

Town of Ryegate Vermont

2022 Annual Report



This scene, between Wells River and East Ryegate, was photographed by Norman B Gutterson of Fairview Farm in Ryegate Corner.

Photo from Ryegate History book, Down of the Thistle by Rev. White

Please bring this report to
Town Meeting
On Tuesday, March 7, 2023
1pm

Dedication

Since the Pandemic it has been noted that many people in all walks of life are giving up their paying jobs, even their careers. Many keeping their jobs have gravitated toward working from home or only working part time. One interesting counter observation that seems to run true is that people continue to Volunteer. Running through the lists of Commissions and Committees in Ryegate one finds them fully staffed, most often with volunteers. From as early in the alphabet as C for Cemetery Commissions, and as late as Z for Zoning Board, Volunteers abound. These important Municipal functions could not be staffed if all committees were required to pay wages. Going on through the list one finds volunteers in Justices of the Peace, in Library Commissions, Historical Societies, NEK Waste Management Supervisors, Energy Committees, the Ticklenaked Pond Association, Community Broadband Commissions to name only a few.

Looking at the broader scope of Ryegate, it's citizens continue to volunteer in all parts of the area. There are food drives being held to help stock local food shelves. There are volunteer committees planning Winter and Summer Festivals. There is a committee replacing flags on Veterans' graves every spring in all town cemeteries before Memorial Day. There are Green Up Day volunteers helping pick up the trash every May that others have volunteered to throw down. There are people volunteering to plow out Church driveways and shoveling out post office walks even when no one is watching. Countless window and flower boxes have been planted by volunteers under and beside town signs that were planned and paid for by people who just want to help beautify our town. There are volunteer Little League coaches and people setting up outdoor Little Puzzle and Book Libraries for everyone's use and enrichment. Volunteers at the Groton/Ryegate Recycling Center are in East Ryegate every Friday afternoon and Saturday morning to accept Ryegate's recycled goods.

The list could go on but let's sum it up by thanking all those unpaid volunteers who continue to serve in such a selfless way. Many volunteers have been heard to say they get more out of their volunteering than they put into it. In any case the Town of Ryegate remains grateful to those hours of unsung volunteerism that have helped make Ryegate the caring town that it is.



The Report of the Officers of the

Town
of
Ryegate
Vermont

In preparation for Town Meeting Day

On

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

2022

Annual Report
Of Town Officers
For the Year Ended
December 31, 2022

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Ryegate Summer Festival 2022



Selectboard Narrative

2022 has been the year that we were finally able to get back to in person meetings. We were able to have a in person Town Meeting after 2 years of voting by Australian Ballot. With Covid still lingering the Select Board worked to keep everyone safe. An air purifier was purchased with ARPA funds to use at the Town office during meetings. Laptops were also purchased for the Board and Clerk to use for Town business and offer hybrid (ZOOM) meetings.

We welcomed several new faces to Town business. Catherine Davie was elected as a new Lister and David Punt as Auditor. After Richard Hodgson's resignation as Auditor. The Board appointed Lauren Nelson to fill the vacancy.

The US Government broadened the uses for the American Rescue-Plan Act Grant. ARPA funds were used for several projects throughout Town. East Ryegate village received a new roof on the wastewater sand filtration system and the pump house. South Ryegate Library received ARPA funds to upgrade the water, sewer and building. The library is now open to the public. Ryegate corner Fire Station will be getting a new roof in 2023, to name a few. We are pleased with the wide variety of requests for use of the ARPA funds.

Spring of 2022 brought the worst mud season we have encountered in 20 years. Several roads were impassable. The Highway Dept. worked diligently to open the roads to thru traffic in a timely manner. Work continues on the true layout of Meader Trail. The surveyor has completed the research and will install markers as weather permits. We are working with the landowners for a resolution. The surveyor has also been working with the Town on Stone Road. There were questions about the true length of the road and a right of way into the Quarry.

In November the Board voted to change the Volunteer Fire Department to a Municipal Department due to personnel issues. By doing this it gives the Board a direct role in the personnel management of the Dept. We would like to pay the firefighters for calls they respond to. We feel that this would be an incentive to attract new members. We hope that these changes will rebuild the trust of the community and surrounding towns in our fire dept.

Auditors' Narrative

In accordance with Vermont Statutes Annotated Title 24, §1681, the board of Auditors has verified the existence of cash balances, and examined the accounts and records of town officers. To the best of our knowledge, the financial statements, reports of receipts, disbursements, assets and liabilities contained in this annual report present an accurate record of the funds handled in the year ending December 31, 2022.

The auditors as a group verify bank accounts and paid bills on a monthly basis and fund balances on a quarterly basis.

The auditors welcomed David Punt to fulfill Richard Fraser's term. The board also lost auditor Richard Hodgson who resigned from the board after serving 2 full terms. Richard was a very competent member and worked well with the board and offered his assistance to the treasurer whenever possible. Lauren Nelson was appointed to the board to fulfill his term for this year. Both David and Lauren have been a pleasure to work with and have proved to be very capable as elected auditors.

The inflation being experienced nationwide has hit the Ryegate highway department particularly hard with the increased cost of fuel, parts, road salt, and sand.

During our monthly work sessions of reviewing bills paid questions arose regarding the Recycling center. The suggestion has been made to issue resident ID tags to valid users of the Groton/Ryegate recycling facility.

Respectfully Submitted, Thomas Dole Lauren Nelson David Punt

Towns Officers Appointed by the Selectboard

TOWN OFFICERS APPOINTED BY THE SELECTBOARD	
Road Foreman	Nelson Elder
Clerk for the Select Board	Elizabeth Page
Fence Viewers	The Selectboard
Pound Keeper	Riverside-Lunenberg
Surveyor of Wood & Lumber & Weigher of Coal	Bruce Beauvais
Tree Warden	Darcy Nelson
Agent to Convey Real Estate	Dean Rowden
Town Service Officer	Vacant
Health Officer	Stephen Genereaux, MD
Animal Control Officer	Rachel Clough
Energy Officer	The Selectboard
Green Up Chairmen	Makayla Perkins
NEK Waste District	Gene Perkins, Supervisor Andrew Smith, Vice Super
Planning/Zoning Commission:	
Term expires 2023	Alice Allen
Term expires 2023	Stephen Genereaux
Term expires 2024	Fremont Nelson
Term expires 2024	Regina Hazel
Term expires 2024	Catherine Davie
Term expires 2024	Mary Dole
Term Expires 2025	Walter Bragg
Term Expires 2025	Richard Colby II
Term Expires 2025	Nancy Perkins
Zoning Administrator	William Elder
Northeastern Vermont Develop Assoc.	Darryl Perkins
Connecticut River Joint Commissions	Sally Wilson
First Grand Juror	Dean Rowden
APPOINTED BY THE TOWN CLERK	
Town Clerk's Assistant	Marsha Nelson
APPOINTED BY THE TREASURER	
Treasurer's Assistant	Patricia Crocker



Town Officers 2022

MODERATOR	Regina Hazel-1 year term
TOWN CLERK	Elizabeth Page-1 year term
TREASURER	Cheryl Slayton-1 year term

SELECT BOARD

Term expires March 2023	Steven Crandall 3-year term
Term expires March 2024	Andrew Smith
Term expires March 2025	Darryl Perkins

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR	Dale Wright
FIRST CONSTABLE	Vacant

LISTERS:

Term expires March, 2023	Regina Hazel
Term expires March, 2024	Catherine Davie
Term expires March, 2025	Sally Wilson

AUDITOR

Term expires March, 2023	Thomas Dole
Term expires March, 2024	David Punt
Term expires March, 2025	Richard Hodgson (Resigned 5/23/22)
	Lauren Nelson- Appointed by Select Board (6/13/22)

LIBRARY TRUSTEES:

Term expires March, 2023	Marsha Nelson-5 year term
Term expires March, 2024	Jennifer Nelson
Term expires March, 2025	Mary Dole
Term expires March, 2026	Deanna Arnosky
Term expires March, 2027	Cynthia Fraser

CEMETERY COMMISSIONER:

Term expires March, 2023	Melissa Mann - 5 year term
Term expires March, 2024	Richard Colby II
Term expires March, 2025	Daniel LaCoss
Term expires March, 2026	Bruce Nelson
Term expires March, 2027	William Nelson

UNION SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

Term expires March, 2023	Allana Page- 3 year term
Term expires March, 2024	Angeline Alley
Term expires March, 2025	Kristen Murray
Term expires March, 2025	Paul Hazel



Photos taken at the
S Ryegate Public
Library

Accounts Administered by SelectBoard and Treasurer 2022

	Beginning Balance	Deposit	Withdrawal	Interest Credited	Ending Balance
1) So. Ryegate Sewer					
#273086	\$1,590.97			\$0.80	\$1,591.77
2) Fire Dept Building Fund					
#634466	\$526.19			\$0.24	\$526.43
3) Fire Dept Eq. Repl.					
#632300	\$36,628.49	1) \$28906.37		\$31.33	\$65,566.19
4) Machine Fund-Hgwy					
#612080	\$102,407.06	2) \$75,000.00		\$52.97	\$177,460.03
5) Ryegate History Committee					
#524317	\$7,709.74			\$7.70	\$7,717.44
6) Nicole A. Hayne					
#528494	\$17,339.80	3) \$ 5000.00	4) \$350.00	\$17.34	\$22,007.14
#905929	\$9,934.52			\$79.71	\$10,014.23
7) M. Hall Library					
#195892	\$35.01	7) \$2500.58	5) \$412.00	\$0.58	\$2,124.17
#905933	\$2,488.15			\$12.43	\$2,500.58
#909982	\$88,967.37			\$535.27	\$89,502.64
8) W. Sutton Memorial					
#552067	\$106.42			\$0.04	\$106.46
9) Fire Dpt Truck Repl					
#673078	\$93,246.78	6) \$13000.00		\$46.92	\$106,293.70
10) E. Ryegate Library					
#9358817841	\$2,008.76			\$0.24	\$2,009.00
1) Budget to Actual Fire Dept Contribution			5) So Ryegate Library Donation		
2) 2021 Budget Contribution			6) 2021 Contrib. Fire Truck Replacement Fund		
3) Donation By Gitta Weesner in Mem of John Weesner			7) Transfer of CD		
4) Summer Fair					
11) John F. McColl Cemetery					
#810875	\$3,539.88			\$27.20	\$3,567.08
#905930	\$2,405.56			\$19.30	\$2,424.86
#234630	\$106.45			\$0.04	\$106.49
12) McDonald Cemetery					
#290409	\$321.30			\$0.16	\$321.46
13) Byrne-Buchanan Cemetery					
#304502	\$492.87			\$0.24	\$493.11
14) C A Park Cemetery					
#506625	\$699.91			\$0.36	\$700.27
15) E. Hall Cemetery					
#195915	\$1,426.66			\$0.72	\$1,427.38
16) M. Hall Cemetery					
#195928	\$1,642.31			\$124.95	\$1,767.26
#905931	\$4,079.70			\$32.72	\$4,112.42
146 Shares Bank of America	\$4,467.76				\$4,467.76
#909983	\$1,449.51			\$8.73	\$1,458.24
17) Ticklenaked Pond Checking					
#389315	\$6,819.43	\$2,268.72	\$2,245.44		\$6,842.71
18) BMU Little League					
#565393	\$665.13			\$0.32	\$665.45
19) Lind Homes Housing					
#565353	\$4,368.35			\$4.37	\$4,372.72

2022 Town Employee Compensation

Employee Name	2022 Pay Rate	Gross Wages	Retirement	Bonus	Health Ins	FICA	Total Compensation
Nelson Elder	24.65 Hourly	56,216.09	4,584.09	200	10,697.10	4,278.66	75,975.94
Road Foreman							
Andrew Nelson	18.50 Hourly	41,134.82	3,358.36	200	10,697.10	3,131.85	58,522.13
Road Crew							-
Larry Welch	21.34 Hourly	48,964.30	3,994.87	200	10,697.10	3,740.31	67,596.58
Road Crew							
Bruce Boyce	20.50 Hourly	42,337.64	3,456.90	200	10,697.10	3,167.79	59,859.43
Road Crew							
Daniel Leonard, RdCr	16.00 Hourly	440				33.66	473.66
Jason Sulham, Rd Cr	16.00 Hourly	576				44.04	620.04
Levi Welch, Rd Crew	16.00 Hourly	48				3.68	51.68
Marsha Nelson	17.42 Hourly	1,618.40		200		139.11	1,957.51
AsstClerk/Sel. Clerk	750.00 Annual						
Cheryl Slayton	427.25 Weekly	19,530.60		200	10,285.74	1,509.58	31,525.92
Treasurer							
Patricia Crocker	17.42 Hourly	2,090.40		200		175.21	2,465.61
Asst. Treas/ Clerk							
Elizabeth Page T/C	467.49 Weekly	26,757.05		200	10,697.10	2,062.08	39,716.23
Clerk of Selectboard	2250.00 Annual						
David Punt, Jr. Aud	17.42 Hourly	400.67				30.66	431.33
Thomas Dole, Aud.	17.42 Hourly	796.52				60.93	857.45
Richard Hodgson, Aud	17.42 Hourly	257.15				19.67	276.82
Lauren Nelson, Aud.	17.42 Hourly	235.18				18	253.18
Dale Wright	8% Collection Fee	7,699.43				589.01	8,288.44
Tax Collector							
Regina Hazel	17.42 Hourly	3,977.99				304.31	4,282.30
Lister							
Catherine Davie	17.42 Hourly	1,299.26				99.39	1,398.65
Lister							
Sally Wilson	17.42 Hourly	2,464.74				188.55	2,653.29
Lister							
Gene Perkins **	17.42 Hourly	6,312.79				482.93	6,795.72
Recycling							
Andrew Smith	Annual	2,045.20				156.46	2,201.66
Selectboard/Field Comp							
Darryl Perkins	Annual	1,000.00				76.5	1,076.50
Selectboard							
Steve Crandall	Annual	1,000.00				76.5	1,076.50
Selectboard							
		267,202.23	15,394.22	1,600.00	63,771.24	20,388.88	368,356.57
		Additional Employer Costs:		Worker's Compensation Ins.			
				Road Crew Uniforms/Laundry Service			7,054.95
**Town of Groton Reimbursed \$3156.40 for their share.				Unemployment Ins.			576
				TOTAL EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION			375,987.52

