995
Telephone & Postage	8,779	10,483	11,503	9,840	11,340
Recruiting/New Hire	7,078	11,006	9,083	11,550	11,550
Personnel Recognition	417	1,652	858	3,000	3,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>359,035</b>	<b>412,169</b>	<b>413,643</b>	<b>447,232</b>	<b>504,665</b>
<i>Emergency Preparedness</i>					
Emergency Prep Training	-	-	-	2,100	2,100
Emergency Prep Supplies/Ops	934	52	1,592	2,550	2,550
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>934</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>1,592</b>	<b>4,650</b>	<b>4,650</b>
<i>Equipment &amp; Maintenance</i>					
Vehicle Fuel	14,997	34,002	41,286	37,800	43,400
Uniforms	-	8,384	21,784	6,750	17,000
Equipment Maintenance	53,242	69,147	84,005	72,555	80,750
Firefighting Equipment	63,203	34,701	49,838	39,025	36,925
EMS Equipment	16,997	17,829	18,873	22,840	25,840
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>148,439</b>	<b>164,063</b>	<b>215,786</b>	<b>178,970</b>	<b>203,915</b>
<i>Facilities</i>					
Maintenance Wages	765	-	-	-	-
Property & Casualty Insurance	35,429	16,830	35,507	41,985	52,715
Heating Fuel	10,684	13,029	15,355	17,070	15,600
Utilities	16,985	19,607	21,000	20,500	21,900
Station Maintenance	38,956	32,825	39,290	40,075	41,825
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>102,819</b>	<b>82,291</b>	<b>111,152</b>	<b>119,630</b>	<b>132,040</b>
<i>Wages</i>					
On Call Wages	26,635	38,475	14,226	40,000	40,000
Career Wages	851,676	894,757	1,273,401	1,349,035	1,501,295
Career OT Wages	41,617	164,624	226,077	204,645	265,600
Benefits, Career	456,635	444,806	692,740	780,605	879,940
Benefits, On Call	8,171	5,188	4,339	4,835	6,430
Call Life & Disability Insurance	2,554	2,554	2,542	2,600	2,650
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,387,288</b>	<b>1,550,404</b>	<b>2,213,325</b>	<b>2,381,720</b>	<b>2,695,915</b>
<i>Operations</i>					
Ambulance Billing Fees	28,501	34,920	26,480	24,000	25,000
EMS Medical Supplies	22,475	27,566	31,207	31,200	38,005
Communications	6,318	5,739	9,321	7,360	7,360
Fire Prevention	2,705	2,542	803	3,000	2,500
Fire Program Fees	-	535	388	500	500
Ambulance Agency Assessment	10,095	11,106	12,899	16,088	18,500
Dispatch Services	59,503	60,611	60,098	80,505	90,625
Training & Conferences	10,394	28,328	31,263	36,525	43,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>139,991</b>	<b>171,347</b>	<b>172,459</b>	<b>199,178</b>	<b>225,490</b>
<b>TOTAL Fire/EMS</b>	<b>2,138,506</b>	<b>2,380,326</b>	<b>3,127,957</b>	<b>3,331,380</b>	<b>3,766,675</b>

Town of Williston  
Proposed Operating Budget FY 2025

	Actual FY 2021	Actual FY 2022	Draft FY 2023	Approved FY 2024	Proposed FY 2025
<b>Police</b>					
<i>Administration</i>					
Administration Salary	228,802	242,514	270,949	279,825	323,570
Benefits	92,151	86,998	95,602	112,540	129,040
Service Contracts	-	3,378	3,037	1,800	2,100
Office Supplies	10,529	11,746	11,765	12,500	12,500
Telephone & Postage	10,995	13,318	13,191	12,600	15,290
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>342,477</b>	<b>357,954</b>	<b>394,544</b>	<b>419,265</b>	<b>482,500</b>
<i>Building Maintenance</i>					
Inside Office Cleaning	13,704	13,020	12,936	15,250	15,250
Property & Casualty Insurance	61,081	29,895	64,740	70,700	89,500
Heating Fuel	3,593	5,850	5,757	4,400	6,000
Utilities	12,720	16,766	16,579	17,630	17,630
Building Maintenance	-	3,190	25,914	5,550	26,000
Police Building Maintenance	28,460	55,212	3,194	18,500	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>119,558</b>	<b>123,932</b>	<b>129,120</b>	<b>132,030</b>	<b>154,380</b>
<i>Communications</i>					
Dispatch Salary	133,210	164,820	191,299	212,165	214,440
Overtime Dispatch	-	34,217	60,310	46,940	59,650
Benefits	52,977	63,017	89,974	108,495	117,030
Professional Services	-	-	17,200	-	2,500
Computer, Communications	23,849	30,416	34,497	44,810	45,920
Radio Repair	2,808	3,260	1,677	2,750	3,080
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>212,844</b>	<b>295,730</b>	<b>394,957</b>	<b>415,160</b>	<b>442,620</b>
<i>Special Units</i>					
Special Units Salary	-	-	-	134,090	38,030
Special Units Overtime	-	-	-	4,670	8,940
Benefits	-	-	-	68,860	20,135
Investigation Expenses	2,308	4,627	2,428	4,300	5,040
Chitt.Unit for Sp. Investigations	18,008	15,115	15,257	18,000	8,325
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>20,316</b>	<b>19,742</b>	<b>17,685</b>	<b>229,920</b>	<b>80,470</b>
<i>Patrol Services</i>					
Patrol Salary	876,839	901,101	1,078,519	1,007,400	1,270,000
Overtime	150,645	195,645	201,956	131,715	180,000
Benefits	437,131	402,646	496,325	498,690	632,870
Vehicle Expense	22,405	27,494	26,651	25,000	26,400
Vehicle Fuel	27,753	46,216	55,680	47,500	56,860
Mileage	125	-	504	400	400
Training & Conferences	13,600	16,838	17,765	22,560	28,660
Equipment & Uniforms	33,341	26,558	36,069	28,000	65,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,561,839</b>	<b>1,616,498</b>	<b>1,913,469</b>	<b>1,761,265</b>	<b>2,260,190</b>
<i>Special Programs</i>					
Community Support Services	15,855	18,697	20,371	22,725	24,425
Public Service Programs	-	535	3,751	2,000	3,000
Dog Control& Damage	3,600	3,790	3,600	5,350	5,350
Awards Program	104	859	302	900	1,500
Community Justice Center	19,483	28,381	19,988	52,100	52,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>39,042</b>	<b>52,262</b>	<b>48,012</b>	<b>83,075</b>	<b>86,275</b>
<b>TOTAL Police</b>	<b>2,296,076</b>	<b>2,466,119</b>	<b>2,897,787</b>	<b>3,040,715</b>	<b>3,506,435</b>
<b>Public Works</b>					
<i>Buildings &amp; Grounds</i>					
Buildings & Grounds Staff	3,883	3,059	3,174	5,550	153,970
Buildings & Grounds Staff Benefits	-	493	-	435	93,825
Clock Winding	807	807	-	-	-
Property & Casualty Insurance	2,613	2,066	4,188	4,065	30,535
Heating Fuel	1,403	1,937	2,971	2,200	8,780
Utilities	1,570	1,828	1,813	2,000	17,340
Maintenance	6,412	10,008	11,092	14,000	45,050
Cemetery Support	31,150	-	-	-	-
Clock Lease Payment	1,000	-	-	-	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>48,838</b>	<b>20,198</b>	<b>23,238</b>	<b>28,250</b>	<b>349,500</b>

Town of Williston  
Proposed Operating Budget FY 2025

	Actual FY 2021	Actual FY 2022	Draft FY 2023	Approved FY 2024	Proposed FY 2025
<b>Highway General</b>					
Salaries Administration	84,064	82,678	83,223	100,500	106,180
Benefits	27,491	28,239	37,780	41,365	46,080
Service Contracts	-	1,180	1,439	1,560	1,620
Heating Fuel	959	1,213	51	1,450	-
Utilities	1,617	1,980	2,318	2,100	-
Computer Equipment	-	858	583	-	680
Computer Applications	84	408	436	1,320	1,320
Telephone and Postage	-	2,519	3,010	2,780	2,735
Maintenance	18,886	20,444	9,072	30,200	-
Street Lights	36,779	34,637	38,712	37,500	37,500
Small Equipment Purchases	1,092	-	-	1,800	1,800
Stormwater Fees for Roads	128,743	121,530	123,150	134,630	134,630
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>299,715</b>	<b>295,686</b>	<b>299,774</b>	<b>355,205</b>	<b>332,545</b>
<b>Road Maintenance</b>					
Road Maintenance Salary	344,502	348,176	381,811	442,335	459,290
Overtime	25,676	44,830	30,407	51,000	50,000
On Call Wages	-	-	-	17,640	18,000
Benefits	195,382	194,577	211,643	256,485	273,580
Uniforms	6,456	5,781	6,210	6,160	6,160
Vehicle Expense	-	3,119	3,970	3,900	3,900
Training & Conferences	462	3,255	463	3,400	3,400
Consulting Engineers	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment Rental	63,474	64,296	51,568	-	-
Property & Casualty Insurance	24,261	12,436	23,837	27,315	34,780
Garage Operations	20,862	22,709	26,318	23,300	25,050
Gravel & Other Materials	6,820	7,494	8,445	10,000	11,000
Chloride	8,153	4,115	14,781	9,500	10,500
Patch	1,476	2,388	1,709	2,390	2,390
Salt	108,192	111,978	137,799	145,000	145,000
Sand	11,899	11,543	17,732	16,200	19,800
Road Maintenance	14,547	37,450	27,610	51,000	51,000
Equipment Operation & Repair	43,398	59,915	67,209	80,000	80,000
Vehicle Fuel	26,305	52,583	54,025	53,060	53,610
Retreatment	474,988	481,201	579,427	510,000	520,000
Highway Line Striping	22,945	4,287	22,825	15,000	20,000
Sidewalks	3,006	4,009	200	10,000	10,000
Misc. & Tools	1,712	4,211	6,347	8,000	8,000
Street Signs	6,448	4,036	8,563	6,500	6,500
Pedestrian Path Paving	20,000	20,000	4,071	15,000	10,000
Landscaping	23,662	20,107	24,664	35,000	35,000
Emergency Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,454,626</b>	<b>1,524,496</b>	<b>1,711,634</b>	<b>1,798,185</b>	<b>1,856,960</b>
<b>TOTAL Public Works</b>	<b>1,803,179</b>	<b>1,840,381</b>	<b>2,034,646</b>	<b>2,181,640</b>	<b>2,539,005</b>
<b>Cemetery</b>					
<b>Operations</b>					
Professional Services	-	6,676	24,833	29,000	32,000
Insurance	-	172	396	230	300
Telephone & Postage	-	11	10	25	25
Maintenance & Repairs	-	12,379	7,122	5,000	7,000
Cornerstone Expenses	-	2,325	3,050	2,700	2,700
Equipment Repairs & Maintenance	-	8,441	-	-	-
Memorial Garden Maint/Internment Costs	-	700	400	1,400	1,400
Memorial Garden Stone	-	1,475	1,358	900	1,500
<b>TOTAL Cemetery</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32,179</b>	<b>37,169</b>	<b>39,255</b>	<b>44,925</b>



Town of Williston  
Proposed Operating Budget FY 2025

	Actual FY 2021	Actual FY 2022	Draft FY 2023	Approved FY 2024	Proposed FY 2025
<b><u>Recreation &amp; Parks</u></b>					
<i>Recreation Services</i>					
Administrative Salaries	66,523	71,380	118,480	127,460	134,750
Salaries-Day Camp	36,037	54,555	47,482	62,890	65,600
Salaries-Seasonal Programs	1,700	6,375	4,656	6,500	6,500
Benefits	40,108	31,042	57,459	65,090	70,840
Training & Conferences	872	2,467	3,352	3,700	4,000
Property & Casualty Insurance	3,100	1,124	2,151	2,265	2,445
Advertising	-	4,269	4,900	1,500	1,500
Office Supplies	490	1,306	905	2,000	2,000
Telephone & Postage	1,350	1,485	1,952	2,025	2,175
Computer Apps & Development	7,816	6,100	5,360	5,200	5,200
Building Maintenance	3,883	3,059	3,174	5,550	-
Day Camp Expenses	2,588	30,955	31,236	40,000	33,000
Contracted Camp Expenses	9,050	57,213	34,888	40,000	50,000
Recreation Program Expenses	8,675	32,927	40,972	35,000	35,000
Contracted Program Expenses	7,982	38,063	30,594	35,000	30,000
Special Events	600	11,263	12,520	17,500	17,500
REC Zone Expenses					42,935
Community Partnerships	3,082	-		-	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>193,856</b>	<b>353,583</b>	<b>400,081</b>	<b>451,680</b>	<b>503,445</b>
<i>Park Maintenance</i>					
Maintenance Salary	30,846	37,105	32,928	45,240	-
Park Admin. Salary	15,065	15,551	16,438	17,640	18,620
Benefits	13,783	19,260	17,896	21,890	7,615
Property & Casualty Insurance	3,405	1,686	3,226	3,555	3,665
Equipment Rental	2,769	6,079	7,590	7,340	7,220
Utilities	3,803	4,080	2,027	4,325	2,315
Equipment	2,180	1,861	2,514	3,000	3,000
Maintenance & Upgrades	27,632	31,501	37,751	20,000	20,000
Athletic Field Maintenance		-		17,000	20,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>99,483</b>	<b>117,123</b>	<b>120,370</b>	<b>139,990</b>	<b>82,435</b>
<b>TOTAL Recreation &amp; Parks</b>	<b>293,339</b>	<b>470,706</b>	<b>520,451</b>	<b>591,670</b>	<b>585,880</b>
<b><u>Town Clerk &amp; Elections</u></b>					
<i>Records, Permits &amp; Licenses</i>					
Town Clerk Salary	41,820	49,610	54,503	62,430	66,000
Town Clerk Staff Salary	58,069	45,194	48,228	50,310	53,400
Town Custodial Services	13,244	7,657	9,169	16,385	-
Benefits - Town Clerk	46,645	44,692	45,611	55,280	60,320
Mileage - Town Clerk	-	73	71	400	300
Training & Conferences - Town Clerk	55	180	184	400	300
Equipment Rental, Service Contracts	3,737	1,457	1,264	865	600
Property & Casualty Insurance - Town Clerk	5,394	3,009	3,943	3,970	-
Building Heat	962	994	1,050	1,090	-
Building Utilities	3,126	3,339	3,250	3,510	-
Office Supplies - Town Clerk	1,824	2,264	1,840	2,225	2,225
Office Equipment - Town Clerk	-	-	1,914	2,500	2,100
Telephone & Postage - Town Clerk	3,036	4,094	5,720	4,290	6,200
Building Maintenance - Town Clerk	3,874	4,810	4,607	5,535	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>181,786</b>	<b>167,373</b>	<b>181,354</b>	<b>209,190</b>	<b>191,445</b>
<i>Elections</i>					
Town Meeting Salary	630	304	495	1,380	1,400
General Election Salary	1,145	-	2,710	-	3,300
Ballot Printing	1,243	1,421	1,175	2,500	1,750
Postage - Elections	620	820	427	950	3,205
General Election Expense	970	50	263	-	1,000
Town Meeting Expenses	1,835	123	502	500	800
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>6,443</b>	<b>2,718</b>	<b>5,572</b>	<b>5,330</b>	<b>11,455</b>
<b>TOTAL Town Clerk &amp; Elections</b>	<b>188,229</b>	<b>170,091</b>	<b>186,926</b>	<b>214,520</b>	<b>202,900</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>10,602,384</b>	<b>11,627,178</b>	<b>13,007,651</b>	<b>13,977,877</b>	<b>15,353,518</b>

**Capital & Equipment Projects Budget Summary**  
**Capital Projects Budget for Fiscal Year 2025**

Capital Projects	Operating	Impact Fees	Fund Balance	ARPA	Debt
Fire Paving				36,000	
Fire Station Building			9,750	15,000	
Fire Phone System	1,500				
Police Department Building			15,000		
Brick Church Fire Protection					400,000
Town Hall Parking Lot				200,000	700,000
Building Contingency Fund					
Community Center & Library Space				150,000	
Allen Brook Community Park		650,000			
Park Improvements	10,000	10,000			
Park Replacements				20,000	
Community Forest Improvements	2,500				
Town Trail Management Fund	2,500				
Minor Transportation Improvements		15,000			
<b>TOTAL</b>	16,500	675,000	24,750	421,000	1,100,000

**Equipment Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2025**

Equipment Fund	Operating	Impact Fees	Fund Balance	ARPA	Other
Large Highway Truck Replace	130,000		35,000	175,000	
Large Highway Equip Replace	60,000		10,000		
Highway Pickup Replacement	12,000				
Grounds Mower Replacement	2,900				
Traffic Signal Replacements	22,500				
Line Striping Equipment	2,500				
Recreation Mower Replace	9,500				
Recreation Pickup Replace	5,250				
Bookmobile	10,000		10,000		
Police Vehicle Replacement	125,000		20,000	50,000	
Police Technology	10,300				
Comms Tower & Equipment				50,000	
4x4 Fire Vehicle	8,000		13,500		
Fire Utility Vehicles	7,250				
Defibrillator Replacements	23,700				
Hydraulic Rescue Tools	8,000				
Fire Radio Replacement	12,000		12,000		
Fire Turn Out Gear Replace	14,500		10,000		
SCBA Compressor	5,500				
Fire Equipment			32,000		
<b>TOTALS</b>	468,900	-	142,500	275,000	-

<b>Combined Total</b>	485,400	675,000	167,250	696,000	1,100,000
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# **TOWN OF WILLISTON FINANCIAL REPORT**

**For the Fiscal Year Ending  
June 30, 2023**

A summary of long-term indebtedness, prepared by Town staff, is presented on the following page. A complete audit report is available for viewing on the Town's website, [www.town.williston.vt.us](http://www.town.williston.vt.us)

**TOWN OF WILLISTON**  
**STATEMENT OF LONG TERM INDEBTEDNESS**  
**AS OF JUNE 30, 2023**

Payable to:	Purpose	Issue Date	Issue Amount	Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Balance 06/30/22	Additions	Deletions	Balance 06/30/23	Interest Paid FY23	Current	Long Term	Total
<b>GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES</b>													
<b>TOWN</b>	Bond Issue												
<b>Bond Payable</b>													
US Bank	2023-3/2014-2/2005-1	Sidewalk Project	7/15/05	1,600,000	12/01/25	3.79%	320,000	80,000	240,000	7,718	80,000.00	160,000.00	240,000.00
US Bank	2023-3/2014-2/2005-1	Public Safety Bldg	7/15/05	3,300,000	12/01/25	3.79%	660,000	165,000	495,000	15,919	165,000.00	330,000.00	495,000.00
US Bank	2014-4/2006-1	Public Safety Bldg	7/20/06	1,350,000	12/01/26	4.44%	325,000	65,000	260,000	10,808	65,000.00	195,000.00	260,000.00
US Bank	2015-1	Public Safety Bldg	07/26/07	1,800,000	12/01/27	4.5%	540,000	90,000	450,000	16,333	90,000.00	360,000.00	450,000.00
US Bank	2012-1	Library Roof	08/12/12	200,000	11/15/22	2.4%	20,000	20,000	-	(86)	-	-	-
US Bank	2017-4/2013-1	Public Works Bldg	07/11/13	4,800,000	11/15/33	3.955%	2,880,000	240,000	2,640,000	113,283	240,000.00	2,400,000.00	2,640,000.00
US Bank	2018-1	Fire Truck 2019	02/28/18	274,115	11/01/28	2.190%	274,115	39,159	234,956	6,981	39,159.00	195,797.00	234,956.00
US Bank	2021-1	Fire Trucks 2021	03/04/21	1,400,000	11/01/41	2.901%	1,400,000	70,000	1,330,000	26,424	70,000.00	1,260,000.00	1,330,000.00
US Bank	2021-3	Muddy Brook Culvert	07/29/21	900,000	11/01/41	various	900,000	-	855,000	16,468	45,000.00	810,000.00	855,000.00
						7,319,115	-	814,159	6,504,956	213,850	794,159.00	5,710,797.00	6,504,956.00
<b>Lease &amp; Notes Payable</b>													
Union Bank Note Payable	Ambulance '19	6/12/2019	228,800	9/1/2026	3.10%	133,519		31,952	101,567	4,048	32,774.00	68,793.00	101,567.00
<b>Total Town Debt</b>						<b>7,452,634</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>846,111</b>	<b>6,606,523</b>	<b>217,898</b>	<b>826,933</b>	<b>5,779,590</b>	<b>6,606,523</b>
<b>BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES</b>													
<b>UTILITY FUNDS</b>													
State Revolving Loan Fund	Old Stage Pump	06/30/12	311,231	06/30/24	2.0%	158,338		13,012	145,326	3,167	13,272.00	132,054.00	145,326.00
State Revolving Loan Fund	Meadowridge	06/30/12	478,353	06/30/24	0.0%	243,364		19,999	223,365	4,867	20,399.00	202,965.93	223,364.93
US Bank	2012-4	Water Tower Land	11/7/12	400,000	11/15/22	2.4%	40,000	40,000	-	331	-	-	-
State Revolving Loan Fund	Industrial Ave Pump	5/5/2014	843,259	7/1/2034	2.0%	493,624		36,804	456,820	9,872	37,540.00	419,280.00	456,820.00
State Revolving Loan Fund	Gallop Hill Pump	11/1/2016	178,673	11/1/2035	2.0%	126,219		7,902	118,317	2,524	8,060.00	110,257.00	118,317.00
State Revolving Loan Fund	RT 2A Pump	5/16/2017	267,392	6/1/2038	2.0%	220,968		11,855	209,113	4,419	12,092.00	197,021.00	209,113.00
State Revolving Loan Fund	Lamplite Acres Water	12/1/2022	746,055	6/1/2052	2.0%	705,714	40,341	18,390	727,665	14,921	18,758.00	708,907.00	727,665.00
<b>Total Utility Debt</b>						<b>1,988,227</b>	<b>40,341</b>	<b>147,962</b>	<b>1,880,606</b>	<b>40,102</b>	<b>110,121</b>	<b>1,770,485</b>	<b>1,880,606</b>
<b>Total ALL Debt</b>						<b>9,440,861</b>	<b>40,341</b>	<b>994,073</b>	<b>8,487,129</b>	<b>258,000</b>	<b>937,054</b>	<b>7,550,075</b>	<b>8,487,129</b>

## **Town of Williston Annual Town Meeting Abstract**

March 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

The legal voters of the town of Williston met at the Williston Central School in Williston, Vermont at 7:00pm on Monday March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, for the Annual Town Meeting.

93 registered voters were present at this meeting.

Williston Scouts Troop 692 presented the colors and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Selectboard chair Terry Macaig opened the meeting at 7:05. The in-Memoriam list was read and reviewed for 2022 passings of community members who have served on various boards. The dedication page was read honoring Elaine Pinckney, Carl Runge, Jim McCullough and Jack Price for their years of service to the town. None of the honorees were present. Chair Macaig read a brief note of thanks from Jim McCullough.

Selectboard members present were introduced: Greta D'Agostino, Jeff Fehrs, Ted Kenney.

The selectboard presented outgoing member Jeff Fehrs with a plaque commemorating his 25 years of service on the Williston Selectboard. Jeff Fehrs received two vigorous rounds of applause, reflected on his time served, and thanked town staff for their work and dedication.

**Article 1-** Anthony Lamb was unanimously elected Moderator for the ensuing year on a motion by Jeff Fehrs and seconded by Greta D'Agostino. The motion carried.

**Article 2-** On a motion by Rick McGuire and seconded by Kevin Mara, it was unanimously voted that current taxes will be paid to the Town Treasurer in three equal installments with due dates of August 15, November 15 and February 15 as authorized by 32 V.S.A. 4871. The motion carried. Carl Fowler made the comment that is difficult to plan for the August 15<sup>th</sup> installment when town and state officials are planning and setting tax rates well into the beginning/middle of July.

**Article 3-** A motion was made by Rick McGuire and seconded by Jeanne Jensen to approve the reports of several town officers.

Erik Wells, Town Manager, presented a year in review in photos. Williston has over 150 volunteers who were celebrated and recognized. The fire department added nine new recruits. The police department responded to over 7,500 calls. A new energy coordinator position was created. The Planning and Zoning Form Based Code project was named "Project of the Year" by the Vermont Municipal Planners Association. Park improvements included the basketball courts at Rossignol Park and new signage at the disc golf course. There were 37,000 visits to the library and major staff milestones were noted. No questions were asked.

*The motion passed unanimously, and the reports of the town officers were accepted.*

**Article 4-** To transact any other business proper to be brought forth before said meeting: Chapin Kaynor reminded the audience of the group Sustainable Williston, responsible for anything from planting to planning. There was a table in the lobby to inquire or pick up any hand-outs.

On a motion by Sue Roberts and seconded by Patrick Foley, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting until 7:00 a.m. on March 7, at the Williston Armory, at which time the polls will be open to vote by Australian Ballot. The meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.

### **March 7th Voting by Australian Ballot Results**

1588 voters cast ballots

Article 5: Shall the voters authorize General Fund Expenditures of \$13,997,877 of which \$7,217,643 shall be raised by taxes, for the year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024?

YES 1003

NO 450

Article 6:

Shall the voters of the Town of Williston approve use of One Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$125,000.00) of the unexpended principal balance of the 2013 General Obligation Bonds (issued to finance the construction of the Public Works Facility) to purchase the solar array installed on the roof of the Public Works Facility?

YES 1129

NO 328

Article 7:

Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Williston be issued in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed Two Hundred Eighty Thousand and 00/100 Dollars? (\$280,000.00), subject to reduction by available state and federal grants-in-aid and other financial assistance, to fund the purchase, equipping and delivery of a new ambulance?

YES 1148

NO 315

Article 8:

Shall the voters elect to the Selectboard one member to fill an unexpired term of three years that began in March, 2021?

Mike Isham 772 (elected)

Ellie Beckett 769

Article 9:

Shall the voters elect to the Selectboard one member for a term of two years beginning March, 2023?

Terry Macaig 1241 (elected)

Article 10:

Shall the voters elect to the Selectboard one member for a term of three years beginning March, 2023?

Jeanne Jensen 1311 (elected)

Article 11:

Shall the voters elect a Town Clerk for a term of three years beginning March 2023?

Sarah Mason 1434 (elected)

Article 12:

Shall the voters elect to the Board of Listers one member for a term of three years beginning March 2023?

Linda Levitt 1333 (elected)

Article 13:

Shall the voters elect to the Library Board of Trustees one member for a term of five years beginning March 2023?

Charity Clark 1372 (elected)

Article 14:

Shall the voters elect one Champlain Water District representative for a term of three years beginning March 2023?

Liz Royer 1326 (elected)

Article 15:

Shall the voters elect one Champlain Valley School District director for a term of three years beginning March 2023?

Erin Henderson 1283 (elected)

/s/ Anthony Lamb, Moderator, /s/ Sarah Mason, Town Clerk /s/ Andrew Mikell, Chair, Board of Civil Authority

## **TOWN MANAGER**

Greetings Williston Community,

It has been another eventful year for the community in our corner of Vermont. I'd like to take an opportunity to highlight a few of the significant milestones from fiscal year 2023 that took place in Town.

Early in fiscal year 2023 the fire department began benefiting from the addition of nine new full-time staff members that were approved as part of the budget at Town Meeting 2022. The Department increased its shift size from four to seven firefighters/EMTs with the new staffing. The minimum staffing for the Department is now five per shift, and this has helped with the operational pressure of additional calls for service and overlapping calls for service. The Department finished calendar year 2023 with 2,324 incident responses, a 13 percent increase over calendar year 2022. About 20 percent of the time there are overlapping calls for service. Between the years 2020 and 2023 the Department has seen its EMS call volume increase 43 percent. The community support to increase the department staff has been critical in meeting the ongoing service demands that are being faced.

The Police Department also had a busy year, in calendar year 2023 the Department responded to 7,581 calls for service. A major initiative completed in early 2023 was the transition of the Williston Police Dispatch to a co-location with the Town of Essex Dispatch at the Essex Station. Dispatchers from both departments now work side by side and assist each other, this is especially beneficial during times of increased call volume. This added capacity and redundancy has been an asset to the Town and the Department. At the end of fiscal year 2023 the Department began a service analysis working with consultant Jim Baker. In the final report delivered last fall the findings outlined a need for the Town to look at increasing the staffing capacity of the department for both uniformed and civilian staff to meet increasing service demand needs in multiple areas. I was tasked by the Selectboard in early 2024 to draft a five-year community public safety enhancement implementation plan. That work will be ongoing in the year ahead.

Our Public Works Department provides infrastructure management working within the divisions of highway, buildings & grounds, water, sewer, and stormwater. Of the many projects completed in fiscal year 2023 a few highlights to mention are: A culvert replacement project on Lyman Drive was completed to replace twin culverts damaged in 2019 with a single arch culvert. An asset management project began to inventory all infrastructure electronically. The Department began performing some line striping work in-house with the addition of new equipment. The Department maintains all town critical infrastructure, and what is not always seen are the many hours throughout the year that staff is responding to different operational needs that arise. This could be winter operations, a water main break or storm damage among many other possible issues at all hours of the day or night.

Our Library and Recreation & Parks Departments had frequent visitors and high numbers of participants in programming. The master plan for the build-out of Allen Brook Park was updated and work will be getting underway to formulate a park construction phasing plan over the next year. The Town also began programming in the R.E.C. Zone space off Harvest Lane, a new indoor space for active and passive activities. The Dorothy Alling Memorial Library had over 45,000 visits to the library and the bookmobile combined, up 21% from fiscal year 2022. The circulation of nearly 127,000 items ranked 4<sup>th</sup> among Vermont libraries, and program attendance of nearly 12,000 was 1<sup>st</sup> overall in the State. Both departments were engaged in the Community Center Scoping and Library Assessment Report that was developed over fiscal year 2022 and into fiscal year 2023.

With extensive community engagement and work by the project Steering Committee, the final report recommended the Town explore adding an addition to the library and locating a Community/Recreation Facility in the growth center. Work will continue on this project in the year ahead.

Town Administrative staff in the Finance, Planning and Town Manager's Office had an active year. The town received a clean audit report, a testament to the hard work and attention to detail by finance staff. The approval of the form-based code in the growth center in 2022 saw its first application in late fiscal year 2023. Work is underway to write the next iteration of the Town Plan, up for approval by summer of 2025. At Town Meeting 2023 the voters approved the purchase of solar panels on the roof of the public works facility with unspent bond proceeds from the project. The Town closed on the purchase in October 2023 and is now receiving additional net-metering credits to reduce its electricity costs.

The Town is immensely fortunate to have such a dedicated Town staff. The staff delivers high quality services and support to our wonderful community. There were several Town employee milestones that occurred during fiscal year 2023 to highlight this year: 5 years of service – Police Chief Patrick T. Foley, Senior Firefighter Eric Martens, Senior Firefighter Kyle Tillinghast. 10 years of service – Assistant Town Clerk Jennifer Munson, Circulation Librarian Kristina McSalis. 15 years of service – Planning Director Matt Boulanger, IT / Reference Librarian Kim Peine. 30 years of service – Police Sergeant Bart Chamberlain. Of special note, Assistant Library Director Debbie Roderer retired during fiscal year 2023 after 36 years of service to the community. A big thanks goes out to all our Town staff for their hard work.

Throughout this Annual Report are detailed summaries from all Town Departments and Boards/Committees reporting on the work and activities that occurred during fiscal year 2023. This annual look back at what was accomplished is a reflection of thousands of hours of service and support to Williston. In closing, my door is always open and your feedback on our Town services and community is encouraged and welcome at any time.

It is an honor to serve the community as Williston's Town Manager.

You can reach me via email at [ewells@willistonvt.org](mailto:ewells@willistonvt.org) or at my desk at 802-876-1168.

Respectfully submitted,

Erik Wells  
Town Manager



## **SELECTBOARD**

Last year, the Selectboard continued to work at addressing our town's "growing pains" while keeping our historic and community identities intact. This meant that the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, was an exercise in solving budget challenges, addressing public safety needs, and providing public services while keeping the tax rate as low as possible. Thanks to the diligence and innovativeness of our Town Manager, Finance Director, Department Directors, and staff, we were able to remain within the budget voters approved while addressing these concerns.

The Board's meetings were – and will continue – to be a "hybrid meeting," where residents and presenters can participate in the meeting live over the Internet.

The following list highlights general Selectboard activities and townwide developments from last year:

- The Selectboard met 28 times, including holding a retreat for training and discussion on DEI in policymaking.
- Jeanne Jensen and Mike Isham were elected to the Board at Town Meeting, 2023.
- The Selectboard recognized Jeff Fehrs for 25 years of service upon his retirement from the Board.
- The Selectboard held 5 public hearings.
- Form-based code for the Taft Corners Area was adopted.
- The Selectboard adopted amendments to the Town Traffic Ordinance.
- The Selectboard adopted amendments to sewer use ordinance (Attachment A).
- Voters adopted the town budget and approved the purchase of solar panels on roof of public works garage, approved a bond for the purchase of new ambulance, and agreed to the town joining / forming the Chittenden County Communications Union District.
- The Selectboard created the Community Center Scoping and Library Assessment Steering Committee.
- Selectboard member Greta D'Agostino and Town Manager Erik Wells participated in the first VLCT Welcoming and Engaging Communities Cohort.
- The Selectboard adopted a town Values Policy.
- The Selectboard approved spending funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) monies for capital projects, a police department study, community center/library study and a second sidewalk plow so all sidewalks/paths can be maintained in winter.
- A policy governing animal trapping on town land was approved by the Selectboard.
- The Selectboard adopted the Declaration of Inclusion.
- The Selectboard reviewed the town's housing needs assessment data.