Balance Sheet Comparison

	12/31/2019	12/31/2020	12/31/2021	12/31/22
Current Assets				
Wells River - Checking	2,276.08	8,936.75	65.43	20,191.92
Petty Cash	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00
Wells River Savings - Debit Card Acct	154.55	154.55	154.55	0.00
Wells River Savings - Money Market	445,499.35	655,337.75	961,884.50	689,589.73
Woodsville Savings - Money Market	163,840.83	164,335.66	164,749.05	165,154.14
Passumpsic Savings - Money Market	203,088.25	203,469.05	203,836.83	204,205.94
Property Tax - Delinquent	71,057.51	31,290.10	18,429.45	27,389.15
Property Tax - Current	116,249.00	65,571.50	76,627.32	429,696.77
Due To/ From Other Funds				25.00
South Ryegate Sewer Receivable	3,395.00	3,429.52	2,500.00	2,500.00
East Ryegate Sewer Receivable	1,516.14	1,281.90	0.00	0.00
Receivable, Town of Groton	2,050.50	2,746.95	3,368.10	3,420.35
Total Assets:	1,009,157.21	1,136,583.73	1,431,645.23	1,542,203.00
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable				
Ticklenaked Pond Grant-Milfoil	5,691.00	5,691.00		
FICA Withheld	(0.04)	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.05)
State Withheld	(3.92)	(3.92)	(3.92)	(3.92)
Prepaid Property Tax	2,074.54	2,185.18	2,449.61	(3,516.69)
Zoning Admin Fees	1,166.00	1,241.00	1,291.00	1,266.00
Due to/(from) other accts	10,858.80	10,281.98	27,906.37	2,556.61
Total Current Liabilities:	19,786.38	19,395.19	31,643.01	301.95
Long Term Liabilities				
Fund Balance - Reappraisal	73,489.75	44,026.25	11,359.01	11,137.01
Fund Balance - Town Highway	77,839.75	155,493.93	169,316.38	94,247.45
Fund Balance - So. Ryegate Sewer	43,097.37	39,187.82	36,654.59	31,093.09
Fund Balance - Roads	61,168.93	31,819.77	31,819.77	31,819.77
Fund Balance - Creamery Road Bridge	42,633.77	42,633.77	42,633.77	42,579.54
Fund Balance - 68 Church St.	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
Fund Balance - External Audit	17,500.00	17,500.00	17,500.00	17,500.00
Fund Balance - Zoning/Planning Commission	2,109.33	2,109.33	2,109.33	2,109.33
Fund Balance - Accounting Software	15,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Fund Balance - Cemetery Restoration	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00
Fund Balance - Ticklenaked Dam		30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00
Fund Balance - Listers	9,556.49	9,556.49	7,285.99	7,285.99
Fund Balance - Energy Eff Town Bldgs	2,400.00	3,759.67	7,159.67	5,718.69
Fund Balance - ARPA Money			157,558.67	222,007.20
Fund Balance - Renew. Energy System			50,000.00	50,000.00
Fund Balance - Climate Catalysts			3,000.00	3,000.00
Fund Balance - Restoration	15,352.39	19,303.69	22,033.82	23,953.78
Total Long Term Liabilities:	368,147.78	423,390.72	616,431.00	600,451.85
Total Liabilities:	387,934.16	442,785.91	648,074.01	600,753.80
Capital				
Retained Earnings	638,263.68	621,223.05	693,797.82	783,571.22
Net Income	(17,040.63)	72,574.77	89,773.40	157,877.98
Total Capital:	621,223.05	693,797.82	783,571.22	941,449.20
Total Liabilities and Capital:	1,009,157.21	1,136,583.73	1,431,645.23	1,542,203.00

Understanding Your Property Tax Bill

Your property tax bill is broken down to show education, highway and town taxes and their respective rates. Your total tax rate is the sum of these rates.

The tax rate is per \$100 of your assessment; therefore, to figure the tax you owe, first move the decimal point in your assessment two places to the left, then multiply that number by the total tax rate.

Sample Tax Bill:

Your Assessment	Tax Rate (per \$100)	Tax Due
\$200,000.00 (Homestead)	2.0840	\$4168.00
\$200,000.00 (Non-Homestead)	2.1937	\$4384.40

Comparative Budget REVENUES

2022	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget
REVENUES			
Property Taxes (minus BMU school pymts.)	939,509.70	984,268.08	1,005,738.24
PILOT (Paymt. In Lieu Of Taxes)	1,500.00	2,520.30	1,500.00
Equi Ed Gr List Main	0.00	768.00	0.00
Property Tax Adj. from prior year	0.00	7,775.86	0.00
Interest, Delinquent Taxes	10,000.00	9,452.09	9,500.00
Tax Collectors 8%	0.00	8,014.06	0.00
Permits - Zoning & Planning	200.00	255.00	200.00
Marriage Licenses	200.00	780.00	200.00
State Aid for Highways	120,000.00	130,043.72	120,000.00
Highway Supplement Grant	0.00	7,100.30	0.00
Highway Grants-In-Aid	0.00	20,340.00	0.00
Hold harmless - State of VT	0.00	56,443.00	0.00
Town Clerk Fees	9,000.00	10,269.34	9,000.00
Dog Licenses	2,000.00	2,013.00	2,000.00
Interest Income	3,000.00	4,752.10	3,000.00
Traffic Control	200.00	111.50	200.00
Fire Dpt - Turn Out Gear	0.00	1,777.00	0.00
Hazard Mitigation Grant	0.00	3,607.50	0.00
Ticklenaked Pond - Milfoil Grant	0.00	4,402.00	0.00
Town of Groton - Recycling Building	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Transfer From General Fund			70,000.00
Revenues Total:	1,087,109.70	1,256,192.85	1,222,838.24

Comparative Budget EXPENSES

Elected and Appointed Officials	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget
Animal Care	500.00	-	500.00
Auditors Salary	1,500.00	1,689.52	1,800.00
Auditors Supplies	50.00	-	50.00
Ballot Clerk Salaries	1,500.00	2,155.79	1,000.00
Cemetery Appropriation	14,100.00	13,000.00	13,000.00
Cemetery Fencing & Repair	1,000.00	2,054.55	1,000.00
Dog Catcher Expense	1,500.00	619.44	1,500.00
Dog Catcher Supplies		-	
Health Officer Expense	50.00	-	50.00
Lister's Computer Support	4,500.00	4,521.42	5,000.00
Lister's Salaries	15,000.00	7,749.76	15,000.00
Lister's Supplies & Expenses	800.00	494.76	800.00
Lister's Telephone	550.00	498.34	550.00
Selectman's Salary	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Selectman's Field Compensation	3,500.00	1,045.20	3,500.00
Selectman's Clerk	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Tax Collector's 8%		7,699.43	
Tax Collector's Expense	275.00	120.00	275.00
Town Officer's - Conf/Mtgs	500.00	114.40	500.00
Town Patrol Sheriff Contract	8,000.00	4,091.75	8,000.00
Town Patrol State Police Contract	8,000.00	10,224.33	8,000.00
Zoning - Salaries	1,000.00	541.68	1,000.00
Zoning - Advertising	100.00	23.00	100.00
Zoning/Planning Comm.	1,000.00	22.14	1,000.00
Recycling Coordinator	4,000.00	3,156.40	4,000.00
Elected & Appointed Officials Total:	73,425.00	65,821.91	72,625.00

Comparative Budget EXPENSES

Town Offices	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget
Marriage License Fees	0.00	600.00	0.00
Medical Benefits	20,950.00	20,982.84	21,898.00
Retirement Benefits	2,000.00	2,156.56	2,200.00
State Dog License Fees	1,200.00	995.00	1,200.00
Machinery & Equipment, Repair	500.00	-	300.00
Machinery & Equipment, Purchase	500.00	-	300.00
Town Officers - Dog Fees	460.00	398.00	450.00
Propane	2,200.00	3,045.22	3,050.00
Ground Work	2,500.00	3,255.00	3,200.00
Postage	1,200.00	1,161.20	1,200.00
Town Clerk Salaries	24,675.00	24,309.05	24,675.00
Assistant Town Clerk Salaries	1,500.00	1,486.48	1,500.00
Town Treasurer Salaries	22,575.00	19,730.60	22,575.00
Assistant Town Treasurer Salaries	1,575.00	1,872.32	1,575.00
Supplies	1,600.00	1,951.95	1,600.00
Telephone & Internet	1,300.00	1,252.15	1,300.00
Utilities	600.00	719.77	720.00
Computer Support	4,500.00	4,541.95	4,600.00
Website	450.00	317.52	242.00
Workers Compensation	520.52	520.52	548.76
		-	
Town Offices Total:	90,805.52	89,296.13	93,133.76
General	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget
Ambulance	33,470.40	33,470.40	52,425.00
Appraisal Consulting		-	
Beach Repairs & Maint.	1,000.00	1,239.63	1,000.00
Cemetery Flags	200.00	-	200.00
County Tax	15,000.00	14,632.00	14,013.24
Elections Advertising	300.00	-	.00
Fast Squad - Groton/Ryegate	13,000.00	10,404.56	13,000.00
FICA - Employer	23,500.00	20,388.88	24,000.00
Fire Warden Expense	400.00	-	400.00
Hazard Mitigation Plan		2,600.00	
Legal Fees	2,000.00	2,389.00	2,400.00
Meeting/Bid Advertising	200.00	81.20	200.00
Portable Bathroom	2,577.30	2,727.30	.00
Recycling	6,300.00	5,238.43	6,300.00
Recycling Building & Maintenance	3,500.00	-	2,000.00
Renewable Energy system			
Ryegate Green Up	100.00	-	100.00
Ryegate Green Up - Disposal	500.00	500.00	500.00
Ryegate Historical Society	350.00	350.00	350.00
Surveying		4,905.00	4,900.00
Tax Maps	1,675.00	1,675.00	1,675.00
Ticklenaked Pd Milfoil		4,402.00	
Town Bldgs – Energy Efficiency	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Town Building Repair & Maintenance	5,500.00	928.15	5,500.00
Town Report	1,700.00	1,541.83	1,700.00
Town Report - Delivery	250.00	227.71	250.00
VLCT Dues	2,550.00	2,550.00	2,550.00
VLCT PACIF Insurance	18,693.00	18,915.00	20,728.00
General Total:	134,765.70	131,166.09	156,191.24