In all this activity, the Selectboard has continued their commitment to enhancing Williston's strong sense of community. This would be impossible without the strong, vibrant, and civil discourse that informs the Board's decisions, and the citizens of Williston are to be congratulated for this engagement.

The Board could not do its work without the competent staff in each of our departments and in the Town Clerk's Office. Each town employee works quietly behind the scenes to keep Williston running smoothly. Volunteers also put in countless hours on committees, commissions, and programs. Our strong planning, development review, recreation, conservation, library, sidewalk, and other programs only happen because of the great people who volunteer in our community. We encourage members of the community to stay involved and welcome input as we address different issues. Please consider serving on town boards and commissions. It is a great way to serve your community and to learn more about the great Town of Williston.

Ted Kenney - Chair, Greta D'Agostino -Vice-Chair, Terry Macaig, Jeanne Jensen, Mike Isham.

## **TOWN CLERK**

The town clerk's office is the place where residents new and old come to get answers to their questions. If this isn't the place, we will connect you to the correct department. New residents are encouraged to stop in for voter registration as well as a new-to-town information packet.

Visitations to the town hall overall have dropped off since the pandemic as the public has gotten used to conducting business in other ways. Whether it's using the online payment portal or utilizing the drop box at the back of the building, the need for in-person transactions has lessened. Correspondence will continue to change as times evolve. Most departments have moved toward alternative ways of getting work done, a lot of which rely heavily on email, scans, online access to documents, and virtual meetings.

The calendar year of 2023 was a clerk's dream as the only election to orchestrate was Town Meeting in March. We were able to move back to an in-person gathering at WCS on the Monday night before Australian ballot voting on Tuesday. The rest of the year was spent thinking about, planning for, and gearing up for what will be an incredibly busy election year in 2024. There are numerous behind the scenes details to work out from ballot envelope ordering, coordinating with the other towns that make up the CVSD school district, and constant contact with the Secretary of State's office regarding any legislative changes affecting election administration. Remember, the State will mail a ballot to all active registered voters for the November General Election only. All other elections you must request a ballot if you plan to vote early from home.

We issued close to 700 dog licenses this past year. While better than some years, this is way below the actual number of dogs belonging to Williston residents. Let's all do the right thing and license our pets. It's the law. Proof of protection from rabies is well worth it if you or your child is bitten by someone else's animal. Please vaccinate your pet. Vaccination is imperative for the health of your pet, and the health of all residents. Also, please clean up after your pet. Bacteria and parasites from feces enter our ground water and present a health hazard to all. Yuck.

### **Statistical Information for Calendar Year 2023**

Birth	83	U.S. Passports	1,178
Marriage	68	Passport Pictures	82
Deaths	79	DMV Renewals	26
Vault Usage Hours	567	Green Mountain Passports	131
Pages Recorded	5350	Dog Licenses	668
Documents Recorded	1923	Voters Added	532
Property Transfers	304	Voters Removed	127

We are here to help our residents with various needs and questions. Williston is truly an amazing community to be a part of and we are proud to be an integral part of keeping it running smoothly.

Please visit the Town Clerk's page on the Town Website for election info, numerous forms and applications. Respectfully submitted by Sarah Mason, Town Clerk and Jen Munson, Asst. Town Clerk.

## **TOWN TREASURER**

The Treasurer's Office is responsible for overseeing all financial records as required by State statutes and the Town's charter. This includes maintaining all cash accounts, investing money, approving all accounts payable and payroll disbursements, collecting and processing tax and utility payments, and other revenue. The Treasurer's Office is also responsible for annually producing and distributing property tax bills based on data received from the Assessor/Listener's Office.

Below is a summary of the total tax and utility payments collected over the past three years:

<b>Total Tax Payments Received (includes state and school district taxes):</b>		
<b>FY23</b>	<b>FY22</b>	<b>FY21</b>
\$42,233,360	\$40,399,001	\$40,016,507

<b>Number of Tax Parcels</b>		
<b>FY23</b>	<b>FY22</b>	<b>FY21</b>
4,219	4,213	4,198

<b>Total Water/Sewer/Stormwater Payments Received:</b>		
<b>FY23</b>	<b>FY22</b>	<b>FY21</b>
\$3,625,994	\$3,617,676	\$3,595,901

The Town's investment rates increased in FY23 over FY22 & FY21 quite substantially. The Federal Reserve had a series of rate hikes beginning in 2022 and continuing through 2023 to bring down the national inflation rate. The Town took advantage of this by investing more of its money market funds in Certificates of Deposits, earning higher rates.

	<b>Certificates of Deposit &amp; Other Investments</b>			<b>Money Market Accounts</b>	
	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Avg Rate</b>		<b>Amount</b>	<b>Avg Rate</b>
<b>6/30/2021</b>	\$ 4,167,226	0.46%		\$ 11,421,438	0.07%
<b>6/30/2022</b>	\$ 5,317,707	0.56%		\$ 12,784,051	0.14%
<b>6/30/2023</b>	\$ 6,705,047	4.70%		\$ 11,784,057	1.15%

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Gratton  
Treasurer

## **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

The Public Works Department provides the following community services to the Town: street and highway maintenance, stormwater system maintenance, water and sewer system operation and maintenance, helps with parks maintenance, including management of the Lake Iroquois Beach on behalf of the Lake Iroquois Recreation District, public building maintenance and construction management and inspection oversight.

Public Works has maintenance responsibility for approximately 74 miles of public streets and their related infrastructure. The water system serves a year-round population of approximately 8,220 users with a total system demand of approximately 690,000 gallons per day (gpd). The sewer system serves a year-round population of approximately 6,990 users with a total sewage flow to the treatment plant of approximately 698,833 gpd.

The FY25 proposed highway budget as submitted to the Town Manager and Selectboard reflects a modest increase. This increase is due mostly to an increase in pay for the Public Works Employees. This increase will allow us to hire competent employees and give us the resources to complete our core missions.

The utility operating budgets will be submitted in late winter/early spring for the new fiscal year. These budgets include Water, Sewer, and Stormwater.

Listed below are some of the major projects completed by Public Works:

- Portions of the following Town highways were resurfaced this year: Brennan Woods Dr, Ledgewood Dr, Oak Hill Rd, Southridge Rd, Lawnwood Dr, Sadler Ln, North Williston Rd, and a small section of Sundown Dr.
- The twin culverts on Sucker Brook located on Lyman Dr. that were damaged in the October 2019 Halloween Storm were replaced with a single arch culvert.
- Design and permit efforts are ongoing in developing a Grid Street between Williston Road and Trader Lane near Taft Corners.
- Continued hydrant replacements around town.
- Stormwater pipe lining was done on Boyer Circle.
- Brush hogging was completed on stormwater ponds.
- Muddy Brook Culvert on the border with South Burlington was completed.
- Replaced numerous culverts and cleaned ditches.
- Continued to work on drainage issue on various gravel roads to meet permit conditions.
- Continued to remove ash trees for replacement before becoming infected with Emerald Ash Borer
- Planted trees to replace the ash trees removed.
- Started in-house line striping program.
- Hauled wood to non-profit 'Wood for Good'.
- Repaired four water line breaks at various locations.
- Made plumbing repairs in the Town Hall Annex.

We would like to take this opportunity to recognize all staff of the Williston Public Works Department (Highway, Water & Sewer, and Stormwater). All their efforts and commitment to this town make this community a better place for our residents.



The culvert on Lyman Drive, off Sunset Hill Road, getting some much-needed repairs after damage sustained in 2019.

They are an extremely dedicated group, always willing to assist and carry a positive attitude in their work efforts. Their dedication and hard work were never more evident than during the current and ongoing crisis. They have proved to be committed to doing their part in keeping Williston and its public infrastructure operating during these challenging times.

We welcome community input and suggestions on how to better serve the citizens of Williston. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the community for its support and understanding during these ongoing changing times. The Public Works Office is located at the Town Hall Annex with office hours Monday – Friday from 8:00am – 4:30pm. Feel free to contact us at 802-878-1239 if you have questions or concerns or visit the Town’s website at [www.town.williston.vt.us](http://www.town.williston.vt.us) .

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bruce K. Hoar  
Public Works Director

## **RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT**

The Recreation and Parks Department continues to serve the recreation needs of the growing population of the Town of Williston. Through a diverse program offering and the development and maintenance of recreation facilities, the Recreation and Parks Department offers Williston residents of all ages a wide range of choices for their active and passive leisure time. This report is based on the Fiscal Year of July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023.

### **Recreation:**

In the Summer, the department offered 3 Day Camps- R.E.C. Camp for children entering grades 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, L.I.T. Camp for teens entering 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades, and O.U.R. Camp for those entering grades 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>. The number of campers averaged 82 per week, up from an average of 65 per week in the summer of '21. Thirty (30) Enrichment Camps were offered, 25 of the camps ran with enrollment numbers of over 265 campers. The Dept. also offered a Track & Field Program for ages 6-13 and there were 31 participants from Williston.

Throughout the rest of the year new and old programs were offered. Youth Soccer, Basketball and Lacrosse leagues were run for grades 1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, and the KinderRec sports program now includes 5-year-olds, making the program open to ages 5-6. Soccer programs were offered to 3- and 4-year-olds with over 30 children in each. Other popular programs were Let's Go Fishing, Fitness programs, Bone Health, Youth Weightlifting, Pickleball, Dog Training, Adult Volleyball League, Safe Sitters, Horseback Riding, Ninja Kids & Teens, programs, Men's/Women's Pickup Basketball, Adult Pickup Volleyball and many more. After school programs were offered; Knitting, Tennis, Fun w/Circus Skills, and the Learn to Ski/Ride program.

In March 2023, The R.E.C Zone (Recreate, Explore, Create) was opened. This is a 2000 square foot space used for recreation programs. The following programs were started in the space- Senior Fitness, Get Fit w/Jazzy, Retro Dance, Kindermusik, Full Body Bands, KinStretch, Star Gazing, and Tai Chi.

Program Revenues from all the Operating Budget Revenue line items; Day Camps, Contracted Camps, Recreation Programs, Contracted Programs, Special Events and new this year R.E.C. Zone Programs, cover the expenses of these programs as well as the Independence Day Celebration events. No taxpayer dollars cover Recreation Program offerings. This is known as Pay to Play or Recreate. The user or person who is making the registration is paying for the expenses of the program.

### **Thank You:**

Thank you to all those who volunteered in programs. Without you the programs would not exist. There were 43+ volunteers in programs this year.

Thank you to the sponsors of the Department, which gave of their time or money to support programs- Williston Observer, Healthy Living, Adams Farm Market, Williston Coffee Shop, VT Meat & Seafood, Dick's Sporting Goods, Crosspoint Church, REI-Co-op, Cochran's Ski Area, and Shaw's.

Thank you to all the instructors and Williston businesses that work with us to bring programming to the community. Your willingness to work cooperatively with the Department is greatly appreciated.

The Recreation and Parks Department welcomes your comments. If you are interested in offering a program, please contact us at [recreation@willistonvt.org](mailto:recreation@willistonvt.org).

### **Parks:**

The four active parks in town, which the Recreation & Parks Department oversees and maintains, include Village Community Park, Allen Brook Community Park, Rossignol Community Park, and Brennan Community Park.

### **Park Capital Projects:**

- Brennan Community Park
  - Picnic Shelter installed
- Rossignol Community Park
  - Basketball resurfaced and new hoops installed
  - Hard Surface Area re-surfaced with Track, Four-square, Hopscotch, Chalk Drawing areas and Basketball Hoop.
- Village Community Park
  - Two parking spaces added to the parking lot
  - Basketball Hoops installed on paved area near Warming Hut

The Recreation and Parks Committee meets the second Thursday, September-June, 7:00 am at the R.E.C Zone- 94 harvest Lane. Agendas are posted on the Recreation and Town websites and town bulletin board. The public is always welcome.

Be sure to stay in contact with the department through Facebook, the monthly E-Rec Newsletter, or the website- [www.willistonrec.org](http://www.willistonrec.org). Programs are advertised in The Williston Observer, the School Bell, and on Front Porch Forum.

Respectfully Submitted,

Todd Goodwin  
Recreation & Parks Director

### Recreation Committee:

Robert Metz, Chair  
Danielle Doucette, Vice Chair  
Cindy Provost, Secretary  
Members: Tim Armstrong, Tim Allard  
Carolyn Tesini, David Cannamela

### **Program Registrations:**

Total Registrations	2,604
Resident Regs	2,167
Non-Resident Regs	437
First Time Regs	560

### **New Accounts Created:**

Total Accounts	436
Resident Members	441
Non-Resident Members	482

### **Activities Offered:**

Number of	266
Revenue	\$293,914.00

### **Facility Reservations:**

Number of	252
Most Popular	Babe Ruth Field
Revenue	\$22,280.00
New Members Total	923

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**“Everyone gave something, some gave everything. We shall never forget them”. September 11, 2001.**

The Williston Police Department is comprised of 17 full-time officers, to include the Chief of Police, a patrol Lieutenant which is currently vacant, four patrol Sergeants, ten patrol officers, three vacancies, and a Comfort Dog and Comfort Dog Handler. Also included within the Williston Police Department is our public safety communication staff, which includes three full-time dispatchers and two part-time dispatchers during day-time operations. In January of 2023, we moved our dispatch operations to the Essex Police Department, which allows both agencies to combine our dispatch duties. In addition, an Administrative Assistant/Records Clerk works with the Chief of Police.

The Police Department handled 7,581 calls for services in 2023. The top five calls for service were Traffic Stops 1559; Suspicious Events 785; Public Assist 632; Agency Assist 452 and Alarms 446.

There were 1,281 offenses reported in 2023, which included Retail Thefts 433, Larceny (Petit/Grand) 117, Arrest on In-State Warrants 89, Driving While Under the Influence (DUI) 82 and Violation of Conditions of Release 81. There were 806 Arrests, of which 256 were for Retail Theft, 90 for Arrest on In-State Warrants, 78 for Driving While Under the Influence (DUI), 73 Violation of Conditions of Release (VOR) and 54 for Unlawful Trespass.

During 2023, the Police Department conducted 1,668 motor vehicle stops and issued 621 traffic tickets and 1,558 written warnings. The top four violations for traffic tickets were Speeding 313, No Insurance 61, Traffic Control Signals 48, and Minor Consuming Alcohol 45. The top four written warnings were Speeding 457, Driving on Roadway Lane for Traffic 174, Vehicle Not Inspected 138 and Defective Equipment 133.

In 2023, Williston Police investigated 340 motor vehicle crashes, with 26 individuals reporting injuries. This is an increase from the 243 crashes reported in 2022 and 315 investigated in 2021.

All Department officers continued to receive quality law enforcement training including the required 30 hours recommended by the Vermont Criminal Justice Council, Rule 13. In 2023, the courses that were mandated were Fair and Impartial Policing, Firearms, First Aid-CPR and Use of Force. Williston Officers attended numerous other law enforcement related courses resulting in 669 credit hours. Some of those courses were; Drug Trends and Fentanyl Awareness, FBI-Leadership Executive Training, Homicide Investigation and Crime Scene Management, New Perspective on Community Policing, Lessons Learned from the Battlefield: Leadership, Team Dynamics and Resilience, Driving While Intoxicated: Youth Education and Prevention, Alcohol, Other Drug and Multiple Drug Use among drivers, Police Traffic Laser/Radar and Radar/Lidar Instructor Development Class, IACP Officer Safety and Wellness Symposium, Bias Free Policing, Sovereign Citizens Part 1 & 2, Jan 6 Capital Riot, Legal Implications of Background Investigations, Investigating the Manufacturing of Ghost Guns, Body Worn Cameras in Small and Rural Policing, Creating and Maintaining Community Trust, Crisis Communications for Chiefs, Practical Employment Law, Racism, Reform and Reconciliation, A Chief's Duty, Recruiting in the Digital Age, The Failure of Supervision, Public Safety Employment Law, Legal Updates of Law Enforcement Executives, FBI, Officer Safety, Preparing for Critical Incidents, Conducting Effective Use of Force Investigations, Leadership and Motivation, 3 Ways to Strengthen Your Agency's Mental Health Support, DRE Update, Expert Insights: Testifying in Court as a Drug Recognition Expert. Advanced Roadside Interview Techniques, Introduction to the Non-Confrontational Investigate Approach, Place-Based Policing for Small and Rural Agencies, Annual Sergeants Leadership Conference, Kids, Cops and Domestic



Violence, Better Encounters: Police and People with Intellectual and Development Disabilities, Recruiting for Law Enforcement, Duty to Intervene and De-escalation Tactics for Military Vets.

K-9 Duke, who turned three in 2023, and his handler Officer Matt Cohen had another productive year with the Williston Police Department and the community of Williston. There was a total of 127 deployments to include 46 community engagements, 42 school engagements and 39 cases.

**K9 Duke Achievements:**

- Hosted Duke's Kisses for a Cause event. Raised \$380.00 for local food bank.
- Co-hosted Williston Touch-a-Truck event.
- Placed 1<sup>st</sup> Police K9 Teams, 1st (Men's 30-to 40 age), Green Mountain Iron Dog Completion.
- Attended the West-Coast K9 Conference, Garden Grove, CA.

**K9 Duke Notable Cases:**

- Traveled to Concord, NH to support hospital staff after an active shooter.
- Deployed with domestic violence victim inside an ambulance.
- Provided support during a sexual assault and kidnapping trial.
- Provided support to a victim who was receiving threatening messages.
- Assisted in calming a child having an issue with parents.

Please follow his journey on Instagram and Facebook [@k9dukevt](#) as he fulfills his duty and helps those in need feel safe, loved and supported.

The Williston Police Department is on **Facebook, Twitter and Instagram** and has a revised and updated webpage. We post town activities, press releases, public safety announcements, and other information of the Williston Police Department. You can find us at:

Webpage: [www.willistonpdvt.org](http://www.willistonpdvt.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/WillistonPDVT](https://www.facebook.com/WillistonPDVT)

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/willistonpdvt](https://www.twitter.com/willistonpdvt)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/willistonpdvt/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/willistonpdvt/?hl=en)

On behalf of all the officers and dispatchers, I want to thank the citizens and business community for your support of the Williston Police Department this past year. The Department will continue to provide professional and dedicated services to the Town and citizens of Williston.

Respectfully submitted,  
Patrick T. Foley, Chief of Police

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Department Update – Chief Aaron J. Collette

Your Williston Fire Department is a combination career/paid-on-call fire and EMS department. We pride ourselves in our service to the community. At the very heart of our mission, we are here to serve the public in a time of need. Each day, at a minimum, we staff an engine company with 3 firefighter/EMTs or paramedics, and an Advanced Life Support ambulance with 2 firefighter/EMTs or paramedics. The activities of the department expand far beyond this brief summary of operations. If any member of the public wishes to learn more about the department, or our services, please feel free to visit our webpage [www.willistonfire.com](http://www.willistonfire.com), or stop by the Fire Station to speak with any of our staff.

### Calls for Service

The following table represents incident responses for Fiscal Year 2023. As you can see, the Department experienced a twenty percent (27%) increase in responses in FY23 over FY21.

<b>Incident Type</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>Calendar Year 2023</b>
1XX – Fire	39	35	57	44
2XX – Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (no fire)	2	3	2	2
3XX – Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident	1171	1417	1479	1609
4XX – Hazardous Condition (no fire)	41	62	53	52
<b>5XX – Service call</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>84</b>
6XX – Good intent Call	106	67	119	115
7XX – False Alarm & False Call	246	395	390	411
8XX – Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	3	1	3	4
9XX- Special Incident types	4	3	2	3
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1722</b>	<b>2065</b>	<b>2189</b>	<b>2324</b>

### Training – Captain Prescott Nadeau

The Williston Fire Department prides itself on high quality training. FY23 was no exception to that as we logged over 4,800 hours of annual training. Some highlights include the following:

- An eight-week recruit academy for two new career firefighters a mere six months after the largest recruit academy in the history of the Department.
- The completion of ten-months of probationary training for the nine firefighters hired in April of 2022. This was performed on a shift level and took their recruit training to a more individualized level.
- The roll out of the Department's first Senior Firefighter Development Program in which four of the five firefighters who participated were successfully promoted to Senior Firefighter within months of the course completion.

- The completion of a weeklong National Fire Academy leadership program called Command and Control of Incident Operations. Four senior members of the Department engaged in six days of intensive leadership training taught by fire service professionals from around the country.
- The use of a vacant house off Shunpike Road for high quality, Department wide fire training involving theatrical smoke and realistic scenarios to truly test spring 2023.

Overall, the annual training calendar for FY23 continued to hone the competencies of fire protection, emergency medical service and technical rescue while also engaging in a new feature called “monthly refreshers”. This addition identified ten life safety topics that require repetition to retain proficiency. In conclusion, John F. Kennedy said, “Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other”. Williston firefighters, from the newest probationary member to the most tenured fire officer took advantage of opportunities to learn and lead at every turn.

#### Apparatus Update – Deputy Chief Timothy Gerry

Williston Fire provides fire protection and emergency transport capabilities with two engines, a pumper/tanker, and ambulances. In 2021 a replacement ambulance was ordered and was delivered in July 2023. The updated design incorporates added storage capabilities for paramedic level of care and tactical emergency casualty care (TECC) equipment needed as our capabilities continue to expand to meet the demands of the community. The 2014 ambulance that was due to be sold, proved more valuable to keep in reserve. The reserve allows the department to operate with two in-service ambulances when one is needing repairs or service and does not decrease the response capability we provide to the community.



Replacement for the 2011 GMC pickup that provides emergency response capabilities and plowing the station during the winter months was ordered in August 2023. Design considerations were reviewed and an updated design to meet the needs will consist of a pickup with a service body to safely carry the various tools and equipment supporting calls for both Fire and EMS. Delivery is expected in the summer of 2024.

#### Call Staff – Deputy Chief Timothy Gerry

Fire Department Call Staff recruitment and retention has been challenging and rewarding over the past year. Operation Mayday, Vermont's first coordinated statewide firefighter recruitment effort to bring new firefighters into the Vermont Fire Service, was highly successful in adding new call staff members to the department. On May 13th, Williston Fire along with nearly 70 other departments across the state held an open house to recruit new members interested in serving their community. Call staff are required to attend at least six hours of training, 12-24 hours of shift work, and many more hours responding to calls, every month, with most of those hours served in the evening and weekends. The year began with 10 call staff members consisting of firefighters and EMT's. During the course of the year, six members resigned from the department for various reasons. Operation Mayday was a crucial part of hiring eight new call staff members interested in giving back to the community. At the time of hire, members certifications ranged from no experience to certified EMT's and Firefighters. We currently have six of the new hires enrolled in the Vermont State Firefighter training program that began in September 2023. When completed in April 2024, they will be certified Firefighter 1, with a commitment of over 200 training hours to meet the minimum requirements needed to operate safely on the fire ground. After graduating, monthly Department training will continue throughout their time with Williston Fire. The current call staff roster has 15 members dedicated to serving the community.

#### Community Risk Reduction and Fire Prevention – Deputy Chief Timothy Gerry

The Williston Fire Department is an integral part of life safety initiatives in all buildings in town. Building construction, whether it is new construction or renovations to existing occupancies, continues to be at an all-time high. In 2023, the fire department reviewed applications ranging from new single-family homes to multi-story apartment buildings and hotels. Commercial construction and renovation are very active as commerce demands expand. Our review follows the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards and the International Building Code (IBC) that have been adopted by the State of Vermont. The codes are referenced in the review of the project applications and during the build process. Prior to occupancy, we inspect the site to verify all standards were followed and the building meets the safety standards. The Deputy Fire Chief is responsible for and oversees this program, and often works in partnership with the Department of Public Safety Fire Marshal. This past year we have met with builders/project managers and inspected properties on more than seventy-five (75) different sites. Williston Fire is dedicated to providing code-compliant buildings and facilities promoting a safe and healthy community for everyone to visit or call home.

#### Emergency Medical Services- Paramedic Coordinator, Lt. Anthony Simanskas

Fiscal Year 2023 has been a busy year once again for the Williston Fire Department, specifically with Emergency Medical Services. The Williston Fire Department responded to nearly 1,500 medical incidents, which accounted for 68 percent of the total calls for Fiscal Year 2023. This is an increase of over 400 medical incidents since Fiscal Year 2021. During this past year we took delivery of our new Rescue 1. Rescue 1 is a custom-built Osage ambulance, which sits on an extended cab 2022 Ford F550 Chassis. This ambulance was built and tailored to the needs of our all-hazards organization to better support our community. Rescue 1 is equipped and licensed to the Paramedic level, which is the highest level of EMS care recognized by the state of Vermont. Additionally, our ambulances are equipped with state-of-the-art firefighting equipment, cold water rescue gear, and active threat personal protective equipment.

Currently, the Williston Fire Department has five certified paramedics on shift. Two firefighters on staff have completed their lecture-based Paramedic learning and are actively working through their rigorous

clinical time. Paramedic clinical time includes rotations in the Emergency Department, Intensive Care Unit, Operating Room, and OBGYN. Furthermore, we have one firefighter that started the Paramedic program at Vermont State University based here in Williston. Within the last year we also had one of our members obtain his Advanced EMT which will allow him to provide an advanced level of care to our community members. Your Williston Fire Department continues to show excellence in all areas of the fire service and remains one of the most progressive Departments in the state pertaining to Emergency Medical Services.

#### Fire Station Update – Lt. Keith Baker

In 2023 the Fire Department continued to work on planning to make the fire station more energy and operationally efficient. The building was completed in 2007 and is no longer a “new” building. We are starting to see things in need of upgrades or replacement due to the age of the building. This year we created plans to move to LED lighting to become more energy efficient. During this process work was done to investigate more efficient garage doors and ways to better improve heating. We began the heating season with some boiler issues that had to be mitigated. Work has also begun to replace commercial entry doors that have metal casings that are significantly rusting due to their age. Some of these have rusted to the point where daylight can be seen in the rusted areas. Security cameras were also added to the building which were not previously in place to improve upon safety in and around the building.

#### Vision – Chief Aaron J. Collette

As a department, we continue to evaluate opportunities for improvement. We must make strides in updating our fire safety plan review standards as well as the implementation of a fire and life safety inspection process. We aspire to complete a comprehensive community based strategic plan in 2024. This plan, built with input from both internal and external stakeholders, will lay the groundwork for increased service delivery and operational excellence.

We continue to strive for an expansion of our response force. One of the operational challenges we face is concurrent emergency calls. In 2023, twenty-one percent of the time, or nearly 500 calls, were overlapping. This means that the on-duty resources were already committed to an emergency when a second 9-1-1 call came in. These incidents require us to attempt to free up resources from the initial call to respond to the second. In 2023, we summoned mutual aid resources into Williston one hundred and thirty-three (133) times.

The foundation of our ability to serve the public rests upon our firefighters and EMS providers. I want to thank each of them for their unending commitment to delivering high quality service, their professionalism, and their dedication to the Williston community. They continue to “Exceed the Expectation”.

## **FIRE WARDEN**

During the 2023 calendar year, 137 burn permits for brush were issued in the Town of Williston. The Williston Fire Department responded to nine natural vegetation fires in 2023 resulting in a total of .1 acre of property burned. Compared to 2022, where we responded to eight natural vegetation fires, with 1.25 acres burned. A large amount of natural vegetation fires are caused by improper disposal of smoking materials. The Williston Fire Department would like to remind everyone to ensure they are disposing of smoking materials in an approved receptacle.

The Williston Fire Department will continue using the online Burn Permit system. This system allows residents to obtain a burn permit in a timely, convenient, and efficient manner, all while still ensuring fire safety. We have received positive feedback with the new system and will be continuing to utilize this system as we move forward.

To obtain a permit, residents can visit [williston.burnpermits.com](http://williston.burnpermits.com). Once on the website you will be notified of the current fire danger and if burning is currently allowed. Residents are then able to enter their information, review the guidelines for burning and submit a photograph of the intended materials to be burned. Once completed you will be issued your permit. This process only takes a few minutes.

If a resident is unable to fill out a permit online, we can still help you. If you call the station at (802) 878-5622 or stop by and we can complete the process with you.

While it was a large change going to an online Burn Permit system, the other guidelines for burning have remained the same. Brush larger than 4" in diameter is not allowed, a water source must be present, wind less than 4 mph and all fires must be completely out by dusk.

Soon after you receive this report, we will be entering the busiest time of year for brush fires (April-May). Grass fires are a high potential during these two months; however, forest fires are a concern throughout times of the year when there is no snow cover. We again ask residents to please use caution and receive a burn permit prior to any burning.

Respectfully,

Ryan Prouty  
Lieutenant

Aaron J. Collette  
Chief of Department / Fire Warden

## **LISTER & ASSESSOR**

The Williston Listers' and Assessor's office maintains the Grand List on an annual basis. The Grand List is used for setting the Municipal and Education Tax Rates. Each year the office continues to update individual assessments for new building permits, on-going construction projects and subdivisions. Other duties of the office include Current Use, Homestead Declarations, ownership changes, E911 responsibilities, along with other statutory requirements.

The Listers' Office maintains the tax maps. A public portal is now on-line on the Town of Williston website (See link in the Listers/Assessors page). Parties will be able to research property owner data (Listers Cards), tax maps, abutters, zoning permits.

The final Grand List for 2023 is \$2.167 billion, an increase of 1.0% from 2022. The residential categories had moderate growth with new homes accounting for about \$8.0M. The commercial categories also increased (\$8.0M).

Williston is expecting challenges with some commercial properties. This can be seen with the recent vacancy of Christmas Tree Shop and Bed Bath and Beyond. While the commercial sector evolves, the Listers/Assessors office will need to evaluate changes that may affect the values of some commercial properties within the town. The Listers have recommended to the Town Selectboard to expect no significant changes to the current valuation of overall Grand List for 2024.

Vermont Homestead Declarations must be filed annually. HS122 form (Homestead Declaration) and form HI144 (Household Income) remain the same for 2023. These forms can be filed with the Vermont state income taxes or on-line at the State of Vermont tax department website, ([www.vermont.gov](http://www.vermont.gov)). It is important to note that to be eligible for a state education credit, both forms must be filed with the state of Vermont tax department each year.

In 2023, Mychaela Harton was hired as Executive Assistant. Mychaela brings a background in Real Estate Appraisal and as the office evolves will take on a more active role in the operation of all aspects of the office.

The office regular office hours are Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Basic property information is also available by email. The office phone number is (802) 878-1091 and emails are [rransom@willistonvt.org](mailto:rransom@willistonvt.org) and [mharton@willistonvt.org](mailto:mharton@willistonvt.org).

Harold Cort will be retiring in 2024. His service to the town began in 2015. Harold's past professional experience has brought helpful insight and thoughtful questions during his tenure. The Assessors office wishes Harold the best in his future endeavors and thanks him for his service to the town.

### **Listers**

Harold Cort, Chair  
Linda Levitt  
Lauren Koumjian

### **Assessor**

Bill Hinman

### **Office**

Mychaela Harton  
Dick Ransom

## **DOROTHY ALLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

Dorothy Alling Memorial Library serves the Williston and St. George communities with exemplary library service, circulating books and audiobooks in all formats alongside non-traditional materials. As part of our mission to be *Your home for life-long learning*, we also provide cultural and educational programs for adults and youth. Robust outreach services, which includes Bookmobile service to neighborhoods, ensures that patrons who can't make it to the Library are served.

This was an exciting year as we supported the work of the Library Assessment & Community Center Scoping Study committee. The process, which included gathering valuable community input, gave us an opportunity to examine the Library's current collections, programs, and outreach and to plan for serving the community's needs into the future. Library Trustee Karla Karstens represented the Trustees on the committee and also served as Chair.

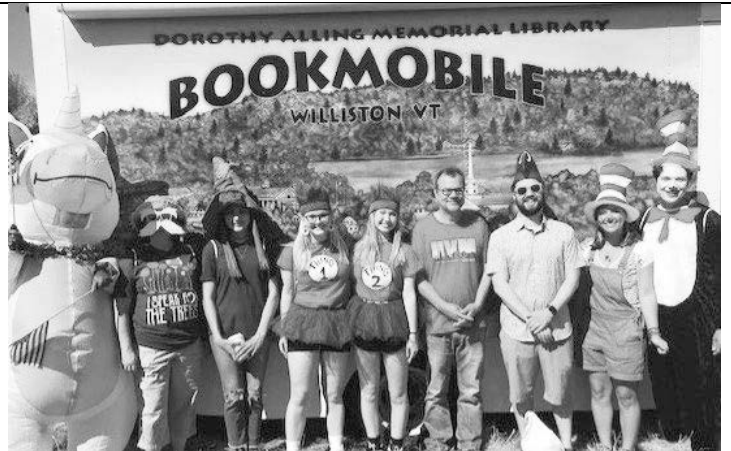
The need for support for working families was one piece of feedback from the surveys and the library continued to work to add programming to meet their needs, adding Saturday storytimes, music, and adult crafting, alongside other special events. Expanded Library of Things also emerged as a theme in the feedback, a collection the Library is working towards making robust and easily discoverable.