Comparative Budget EXPENSES

Fire Department	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget
Fire Truck Replacement Fund	13,000.00	13,000.00	13,000.00
Bldg - So. Ryegate	500.00	341.85	500.00
Bldg - Ryegate Corner	1,500.00	1,547.14	1,500.00
Diesel	1,800.00	3,422.07	3,500.00
Dispatch	3,000.00	2,695.00	3,000.00
Dry Hydrant	1,200.00	-	1,200.00
Dues	1,500.00	1,050.00	1,500.00
Dumpster	200.00	258.55	300.00
Equipment Replacement Fund	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Fuel Oil - Ryegate Corner	1,500.00	2,523.06	2,500.00
Fuel Oil - So. Ryegate	1,000.00	728.66	1,000.00
Gasoline	50.00	-	250.00
Insurance/Accident	2,000.00	1,718.00	2,000.00
Mach. & Equip.	10,000.00	12,942.84	13,000.00
Repairs	10,000.00	10,771.06	12,000.00
Supplies	1,500.00	528.23	1,500.00
Telephone/ Internet	1,000.00	1,005.00	1,050.00
Training	6,000.00	906.00	5,000.00
Turn Out Gear			7,500.00
Utilities - Ryegate Corner	500.00	315.93	500.00
Utilities - So. Ryegate	300.00	268.00	300.00
Admin.	6,000.00	5,972.00	6,000.00
Workmans Comp	1,219.00	1,219.00	1,219.00
Fire Department Total:	64,769.00	62,212.39	79,319.00
Transfer to Fire Dept. Equip. Replacement Fund	-	2,556.61	
Fire Department Grand Total:	64,769.00	64,769.00	79,319.00
Highway Department	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget
2011 Loader	5,000.00	5,071.14	5,000.00
2018 John Deere Grader	4,000.00	4,103.92	4,000.00
2014 Ton Truck	2,000.00	1,133.22	2,000.00
2014 Plow & Sander	1,000.00	-	1,000.00
2015 Kenworth Truck	3,000.00	3,865.47	5,000.00
2015 Kenworth Plow & Sander	2,000.00	3,423.90	2,000.00
2016 Intl. Truck	3,000.00	17,592.85	5,000.00
2016 Intl. Plow & Sander	2,000.00	3,443.10	2,000.00
2017 Freightliner Truck	3,000.00	8,184.73	5,000.00
2017 Freightliner Plow & Sander	2,000.00	1,795.00	2,000.00
2021 Freightliner Truck	3,000.00	75.00	5,000.00
2021 Freightliner Plow & Sander	2,000.00	1,750.90	2,000.00
Wood Chipper	500.00	168.99	500.00
Culvert Steamer	250.00	194.81	250.00
Class IV Roads	4,000.00	3,588.35	4,000.00
Highway Depart – Computer/Printer	500.00	-	500.00
Cold Patch	1,000.00	546.48	1,000.00
Diesel Fuel	32,000.00	51,083.84	51,000.00

Comparative Budget EXPENSES

Highway Department	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget
Elizabeth Farm Drive Project		10,704.01	
Equipment Rental	6,000.00	4,155.00	6,000.00
Heating Oil	3,800.00	4,887.19	5,000.00
Gasoline	1,000.00	272.10	500.00
Gravel	54,000.00	56,201.14	56,000.00
Hydroseeder	700.00	396.92	700.00
Guard Rails	3,500.00	2,768.50	3,500.00
Machine Fund	75,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00
Highway Dept. Advertising	100.00	-	100.00
Medical Insurance - Roads	42,950.00	42,788.40	47,750.00
Motor Oil	2,000.00	1,600.55	2,000.00
Physicals - Road crew	500.00	-	500.00
Repairs - Other	1,000.00	946.65	1,000.00
Retirement - Town Highway	14,500.00	15,394.22	16,000.00
Road Repairs	15,000.00	10,595.23	15,000.00
Road Resurfacing	100,000.00	160,253.32	140,000.00
Road Signs	500.00	822.98	500.00
Roadside Mowing	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00
Storm Water Mgmt Prog Act	1,600.00	1,350.00	1,600.00
Summer Road – Mg. Chloride	15,000.00	14,470.19	15,000.00
Summer Road - Culverts	6,000.00	7,143.02	7,000.00
Summer Road - Labor	78,000.00	78,421.68	83,000.00
Supplies	5,000.00	5,923.71	6,000.00
Telephone	900.00	934.09	950.00
Tires	7,000.00	4,836.80	7,000.00
Tools	1,500.00	2,211.98	1,500.00
Town Garage Upkeep	6,000.00	1,203.87	6,000.00
Training	250.00	60.00	250.00
Tree Removal/Brush Cutting	1,000.00	-	1,000.00
Uniforms	6,300.00	7,054.95	7,200.00
Utilities	1,000.00	596.29	1,000.00
VLCT Unemployment	576.00	576.00	504.00
Whitehill Culvert Project	.00	1,052.50	.00
Winter - Labor	105,000.00	112,095.17	118,000.00
Winter Road - Salt	41,000.00	35,130.02	41,000.00
Winter Road - Sand	24,000.00	20,466.75	24,000.00
Workers Comp. - Road Crew	12,492.48	12,492.48	13,170.24
Highway Grants-In-Aid		(20,340.00)	
Highway Department Total:	712,418.48	787,487.41	809,974.24
Transfer from Highway Fund Balance		(75,068.93)	
Highway Dept. Grand Total:	712,418.48	712,418.48	809,974.24

Comparative Budget EXPENSES

Contributions	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget
American Red Cross	500.00	500.00	500.00
Little League	100.00	100.00	100.00
Catamount Arts	400.00	400.00	400.00
4th of July Committee	200.00	200.00	260.00
Groton Food Shelf	500.00	500.00	500.00
Home Health Care	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Libraries	200.00	200.00	200.00
Little Rivers Health Care	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
NEK Human Services	500.00	500.00	500.00
NEK Learning Services	200.00	200.00	200.00
NEK Youth Services	250.00	250.00	250.00
Vermont Rural Fire	100.00	100.00	100.00
No. VT Development Assoc.	881.00	881.00	990.00
Riverside Rescue, Inc.	500.00	500.00	500.00
Rural Community Transport	850.00	850.00	850.00
Umbrella	800.00	800.00	800.00
VT Cent. For Indep. Living	265.00	265.00	265.00
VT Green-Up	100.00	100.00	100.00
VT Office of Aging	330.00	330.00	330.00
VT Vet. Mem.	100.00	100.00	100.00
Baldwin Library	200.00	200.00	200.00
Community Restorative Justice Center	250.00	250.00	250.00
Groton Public Library	200.00	200.00	200.00
Senior Meals	500.00	500.00	500.00
Window Dressers of Maine		-	500.00
Contributions Total:	10,926.00	10,926.00	11,595.00
		-	
Total Expenses:	1,087,109.70	1,074,397.61	1,222,838.24
		-	
Current Earnings:		181,795.24	
School Appropriation			
BMU School		1,628,237.47	
School Appropriation Total:		1,628,237.47	

Capital Needs: Town Highway Machinery and Equipment

Capital Item	Year 2015	Year 2016	Year 2017	Year 2018	Year 2019	Year 2020	Year 2021	Year 2022	Year 2023	Year 2024
2011 Loader—Trade 2001										
2004 Grader--Trade 1993										
2015 Truck –Trade 2006	132,464									
2016 Truck –Trade 2008		86,400								
2017 Truck --Trade 2009			110,637							
2011 Truck --Trade 2004										
2018 Grader – Trade 2004				258,400						
2020 Truck – Trade 2011						131,647				
2014 Ton Truck						25,000				
2023 Truck - Trade 2016									140,000	
2024 Truck - Trade 2015										145,000
Welder										
Warranty on Truck		3,146	3,590	5,848			5,877			
Hydro Seeder Contract			500							
Stone Plate Compactor					350					
Sale of Utility Trailer		200								
Balance in Savings Jan 1	340,005	282,809	268,684	229,193	40,136	114,831	33,266	102,407	177,460	112,560
Annual Deposit	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Annual Expense	(132,464)	(89,346)	(114,727)	(264,248)	(350)	(156,647)	(5877.00)		(140,000)	(145,000)
Annual Interest Earned	268	221	236	191	45	82	18	56	100	100
Balance in Savings Dec 31	282,809	268,684	229,193	40,136	114,831	33,266	102,407	177,460	112,560	42,660

Town Property and Equipment

Real Estate

Town House & Contents	\$388,769.00
Town Office & Contents	293,028.00
4.9 Acres Land at East & Bayley Hazen Rd	30,000.00
Storage Shed	20,183.00
Corner Fire Station	292,383.00
South Ryegate Fire Station	202,712.00
Town Garage & Contents	604,817.00
Whitelaw Hall (Historical)	371,723.00
Recycling Building	147,896.00
Ballfield (Property in the Open)	52,595.00
Playground Equipment	51,263.00
TOTAL REAL ESTATE	\$2,455,369.00

Highway Equipment

2011 John Deere 524 Loader	\$95,500.00
2019 John Deere 672 Grader	317,400.00
2021 Freightliner Truck & Plow	128,765.00
2015 Kenworth Truck & Plow	132,464.00
2016 International Truck & Plow	85,685.00
2017 Freightliner Truck & Plow	110,437.00
2014 Chevrolet 1-Ton Truck & Sander	25,000.00
Wood Chipper	3,500.00
Culvert Thawer & Trailer	8,000.00
TOWN HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT	\$ 906,751.00

Fire Equipment

2005 International Tanker	\$250,000.00
1997 Ford Pumper	\$125,000.00
1988 Sutphen Fire Truck	7,500.00
1988 Ford Mini Pumper	30,000.00
TOTAL FIRE EQUIPMENT	\$412,500.00

TOTAL ALL PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT \$3,774,620.00



Road Crew, 1954

Fund Balance Changes

Fund	Entry	Start of Year	Increase	Decrease	End of Year
Reappraisal	Beginning Balance:	\$ 11,359.01			
	FY22 per parcel payment from State of VT:		\$ 6,528.00		
	Sansoucy Eng & Appraisers			\$ 6,750.00	
	Ending balance:				\$ 11,137.01
Town Highway	Beginning Balance:	\$ 169,316.38			
	“Budget to Actual” transfer from Highway Fund			\$ 75,068.93	
	Ending balance:				\$ 94,247.25
S. Ryegate Sewer	Beginning Balance:	\$ 36,654.59			
	Sewer Charges:		\$ 10,000.00		
	Repairs and Maintenance:			\$ 15,218.49	
	Utilities:			\$ 343.01	
	Ending balance:				\$ 31,093.09
Roads	Beginning Balance:	\$ 31,819.77			\$ 31,819.77
Creamery Rd. Bridge	Beginning Balance:	\$ 42,633.77			
	Needham Electric			\$ 54.23	\$ 42,579.54
68 Church Street	Beginning Balance:	\$ 500.00			\$ 500.00
External Audit	Beginning Balance:	\$ 17,500.00			\$ 17,500.00
Restoration	Beginning Balance:	\$ 22,033.82			
	Percentage of Town Clerk Fees Collected:		\$ 2,897.00		
	Town Land Record Books:			\$ 977.04	\$ 23,953.78
Zoning & Planning	Beginning Balance:	\$ 2,109.33			\$ 2,109.33
Accounting Software	Beginning Balance:	\$ 20,000.00			\$ 20,000.00
Cemetery Restoration	Beginning Balance:	\$ 7,500.00			\$ 7,500.00
Listers	Beginning Balance:	\$ 7,285.99			\$ 7,285.99
Energy Eff- Town Bldg	Beginning Balance:	\$ 7,159.67			
	2022 Budget to Actual Transfer:		\$ 2,000.00		
	Town Office Bldg. Repair			\$ 3,440.98	\$ 5,718.69
Ticklenaked Pond Dam	Beginning Balance:	\$ 30,000.00			\$ 30,000.00
Renewable Energy System		\$ 50,000.00			\$ 50,000.00
American Rescue Plan Act		\$ 157,558.67			
	Payment from State of Vermont		\$ 164,794.02		
	Expenditures			\$ 100,345.49	\$ 222,007.20
Climate Catalysts Innovation Fund		\$ 3,000.00			\$ 3,000.00
General		\$693,797.82			
	2021 Earnings/Loss:		\$89,773.40		
	Ending balance:				\$783,571.22

List of Vendors

Vendor	Amount	Vendor	Amount
646 Fairpoint Communications	3,539.68	Elizabeth Beauvais	50.20
All Safety Prod	2,577.30	Elizabeth Page – Supplies, Retirement	2,744.40
Aflac	3,232.32	Endyne, Inc	460.00
All Around Power Equip	466.45	Everett J. Prescott, Inc	9,241.03
Allegiance Trucks	17,919.64	Fisher Auto Parts	5,423.43
American Rock Salt	11,840.80	Foggs Hardware	1,357.91
American Red Cross	500.00	Fred's Energy	3,045.22
Apex Software	215.00	Fremont Nelson Lawns	1,050.00
B – B Chain, Inc	382.90	G & B Electric	926.70
Baldwin Library	200.00	Gene Perkins- Fire Dept.	1,155.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield of VT	57,452.94	George Sansoucy, PE	6,750.00
Blue MedicareRx-VT	2,235.90	Great Planning Tech	3,838.36
Blue Mountain Little League	100.00	Grafton County Sheriff's Dept	1,750.00
Blue Mountain Trucking & Exca	1,975.00	Green Mountain Kenworth	1,775.04
Blue Mountain Union School	1,628,237.47	Green Mountain Power	2,034.68
Breann Electric	200.00	Greg Murray - Fire Dept	903.00
Bridge Weekly	147.20	Groton - Ryegate Fast Squad	10,404.56
CAI Technologies	1,675.00	Groton Library	200.00
C. Ainsworth Trucking	4,520.00	Groton Food Shelf	500.00
Caledonia County NRCD	200.00	Groton Tire & Auto	150.00
Caledonia County Sheriff's Department	4,091.75	Howard P. Fairfield, LLC	9,689.00
Caledonia Home Health	1,000.00	IDS	133.00
Caledonian-Record	48.00	Innovative Municipal Prod	14,298.30
Capital Fire Mutual Aid	400.00		
Cargill, Inc.	23,289.22	Jacques Trepanier - Fire Dept	522.98
Catamount Arts	400.00	Jeff Roberts	4,174.55
Vermont Center for Independent Living	265.00	John Bogie	4,324.52
Chase & Chase	5,130.00	Justin Danforth - Fire Dept	315.00
Cheryl Slayton –Medicare & Supplies Reimb	4,149.92	K&T Environmental Equipment, Inc.	11,738.35
Chief Crushing & Excavation	34,843.82	Khristine Elder	520.54
Charlebois, Inc.	953.60	Kofile Preservation, Inc	977.04
Cintas	7,054.95	Kyes-Lucero	8.26
Curtis Colby	600.00	Kristie Gilbert - Fire Dept	231.00
Copies & More	1,486.09	Lauren Nelson	423.00
Community Restorative Justice	250.00	Levi Welch – Fire Dept	714.00
County Treasurer	14,632.00	Little River's Health Care	2,000.00
CVC Paging	3,363.74	Lowell Mcleods, Inc.	2,731.89
Dads 4 By Tool and Supply	1,267.95	Lucas Welch – Fire Dept	231.00
Dacota Wilson - Fire Dept	126.00	L G Page Roofing	58,000.00
Darlings AutoRepair	68.45	Lyndon Truck Center	3,941.39
David Bedor	560.00	Maine Oxy	352.51
Davies Law, PLC	2,389.00	Manchester Brook Materials	32,811.95
Dana Young Construction	600.00	Marsha Nelson	622.68
Dept. of Public Safety #7	10,224.33	McCullough Crushing, Inc.	25,157.20
Danville Highway Dept	531.06	Michael Jolley - Fire Dept	302.00
Dingee Machine Co.	357.50	Morgan Morrisette	1,155.00
Dufresne & Associates	920.10		