Formal and informal collaborations in the community grew this year. We worked with AARP to provide free tax help during tax season, with WCS to offer an inter-generational book club, hosted Kindergarten Kickoff with Allen Brook School, and accommodated Homeschool groups. We also collaborated with other libraries in the area on programming around Vermont Reads and Foster Care Awareness. Adult program collaborations led to more off-site programming with a tree identification walk at Catamount with Vermont Woodlands, a visit to Mud Pond and a program at Thomas Chittenden Cemetery in collaboration with WCS. Youth Programs this year celebrated STEAM with robots, space programming and more at the library.

There were some changes in personnel this year with a good-bye and thank-you to Assistant Director Debbie Roderer after 36 years of dedicated service to the Library and the Town of Williston. Bonnie Lord was promoted to Assistant Director/Youth Services Librarian and we welcomed Roeki DeMaria as Patron Services Librarian in June.



Linda Bassick leads pre-school music which is offered weekly.



Dottie the Bookmobile at the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade.



## FY23 Library Statistics:

Patron visits to the library and bookmobile were up 21% from FY22. Circulation continued to increase, returning us to above pre-pandemic circulation levels. Electronic circulation increased by 12% and streamed audio circulation increased a notable 26% from FY22 to FY23, following a wider trend towards audio listening. Youth and adult program attendance has rebounded (up 7% from pre-pandemic levels). Benchmarking DAML against other Vermont Libraries using the FY22 VT Dept of Libraries Public Library Statistics showed that DAML serves the 13th largest population in state, our physical circulation ranked 4th among all libraries, and we ranked first for attendance at programming among all Vermont libraries, due in part to our outdoor and virtual programming offered during FY22 pandemic operations.

<b>FY23 Dorothy Alling Memorial Library Statistics</b>			
	<b>Description</b>	<b>FY22</b>	<b>FY23</b>
<b>Patrons</b>	Registered (2 yrs. inactive accounts are purged)	4722	<b>4435</b>
	Added	541	<b>571</b>
	Visits to Library or Bookmobile	37,167	<b>45,143</b>
<b>Circulation</b>	Circulation (Physical & e-Resource)	121,118	<b>126,578</b>
	e-Resource Circulation	19,379	<b>21,663</b>
	Interlibrary Loans (Sent & Received)	1526	<b>1636</b>
<b>Patron Services</b>	Reference Questions	6502	<b>5061</b>
<b>Outreach</b>	Senior Community Visits	46	<b>55</b>
	Childcare Center Visits	38	<b>44</b>
	Individual Patron Home Visits	103	<b>191</b>
	Bookmobile Patrons On-board (Neighborhood visits & special events) (* corrected)	1690*	<b>2104</b>
<b>Programs (Virtual, In-person &amp; Outreach)</b>	Adult Program Sessions	196	<b>276</b>
	Adult Attendance	1439	<b>2171</b>
	Youth/Multi-age Program Sessions	270	<b>469</b>
	Youth/Multi-age Attendance	6161	<b>9820</b>
<b>Other</b>	Wifi Use	5187	<b>8256</b>
	Website hits	85665	<b>93987</b>

Respectfully submitted, Charity Clark, Chair, Library Board of Trustees

## **PLANNING & ZONING**

Planning & Zoning office staff provide support to the Planning Commission, Development Review Board, Catamount Community Forest Committee, Conservation Commission, Historic and Design Advisory Commission, and Energy Committee, guiding their work from the goals and policies set by the community in the 2016-2024 Comprehensive Plan (aka “Town Plan”). The staff also provide support to the Town Manager and Selectboard as needed. Staff in FY2023 included Matt Boulanger, Melinda Scott, Emily Heymann, Simon Myles, and Andrew Plumb with Ann O’Day as the part-time summer Trail Steward.

FY2023 began with the conclusion of a two-year effort to update zoning in Taft Corners. Planning Staff supported the Williston Selectboard through the public hearing process to adopt a new Official Map and Form-Based Code for Taft Corners. The first Selectboard public hearing to consider the changes was held on July 5, 2022 and the final hearing, after making some changes (notably to maximum building height) was held on October 22, 2022.

Throughout FY2023 Emily Heymann led efforts to review the Specific Plan at the Glaser parcel on Old Stage and Mountain View. It proposes



*Green Up Day on May 6, 2023*

109 homes with around 53 acres of open space donated to the town, including 15 acres of viewshed with spectacular views of Camels Hump. It would allow Windswept Horse farm, who currently lease the land, to continue operations. Emily guided the Planning Commission in developing a charge for a Specific Plan subcommittee of board members and residents and staffed 7 meetings of that committee to review and develop the Specific Plan with the applicant and community. This included a site visit with a hayride on Windswept Farm’s tractor! The Planning Commission will continue to review the proposal in FY2024.



*Glaser Parcel Hayride April 20, 2023*

Emily led the Planning Commission in developing new zoning for the Village and led a July walking tour to discuss the changes. Melinda led efforts to secure several grants including a Climate Catalyst Innovation grant to do outreach on weatherization and electrification to low- and moderate-income households. The office also received a Transportation Mobility and Innovation Grant to complete a feasibility analysis for a microtransit

service for the town for on-demand transit to supplement GMT’s fixed bus routes.

Staff also worked with the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPPC) on a feasibility analysis and conceptual design for a new multi-modal hub in Taft Corners.

In partnership with CCRPC, staff completed a Housing Needs Assessment for the town. This made several key findings including: Williston does not have enough homes for its workforce and people who work in town often cannot afford to live here; housing is becoming less affordable as rent and sale prices for homes are increasing faster than incomes; the town has a housing size mismatch with greater demand for smaller homes and a greater supply of larger homes; Williston has a low vacancy rate; there is a significant need for supportive housing; and a racial disparity in home ownership rates. The Assessment made several recommendations on addressing housing need that will be explored in FY2024, including the creation of a Housing Committee.

The Planning office offers public meetings with in-person and online Zoom participation options to maximize accessibility.

<b>ADMINISTRATIVE PERMITS &amp; APPROVALS</b>				
<i>Based on date of decision/issuance</i>				
	<b>FY 2020</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>
Permits, total reviewed	253	321	314	252
Permits, approved	248	319	311	250
Permits, withdrawn/incomplete/denied	6	2	3	2
<b>Types of approved permits:</b>				
Dwellings, new total	78	39	24	8
Dwellings, new single-family	10	32	19	2
Dwellings, new multifamily	68	7	2	2
Dwellings, replacement	1	2	3	1
Residential, other	149	169	129	122
Non-residential (commercial/industrial)	88	76	102	81
Signs	33	33	32	42
<b>Other administrative action:</b>				
Certificates of Compliance/Occupancy	54	30	36	52
Zoning Compliance Certifications	197	176	175	148
Appeal of Administrator's decision	1	1	2	2
Zoning violation letters	2	4	6	4
Special event permits were moved to the Town Manager Department in FY2023. P&Z issued 3 peddler permits.				

<b>IMPACT FEES COLLECTED</b>				
<i>Calculated based on date collected</i>				
<b>Fee Type</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>
Transportation	\$159,589.90	\$108,831.58	\$54,234.70	\$37,998.22
School	\$138,594.49	\$133,557.93	\$73,537.74	\$90,898.50
Recreation	\$120,991.82	\$73,395.00	\$37,800.00	\$48,993.00

<b>Estimated Cost of Construction (not inflation-adjusted)</b>	
FY 2023	\$ 48 million
FY 2022	\$ 40 million
FY 2021	\$ 34 million
FY 2020	\$ 43 million
FY 2019	\$ 50 million
FY 2018	\$ 50 million
FY 2017	\$ 35 million

## **DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD**

The Development Review Board (DRB) is responsible for the review and approval of proposals for new and expanded development in the town. The work of the DRB and the administration of the Williston Unified Development Bylaw (WDB) is essential to implementing the town's Comprehensive Plan. The DRB receives input and recommendations from the Conservation Commission, the Historic and Architectural Advisory Committee, and other town departments (police, fire, public works) to navigate the standards and guidelines of the WDB. The DRB also hears appeals of decisions made by the town's Zoning Administrator or referrals from the Zoning Administrator.

The DRB is made up of seven members and an alternate. Members in FY2023 were Peter Kelley (Chair), John Hemmelgarn (Vice Chair), Scott Rieley, David Turner, David Saladino, Paul Christenson, Nathan Andrews, Lisa Braden-Harder and Jill Spinelli (alternate). Scott Rieley served as the DRB representative on the Glaser Specific Plan Advisory Committee (January to May 2023).

Meetings are typically held at 7:00 PM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of each month in the Town Hall meeting room and online via Zoom. Public participation is welcomed and encouraged. Project information, site plans, comment letters, and staff reports are posted onto the webpage. Go to [www.town.williston.vt.us](http://www.town.williston.vt.us) and select "Public Records & Documents," then "Agenda & Minutes," and "Development Review Board."

### **Growth Management**

Williston utilizes a residential growth management system for achieving a growth target and managing the pace of new residential development, which has been utilized for over 25 years. The process is competitive. Every year in March, the DRB holds a public hearing where residential proposals are considered for growth management allocation.

### **Meetings Overview**

The DRB had 21 meetings in FY2023, for a cumulative total of 41.6 hours and 262 signed in attendees. Average meeting length is 2 hours. July 26, 2022, was the most highly attended meeting, with 36 attendees, because it was the first discretionary permit hearing for DP 21-18 The Annex.

The DRB considered the following types of applications: 17 discretionary permits, 12 pre-application reviews, 9 growth management requests, 4 master sign plans, 5 certificates of appropriateness, 7 items of other business, 0 appeals of a DRB decision, and 3 appeals of decisions made by the Zoning Administrator.

<b>Growth Management Allocation FY 2023</b>		
<b>Location</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Approved</b>
Growth Center	66.5	31
Sewer Service Area Outside Growth Center	68	31.5
Outside Sewer Service Area	4	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>138.5</b>	<b>66.5</b>
*1 Dwelling Unit Equivalent (DUe) = 1 unit with 2+ bedrooms or 2 studio/1-bedroom units		

On March 28, 2023, the DRB approved allocation requests for 9 proposals. Within the Growth Center: DP 21-18 The Annex at 133 Beaudry Lane. Outside the Growth Center, but inside the Sewer Service Area: DP 20-18 Summer Field/Catamount Golf, 1400 Mountain View Road, DP 22-11 Rice at 669 Essex Road, DP 23-04 Shortsleeves at 607 N Williston Road, and DP 23-06 Maguire at 376 Mountain View Road. Outside the sewer service area: DP 23-02 Trinity Baptist Church at 425 Mountain View Road, DP 23-03 Olson at 98 Snowdrift Lane, and DP 23-09 Boardman at 10 Ricky Vista. Trinity Baptist Church withdrew DP 22-01, a request for 43 DUe at 300 Trinity Drive.

## **HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The Historic and Architectural Advisory Committee (HAAC) is involved in the oldest and newest development in Williston and serves three equally important functions:

1. Advisory comment to the Development Review Board (DRB) and the Zoning Administrator for projects that are proposed in the Design Review District in Williston, which encompasses the town's designated Growth Center and sites with frontage along Routes 2, 2A, Marshall Avenue.
2. Advisory review for projects in the Village Zoning District. Within the Williston Village Historic District, the HAAC also advises the DRB on the issuance of Certificates of Appropriateness (COA) within Williston's historic review areas.
3. Advisory support to the Planning Commission on Town Plan and bylaw amendments related to the historic Village Zoning District and design review areas.

The HAAC is a seven-member board appointed by the Selectboard. Fourteen meetings were held in FY2023 with in-person and virtual Zoom participation options. The members in FY2023 were: Emily Morton (chair), John Marcotte (vice chair), Brian Forrest, Karen Fragnoli-Munn (resigned June 2023), Chelsea Levis, Alex Pintair. Thank you, Karen, for your 10+ years of service to the community.

One seat was vacant in FY2022 and the entirety of FY2023. With another vacancy beginning in FY2024, the HAAC supported a bylaw amendment to reduce the committee size from seven to five members. This amendment is scheduled for a public hearing in FY2024 with a slate of other revisions.

The HAAC provided historic review recommendations to the DRB on four (4) Certificates of Appropriateness (COA) in the Village: roof replacement and other repairs at 7921 Williston Road (building conversion to orthodontist office), corrective slate roof replacement in response to a Zoning Violation at 8031 Williston Road for replacing the slate with asphalt shingles without a permit, an accessory garage with accessory dwelling unit at 23 Old Stage Road, a sign replacement at 25 Slate Barn Drive, an accessory garage with accessory dwelling unit at 16 Old Stage Road.

The HAAC provided design review recommendations to the DRB on six (6) applications: DP 21-18 The Annex with 273 residential homes and 65 senior living units at the former Essex Alliance Church property on Beaudry Lane, DP 18-06.3 revisions to building facades, color, materials on a hotel under construction at 36 Blair Park Road, DP 22-06 a car dealership at 4626 Williston Road near Industrial Ave intersection, DP 23-08 expansion and renovation of the Berlin City Kia Dealership at 586 Marshall Ave, DP 21-19 design review of three industrial buildings proposed at Lot 4 of the Robear subdivision (Williston Road across from Munson Way), DP 23-12 a U-Haul warehouse at Lot 2 of the Robear subdivision (east of U-Haul at 5010 Williston Road)

The board meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 5:30 pm. Public participation is welcomed and encouraged! Please consider volunteering on the HAAC or another town board/committee. For more information, go to [www.town.williston.vt.us](http://www.town.williston.vt.us), call (802) 878-6704, or visit the planning office at the Town Hall Annex, 7878 Williston Road.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the FY2024 HAAC members: Emily Morton, John Marcotte, Brian Forrest, Chelsea Levis, and Alex Pintair.

## **PLANNING COMMISSION**

The Planning Commission (hereinafter “PC”) creates and maintains the Town’s comprehensive plan related to land use, transportation, public utilities, facilities, natural resources, energy, and housing. The PC is a seven-member board appointed to the Selectboard. The PC is committed to open deliberation to implement the Town’s long-range vision. In FY2023, Meghan Cope (Chair), Cate Lamar (Vice Chair), Ellie Beckett, Jill Pardini, Shayla Livingston, Chapin Kaynor and Alex Daley (resigned June 2023) served on the PC. The Commission would like to thank Alex for his service to the community.

The PC held 22 meetings in FY2023 with in-person and online participation options. Public meetings of the PC usually occur on the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. The PC welcomes and appreciates public attendance at the meetings. We thank the public for their thoughtful input and staff for their diligence and skills that enable us to make informed decisions.

### **Taft Corners Form-Based Code and Village Bylaw**

The Selectboard adopted Form Based Code on October 5, 2022. The PC continues to work on the Village Bylaw and held a work session August 2, 2022 and a Community Meeting on September 20, 2022.

### **Glaser Specific Plan**

The Glaser Specific Plan proposes a 109-unit residential subdivision with the provision of 50-acres open space donated to the Town as substantial benefit. An advisory committee worked with the applicant from January-May 2023. In June 2023, the PC authorized the Specific Plan to move the Town Plan and Bylaw Amendments to public hearing, scheduled for FY 2024.

### **Housing Needs Assessment**

The need for affordable homes in Williston was a key comment during the Form-Based Code process but could not be addressed in that amendment package. The Planning Commission reviewed and commented on the draft assessment in February. The final assessment was published in April.

### **Housing Bylaw Amendments**

In February and March, based on the Needs Assessment, the PC considered policy changes to the bylaws to encourage the construction of new affordable homes in Williston. On June 20, 2023 the PC finished the initial review of the draft and voted to warn a public hearing on the proposed amendments.

### **Taft Corners Multi-Modal Hub**

In FY2023 a feasibility study was completed for a Multimodal Hub on town owned property in Taft Corners, to accommodate transportation modes like walking, biking and using public transit. The PC considered alternatives presented on April 4 and made recommendations for the proposed conceptual plan.

### **Looking Ahead: Upcoming Work Plan**

1. Complete Village Bylaw revision
2. Rewrite the Town Plan before 2016-2024 Town Plan expires in August 2025

Respectfully submitted by: Shayla Livingston (Co-chair), Jill Pardini (Co-chair), Ellie Beckett (Vice Chair), Meghan Cope, Chapin Kaynor, Hana Kessler, Steve Shepard, and Mickey Myat (alternate).

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The WCC participated in the assessment of the residential redevelopment of the Glaser parcel at Old Stage and Mountain View Road under the Specific Plan provisions of the Williston Development Bylaws. Gary Hawley served as the WCC representative on the Specific Plan Committee. The WCC reviewed the proposal making a formal recommendation to the Planning Commission. If approved it will conserve 15 acres of viewshed, preserving views of Camels Hump and the Green Mountains.

The WCC worked with Fellowship of the Wheel to discuss safer access to trails at Mud Pond Country Park. A schedule of trail improvements was developed for a short section of the Mud Pond Conservation Area which previously did not allow bikes. This involved consultation and an update to the management plan. The improvements were implemented by the Fellowship.



*Fellowship of the Wheel working on the trail at South Road. Photo by Adam Morse.*

The WCC worked on updates to the Significant Wildlife Habitat Area development regulations. Jens Hilke from Vermont Fish and Wildlife helped categorize the Town's habitat blocks into 3 tiers of importance. The changes will improve protection during development review while allowing relief where parcels were highly constrained. In FY 2024 they will consult on these changes.

The WCC drafted a policy to regulate trapping on town owned land that was adopted by the Selectboard.

The Conservation Commission also:

- Secured a Watershed Protection grant from the State of Vermont to install protective fencing around newly planted trees at Abazimenahanik, a new forest park.
- Sought public comment and approved a request to reroute the Schmoker Trail to help the landowner farm his property.
- Promoted No-Mow May at Green Up Day to benefit wildflowers and insects.
- Explored the potential reuse of the town's remote cabin at the Pine Ridge property by organized groups.
- Recommended supporting the initiative to conserve 30% of land by 2030 and allocating \$100,000 for the ERF. \$50,000 was allocated in FY24. The ERF balance was \$419,187 as of June 30, 2023.
- Reviewed 2 Discretionary Permits and 3 Pre-Application requests.



*Photo by Marcy Kass*

Respectfully submitted by the Williston Conservation Commission:

Eric Howe, Chair  
David Westman, Vice Chair

Kim Coleman  
Gary Hawley

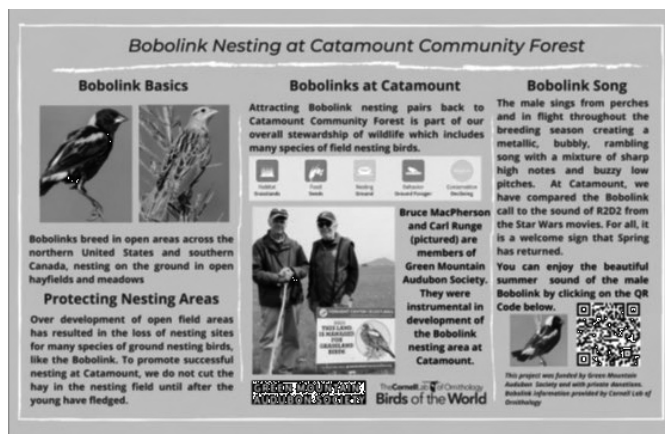
Laura Meyer  
Terry Marron

Reed Carr

## CATAMOUNT COMMUNITY FOREST

The Catamount Community Forest is a rich community resource used for walking, biking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, sledding, birding, outdoor education and many special events. We hope all community members can experience the forest and take advantage of its offerings. The Catamount Forest Committee (CFC) is a five-member volunteer board who manage the forest.

Catamount is being managed as bird habitat with the assistance of members of the Audubon Vermont. Bobolinks were observed throughout the summer by volunteers with the major mystery the apparent late arrival of the adult females. But the bobolink season was successful! Volunteers also monitor Bluebirds, Tree Swallows and House Wrens. There were 150 eggs with 80 young that fledged this year. There was 1 successful Wood Duck nest with 10 eggs. Several bird walks were held with partners attended by over 90 people.



Educational signage was installed across Catamount informing people about duck nesting, nestwatch, the bobolink program, geology, and the vernal pools.

*Bobolink sign created by Reed Parker*

The 25-mile trail network within the Catamount Community Forest is maintained under license from the town by the non-profit Catamount Outdoor Family Center (COFC), who attend all CFC meetings. The Center was delighted to bring the winter nighttime trails back into use this year. Programs included the 24 weeks of the regular race series; summer camps; clinics, lessons and group guided outings; and nature talks and walks. Some notable events included GMCX 2022, RUTfest and the Halloween Spoktakular. The CFC and Outdoor Family also started discussions on renewing the license.



*Ethan Tapper leading a guided forest walk. Photo credit: Terry Marron*

This year the Chittenden County Forester Ethan Tapper, conducted extensive outreach for a forest management project. Ethan, the CFC, and the Outdoor Family Center collaborated on trail protection, and had a fun snowshoe walk to select trees to be retained to preserve trail aesthetics. The project is expected to be completed next year. Invasive species are a threat to our forest's diverse native vegetation. Controlling invasives was a top priority this year. At one of several volunteer workdays the Williston Scouts led a very successful cut stump operation to remove buckthorn near Woods Trace.

Respectfully submitted by: Hans Buehler, Danielle Doucette (Vice Chair), Jeff Fehrs, Mike Isham, Terry Marron (Chair), Reed Parker.



## **ENERGY COMMITTEE**

Now in its second year, the seven volunteer members of the Williston Energy Committee include Dar Gibson, Kevin Thorley (vice chair), Maria Gingras, Matthew Wood, Kevin Batson, Eric Hillmuth and Reed Parker (chair). Energy and Community Development Planner Melinda Scott provides staff support.

Public outreach continues to be one of the major functions of the Energy Committee. During the past year, the Committee contributed eleven articles to the Williston Observer for publication in the monthly “Living Green” section. A sampling of the articles includes sustainable mobility, no-mow May, saving money through energy conservation and the electric grid. We will continue to write articles with plans to publish monthly. The committee now has a website which contains learning resources including the Living Green articles, EV information, town initiatives and projects and events. The site can be seen at: [www.willistonvtenergycommittee.org](http://www.willistonvtenergycommittee.org).

This year an Energy Savings Guide - a tri-fold pamphlet containing information on energy saving and funding programs was developed and distributed at events and through our town library. The Energy Committee developed and distributed a Home Energy Survey that gathered information relating to residents’ energy use, costs and concerns. With over 80 people responding, the data is being assessed and a summary of responses will be posted on the Energy Committee website. The survey responses will be used to guide future outreach programing.

The Energy Committee held several in-person events during 2022 including information tables at the Isham Farmer’s Market with Sustainable Williston, Green Up Day and Independence Day. We held four in-person events – three at the Williston Food Shelf and one at the town library at which we discussed energy conservation funding programs and distributed Energy Conservation Kits provided by VT Gas Systems (VGS). Our largest event was the EV-Fest held in fall 2022 during which 18 EVs and their owners were on hand to discuss the value of electric vehicles with about 75 to 100 attendees. Participating vendors included GMP, Efficiency Vermont and Green Mtn Solar. The success of the EV Fest spurred the launching of an EV Ambassador program where residents interested in EVs can ask current owners (the Ambassadors) questions about their experience owning an EV.

In anticipation of the 2023 purchase option for the public works garage rooftop solar array, the committee worked with a consultant to understand the cost/benefits of purchasing the solar array vs continuing the current lease. With the Committee’s recommendation to the Select Board to purchase the array, the item was placed on the March Town Meeting ballot and was approved by Williston voters. Under town ownership, the town will reap 100% of the net-metering credits from the solar array, with anticipated generation of 100 MW per year and \$20,000 worth of credits annually.

## **TOWN HEALTH OFFICER**

Fiscal year 2023 brought many changes to the office of Health Officer. I became Health Officer, by State law, as Selectboard Chair due to the resignation of the previous Health Officer and also maintained my status as Deputy Health Officer. In March, Ted Kenney was elected Chair of the Selectboard and became Town Health Officer. I continued as Deputy Health Officer. In August I was reappointed Health Officer by the Commissioner of Health and Ted Kenney was appointed Deputy Health Officer.

The Town has been advertising to fill the position of Health Officer for over a year with no success. Please consider stepping up to take on this necessary position.

Things that I worked on include bites to humans that included 15 dog bites and 2 cat bites. There were also 6 cat bites referred to me by veterinarian clinics that were bites from out-of-town animals. Contact was made with the appropriate town health officers for follow-up.

**Please vaccinate your pet for rabies! Vaccination is imperative for the health of your pet, the health of our residents and is required by law and Town ordinance.**

There were 2 Rental housing complaints and inspections that took up several hours of my time and one pre-rental inspection requested by a landlord.

Many thanks go to the Williston Police Department and the Town Clerk's Office for their assistance.

Terry Macaig,  
Town Health Officer



## **SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS FUNDING COMMITTEE**

The Social Service Organizations Funding Committee met November 17, 2022, to review the fiscal year (FY) 2023 funding request applications submitted by social services organizations that serve Williston residents. The assistance provided by these organizations covers a wide range of services, such as working towards the elimination of hunger, homelessness prevention, addiction support services, and various support for vulnerable populations.

To assist with these valuable services, the Committee made the following allocations for the FY 2023 funding pool of \$30,000.

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Funding Recommendation (dollars)</b>
Age Well	2,200
American Red Cross	500
Big Heavy World	200
Child Care Resource	2,000
CVOEO-Chittenden Community Action	2,000
Committee on Temporary Shelter (COTS)	1,700
Feeding Chittenden	2,000
Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity	1,000
HomeShare Vermont	1,000
Howard Center	4,000
Hunger Free Vermont	1,000
Lund	1,500
ReSOURCE	600
Steps to End Domestic Violence	2,500
Turning Point Center	1,200
VT Adult Learning	500
VT Assn. for the Blind and Visually Impaired	600
VT Cares	500
VT Center for Independent Living	600
Vermont Family Network	2,000
Vermont Works for Women	400
Williston Community Food Shelf	2,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>

The membership of the Williston Social Service Organizations Funding Committee for the FY 2023 process included:

Alice Fothergill  
Jim Thornton  
Camille George

Michelle Desautels  
Cindy Provost  
Jessica Schwartz

If you know, or are part of, a non-profit organization doing work on behalf of Williston residents, please visit the Social Service Organizations Funding Committee link on the Town website for an application to be part of this funding in future years.

## **CEMETERY COMMISSION**

During calendar year 2023, a total of 23 burials took place in Williston cemeteries, including 17 burials in East Cemetery, 5 in Deer View, and 1 in the Memorial Garden. Of these 23 burials, 7 were full casket (30%) and 16 were cremains burials (70%). There were 11 burial lots purchased at Deer View cemetery, and 2 cremains allotments purchased at the Memorial Garden, adjoining Chittenden Cemetery.

2022 maintenance projects included headstone up-righting and repair of broken stones in all 4 cemeteries. Flags were placed at veterans' gravesites in time for Memorial Day by the Williston Boy Scout Troop and removed at the end of the season after Veterans Day. (Flags are removed at that point due to wear and breakage that the ensuing winter would cause.) The Williston Fire Dept. replaced their weathered flags honoring the Town's firefighters. The Aseltine family once again made a substantial gift for East Cemetery maintenance. A group of volunteer women from the Tuthill, Carpenter and Painter families cleaned up the spent vegetation in the Memorial Garden at Chittenden Cemetery in October, honoring their parents who are buried there.

The Commission received several complaints regarding the irregularities in the mowing and trimming of the cemetery grounds during the 2023 burial season. Part of this was due to the record amount of rainfall we experienced this past summer, making it difficult for mowing to occur on a regular basis. When the rain abated, the grass was often mowed at a height that precluded the appearance that we strive for. Hopefully, weather patterns will stabilize this coming year, allowing for a more acceptable result in the grounds maintenance.

Lot owners in Deer View and East cemeteries are reminded to abide by the Rules and Regulations set forth on the Town website, regarding the limits on decorating and honoring their ancestors with excessive memorabilia at gravesites. In addition to affecting the general landscape for adjoining family lots, these adornments create too many obstacles for the mowing crews to negotiate, thereby slowing them down, often resulting in damaged objects. Please keep it to a minimum, and in good taste for the benefit of all.

Days of operation for all vehicular traffic and interments will continue to be May 15 through November 15. Walk-through access to all cemeteries is available throughout the year via the pedestrian gates. Lot sale fees and other cemetery rules and regulations are detailed under the "Cemetery Commission" heading at the Town of Williston website. [www.town.williston.vt.us](http://www.town.williston.vt.us)

### Williston Cemetery Commission

Jack Price (802-879-7603)  
Cameron Clark (802-735-5895)  
Shannon Hiltner (802-871-5411)  
Drew Nelson (603-252-9514)  
Hazel Winter (802-879-0897)

## TOWN BAND



Williston Town Band had a terrific 2023 season! In the midst of a very rainy summer, we somehow managed to avoid the raindrops and performed all of our scheduled concerts. We were honored to play in our first concert for Williston's Town Fair Day in May. We enjoyed high attendance by our musicians throughout the season and robust audiences at each of our concerts.

One notable highlight this year was the town's recognition of our brass player Chapin Kaynor as Grand Marshall for the Independence Day parade. The band enjoyed celebrating our Grand Marshall with priority seating on a special float. Heartfelt thanks to Chapin for his commitment and numerous volunteer contributions to our town and band.



Many, many thanks to the Federated Church for their continued support of Williston Town Band and their participation in providing ice cream treats at our concerts.

Williston Town Band is always looking for musicians of all ages and experience levels to join the band. Visit our website at [willistontownband.org](http://willistontownband.org) or send an email to [willistontownband@gmail.com](mailto:willistontownband@gmail.com) for more information.

We are looking forward to performing for our community again this summer!

*Kathy Schaw, president  
Williston Town Band*

## LAKE IROQUOIS ASSOCIATION

The Lake Iroquois Association (LIA) is a volunteer organization with a mission of maintaining and enhancing a healthy lake ecosystem. LIA does this through monitoring, prevention, and partner initiatives, research, education, and advocacy. The LIA was very excited to receive the Lake Wise Gold award from Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VT-DEC) this year. The Lake Wise Program is a VT-DEC sponsored program. For a lake to achieve Lake Wise Gold status, 15% of a lake's total shoreline property owners must receive the Lake Wise Award. The Lake Wise Program was developed to educate lake shore property owners and incentivize them to invest and implement best management practices that enhance shoreline protection. Shoreline property owners undergo an assessment of their parcel of land. That land must meet specific criteria set forth in the program to be awarded the coveted Lake Wise designation. There are over 800 lakes and ponds in Vermont, and Lake Iroquois is one of only three in the state that have received this status. The LIA continues to work with property owners to help them achieve this Lake Wise Award. Below are some of the activities that LIA completed during the past year:

Sampling and Monitoring: Aquatic Plant Survey: Two plant surveys were conducted in 2023, one in the second week of June and the other plant survey was completed in the middle of September. These reports may be reviewed on the LIA website at: [www.lakeiroquois.org/about/annual-reports](http://www.lakeiroquois.org/about/annual-reports)

Lake Tributary Water Quality Monitoring: LIA has partnered with LaRosa Partnership Program (LPP) since 2011. This partnership has enabled LIA to identify tributaries of greatest concern that contribute to sediment and phosphorus pollution in the lake. LIA is then able to take action to remediate these problem areas.

Conservation: LIA continues to partner with the Loon Restoration Project, managed by Erik Hansen of the Vermont Center for Ecotudies. This year, LIA was pleased to report another successful hatch of two babies in the first week of June. This was the fourth successful hatch in the last four years.

### Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention

#### Greeter and Boat Wash Program

Our greeter and boat wash program runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. This past season we saw over 2800 launches with over 235 washes, about 12% of the watercraft. We are hoping to receive increased funding for 2024 to be able to run the greeter and boat wash program more days of the week.

The program is designed to educate recreational watercraft users on the importance of preventing invasives traveling from lake to lake. At present Lake Iroquois has only two aquatic invasive, whereas Lake Champlain has 51.

### Miscellaneous Highlights

#### Beebe Lane Stormwater Improvement Grant:

On behalf of the Lake Iroquois Recreation District (LIRD), LIA applied for and received a \$50,000 Watersheds United Vermont matching grant in support of implementation of this project. These funds will hopefully be paired with a successful Congressionally Directed Spending request from Senator Bernie Sanders' office, which will fund an additional \$320,000. Both LIRD and LIA have each committed matching funds to help with this project. LIRD has committed \$10,000 and LIA has committed to a match of \$15,000, with an anonymous donor pledging to bridge the final \$10,000. This project will improve water quality by correcting elevated sediment and phosphorus levels in the lake. Implementation of road-specific stormwater best management practices will address the issues of flooding, erosion, and difficulty with access. LIRD and LIA expect this project to be implemented and up and running in the latter portion of 2024.

Watershed Action Plan: The development of The Watershed Action Plan is funded by a Lake Champlain Basin Program grant in coordination with the Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District, and the Lewis Creek Association. The Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) is a result of the Watershed Action Plan. With the QAPP complete, field surveys have been identified and an implementation of projects for corrective action in the Lake Iroquois and Patrick Brook watersheds will be considered for work.