List of Vendors

Vendor Expense- continued	Amount	Vendor	Amount
Myers Container Corp	10,177.25	St. J. Fire Extinguisher	325.00
Napa Auto Parts/FMS Auto	3,792.09	State of Vermont- Wastewater Testing	200.00
NEAPWA	60.00	Superior Plus Propane	7.31
Needham Electric Supply	520.21	Steve Kimball Repair	762.00
Northeast Kingdom Learning Services	200.00	SC Lawn Care	1,585.00
Northeast Kingdom Waste Management	5,984.20	Swampguana	15,886.38
Northeast Kingdom Youth Services	250.00	Tenco New England	2,343.94
NEMRC	6,821.42	Tim White	335.00
Nelson Elder – Town Hgwy Supplies	322.10	Tom Powley	3,560.00
New England Truck Tire	4,607.80	Town of Ryegate	116,906.37
New England Water System	11,299.22	Trucker Sulham	105.00
North Country Hydraulics	30.03	Twin State Mutual Aid Fire Assoc.	1,250.00
NEK Human Services	500.00	U I Insurance Services Inc.	1,718.00
NVDA	3,481.00	Umbrella	800.00
Northeast Surveys	1,200.00	United Ag & Turf NE	702.91
Oakes Brothers	1,064.02	United States Postmaster	1,508.91
O'Reilly Automotive	553.82	VALA Membership	50.00
Patricia Crocker	605.26	Vt Rural Fire (VACD)	100.00
Perry's Oil	170.51	Vermont Area Office on Aging	330.00
Penny Lezer - Fire Dept	231.00	Vermont Fire Academy	240.00
PIKCOMM	1,597.91	Vt Dept of Motor Vehicles	36.00
People's United Bank	799.17	Vermont Dept of Health	38.00
Pete's Rubbish	1,275.75	Vermont Fire Extinguisher	80.00
Pete's Tire Barns	2,626.99	Vermont Green Up	100.00
Pike Industries, Inc	160,799.80	Vt Recreational Surfacing	1,941.00
Power Plan	4,397.35	Vermont State Treasurer	1,595.00
Powewr Washer Sales	78.57	Vermont Department of Taxes	5,848.33
Prevent Child Abuse Vermont	50.00	Veterans Memorial	100.00
Rachel Clough	619.44	Viking – Cives USA	2,872.80
Regina Hazel-Lister Supplies	575.06	VLCT	2,664.40
Repro Digital/Champlain Valley	1,118.83	VLCT Prop & Casualty Interm. Fund, Inc.	33,147.00
Riverside Rescue, Inc	500.00	VLCT Employment Resources	576.00
Robert Crites	300.00	VMERS DB	35,998.50
Reynolds & Son, Inc	1,591.46	VTDEC-Watershed Mg	1,350.00
Reed Supply	2,038.57	Walter E. Jock Oil Co., Inc.	61,636.97
Rick Colby	2,850.00	Wells River Chevrolet	956.42
Rowden Bros. Co., Inc.	6,190.00	William Elder	991.68
Ruggles Engineering Service	1,052.50	West Barnet Meal Site	250.00
Ryegate Cemetery Commission	13,000.00	Woodsville Area Fourth of July	200.00
Ryegate Fire Dist #2	277.20	Woodsville Fire District	33,470.40
Ryegate Historical Society	350.00	Work Safe	1,650.48
Rural Community Transportation	850.00	Woodsville Power Equipment	3,966.99
Scott Stuart	220.00	Various- Tax and Payable Overpayments	10,402.75
Schofield's Septic Svc	600.00		
South Ryegate Library	16,760.00	TOTAL	2,712,692.84
Solar Traffic Systems	5,711.00		
South Ryegate Senior Meals	250.00		

Listers' Report

The Listers determine all property values within the Town of Ryegate. Additionally, we maintain an accurate Grand List by reviewing and updating all property transfers, tax maps, permit work, deeds, surveys, and the Current Use Program.

As of January 2023, Ryegate's CLA (Common Level of Appraisal) is 96.37% (2021: 100.75%). Our COD (Coefficient of Dispersion) is at 7.32% (2022: 3.92%). Our CLA went down as it did for most towns in the state due to the present volatility of the real estate market. Our CLA fared better than that of 14 towns of the 17 towns in Caledonia County.

April, 2022 tax maps are on display at the Town Office along with orthophoto aerial maps. We strongly recommend that you check your property location and acreage on the tax map; let us know if you feel there is any incorrect information. Tax maps are now updated yearly.

IMPORTANT: Taxpayers must file a Vermont Homestead Declaration every year by April 15th. The state form is HS-122 and is contained in the Property Tax Adjustment Claim. Forms can be obtained online (www.tax.vermont.gov), or from the Income Tax Return booklet or your tax preparer. Property owners can also file their homestead directly online. You will need your property SPAN number and SSN.

REMINDERS:

Property changes: Please notify the Listers of any change of address, or any changes to your property—including new construction, or major renovations to basements, attics, or unfinished areas. In addition, let us know of any removal of property including tear downs and blow downs or fires.

Surveys: Certified surveys are important in creating accurate tax maps and are considered the strongest determinant of parcel ownership, i.e., exact location, size, acreage, etc. Please file any surveys you have for your property with the Town Clerk.

Building Permits: A building permit is required for any structure 64 square feet or larger. Permits may be obtained from the Town Clerk, the Zoning Enforcement Officer, or on the town website: www.ryegatevt.org.

Current Use: Applications are available online at <http://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners/current-use>.

Questions about the program can be directed to Property Valuation and Review at 802 828-6636.

9-1-1 Program: Please notify the Listers office to obtain a 9-1-1 number for new construction.

Listers Office hours are Tuesdays, 9 am – 3 pm. Stop by or make an appointment. You may also leave messages at 584-4247.

Ryegate Listers: Regina Hazel, Sally Wilson, Kate Davie

Ryegate Fire Department Report

We are in need of volunteers to meet our week day responses of five members and two trucks. Our membership is at 16, but day time responses are usually just five members. We rely on mutual aid towns to respond with us if we cannot meet the required Firefighters to accomplish a response. Even if you are not interested in running into a burning building, you can be of help to us doing other jobs on the incident to free up those that can to accomplish their duties. Please think about helping out as a volunteer firefighter. Call 584-4300 or email ryegatefire@yahoo.com

Ryegate Fire Warden Report

If you wish to burn, a permit is required for any outside burning of clean wood that is unfinished or unpainted. No manufactured wood, plywood, particle board and the like and no trash of any kind may be burned. Please contact the Fire Warden.

Gene Perkins 584-3611

Fremont Nelson 584-3667

Respectfully submitted, Gene A. Perkins, Fire Warden

Town Clerk's Dog License Report

Total dog licenses sold: 199 licenses Total Receipts: \$2013.00

Less Fees Paid Town Clerk: \$398.00

Less Fees Paid State of Vermont: \$995.00

Net Revenues: \$620.00

All dogs must be vaccinated against rabies. The Town Clerk is required to see evidence that all dogs are currently protected against rabies. The law requires that a dog of less than 2 years of age shall have been vaccinated within the past 12 months. After its second rabies shot, an adult dog should be vaccinated every 36 months (3 years). A dog must wear its tag. Due date: License fees may be paid after January 1 and are due April 1 and subject to a 50% penalty after April 1. Fee: Due to State regulations licensing fees are \$13 for males, females and wolf hybrids. \$9 each for a neutered dog or wolf hybrids. \$5 from each license is forwarded to the State Treasurer. Ryegate enforces a Civil Dog (Leash Law). Rachel Clough has been appointed as the Animal Control Officer in Ryegate. She can be reached at 802-249-9305

Riverside Rescue

Riverside Rescue, Inc proposes to provide shelter to dogs/cats that are roaming at large. The Animal Control Officer, Police or Town Official must approve drop off of a dog/cat by a community member. All animals will be kept for a period of five business days; on the sixth day, the dog/cat will become the property of the Town who in turn releases the dog/cat into the custody of Riverside Rescue, Inc where it will be placed into a new home if adoptable.

If the owner claims the dog/cat, they are to pay the current board fee for dog/cat care at the facility as well as any necessary medical expenses incurred by Riverside Rescue, Inc. The owner must produce a current Rabies Certificate and proof of license in the town where the animal resides. If no current Rabies Certificate is available, Riverside Rescue, Inc will transport the animal at additional fees for the owner to the vet before release of the animal.

The town agrees to pay \$500 per year for housing and care during the holding period for all unclaimed animals. The town also agrees to pay for disposal (euthanasia) of animals that are deemed unsuitable for adoption (severe aggression or vet recommended illnesses) with a max time of 10 days from arrival. On day 11, Riverside Rescue, Inc takes full responsibility for animal's adoptability.

VSNIP

TIME TO SPAY AND NEUTER YOUR CATS AND DOGS!

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

For a VSNIP Application and a List of Participating Offices, send a 10" SASE: Self-Addressed, Stamped Envelope to: VSNIP, PO Box 104, Bridgewater, VT 05034. Note if your request is for a cat, dog or both. Once fully completed, please mail it back. If approved, you will receive a Voucher and instructions.

The cost for the surgery to you is only \$27.00, providing there are no complications. Fellow Vermonters pays the balance of your account from funds collected at the time of dog licensing. Please be SURE your cat or dog is completely flea and tick free **before** the visit, or you will be charged for treatment. Pain medication is highly recommended **after** the surgery, but would be your responsibility. It is also wise to buy an "E" collar to avoid having sutures pulled out. These are the right choices! Animals left UN-neutered are more prone to forms of cancer.

Thank veterinarians for their participation in this important program. **These altruistic veterinarians are the backbone of the program!** If your veterinarian is not a participant, please encourage them to join. Several veterinarians have retired, leaving a reduced number of participating offices. VSNIP offices are accepting less reimbursement than what they would usually charge for their services. We NEED them :) Let them know you appreciate the difference they have made in our state over the years when euthanasia was the routine means of animal over-population control. Those days are behind us ~ let's keep it that way! Sue Skaskiw, Administrator 1-800-HI VSNIP (1-844-448-7647)

Delinquent Taxes

South Ryegate Village Lighting District, South Ryegate, VT 05069

Carolyn Adams	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 202, 2022
Gregory Brower	2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
Terry & Robin Christy	2022
Keith Coburn & Margaret Florentine	2021, 2022
John & Gillian Correira	2022
James & Justina Davis	2022
William & Christy Dickey	2022
Thomas & Michele Dow	2021, 2022
Robert & Brenda Gelsliechter	2022
Robert Davis & Robin Gilleland	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
Christine Hannaford	2020, 2021, 2022
William & Loren Hosmer	2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
Tara Hunt	2022
Dennis Hurley	2020, 2021, 2022
Casey Johnson	2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
Ryan Karpuska	2020, 2021, 2022
John Olive	2021, 2022
Angela Paye	2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
Douglas & April Paye	
Hall Road Parcel	2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
Creamery Road Parcel	2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
Tracy & Sherri Phelps	2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
Ashleigh Putnam	2022
Shane & Heidi Temple	2022

Delinquent Taxes

2021 SOUTH RYEGATE SEWER TAXES			2022 DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES		
Hurley, Dennis			Beaulieu, Priscilla		
Total Due by Report Printing	\$	500.00	Beland, Lynn & Stanley		
Total Paid Since 12/31/22	\$	-	Blood, Brian		
Total Due 12/31/22	\$	500.00	Brower, Gregory A		
2022 SOUTH RYEGATE SEWER TAXES			Coley, Roy		
Hurley, Dennis			Colton, Keita		
Christy, Robin			Davis, Robert L. & Gilleland, Robin		
Dow, Michelle			Dorr, Harvey		
Total Due by Report Printing	\$	1,500.00	Esposito, Jerry Jr.		
Total Paid Since 12/31/22	\$	500.00	Farley, Daniel & Barbara		
Total Due 12/31/22	\$	2,000.00	Florentine, Jerod & Welch, Dawn		
PROPERTY TAXES DUE			Guay, Julia		
2020 DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES			Hencler, Andrew		
Total Due by Report Printing	\$	-	Hurley, Dennis		
Total Paid Since 12/31/22	\$	293.53	Jackson, Mark & Brenda		
Total Due 12/31/22	\$	293.53	Karpuska, Ryan		
2021 DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES			McLure, Jared & Katherine		
Beaulieu, Priscilla			Moulton, Katie		
Blood, Brian			Murphy, Judy A		
Brower, Gregory A			Nickel, Virgil & Karen		
Davis, Robert & Gilleland, Robin			Paye, David & Elizabeth		
Hencler, Andrew			Paye, Douglas & April		
Jackson, Mark & Brenda			Pelletier, Carlton		
Kapuska, Ryan			Perkins, Darryl & Dottie		
Murphy, Judy			Phelps, Tracy & Sherri		
Paye, David & Elizabeth			Primmer, Daniel		
Pelletier, Carlton			Robertson, Walter		
Perkins, Darryl & Dottie			Smith, William		
Phelps, Tracy & Sherri			Touchette, James		
White, Randy & Barbara			Tuttle, Aaron		
Total Due by Report Printing	\$	26,892.47	Walters, Renada		
Total Paid Since 12/31/21	\$	203.15	White, Kimberly		
Total Due 12/31/21	\$	27,095.62	White, Randy & Barbara		
			Wright, Ulric Jr.		
			Zwicker, Leon		
			Total Due by Report Printing	\$	67,336.21
			Total Paid Since 12/31/21	\$	362,360.56
			Total Due 12/31/21	\$	429,696.77

2022 ARPA Report

2/16/22 Great Planning Tech. Four Laptop computers for the Selectboard and Clerk to facilitate hybrid Zoom/Selectboard meetings	\$3,338.36
4/11/22 Ryegate Fire District (East Ryegate Village) Repairs to Water System Building	\$277.20
4/11/22 Jeff Roberts (East Ryegate Village) Repairs to Water System Building	\$4,147.55
5/13/22 LG Page Roofing (East Ryegate Village) Repairs to Waste Water Treatment Building	\$20,300.00
6/27/22 South Ryegate Library	\$306.25
6/27/22 South Ryegate Library	\$850.00
6/27/22 South Ryegate Library	\$9,479.65
7/25/22 South Ryegate Library	\$1,211.25
8/08/22 Solar Traffic Systems Radar Speed Signs	\$5,711.00
9/12/22 LG Page Roofing (East Ryegate Village) Repairs to Waste Water Treatment Building	\$37,700.00
10/24/22 South Ryegate Library	\$4,312.85
11/14/22 Swampguana Ticklenaked Milfoil Removal	\$11,484.38
11/28/22 Northeast Surveys Layout of Deeded Right of Way to Old Burial Ground	\$1,200.00
Total Expenditures 2022	\$100,345.49
Total 2022 Revenue	\$164,794.02
Unspent ARPA funds from 2021	\$157,558.67
ARPA Funds available for 2023 and 2024	\$222,007.20
<u>Further projects that we have expressed an interest in funding in 2023;</u>	
Ryegate Historical Society Renovation and improvements to Whitelaw Hall	
Northeast Kingdom Broadband Contribution to expanding broadband coverage in town.	
Little Rivers Health Care Inc Contribution to LRHC Capital Fund to improve local health care access	
Ryegate Fire Dept- Replace the roof on the Corner Fire Station	

Planning Commission/ Zoning Board Report

Once again, the Planning Commission and Zoning Board's work was more planning than zoning this year. The Board will soon be finishing the process of amending the town plan with an Enhanced Energy Plan. A subcommittee has been formed to begin the process of updating the complete town plan, which needs to happen within a two year window in order to maintain the town's advantageous status with a number of state programs. Alison Low of the Northeastern Vermont Development Agency will be assisting with this effort. The Board was pleased to review the plans of the Blue Mountain Wilderness Sanctuary, which will be operated by the Northeast Wilderness Trust. The 825 acre parcel will be enrolled in the Current Use program, and will be open to the public. In October the Board also reviewed plans presented by Ron Morgan about his proposal to install a lithium processing operation in the old paper mill in East Ryegate. The mill is zoned for industrial use, but any such operation would be subject to state regulations. Additionally, the board reviewed a number of home improvement and outbuilding construction projects, most of which met all zoning requirements.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Davie, Secretary, for Richard Colby II, Chairperson; Regina Hazel, Vice Chairperson; Alice Allen; Walter Bragg; Mary Dole; Stephen Genereaux; Fremont Nelson; and Nancy Perkins. Zoning Administrator Bill Elder.

Cemetery Commissioners Narrative

Our Commission met on our regular schedule in 2022. We elected officers at our first meeting with Rick Colby - Chair, Melissa Mann - Vice Chair, Bill Nelson - Treasurer, Dan LaCoss - Clerk and Bruce Nelson - Member at Large. This year we contracted with Rouleau's Property Maintenance of Groton to mow and trim all four cemetery lawns. They kept the cemeteries beautifully mowed and trimmed during the spring, summer and fall seasons. We would also like to recognize Tonya Kidder of Rouleau's Property Maintenance for the care and dedication she had in helping to make sure the cemeteries were looking their best. We would like to extend our condolences to Josh and the family on Tonya's passing last fall, she will be greatly missed. The board would like to thank our cemetery attendant Tony Dennis for his efforts in handling burials and requests in a timely manner. We continued to have Tom Gandin clean and repair stones in our cemeteries, as cleaning and straightening and repairing stones is an ongoing project the Commission considers each year. We would also like thank Keith Coburn for volunteering to help clean and remove brush and debris around Pinehurst Cemetery last summer. In 2022 there were eleven burial lots sold in Blue Mountain Cemetery and ten burial lots sold in Pinehurst Cemetery. The fence on the upper side of Blue Mountain Cemetery was repainted as part of continuing maintenance. In 2023 we plan to install a flagpole at Hillside Cemetery in South Ryegate before the Memorial Day holiday. Vice Chair, Melissa Mann is also leading a project to gather more historical information about each cemetery and is creating display boards to present the information at town events.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ryegate Cemetery Commissioners

Rick Colby, Chairperson 802-584-3159 Melissa Mann, Vice Chairperson 802-274-1181

Bill Nelson, Treasurer 802-584-3296 Dan LaCoss, Clerk 802-584-3120

Bruce Nelson, Member at Large 802-584-3487

Cemetery Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand 1/1/2022.....	\$8,352.20
Income for 2022	
Town Appropriation.....	\$13,000.00
Sale of Lots.....	\$2,925.00
American Funds.....	\$354.16
	\$16,279.16
Total Income for 2022.....	\$24,631.36
Expenses for 2022	
Lawn Care.....	\$9,900.00
Electricity at Pinhurst.....	\$156.65
Gandin Bros.-2 Signs.....	\$3,512.00
Tony Dennis -install posts.....	\$100.00
Gandin Bros.- posts and cleaning..	\$1,732.00
Repurchase Lot #159-A (P.H.).....	\$472.50
Service charge/WRSB.....	\$18.00
Total Expenses for 2022- \$15,891.15	
Balance on Hand 12/31/2022 (Checkbook Balance)	\$8,740.21

Savings/Investments 12/31/2022 Interest Earned in 2022	
CD#907623.....	\$52,670.30 \$210.23 12 mos. @ .40% Ameriprise Financials..... 50,579.22
40.58 12 mos. @ .20%	
CD#811855.....	10,981.12 43.83 12 mos. @ .40%
Savings Acc't 566388.....	909.32 .44 3 mos. @ .05%
American Funds.....	24,477.54 354.16 12 mos. Dividend
Total Investment Income: \$ 649.24	
Respectfully Submitted,	
William H. Nelson, Treasurer	
Ryegate Cemetery Commission	



Northeastern Vermont Development Association

The NVDA-the State's only regional planning commission and economic development corporation-has been serving Ryegate for more than 60 years. We continue to assist local officials with land use, transportation, and emergency planning, and we serve the businesses of the Kingdom, promoting sustainable economic growth.

How have we served your community?

In Ryegate, NVDA staff provided technical assistance on zoning issues, as well as solar siting mapping and critical facilities mapping. We support local Window Dressers Community Build, and we assisted with emergency planning and preparation, and facilitated the 2022 Grants in Aid Project Development. Request= \$990.00

Ryegate Historical Society

With the waning of Covid, the historical society was able to regroup and return to a somewhat normal schedule. As usual, we held our Saturday Open Houses in the summer months and plan to have one each month May - October 2023. Dates will be published in our first newsletter.

In May we had an assessment/ advisement visit from Sally Blanchard of the Vermont Historical Records Program, which was followed up with a lengthy report on her observations and recommendations concerning: The Building and its Environment, Collections Storage & Handling, Collections Management, Access & Reformatting.

Subsequently we have met with two contractors and are addressing issues with the building, which we hope to fund through our financial holdings, ARPA funding & grants.

In August we held a presentation, "Four Hundred Miles Down the Connecticut River" by Michael Tougas; this was held at the South Ryegate Church and attended by over 100 people; the program was funded by the Vermont Council on Humanities. Late in the fall we gathered at Whitelaw Hall for a roundtable discussion: "Growing Up in Ryegate". Monitored by Jenny Nelson, participants from South Ryegate, Ryegate Corner and East Ryegate shared interesting and fond memories from their youth.

One of the most exciting donations this year was a well-preserved collection of numerous Civil War letters from 1861-1865, written by a veteran from South Ryegate; these were donated by Priscilla Power of Lyme, NH.

As always, The Board of Directors of the Ryegate Historical Society is extremely grateful for all the donations it has received from our members, the public and the Town of Ryegate.

Membership Dues: Annual: Individual \$10; Family \$15; Lifetime Membership: Individual \$100; Family \$125. Dues payable to: Ryegate Historical Society, c/o Tim Wilson, Treasurer; 979 Boltonville Rd., Wells River, VT. 05081

If anyone is interested in helping or in joining the Board, please let one of us know. Board: Tom Dole, Molly Fisher, Linda Libuda, George Murphy, Marsha Nelson, Melvin Nelson, Ginny Ross, Peter Sinclair, Tim Wilson, Dover Ford (doverford@gmail.com; 802-592-3378)

Justices of the Peace

Justices of the Peace, elected to office on November 8, 2022, make up the Board of Civil Authority. The new term begins February 1, 2023 and continues to February, 1, 2025.

Jamie O'Connor	Catherine Davie	Michael Murray
Darcy Nelson	Lauren Nelson	Nancy Perkins
	Robert Rowden	

Ryegate Energy Committee

November 2022, Remarks by UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres

"Greenhouse gas emissions are rising. Global temperatures keep rising. And our planet is on course for reaching tipping points that will make climate chaos irreversible." "The recommendations in today's report are clear (UN Emission Gap Report 2022). End our reliance on fossil fuels. Avoid a lock-in of new fossil fuel infrastructure. Invest massively in renewables."

Window Dressers Assembles Window Inserts - This year Ryegate joined Barnet, Danville and Peacham to form the Southern Caledonia team, one of 15 teams in Vermont that measured and assembled 4,390 window inserts for residents and non profits regardless of ability to pay. The average cost of an insert is \$45. The Southern Caledonia volunteers built 277 window inserts - 58 of them for 8 Ryegate residents at the Barnet Vestry. We will do another build next year. We have to measure your drafty windows first, so sign up. Window inserts will save you money on your heating bill, use less fossil fuel and lower Vermont's Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

Weatherizing and Efficiency of Town Buildings - This year the energy budget was used for Rick Colby to insulate the vault and part of the basement with Northeast Spray Foam. The town still needs to insulate the rest of the basement, the first floor ceiling and upgrade the windows on the second floor. Nelson Elder plans to complete the insulation of the town garage doors this year. Cheryl Slayton reports that the solar energy from the panels on the town garage paid for all of the electrical usage of the town buildings. Efficiency Vermont provides free consultations and the Heat Squad energy, audits/reports/follow up for \$50 to support your weatherization efforts.