The Lake Iroquois Association is grateful for and appreciates the funding and support from the people and the town of Williston to carry out the above initiatives.

## **LAKE IROQUOIS RECREATION DISTRICT**

The Lake Iroquois Recreation District beach area, along with its 150 acres of open land, continues to serve the district towns (Williston, Richmond, Hinesburg, and St. George) as well as non-residents. The district lands provide access to swimming, picnicking, playground equipment, and walking trails.

The beach area also continues to host birthday parties and other individual and group functions. Costs for septic maintenance and summer staff continue to represent the bulk of our annual expenses.

Water quality sampling continues on a weekly basis and results are within State limits for beach facilities. LIRD continues to work on implementing the design for Beebe Lane improvements. We have received two grants to implement the improvements and are in the process of doing the final documents to hopefully get the project out to bid in the near future.

The treatment done to help eradicate Milfoil continues to make a cleaner swimming area but will be watched to see if future treatment may be needed and if so, we will work with the LIA toward possible retreatment.

The beach continues to be a beautiful and affordable local recreation area. We will open for the 2024 summer season on Memorial Day weekend and close on Labor Day weekend. Please come and enjoy this wonderful facility.

Jack Linn – Richmond  
Jeff Davis – Hinesburg, Chair  
Kim Conant – Williston

## **OLD BRICK CHURCH**

The Old Brick Church is a town-owned building and serves as a meeting place for community functions. Built in 1832, the Church served as the meeting house for the Congregational Society. For 67 years, the “Meeting House” was the devotional home for Williston’s most notable citizens, including the Chittenden family, the Spaffords, Millers and many others. Thirteen ministers served between 1832 and 1899. At the turn of the century, the Congregationalists joined with the Methodists and moved to the Federated Church, 300 yards to the east on Williston Road and the Brick Meeting House was closed. The period of vacancy of the building was prolonged. For almost 65 years, it languished in continuing deterioration. In 1965, ownership was given to the Town of Williston from the Federated Church and the building was accepted by the National Register as a historic site. Town funds renovated the cellar for community use, and Federal funding from Historic Sites restored the exterior and the sanctuary, while a grant from the Eva Gebhart-Gourgau Foundation enabled the restoration of the steeple to be completed. In June of 2008, a bolt of lightning directly hit the bell tower, setting it ablaze. A quick response by the Williston Fire Department saved the structure, but the water damage was extensive. An intensive effort was undertaken to restore this wonderful landmark, and through Williston Public Work’s coordination of many salvage, architectural and construction firms, the restoration was completed in time for that year’s annual Christmas Eve service.

There were several changes to the Board of Trustees this year. Bob Pasco moved out of town and left the Board. Margaret Butterfield, Sara Fitz-Pratt and Lauren Koumjian were appointed to the Board. John Butterfield assumed the position of Chair from Alice Beisiegel.

The Board of Trustees met in April, May, and December of this year. Major topics of discussion were the proposed fire suppression system, chimney repairs and the Verizon cellphone repeater projects. The fire suppression system is being designed. Chimney repairs are slated for either 2024 or 2025. Discussion and evaluation of the proposed Verizon cellphone repeater system are ongoing.

The Old Brick Church uses from July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023, were as follows:

(52) Sunday gatherings by the Christian Faith Assembly, (2) events by the Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, (4) events by the Recreation & Parks Department, (11) Town Band rehearsals, and reserved space as a backup location (weather dependent) for (4) performances, (3) meetings by various groups, (1) birthday party, (1) memorial service, and (2) trainings. The Williston Federated Church held a Christmas Eve Service in the chapel.

Routine outside landscape maintenance was performed. Appreciation and thanks were extended to Chapin Kaynor for his ongoing voluntary landscaping work.

Town personnel made building repairs, including replacement of rotted wood on the building exterior.

Fees for use of the sanctuary are \$200 plus a \$50 damage deposit and \$10 key deposit. Wedding rehearsal fees are \$50, and the fee for sanctuary use for memorial services is \$50. The meeting room usage fee is \$50 with the same deposit due for damage and key loss. The application/reservation form for use of the Old Brick Church can be found on the town’s website: [www.town.williston.vt.us](http://www.town.williston.vt.us).

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Beisiegel, John Butterfield (Chair), Margaret Butterfield, Sara Fitz-Pratt, Lauren Koumjian



## **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

It's an honor to serve as your State Representatives and our community's voices in Montpelier. The pandemic has made our legislative work far more transparent as all committee meetings and General Assembly sessions are streamed on YouTube and all are welcome to engage in our democratic work. Despite the ongoing challenges we face, our strength and resilience as a community continues to serve us well.

We share a commitment to:

### **Supporting Families:**

When we knocked on hundreds of doors during the 2022 campaign, one of the most common issues people voiced support for was making universal school meals permanent and we are pleased that has now become law. Universal meals in schools remove stigma for low-income students but ultimately support all families. We also strongly support the commitment to children and families we made through robust childcare legislation. This investment in a multi-year system transformation will make childcare more affordable for families, raise rates to provide financial stability for childcare businesses, and boost pay for our valued early childhood workforce.

### **Protecting Vermonters:**

Another issue we heard most passionately about from Willistonians was reproductive healthcare, and we voted in favor of Vermont's shield bill, which protects abortion and gender-affirming healthcare providers. We also know gun violence, including suicide, shatters families and communities and were proud to support legislation that builds upon the commonsense gun safety regulations enacted in 2018. It is our hope that future legislation will make it the law in Vermont that guns are to be stored securely, separate from ammunition.

### **Investing in Our Future:**

The FY2024 state budget is a values-based budget that invests in our state's most critical needs and our collective future. Highlights include significant investments in housing, raising provider rates for medical and human services programs, workforce incentives to attract and retain workers in fields with severe shortages, and an expansion of the "hub and spoke" treatment system for opioid use disorder.

We're off to a powerful start this session and look forward to the great work ahead. We look forward to providing monthly updates and organizing community conversations during the legislative session. Please reach us at [ebrady@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:ebrady@leg.state.vt.us) and [aarsenault@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:aarsenault@leg.state.vt.us) with your questions, concerns, or ideas anytime.

### **Representative Erin Brady:**

I serve as the Vice Chair of the House Committee on Education and will continue to focus on supporting our public-school students and teachers while also seeking to create more accessible pathways to post-secondary education for our graduates. We must continue the hard work of consolidating small schools and districts in order to ensure that students across the state have substantially equitable opportunities to learn while also ensuring that our statewide education fund is sustainable and maximizes the impact of our public dollars.

### **Representative Angela Arsenault:**

It's hard to believe that it's only been about a year since I was elected to the House of Representatives, but as I quickly learned in my first session, the work is intense, and time moves differently at the State House. I'm a member of the House Judiciary Committee, the Joint Committee on Judicial Retention, the Climate Solutions Caucus, and co-chair of the Women's Caucus. One of the highlights of my first term happened just a few weeks ago, when I had the honor of introducing a bill that is designed to help the members of the Williston Woods Homeowners Association with a very specific problem. As of this writing, the House Committee on General and Housing has taken up the bill and will hear further testimony as this session continues. Since space is short here, I'll save the details for another day and simply say that democracy works. Your voice matters. Things may take time, but it is always worth reaching out to share a concern or question or idea. Our work in Montpelier starts around your dinner table, at your job, in our schools, and in every corner of this great state. Please keep in touch.

## **GREEN MOUNTAIN TRANSIT**

Green Mountain Transit (GMT) provides public transportation services in Chittenden, Washington, Franklin, Grand Isle, and Lamoille Counties. Bus Route #1 which travels between Taft Corners, the University Mall, and Downtown Burlington, continues to be the most utilized route in the network serving 477,677 riders in 2023, which is 23% of GMT's urban ridership. Bus Route #10, operating between Taft Corners, Essex Junction, through Essex Town along Routes 2A and 15 had a ridership of 344,814, or 17% of the urban ridership. In addition to fixed route service, GMT contracts with SSTA to provide "paratransit" services (ADA, Medicaid, and Elders & Disabled) services in Williston.

Throughout 2023, GMT continued to provide fare-free services throughout its network. Funding changes have required a return to charging fares beginning the day after Town Meeting Day - March 6<sup>th</sup>. Regular fares throughout Chittenden County will be \$2.00 per ride. There will no longer be free transfers, however, there will be a \$4.00 maximum/per day fare. Those who qualify for discounted fares (individuals ages 6-17, Vermonters over the age of 60, persons with disabilities, and those with Medicare cards) will pay \$1.00 with a maximum per day fee of \$2.00. There is also a \$50 monthly fare cap (\$25 for discounted riders). Tickets will be able to be purchased on the buses (cash, debit, credit card, smartphone) or at the Downtown Transit Center.

As the new Williston Park & Ride opened in the fall of 2023, GMT was able to adjust routes slightly so that that important connector is now served by transit. The #86 Montpelier LINK Express now stops at this new location bringing riders from the Park & Ride to UVM, Lakeside Ave. and the Downtown Transit Center as well as from the Park & Ride to Waterbury and Montpelier.

GMT is also continuing its work to reduce carbon emissions with the addition of more electric vehicles. In partnership with VTrans through a Federal "Low or No Emissions" grant, more electric buses will be arriving and will be heading out onto our roads. More folks using public transit together combined with a lower emission fleet, provides more opportunity to reduce carbon footprint right here in our community. The Town of Williston continues to collaborate with GMT to examine how a "microtransit" service might serve Williston which could increase the ease with which folks get to where they want to go within Williston or connecting to other transit. ("Microtransit" is an "on-demand" service within a defined geographic area. A rider "orders" the service and it picks them up along with others needing a ride at or around the same time and drops them off within that defined geographic area.)

If you are not a transit rider, jumping on the bus can feel a bit intimidating (how, where, when?). GMT offers a great tool to help you plan your trip, map out your route, and help you to time your departures and arrivals. If you haven't tried it yet, this final window of fare free time (until March 6<sup>th</sup>) might be a great time. Check out the website at [RideGMT.com](https://ridegmt.com). There you can find the bus schedules, a trip planner tool, and a live view of the system map complete with moving bus icons to see exactly where each bus is in real time. One of the best recommendations to overcome discomfort with trying transit service for the first time is to grab a friend, find a day when you have some flexibility in your timing, and dive in.

Bus transit offers a great service both to our residents and to all who come to Williston, whether it's for work, service, shopping, education, or recreation. What makes the service most affordable is when it's highly used and when the cost of the service is shared among many. The Town of Williston, as a GMT Member Community, pays into this service as does the State of Vermont and the Federal Government. But as expenses increase to pay for staff, infrastructure, parts, etc., there is ample room for other funding investments, whether it is employers, housing developments, service providers, or individuals.

Amy Brewer and Chapin Kaynor continue to represent Williston as the GMT Commissioner (Amy) and Alternate (Chapin). We encourage you to take the bus whenever you can. It is a service for all.



Contact GMT for Route and Schedule Information by phone: 802-864-2282, by e-mail: [info@ridegmt.com](mailto:info@ridegmt.com) , or visit us online at: [RideGMT.com](http://RideGMT.com).

Williston GMT Commissioner Amy Brewer can be reached at [ABrewer@ridegmt.com](mailto:ABrewer@ridegmt.com)

Williston GMT Alternate Chapin Kaynor can be reached at [CKaynor@ridegmt.com](mailto:CKaynor@ridegmt.com)

## **VERMONT LEAGUE OF CITIES & TOWNS**

The Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, owned by its member municipalities, with a mission to serve and strengthen Vermont local government. It is directed by a 13-member Board of Directors elected by the membership and comprising municipal officials from across the state.

**Member Benefits** - All 247 Vermont cities and towns are members of VLCT, as are 142 other municipal entities that include villages, solid waste districts, regional planning commissions, and fire districts. Members have exclusive access to a wide range of specialized benefits, expertise, and services, including:

- **Legal and technical assistance**, including prompt responses to member questions that often involve how to comply with state and federal requirements. Staff responds to thousands of member questions and publishes guidance, templates, research reports, and FAQs. In 2023, VLCT specialists provided government-specific finance training as well as resources and consultation that help Vermont's cities and towns comply with federal rules for receiving federal ARPA and infrastructure funding. Staff also provides input to state leaders on designing and implementing grant programs for municipalities.
- **Trainings and timely communications on topics of specific concern to local officials.** The League provides training via webinars, classes at members' locations, and its annual member conference, the largest gathering of municipal officials in the state. In the wake of the 2023 floods, VLCT became a crucial information hub for local officials. VLCT's Equity Committee assists local officials in centering the work of justice, diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging in their municipalities' decision making, policies, practices, and programs.
- **Representation before the state legislature, state agencies, and the federal government**, ensuring that municipal concerns are heard collectively and as a single, united voice. VLCT's recent legislative efforts have helped cities and towns access additional resources to respond to the pandemic, repair roads and bridges, enact cybersecurity, improve housing and economic growth, promote renewable energy, provide emergency medical services, address equity and inclusion, and ensure the quality of our drinking water. Specific success in 2023 includes securing \$3 million for towns to expand their capacity to access state and federal grants through the Municipal Technical Assistance Program, fighting to balance changes to local zoning laws with state land use laws to facilitate housing construction, elevating awareness of the financial difficulties rural emergency medical services face, amplifying municipal concerns as the Legislature contemplates moving toward a state-led reappraisal system, and increasing municipal authorities in statute. Members are also represented at the federal level to Vermont's Congressional delegation and through our partner, the National League of Cities.
- **Access to insurance programs.** The Property and Casualty Intermunicipal Fund (PACIF) provides comprehensive and cost-effective property, liability, and workers' compensation insurance coverage, programs, and services that protect the assets of your community. The VLCT Unemployment Insurance Trust provides unemployment insurance at stable pricing. VLCT also offers members group rates on important benefits for municipal employees: life, disability, dental, and vision insurance. All the programs offer coverage and products that members need and ask for, help Vermont municipalities stretch their budgets, and are *only* available to VLCT members.

Members are welcome to contact VLCT anytime to ask questions and to access resources to help them carry out the important work of local government. **To learn more about the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, visit [vlct.org](https://vlct.org).** Recent audited financial statements are available at [vlct.org/AuditReports](https://vlct.org/AuditReports).



## U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Dear Veteran,

The White River Junction VA Medical Center is attempting to contact all Veterans in our catchment area of Vermont and New Hampshire who are not enrolled or are enrolled and no longer utilizing our services. If you currently receive our services, please pass this note on to a Veteran who may benefit. In Reply Refer to: 405/00

We offer a wide variety of services including assistance to Veterans who are homeless or unemployed to providing primary and specialty care. We have a robust mental health department offering one-on-one counseling, peer support, group sessions, and more. There is a designated treatment area for our women Veterans at the Women's Comprehensive Care Clinic, a safe space.

The White River Junction VA Medical Center has seven community-based outpatient clinics. They are located in Bennington, Rutland, Brattleboro, Newport and Burlington, Vermont; in New Hampshire we offer services in Keene and Littleton. We are here to serve all Veterans, please do not hesitate to contact us, if for no other reason than to register/enroll with us in case of future need.

Our eligibility office in White River Junction can be reached at 802-295-9363 extension 5118. A single form - VA form 10-10EZ – and a copy of the DD214 is all that is needed.

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
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Disabled American Veterans	802-296-5167
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Veterans of Foreign Wars	802-296-5168
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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.

**White River Junction VA Medical Center**  
**White River Junction, VT 05009**  
**866-687-8387 (Toll Free)**  
**802-295-9363 (Commercial)**

## **CHITTENDEN SOLID WASTE DISTRICT**

The Chittenden Solid Waste District is a municipality created to implement solid waste management mandates legislated by the State of Vermont. The District is governed by a Board of Commissioners representing the communities of Chittenden County, Vermont.

### **MISSION**

The Chittenden Solid Waste District's mission is to reduce and manage the solid waste generated within Chittenden County in an environmentally sound, efficient, effective, and economical manner.

### **FINANCIALS**

Thanks to continued conservative budgeting and belt-tightening, the Chittenden Solid Waste District remained on strong financial footing in Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023). The District's unaudited FY23 total operating expenses were \$11,977,611.33 and operating revenues were \$13,697,757.70 for a net surplus of \$1,720,146.37 to be used for general reserves.

### **SOLID WASTE GENERATION AND DIVERSION**

The residents, businesses, and institutions of our 18 member towns and cities generated an estimated 309,781 tons of materials to be managed in calendar year 2022, compared with 305,404 tons in 2021, with the increase likely due to increased construction and overall economic activity. Chittenden County continues to be among the national leaders in landfill diversion, with an estimated 67.8% of those materials recovered in 2022 via composting (food scraps, leaves, and yard trimmings), anaerobic digestion, blue-bin recycling, recycling of construction and demolition materials and other special materials recycling. The [2022 Diversion Report](#) is available on our website.