Geothermal heating for the Garage and Fire Station - In 2021 the Town voted \$50,000 towards an efficient renewable heating system for the Corner Garage and Fire Station. The Select Board delayed the project to apply for funding from the newly created Municipal Energy Resilience Program. A successful application will mean a free assessment/recommendations and access to state funds for the project. The Select Board also received an offer of \$40,000 in financial support from GMP and a small \$3000 grant toward the project.

Ryegate Community Solar - The Ryegate Energy Committee is working with the Planning Commission and GMP to identify a Ryegate location for a 150KW solar array that will be acceptable to the Public Utility Commission Residents, businesses and nonprofits can sign up as subscriber/members to purchase some or all of their electric energy needs with low cost, fossil free solar energy. Information is available for potential subscribers to sign up with \$100 towards their total purchase, returned if the project is not completed. A subcommittee has been formed to pursue this project. Please feel free to join us.

Blue Mountain Union - We have partnered with the faculty and students of the Atmospheric Science Department at NVU-Lyndon to offer educational support to the climate change curriculum at BMU.

Regional Meetings of the Energy Committees - The Ryegate Energy Committee meets with the Northeast Vermont Development Association coordinated town energy committees to share ideas, resources and information related to lowering Green House Gas Emissions in our area and establishing resilience for our communities in the face of climate change.

Friends of Trails - Residents of Ryegate and Barnet are partnering with the Board of the Cross Vermont Trail to create a spur from the CVT to the Lamoille Vermont Trail. The proposal is to use the Bayley- Hazen Road as the primary connector with signage. Offshoots would be established using the Jewitt Trail in Barnet, Morrison Trail, and Meader Road Trail in Ryegate.

Ryegate Power Station - We are concerned about the bankruptcy of Solar Stored (the RPS owner), an investor owned company in Maine, that owns several other biomass plants in the North Country. Local loggers have had trouble being paid in a timely matter for their deliveries and as of January 7 they had failed to pay Ryegate 2023 taxes. We have been working with Senator Jane Kitchell to resolve the tax issue as the company sells off assets in Maine and New Hampshire. The mission of the Ryegate Energy Committee is to mobilize the Town, its residents, and its property owners, to take all possible local actions to slow and mitigate the effects of global warming. We are not waiting. We are acting now.

Please join us; Alice Allen, Gail Brown, Kate Davies, Jeff Haslett, Dan LaCoss, Michael McLlellan, Jenny Nelson, Peter Sinclair, Gil Steil, Matt Troiano, Donna Waelter
Respectfully submitted, Carl Bayer, pinecone@kingcon.com, 802-592-3318

Baldwin Memorial Library

As I write this, I'm preparing to hand over the reins to your next librarian, Melissa Beaulieu of Ryegate. By the time you read this, hopefully you will have already visited the library and made her welcome. I've had a wonderful 30-year run, and now I join you in looking forward to the new ideas and energy that Melissa will bring to the Baldwin.

Pandemic concerns have persisted in 2022. Although the library has been consistently and fully open, programming was abbreviated. That didn't stop us from enjoying a robust summer of programs in outdoor venues. We hosted two hikes, one with a story component, on Tucker Mountain. Wendy Buhner led us to a vernal pool being monitored by homeschool families and the VT Center for Ecotudies, and Tom Kidder and Susan Culp introduced a new trail to the beaver pond. We also spent time at local lakes. At Ticklenaked Pond, Casey and Clarissa Kendell read from their newly published book *I Appreciate Your Resilience*, with an accompanying craft project, and Ryegate author/artist Jim Arnosky gave a mini-workshop on drawing from nature. At Halls Lake, VT Game Warden Mike Scott introduced us to VT's fur-bearing mammals, and storyteller/author Michael Caduto entertained and educated us with native legends. Finally, per tradition, we hopped on bikes at the end of the summer and pedaled the rail trail to Hatchland for ice cream.

As a library, of course we love to lend books. But we also believe that every child deserves to have his/her own library at home, which is why we grab many opportunities to give away free children's books. We show up at the Wells River Family Picnic Day in June, at the Ryegate Summer Festival, and at the West Newbury Summer Festival with our little red wagon full of new/like-new books for kids. (We also happened to bring MARKO the Magician to the Wells River picnic and Rockin' Ron the Friendly Pirate to S. Ryegate, but hey – it's the books that are important!)

Speaking of books... we're in the middle of VT READS, the state-wide, read-and-discuss program sponsored by the VT Humanities Council. The book chosen for this cycle is *The Most Costly Journey*, a graphic novel illustrated by New England cartoonists. Each chapter tells the story of a Vermont immigrant farmworker in his/her own words. If you haven't already gotten a copy of this book, you can pick one up at the libraries in Wells River and S. Ryegate, one of the local churches, Blue Mountain Grange, or Little Rivers Health Care. And watch for a program announcement coming soon!

Thanks to our volunteers Alicia King, Barbara Zimmer, Jim Marsden, Bill O'Malley, Phyllis Eaborn, Suzannah Nelson, Nessa Flax, Ben Gitchel, Linda Libuda, and others whom I've undoubtedly forgotten to name.

Library Visitors: 3,166 adults, 341 children (67/week)

New Members: 45 adults, 25 children

Home Deliveries: 104

Curbside Loans: 16

Total Circulation: 4,418 (85/week) (Not recorded: # of free audiobook/e-book downloads)

Reference Questions: 136

Computer Use: 314

Interlibrary Loans Supplied: 60

Interlibrary Loans Received: 569

Library Trustees: Karen Kreis (Chair), Sandy Parker, Kim Goody, Ann Fredella, Chip Conquest, Chris Buhner
Respectfully submitted, Peggy Hewes, Librarian

S Ryegate Public Library

2022 started with the members of the library discussing finding a replacement for the Librarian position. We appreciated the many years Dick Fraser served and know the children who stopped by loved his cupcakes and popcorn.

Instead of reopening the library after the pandemic, it was decided the building needed a complete overhaul. With some of the money from ARP A that the selectmen approved, we were able to get to work. The ceiling was repaired, different lighting installed, walls and bookshelves painted and new flooring put down. Trees and shrubs were removed from the front of the building. Now the library is visible again.

We were able to empty the library addition of its many, many book during a book sale in August. A Little Free Library was made and installed outside the library by a generous couple. This provides books when the building is closed.

We are so pleased to have the library door open on October 25 with Liz Achilles as our new librarian. The Ryegate Community page has updates and schedules. Stop by on Tuesdays between 12 and 2 or Thursday from 3-5 to see how welcoming and cheerful the library is.

Ticklenaked Pond Association Report

The beach and playground area were very busy this year, it appears that our residents are taking advantage of this Town treasure. Thank you to all that helped keep the portable toilet clean!!

The issue with the lake's failing dam has been put on hold during the Covid pandemic. We hope to move forward on this in the future. In the meantime we will keep our fingers crossed that the dam will continue to hold. The water levels were consistently low this past summer.

The Association continues to battle the invasive species Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM), which chokes and clogs our waterways, crowding out native plants and entangling propellers, fishing lures and the arms and legs of swimmers. In 2022 the Town of Ryegate was awarded \$5,667.00 from the State of Vermont (Department of Environmental Conservation) for an Aquatic Nuisance Control Grant-in-Aide grant to manage and remove EWM, which first appeared at Ticklenaked Pond in 2010. We were able to employ a Suction Harvesting company this summer who worked primarily in the boat launch area, out to the middle of the lake and along the north end. They also spent time removing EWM along the east side of the lake where it is thick and full. Several of the divers reported seeing VERY large snapping turtles. The Town of Ryegate donated funds to match the grant and pay for an additional week of diving. This made a big impact, and we removed more EWM this year than ever before, approximately 36 cubic yards.

Our nesting pair of Loons were not successful this past summer, they did build a nest at the southwest end of the lake, but no eggs were reported to be seen. Hopefully this year!

In 2022 we had only one minor outbreak of Cyanobacteria (Blue/Green Algae that effect many lakes in Vermont). By the time the State determined it was Cyanobacteria, it was already gone and the beach was not shut down to the public. It is most likely due to the efforts of the Lake Assoc. and local farms to keep the excess phosphate out of the lake. The weather patterns also affect outbreaks and the conditions were favorable this year.

The Ryegate community can help the health and enjoyment of Ticklenaked Pond in several ways:

- 1. Wash off your boat before putting it in the lake and after taking it out.** This will ensure the invasive plants are not being transported to or from another body of water.
- 2. Remove any floating pieces of Eurasian Water Milfoil you see on the lake.** Fragments that are not attached to the stemmed plant will reestablish themselves as a new plant. A picture and information about EWM is at the State boat launch.
- 3. Pick up any EWM plants on the shoreline.** The plants need to be removed from the beach area, composted or bagged and thrown away.
- 4. Please do not take a motorboat or paddle through a dense patch of EWM.** If the plants have surfaced they will fragment and drop to the bottom of the lake, root and become another plant.

Catamount Arts

The residents and voters of Ryegate have consistently played a very important role in the success of Catamount Arts. Through your support at Town Meeting and by attending many of the 100+ events Catamount offers throughout the year, Ryegate helps keep the Arts vital and available to all Northeast Kingdom residents, boosting our creative economy for a more vibrant, sustainable community! Last summer alone, we welcomed you back to 11 free concerts in two St. Johnsbury locations, three family-friendly street fairs, three gallery shows in multiple downtown locations, over a dozen free weekly matinees for adults and children, four Metropolitan Opera screenings, three National Theatre Live broadcasts, and summer camps including the beloved Water Ski Camp at Harvey's Lake.

We hope you've made it to some events at the new, multipurpose Catamount ArtPort in the Green Mountain Mall, where we hosted Circus Smirkus camp, live comedy and music from the Facing the Sunrise Black Performing Arts Series, the eagerly awaited return of Catamount Bluegrass Night, and our Annual Auction Gala. Indoor programming also included our critically acclaimed Arts Connect at Catamount Arts Juried Show and the internationally renowned "Art from Guantanamo Bay," in the Fried Family Gallery.

First Night North returned to in-person programming this year, bringing 200 performers in dozens of family-friendly shows to twelve St. Johnsbury venues for thousands of community members, and the KCP Presents Performing Arts Series, as always, brought the world to our community: theater from Switzerland, ballet from New York City, gospel from South Africa, polyphonic singing from Norway, the philharmonic orchestra from Ukraine, acrobats from China, and drummers from Japan played in the same schools, colleges, and churches where our friends, families, and neighbors commune every day.

In addition to integrating arts into the fabric of our community's daily life via live shows, screenings, classes, workshops, exhibitions, and more, Catamount programming generates more than \$1.5M each year to the local economy, playing a key role in the Northeast Kingdom's long-term vibrancy and sustainability. Thanks to support from our Ryegate neighbors, we look forward to seeing you—all of you!—at Catamount Arts in 2023!

Vermont Center for Independent Living

Since 1979, The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) has been teaching people with disabilities and the Deaf how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. Final numbers for our FY'22 (10/2021-9/2022) show VCIL responded to thousands of requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information, referral and assistance and program services for individuals living with a disability. **Request Amount: \$265.00**

To learn more about VCIL, please call: **1-800-639-1522**, or, visit our web site at **www.vcil.org**.

Umbrella

Since 1976, Umbrella has ensured that communities in Caledonia, Orleans and Essex counties have access to services that make for strong women, supported families and safe homes. Umbrella operates 4 multi-faceted, client-centered programs and plays a crucial role in decreasing the incidence and impact of domestic and sexual violence. Services offered include:

SocialChange focuses on prevention education and initiatives in schools and in the community that aim towards preventing gender-based violence, and creating a community where abuse and oppression are acknowledged and addressed. One of our strategies is to provide pathways for girls to work within this social change and prevention field through the Youth in Power Program. In FY22, we provided 1,865 youth with educational workshops throughout our 17 school partners. We provided 214 adults with educational programs through 12 workshops.

Advocacy Program serves survivors of domestic and sexual violence, stalking, teen dating violence, as well as violence related to gender or sexual orientation -which in total we characterize as gender-based violence. In our work, the client leads and we support them in any way they need us to including legal advocacy, housing advocacy, support with parenting after trauma and more. In FY22, 633 individuals received direct advocacy, 65 people were housed in our emergency shelters as a result of fleeing domestic or sexual violence and 25 were housed in our Transitional Housing program.

Family Based Services focuses on child-care and strengthening family relationships. *Kingdom Child Care Connection (KCCC)* assists families in the St. Johnsbury district to receive subsidized childcare, appropriate child care referrals and specialized childcare placement support. *The Family Room* offers supervised visitation for families throughout the Northeast Kingdom. In FY22, KCCC served 732 families and the Family Room worked with 50 families, serving 70 children.

Economic Empowerment serves women with significant barriers to employment in Orleans and Northern Essex Counties. Our *Cornucopia* program, and our social enterprise, *Dolcetti* each wrap around women to support them in building job readiness skills while helping them to address challenges in their lives so they are able to move towards financial self-sufficiency. In FY22, as part of the skill-building program, participants packaged and prepared 30,453 meals for homebound seniors through Meals on Wheels.

Woodsville Area Fourth of July Committee

The Woodsville Wells River 4th of July Committee is happy to report that once again in 2022 we were able to present a fun-filled, family-oriented, free celebration of the birth of our country. The number of volunteers going into the 2022 celebration was still limited, but has increased since the conclusion of the celebration as we plan for the 2023 event. A big thanks needs to be handed out to all those past and present members of this group.

One of the largest concerns for the 2023 event is the fact that 2022 marked the last year we could use our fireworks company, due to retirement. We can report that a new company has been found. As the time of this report we are working out the final details, but we do know that the price of fireworks has grown and our cost for the 2023 display is more than 50% higher than in 2021. Due to this increase, the committee has made the tough decision to raise our donation requests for 2023.

The Woodsville Area 4th of July Committee is a certified Non-profit organization and invites any member of the community to join us. We meet the first Tuesday of the month. Currently the meetings are held at the Baldwin Memorial Library in Wells River at 7pm.

Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force

The RFP helps Vermont communities protect lives, property and Natural resources by enhancing fire suppression resources. Program Manager and Engineering Technician Troy Dare helps local fire departments

Identify appropriate sites for dry hydrants and other rural water supply systems, design installations and find financial support to cover the costs of construction. During the 23+ years of the program, over 1200 grants totaling \$2.6 million have been provided to Vermont towns for installation of new rural fire protection systems as well as for replacements and repairs. We are respectfully requesting that you include a \$100 appropriation in your town budget to support the Rural Fire Protection Program. Since last years appropriation request, we have received nearly \$11,000 in town appropriations from almost 100 towns. We are deeply grateful for this ongoing support.

Northeast Kingdom Human Services

Thank you Town of Ryegate voters, for your appropriation support at your Town Meetings. Annual appropriations are a vital funding source to provide needed services to residents who cannot otherwise afford care. The 2023 appropriation request of \$500 is the same amount voted on at the 2022 Town Meeting. This represents 0.52% of appropriation requests from 48 towns. We offer supportive confidential program services for Emergency/Crisis Services, mental health, addiction, and/or developmental/intellectual disabilities. Our mission is to empower individuals, families, and communities by promoting hope, healing, and support.

Summary Activity Report July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022:

- 2887 individuals of all ages in our service area utilized support services.
- 19 individuals from the Town of Ryegate accessed supportive care at NKHS.
- Employees provided over 94 hours of community consultation, education, and outreach in community meetings, events, and trainings in NKHS offices, area schools, and businesses at no cost to participants. We offered QPR (Question, Persuade, and Refer) suicide awareness and prevention trainings, Youth Mental Health First Aid, and other educational opportunities to at least 200 Northeast Kingdom community members.
- 552 total dedicated professional employees, 1 from the Town of Ryegate, support community members in the Derby or St. Johnsbury offices, the satellite office in Hardwick, telehealth, in homes, in schools, and throughout Northeast Kingdom communities.

Good mental health is important for everyone. As a Designated Agency serving the Vermont's system of care, NKHS has a responsibility for assuring that a comprehensive range of services are available regardless of an individual's ability to pay. A sliding fee scale is available for those in financial need.

NE Kingdom Human Services is asking the Town of Ryegate voters to consider helping neighbors, family members, and friends receive the supports they need to live a happy, fulfilling life and be an active and contributing member in your community.

Thank you so much for your support!

The Community for Restorative Justice

The Community Restorative Justice Center holds restorative justice panel meetings for cases referred directly from law enforcement as well as cases referred from the Department of Corrections. Cases that go through the CRJC have a 32% reduction in recidivism. In the past 12 months, the CRJC heard 7 restorative justice case involving Ryegate resident. Appropriations from the Town of Ryegate would also give technical support to neighborhood associations as requested. The CRJC mission states that we are committed to providing a safe environment for neighbors and parties to resolve conflict in our communities, to restore relationships, and to take responsibility to repair harms caused.

Caledonia County Sheriff Annual Report

We completed another audit for our office in 2022 and it resulted in no findings or problems of any kind. The state of the Caledonia County Sheriff's Department is very good. We have kept our rates for service the same for the past few years and have a slight increase with construction and traffic. This increase is do to the fuel prices. We continue to add vehicles to our fleet, 3 new cars were purchased, replacing cars that have served us well. We have 9 marked cars, a 2014 van for prisoner transports, one unmarked car being used for civil process service. The radar cart is working well and in many towns. We have a large enclosed trailer that we use as an office at the fair and other security details. This trailer may be utilized as a command post at a mass casualty incident as well. We continue to do town patrols and we feel that the towns that we patrol are a safer place to live & drive in because of our presence. The patrols are community based. Which means each town is different, so the patrols may be different. We are taking a proactive response instead of a reactive response. This effort has helped with both fighting crime and communications with the towns. The Sheriff's Department has 8 Law Enforcement Officers to start the new year, with hopes to send a couple new hires to the academy in the spring. Our goal is to have 20 to 25 deputies to cover all details. We have become more active with local schools to ensure the safety of students and staff. We have been involved with drills and evacuation plans and will continue to assist as needed. We continue to look at 24 hour dispatching for the county, but are unable to do that right now. Our new location is wonderful and working as it should. We've had a lot of visitors and people stopping by with question. We are more visible and easier to reach. Plus the savings on the tax payers went from \$62,000, down to \$30,000. In 8 years, that expense will go away and the county will own the building.

We will again do snowmobile patrols throughout the county. Doing our best to keep the trails as safe as possible, and we will again answer snowmobile related complaints. James Hemond was sworn in on Feb 1st as your new sheriff. After 25 years with the department, it's time for me to step away. It was an honor to serve you and thank you for the support. Please continue that support with the new sheriff. Please check out our facebook page. Thank You and stay safe.

Sincerely, Sheriff Dean Shatney

Vermont State Police

The Vermont State Police continues to provide dedicated police coverage for Ryegate. Throughout the year, Troopers respond to a broad range of calls.

American Red Cross

Last year, our staff and volunteer workforce provided an array of services throughout the region:

- We made 576 homes safer by installing smoke detectors and educating families about fire safety and prevention through our Home Fire Campaign.
- Trained 34,765 people in first aid, CPR, and water safety skills. (training data for county level)
- We collected over 132,000 units of blood. Hospitals throughout Northern New England depend on the American Red Cross for these collections.
- In our region, over 3,900 service members, veterans, and their families received supportive services through our Service to the Armed Forces department.

Your American Red Cross remains committed to providing relief and support. We do this with the help of our incredible volunteers and donors, including you, our friends in Ryegate. This year, we respectfully request a municipal appropriation of \$500.00. These funds will directly benefit individuals and families right here in our region, who benefit from our unique services at no cost.

Northeast Kingdom Youth Services

NEKYS has been offering vital supportive services for youth and families since 1975. In 2022, NEKYS served 503 individuals throughout Caledonia and Essex Counties, including 4 people in Ryegate. NEKYS is a private, non-profit agency governed by a community based, volunteer Board of Directors. We rely on grants, contracts, and appropriations from the towns we serve to continue our mission. Please call our office at 802-748-8732 if you have any questions or concerns. Request= \$250.00

Little Rivers Health Care

Little Rivers Health Care would like to request appropriations funding from the Town of Ryegate again this year to help support the primary care services we provide the community. As in past years, we are asking for \$2,000 for the upcoming year. Little Rivers provided services for 369 Ryegate residents last year which represents ~32% of the town inhabitants. As the only safety net health care provider in our area, Little Rivers is likely the only option for many residents who are Medicaid beneficiaries or uninsured. We provide a sliding fee scale for those under 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, making deeply discounted medications available to those who can't afford them otherwise. We are very grateful to the Town of Ryegate for its part support of our mission and health care services and we hope that you will continue to support us in the future. Thank you very much.

Northeast Kingdom Learning Services

It is our mission to inspire and empower learners, birth and beyond. In FY 2022, NEKLS in collaboration with partnering high schools awarded 55 high school diplomas.. The Adult Education And Literacy Programs served 227 students for more than 10,831 hours in 2022. NEKLS served 5 English as a Second Language Students. The Tutorial Program served 63 K-12 students in the tri County region. Thank you for your continued Support.

Rural Community Transportation, Inc.

RCT has been providing service in your community for over 25 years and must reach out again for community support in order to maintain the quality of service that is needed for the members of our community. RCT is a non profit corporation providing transportation to the elderly and disabled, Medicaid and the general public through a van/bus and volunteer service. RCT transports people to adult day services, senior meal sites, necessary medical treatments, and other appointments In 2022 RCT provided 15 Ryegate residents with 487 rides, travelling 14,235 miles at a cost of \$11,119.48. RCT also operated the Greenleaf Shuttle route serving Ryegate.



RCT is requesting an appropriation of \$990 from the town of Ryegate. RCT can be reach at 802-748-8170.



NEK Waste Management Supervisors Report

Groton & Ryegate Recycling and Waste Disposal Guide

269 School St., East Ryegate. Fridays, 3:00pm - 6:00pm & Saturdays, 8:00am - 12:00pm

<div>  SORT ITEMS  </div> RECYCLING MUST BE CLEAN AND DRY	
<u>MIXED PAPER</u> Newspapers, catalogs, telephone books, glossy inserts, paperback books, colored & white paper, wrapping paper and junk mail. Any color or type of paper. <i>NO brown Kraft bags, boxboard, coffee cups, ice cream cartons, or metallic wrapping paper.</i>	<u>CORRUGATED CARDBOARD, BOXBOARD, & BROWN KRAFT BAGS</u> FLATTEN BOXES. All Cardboard and Boxboard food packaging. Remove excess tape. Staples are OK. <i>NO wax-coated cardboard, cardboard soiled with food, coffee cups, ice cream cartons, or Styrofoam.</i>
<u>TIN CANS</u> Labels are OK. Flattening not required. Separate from aluminum cans. Tin is magnetic. *MUST BE RINSED*	<u>ALUMINUM CANS, FOIL AND FOOD TRAYS</u> Labels OK. Flattening not required. <i>NO snack bags, candy wrappers, coffee bags.</i> *MUST BE RINSED*
<u>GLASS BOTTLES & JARS</u> *Rinse, Remove Lids (recycle with tin) * <i>NO porcelain, Pyrex, windows, crystal, light bulbs, lids, metal or wood.</i>	<u>BATTERIES</u> All types including primary and rechargeable batteries. Please bag similar types together and bag damaged batteries separately.
<u>PLASTIC CONTAINERS #1 – #4 & #5 Food Containers</u> <u>REMOVE CAPS / MAX. SIZE- 2 Gallons / NO BLACK PLASTIC / *MUST BE RINSED*</u> Includes food containers, health/beauty product, and cleaner containers. #5 included <i>if it's a food container.</i> <i>NO plastic bags or films, black plastic, screw-top caps, motor oil bottles, pesticide bottles, vinyl siding, toys, CD cases, VHS tapes, Styrofoam, syringes, or medical devices.</i>	

ADDITIONAL ACCEPTED MATERIALS:

FOOD SCRAPS: All food scraps, including meat, bones, dairy. Remove PLU stickers. No plastics, metals, paper.

#6 PLASTIC FOAM (STYROFOAM): #6 Expanded Polystyrene Foam. Any color, size. Must be rigid, dry, clean.

ELECTRONICS: TVs, computers (incl. mouse/keyboard/speakers), computer printers, radio/stereos, gaming systems, telephones, fax machines.

SPECIAL WASTES: Oil, oil filters, lead acid batteries, metal aerosol cans, hard-cover books, fluorescent bulbs

SCRAP METAL: Metal appliances (stoves, washer/dryer, dishwasher), grills, water tanks, microwaves, metal roofing, pots and pans, bicycles. Any item that is mostly metal included. Drain fluids if necessary.

FREON-CONTAINING APPLIANCES: Fridges, freezers, A/Cs, dehumidifiers.

STUMP DUMP: Clean, unpainted, untreated wood and yard debris only.

SWAP SHOP: Pick-up or drop-off any small, clean household item in good working condition.

HOUSEHOLD TRASH: Trash disposal available at transfer station, \$3.00/15 gallon bag, \$4.00/30 gallon bag, \$5.00/contractor bag. Other fees apply for Bulky Wastes. Fees subject to change. Residents may contract with private haulers for curbside collection services, find our Licensed Hauler List at <http://www.nekwmd.org/pdf/haulerlist.pdf>

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE – May through the end of September **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY** in Lyndonville, & special Saturday events (no appt necessary) throughout the District. June – September. Call for details.

In addition to services provided at this location, district residents have access to disposal services at the Lyndonville Recycling Center, 224 Church St, Lyndonville.