### **MOVING INTO THE FUTURE**

#### **New Materials Recycling Facility Bond Approved by Voters**

In the November 2022 General Election, Chittenden County voters approved authorization for the Chittenden Solid Waste District to issue general obligation bonds to fund a new Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) to sort and process blue-bin recyclables, and which will replace our current thirty-year-old MRF. The results showed over 80% voted in favor of the MRF ballot initiative.

CSWD will supplement the \$22 million in approved general obligation bonds and notes with funds from reserves and grants. The loans will be repaid from MRF operating revenue. The District will begin permitting and design in 2023 with construction completed in 2025.

#### **Improvements Made at Organics Recycling Facility**

Significant improvements were made at the CSWD Organics Recycling Facility (ORF) including site reconfiguration to improve operations and traffic flow, relocation of the commercial scale, renovation of an existing building to house the main office and the installation of a waterline to bring water further down Redmond Road. The improvements were made to increase efficiency in operations, improve traffic safety entering and exiting the facility, and to add yard waste collection for the public.

#### **CSWD Administration Moves to South Burlington Offices**

COVID-19 demonstrated the necessity of healthy and safe working facilities and the shortcomings of CSWD's Administration offices at 1021 Redmond Road in Williston. Initially, CSWD planned to build its own administration building on its Williston property. After receiving several high estimates for the build, CSWD leadership decided that leasing office would be a more fiscally responsible choice. In April, CSWD staff moved into a property owned by the City of South Burlington and shared with the South Burlington Police Department at 19 Gregory Drive.

The complete CSWD Annual Report will be available in February 2024 at [CSWD.net](https://www.cswd.net).

## GREEN UP VERMONT



**GREEN UP VERMONT**

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



**Green Up Day**, continued to grow with 23,500 volunteers statewide who cleaned up nearly 348 tons of litter and 15,000 tires. We saw 23% more volunteers lend a hand and heard in many cases there was less litter (30%) to be cleaned up. Tire collection saw a 4.8% increase. The statistics show that the hard work to beautify Vermont is still needed but also that our efforts for awareness are paying off. As one of Vermont's favorite traditions, it is imperative for today and for future generations to keep building pride, awareness, and stewardship for a clean Vermont, 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 for 2024.

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

Green Up Vermont is a private nonprofit organization that relies on your support to execute the tradition of cleaning up our roads and waterways, while promoting civic pride, and community engagement. **Thank you for supporting 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 online at [www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org).

**Join us for Green Up Day on May 4, 2024.** Visit our website, like us on Facebook (@greenupvermont), and follow on Instagram (greenupvermont). [greenup@greenupvermont.org](mailto:greenup@greenupvermont.org) 802-522-7245

## **VSNIP**

### **TIME TO SPAY & NEUTER CATS & DOGS and LICENSE!**

The VT Spay Neuter Incentive Program (VSNIIP), under VT Economic Services is administered by VT Volunteer Services for Animals Humane Society (VVSa). Funded by a \$4.00 fee added to the licensing of dogs, resources are limited by the number of dogs licensed as required by law by 6 months of age. A rabies vaccination is required to license. The first vaccination can be given at 12 weeks of age. If unable to schedule an appointment with a vet office, Community Animal Aid (free to those on public assistance: 734-0259 at the E. Barre Fire Station) & Tractor Supply host monthly clinics. After vaccinating, contact your Town Clerk to license your dog. By statute, unlicensed dogs can be seized.

#### **Rabies is in Vermont, and it is deadly.**

Licensing identifies your dog and is proof the dog is protected in the event of being bitten by an animal but would still need immediate medical attention. Vaccinations and licensing protect if they bite another animal or person, which could result in the quarantine of the animal or being euthanized. If not proven by being licensed to be currently vaccinated, testing for rabies requires the brain to be examined.

For an Application for VSNIIP send a Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope to: VSNIIP, PO Box 104, Bridgewater, VT 05034. Note if it is for a cat, dog, or both. To print out, go to: [VSNIIP.Vermont.Gov](http://VSNIIP.Vermont.Gov). VSNIIP helps income challenged Vermonters with neutering and vaccinations. If approved, you'll receive a Voucher and instructions. If not, a list of low-cost resources will be sent. Several humane societies host spay neuter clinics open to the public. Your cost for a VSNIIP surgery is \$27.00, if without complications. The balance is paid by fellow Vermonters with their \$4.00 fee collected at licensing. **Veterinarians and their staff are the backbone of this important program. Thanks to their generosity and altruistic vision, Vermont no longer uses routine euthanasia as a means of population control. Sincerely thank your veterinarian for their participation in VSNIIP. If they are not currently a participating office, please ask them to join and help make a difference in your community. They are very needed.**

**Facts:** Female cats as young as 4 months can become pregnant. The "mom" cat can/will become pregnant when nursing is finished. Males travel for miles to find a female in heat, often not returning. Cats and dogs (naturally) mark their territory if not neutered. Resolve Carpet Cleaner and a single moth ball in its place will help deter repeat markings. (Do not use moth balls with young children in the house.) 70% of cats and 15% of dogs using VSNIIP are reported as strays or abandoned, which is cruel and illegal. Please do promote VSNIIP, helping those that cannot afford to neuter, that will otherwise reproduce over and over. Repeat litters can cause uterine infection, mammary tumors, kidney failure, etc., leading to death. "Farm" cats are especially at risk. Be wary of any seller of animals that won't allow you to see how they are kept before acquiring them and want to meet in a parking lot. Animals are often used as a means of making money, and their life may be inside a room or cage. Please be the voice for those that cannot speak. Purchasing does not 'save' one, it 'enables' those to continue to misuse animals for money. Thank you for promoting this time proven program.

Thanks to now retired Lynn Murrell, DVM, who first agreed to extend reduced rates for animals in need, and all the Veterinarians and Clinics that served for the last forty years plus. A sincere thank you to Bernard "Snook" Downing for helping support many animals in need over the years with his hard work, contributions, and the donors we are unable to thank in print – but you know who you are!

***Together We Truly Do Make a Difference!*** 800 HI VSNIIP (1-800-448-7647)

Sue Skaskiw, Administrator: VSNIIP      Executive Director: VVSa



# 2023 Annual Report for Williston

## OUR PROGRAMS

Adult Home Health  
Hospice & Palliative Care  
McClure Miller Respite House  
Family & Children's Program  
Long-Term Care  
Adult Day Program  
Foot Care  
Wound Care

## CARING FOR RESIDENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY

**226**

Number of  
Williston residents  
the UVM Health Network—  
Home Health & Hospice  
cared for in the last year.



THE  
**University of Vermont**  
HEALTH NETWORK

**Home Health & Hospice**



## Care at Home. For All Ages and Stages of Life.

**Vermont's oldest and largest non-profit home health and hospice agency and the only Medicare-certified inpatient hospice residence.**

The University of Vermont Health Network— Home Health & Hospice is part of a health system. This ensures that care at home is integrated for individuals and families in Chittenden and Grand Isle counties.

## Experience Matters.

**Our patient and family experience of care ratings surpass Vermont and National averages.**

The way our patients experience care is important to us. [Medicare's Care Compare website](#) publicly displays our ratings, demonstrating that our patients and their caregivers rate us highly for home health and hospice care and would recommend our agency to their friends and family.

# Local Health Office Annual Report: 2023

**Burlington Local Health Office | 108 Cherry Street, Suite 102, Burlington, VT  
802-863-7323 | AHS.VDHBurlington@Vermont.gov**

Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the Vermont Department of Health. **The Burlington Local Health Office provides essential services and resources to towns in Chittenden County.** Some highlights of our work in 2023 are below. For more information, visit [HealthVermont.gov/local/burlington](https://HealthVermont.gov/local/burlington)



## **Women, Infants & Children (WIC), Family and Child Health**

Our office served over 2,000 pregnant women, new mothers and young children this year. Our WIC staff provides families with healthy foods, nutrition education, breast/chest feeding support and referrals to health care providers and community resources. While we recently celebrated the return to in-person services, we still offer appointments over the phone so that everyone can easily use WIC services. Learn more at [www.healthvermont.gov/wic](https://www.healthvermont.gov/wic).



## **Emergency Preparedness**

The Burlington Local Health Office supported community members impacted by the historic flooding this summer. Across the state, our staff helped at flood resource centers, gave out water test kits and shared information in our communities about how to stay safe. We prepare for future public health emergencies by working with community partners such as schools, hospitals and emergency personnel to ensure preparedness to distribute medicine, supplies and information.



## **Healthy Communities**

Health is affected by more than just healthcare. Transportation, housing, education, food access, social connections and economic opportunity also play a role. Throughout the year, our office has worked with towns, schools, worksites, health care providers and other community organizations. These groups work together to evaluate the health and equity needs of our community and help create local policies and projects to improve the community's health and quality of life for all ages.



# **2023 Annual Report**

## **Champlain Valley School District**



The Champlain Valley School District's Annual Report including the proposed Annual Budget and Annual Report Card is available on the CVSD website at: <https://www.cvsdvt.org/Page/602>

This online material includes information that is no longer in the local annual Town Report.

All households were mailed an informational booklet from the school district in place of the report.



Dear CVSD Families and Community Members,

Thank you for your unwavering support of our Champlain Valley students, staff, and schools. We deeply value the enduring partnership between the district and the community. Connecting with you at in-person and online events has been a joy, and your feedback and guidance are greatly appreciated. Your input allows us to celebrate our strengths and address any concerns that may arise.

This year, our budget request will differ from previous years due to three significant events: the conclusion of ESSER funding, the implementation of Act 127, and the need for facility improvements.

CVSD has received over \$4 million in COVID-related grants known as Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) since 2021. These funds provided resources like personal protective equipment, support for virtual school, summer programming, intervention initiatives, data analysis tools, mental health staff, and technology. ESSER funding is set to end in September 2024; we have incorporated almost 72% of the personnel and recurring resources into our upcoming budget.

The school finance law, Act 127, has influenced this year's budget process. Act 127 aims to allocate funds equitably to school districts, considering factors that marginalize certain student groups. This new funding model aligns with our goal of helping Vermont students succeed academically and feel a sense of belonging. The state has provided a five-year protective runway, ensuring our pre-CLA tax rate won't exceed 5% if per-weighted pupil spending doesn't increase by 10% or more. However, when factoring in the common level of appraisal (CLA), tax rates across our five towns will increase by an average of 18%. This 18% tax rate stays consistent regardless of whether our proposed budget request is \$105 million or \$88 million.

Our school buildings have unique expansion, security, ventilation, and other essential needs. A newly created CVSD Facility Committee of board members, administration, school personnel, and community volunteers will assess building needs, create a timeline, and develop a funding plan. Funding options may include the general fund or a bond election. Maintaining regular and transparent communication during this process is crucial, given the timing of facility improvements and the end of Act 127's protection in 2029.

Despite this convergence, our district remains committed to prioritizing the needs of our students. I am writing to sincerely thank all CVSD faculty, staff, and administrators for their unwavering dedication. In the current educational landscape, fostering growth and a sense of belonging is not solely the responsibility of teachers and schools but also the entire system. The budget proposal outlined in this document and on the Town Meeting Day ballots reflects this collective responsibility. With the services and resources this budget supports, I am confident that our students will continue to shine brightly, not just within Champlain Valley, but also within Vermont and beyond.

Again, thank you for the valuable support of our students, faculty, staff, and district.

Rene Sanchez, Superintendent  
Champlain Valley School District

Dear CVSD Community,

The budget formulation process this year has been the most challenging I've experienced since becoming a board member five years ago.

There's no way to spin a tax rate increase on the order of 18%. It is not something we – or our administrators – wanted. But through a series of external events, mainly a big change in the way our students are counted (or weighted) by the Agency of Education, as well as inflation and the massive increase in home values throughout our district, it is where we find ourselves.

We can't ask you to like this change. All we can do is ask you to understand it, and to support what our schools do for the children of our communities every day. Providing a high-quality education with class sizes at or below Education Quality Standards is only half of the story.

On any given day – really at any given moment – folks within our schools may be helping a family navigate homelessness, food insecurity, or a mental health crisis. They may be noticing social challenges and getting groups of kids together to help another student feel connected. They might be holding a child's hand in grief or celebrating a personal milestone that another child never thought they'd accomplish.

Throughout the halls and in the classrooms of our schools you will see moments full of joy, wonder, anxiety, and fear, because the whole of childhood is contained within those walls. It's a remarkable thing. And, yes, it costs money to support all of that *becoming*.

Your tax dollars are turned into growth and love inside our schools every day.

So in this particularly difficult budget year, we ask you to once again support our schools in the vital work they do for our kids. We remind you that Vermont offers an income-sensitive property tax credit to families with a household income up to \$128,000. And we say, "*We know. This is a lot to ask.*"

We did the very best we could to responsibly contain costs while maintaining our ability to provide the education and services that our kids and families need and deserve.

With deep gratitude,  
Angela Arsenault  
Chair, CVSD Board of Directors

# FY25 BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

## Homestead Tax Rate

The forecasted state-wide homestead yield is estimated at \$9,452 which, based on the state's formula, produces a pre-CLA equalized homestead tax rate of \$1.37 (per \$100 of property value) for the CVSD towns. Actual tax rates are adjusted further in each town for a statewide Common Level of Appraisal (CLA).

## PRE-CLA HOMESTEAD TAX RATE

FY24	FY25
\$1.30	\$1.37

## CLA AND ACTUAL HOMESTEAD TAX RATE WITH CLA APPLIED

Equalized Tax Rate \$1.30	Common Level of Appraisal	Estimated Homestead Rate w/CLA Applied	% Change from Last Year	\$ Change from previous year per \$100,000
Charlotte	104.5%	\$1.31	+20%	+\$216
Hinesburg	67.6%	\$2.02	+21%	+\$356
Shelburne	68.7%	\$1.99	+18%	+\$304
St. George	71.6%	\$1.91	+13%	+\$223
Williston	69.1%	\$1.98	+18%	+\$304

## COST PER WEIGHTED PUPIL

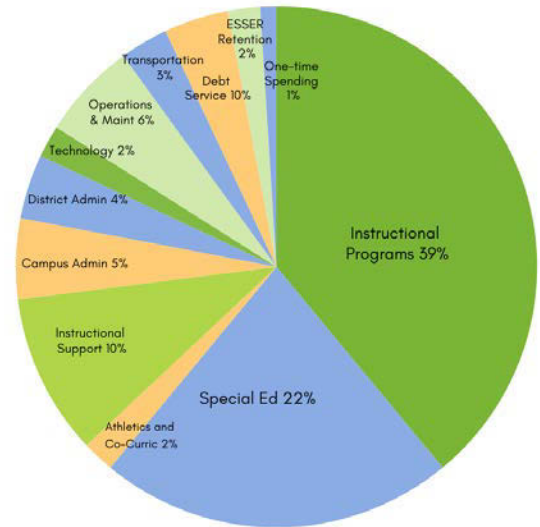
FY24 Cost per pupil	FY25 Cost per pupil	Percent Change
\$14,511	\$15,929	9.8

## Property Tax Relief

You may be eligible for an education property tax reduction that will be applied to your tax bill if your household income is less than \$128,000. To apply for tax relief contact the Vermont Department of Taxes at [www.tax.vermont.gov](http://www.tax.vermont.gov) or 802-828-2505.

## FY25 PROPOSED BUDGET

2023 - 2024 Budget	\$96,119,804
Salaries	\$3,173,109
Health insurance	\$2,697,854
Other Benefits	\$530,187
Supplies, Materials, Energy	-\$270,543
Debt Service	\$338,474
<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>\$102,588,885</b>
ARP ESSER Retention	\$1,700,178
One-Time Spending - Facilities	\$1,512,122
<b>2024 - 2025 Budget</b>	<b>\$105,801,185</b>



**2024-2025 ALLOCATIONS**



### OUR VALUES

Learning - Growth - Curiosity - Equity - Community  
- Respect - Collaboration - Belonging - Joy

### OUR VISION

We are an innovative and thriving community  
focused on personal and collective growth and  
belonging for all.

### OUR MISSION

CVSD will educate and empower all students with  
the knowledge, understanding, skills, and curiosity  
to contribute to and flourish in a complex world.

## CVSD BOARD BUDGET GOALS

- Support the implementation of CVSD's Mission and Vision
- Meet or Exceed Education Quality Standards
- Implement Key Initiatives
- Implement and continue to improve the budget process, including a focus on community input
- ... at a cost the community will support.

Please visit the district's Budget Page on our website for more information and to view our Annual Report.  
<https://www.cvsdvt.org/budget>





You don't know what you're missing until you can't use it!

The culvert on Talcott Road was out of commission for almost two months in July of 2022. The Department of Public Works was instrumental in closing the road for safety, monitoring the progress, and getting this back open to the heavy flow of cars, pedestrians and cyclists that use this road on daily basis to get to school, work, and many homes.