Recycling, Food Scraps, Scrap Metal, E-waste, Waste Oil, Batteries, Fluorescent Bulbs, Freon-Containing Appliances (Refrigerators, Freezers, A/C units, and Dehumidifiers), EPS Foam, Stump Dump, all free of charge, and Tire Disposal, fees apply, available at the Lyndonville Recycling Center.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS – CONTACT THE NORTHEAST KINGDOM WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (802) 626-3532 or (800) 734-4602. www.nekwmd.org, outreach@nekwmd.org. Updated 11/2022

NEK Waste Management Executive Committee Report

The NEKWMD finished 2022 by processing less recycling compared to 2021 – 2,579 tons in 2022 compared to 2,952 tons in 2021. While most commodities showed decreases of about 40 tons, compostable material lead the decline in commodities with a drop of 182 tons compared to 2021. Scrap metal and battery tonnages were nearly identical in 2021 and 2022. Recycling markets were very strong for nearly all of 2022, but took a dramatic drop in the last quarter.

The District ended 2022 with a surplus of \$5,604.53. Revenues in 2022 were 6.63% above projections, while expenses were 5.98% above projections. The District continued to benefit from the after affects of the pandemic through elevated commodity prices. Surcharge revenue was the primary driver for strong revenues in 2022. Some fees used to generate revenues will increase headed into 2023. The reintroduction of employer sponsored health insurance and an inflation rate of over 7% are the drivers of these increases in 2023. The per capita assessment will increase from \$0.84/person to \$1.06/person, and the surcharge will increase a dollar from \$24.99/ton to \$25.99/ton. Hauling fees and fees for tire management will remain unchanged in 2023.

There were no additions or subtractions to the District membership in 2022. We continue to serve the largest geographical area and largest number of towns (49) in the State. Our population served is 3rd in the state behind only the Chittenden Solid Waste District and the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District. The NEKWMD is entering 2022 with a proposed budget of \$846,615.50 – an increase of 4.6% compared to 2021. The NEKWMD was staffed by nine full-time and two part-time employees in 2022. Each of the member Towns is entitled to representation by at least one Supervisor. The Board of Supervisors is the principal authority over the NEKWMD and the primary means of contact with the member towns. The Board of Supervisors meets monthly with the District's Executive Director to set the direction of NEKWMD policy. Since the surcharge on trash is based on the amount of waste produced, members have a clear opportunity to control their waste management costs. Costs can decrease as waste generation rates decrease and recycling rates increase. We would like to express our appreciation to our able staff for their continuing commitment to our mission. The 47,600 residents of 49 Towns throughout the Northeast Kingdom can be assured that the NEKWMD will continue to address their waste management concerns in a timely and environmentally sound fashion.

Groton/ Ryegate Recycling Attendants Report

OPERATING HOURS- FRIDAY 3 pm to 6 pm SATURDAY 8 am to 12 noon

Again this year we have seen an increase in your recycling . There was a greater increase in volume of materials collected, specifically in cardboard and plastic bottles. A reminder, plastic containers are Numbers 1 thru 5 only and NO black plastics at all.

Hazardous waste will again be collected at other facilities. Please watch for notices and other media to post when and where.

Respectfully Submitted, Gene Perkins

Vermont Green Up Inc.

Green Up Vermont is a private, non-profit organization whose mission is to promote and organize a statewide clean up day, always the first Saturday in May, and to raise public awareness for a litter free environment. Quick litter stats from 2022: 500 tons of litter and 14,315 tires were collected. Mark your calendar for Green Up Day 2023, May 6th, and help us celebrate 53 years of keeping Vermont green! Thank you for your past contribution of \$100 for Green Up Vermont, your help is crucial to sustain our mission of cleaning up our roadways and waterways.

www.greenupvermont.org

NEK Waste Management District Budget Vote

WARNING

NEK WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT BUDGET VOTE MARCH 7, 2023

The legal voters of the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District are hereby notified and warned to vote, by Australian Ballot, at the polling place and between the hours specified by their municipality on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 to act on the following article.

ARTICLE 1: Shall the voters authorize the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District to appropriate and expend a budget of \$885,280?

BARNET- <i>E/S William Douglas</i>	MAIDSTONE- <i>E/S Paulette Routhier</i>
BLOOMFIELD- <i>E/S Paulette Routhier</i>	NEWARK- <i>E/S Jan Clausing</i>
BRIGHTON- <i>E/S Bruce Rumball-Petre</i>	NEWBURY- <i>E/S John Narowski</i>
BROWNINGTON- <i>E/S Lila Stevens</i>	NEWPORT TOWN- <i>E/S Steve Barrup</i>
BRUNSWICK- <i>E/S Paulette Routhier</i>	NORTON- <i>E/S Gina Vigneault</i>
CABOT- <i>E/S Betty Ritter</i>	SHEFFIELD- <i>E/S Preston Smith</i>
CORINTH- <i>E/S Bob Sandberg</i>	STANNARD- <i>E/S Emily Cayer</i>
DANVILLE- <i>E/S Walter McNeil</i>	SUTTON- <i>E/S Elizabeth Hubbard</i>
DERBY- <i>E/S Fran Batchelder</i>	TOPSHAM- <i>E/S Karen Altland</i>
DERBY- <i>E/S Irene Dagesse</i>	TROY- <i>E/S Gaston Bathalon</i>
EAST HAVEN- <i>E/S Kirwin Flanders</i>	UTG- <i>E/S Gina Vigneault</i>
GLOVER- <i>E/S Brian Carroll</i>	WATERFORD- <i>E/S Richard Stodola</i>
GREENSBORO- <i>E/S Ken Johnston</i>	WESTFIELD- <i>E/S Jacques Couture</i>
JAY- <i>E/S Gaston Bathalon</i>	WESTMORE- <i>E/S Miriam Simonds</i>
LYNDON- <i>E/S Steve Gray</i>	WHEELOCK- <i>E/S Preston Smith</i>

NEK Community Broadband

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



NEK Broadband had a successful and busy year. Construction continued throughout 2022, and customers in Concord, Waterford, and Lunenburg were connected to our fiber-optic internet network! We prepared multiple grant applications, received significant funding from a multitude of sources, and were able to procure and purchase a majority of the materials needed to continue construction throughout our district.

PREPARING FOR CONSTRUCTION

- We purchased over 700 miles of fiber optic cable.
- More than \$2 million in hardware and equipment was ordered.
- We submitted the necessary applications to eight electric and communication utility companies, giving us access to more than 12,000 utility poles spread over 500 miles of roadways in 24 towns. We are now able to prepare these poles for installation.

BUDGET SUMMARY

2022 Budget to Actual (Projected)			2023 Proposed Budget	
NEK BROADBAND	BUDGET	ACTUAL (Projected)	Projected Surplus from 2022	\$145,015
Administrative Grant Revenue	\$494,750	\$702,965	Administrative Grant Revenue	\$2,252,713
Operations Revenue	\$203,000	\$49,138	Operations Revenue	\$747,767
Capital Grant Revenue	\$25,005,250	\$5,565,444	Capital Grant Revenue	\$28,785,283
Total Cash In	\$26,703,000	\$6,377,557	Total Cash In	\$31,930,769
Administrative Cost	\$494,750	\$617,969	Administrative Cost	\$1,847,193
Operational Cost	\$215,000	\$97,353	Operational Cost	\$586,604
Construction Cost	\$25,705,000	\$5,565,444	Construction Cost	\$28,785,283
Total Cash Out	\$26,415,000	\$6,280,766	Total Cash Out	\$31,210,081
Annual Net Cash Flow	\$403,134	\$96,801	Annual Net Cash Flow	\$711,707
Increase in Capital Assets	\$25,705,000	\$5,565,444	Increase in Capital Assets	\$28,785,283



GRANTS & FINANCING

- This year, the Vermont Community Broadband Board (VCBB) approved \$8,023,915 in Pre-Construction Grants and \$20,865,889 in Construction Grants.
- We secured American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Fiscal Recovery Funds from 13 towns, totaling \$941,750 plus an added \$941,750 in matching funds from the VCBB.
- We secured and completed a USDA Rural Business Development Grant to build seven miles, serving 90 premises.

BUILDING CAPACITY

- We hired three full-time employees in 2022, and are in the process of hiring additional staff.
- Contracts have been finalized with all major construction and operations companies.
- We secured warehouses in both Saint Johnsbury and Brighton.

CONSTRUCTION AND SERVICE PROJECTED GROWTH BY YEAR



432



SERVICE AVAILABILITY

OUR SERVICE IS AVAILABLE TO 432 ADDRESSES IN CONCORD, WATERFORD, AND LUNENBURG.

36



MILES BUILT

IN 2022, WE BUILT 36 MILES OF OUR NETWORK THROUGHOUT THE NEK BROADBAND DISTRICT.

ABOUT NEK BROADBAND

We are a Communications Union District (CUD), a municipal entity representing our 51 member communities in Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties, plus Wolcott in Lamoille County. Our district is building high-speed broadband internet infrastructure for underserved communities in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont.

SIGN UP FOR UPDATES

To order our service, get updates, or sign up for our newsletter, fill out the form at get.nekbroadband.org.

BMU School District #21 Warning and Notice

BMU Warning was not available at the time that this report went to print.

Synopsis of March 1, 2022 Town Meeting

The following people were elected or re-elected to office:

ARTICLE 1: Moderator for 1 Year: Regina Hazel

ARTICLE 2:

Town Clerk for 1 Year: Elizabeth Page

Select Board for 3 Years: Darryl Perkins

Auditor for 3 Years: Richard Hodgson

Auditor for 2 Years: David Punt

Collector of Delinquent Taxes for 1 Year: Dale Wright

Library Trustee for 5 Years: Cynthia Fraser

Treasurer for 1 Year: Cheryl Slayton

Lister for 3 Years: Sally Wilson

Lister for 2 Years: Catherine Davie

No First Constable was nominated or elected

Cemetery Commissioner for 5 years: William Nelson

2- School Directors for 3 years: Kristen Murray and Paul Hazel

ARTICLE 3: Passed a budget for operating expenses of \$1,087,109.70 of which \$939,509.00 shall be raised by taxes and \$147,600.00 by non-tax revenues.

ARTICLE 4: Town voted to authorize payment of real property taxes in one installment, due October 10th and to become delinquent October 11th

ARTICLE 5: Town voted that overdue taxes will bear interest of one percent per month for the first three months and thereafter one and one-half percent per month from the due date of such tax.

ARTICLE 6: Town voted to establish 8 percent penalty charged by the Collector of Delinquent Taxes for tax payments made after the due date.

ARTICLE 7: To transact any non-binding business that may come before the meeting.

Gifts were presented to Elizabeth Beauvais and Marsha Nelson, who are retiring as a Lister and Clerk for the Select Board.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM

Vital Statistics

Marriages						
Date						
1-Apr	Jessica E. Merrill & Kyle S. Crown					
1-Apr	Keri A. Graves & Stephen L. Robbins					
2-Apr	Angeline M. Alley & Jeremy C. Bogie					
23-Apr	Jillian R. Mason & Harrison T Klein					
7-May	David Schmidt & Steven Tolimieri					
21-May	Christle A. Page & John D. Fahey					
28-May	Samantha A. Gandin & Karl A. Gardner					
30-Jul	Sadie R. Singleton & Nathan C. Washburn					
24-Sep	Mikaila E. Shuchuk & Kyle S. Farquharson					
31-Oct	Charlotte E. Smith & Zachary J. Hovan					
7-Nov	Topaz R. Sheppard & Tiensohnon Bohi					
23-Oct	Leigha A. Cline & Dylan Catterall					
Births		Name			Parents	
24-Jan		Sabastian	Blaine	Newton	Aaron W. & Leslie Newton	
23-Feb		Corey	Stephen	Kendall	Nicholas & Clarissa Kendall	
24-Mar		Natalie	Lopez-Aguilar		Jose Lopez-Alfaro & Claudia Aguilar Argueta	
20-Jun		Miles	Ryan	Rowden	Ryan R. & Allison M. Rowden	
8-Jul		Tsolmon	Peregrine	Davie	Hannah Stalker Davie	
29-Jul		Silas	John	Fahey	Johnny & Christle Fahey	
22-Oct		Ivy	Rose	Rock	Tyrone J. & Rachel W. Rock	
18-Nov		Emily	Deborah	Page	Brian P. & Allana Page	
Deaths		Name			Age	
8-Mar		Andre	C.	Bellavance	66	
26-Apr		Emily		Downing	37	
1-Jul		Nestor	C.	Chamberland Jr.	74	
8-Aug		Paul		Lipp	94	
10-Sep		Dorothy	L.	Marie	96	
18-Sep		Ramona		Kidder	72	
6-Oct		Catherine	Ellen	Brugliera	79	
14-Nov		Ernest	Warren	DeMers	89	
2-Dec		Duane	E.	Reynolds	71	
13-Dec		Harry		Cushing Jr.	76	
16-Dec		David	Vincent	Borrry	64	

Vital Records Law

The New Vital Records Law (Act 46) and What It Means for You. The changes went into effect on July 1, 2019.

The most notable changes are:

Only family members (as defined in Act 46), legal guardians, certain court-appointed parties or legal representatives of any of these parties can apply to obtain a certified copy of a birth or death certificate. In the case of a death certificate only, the funeral home or crematorium handling disposition may apply for a certified copy.

An individual must complete an application and show valid identification when applying for a certified copy of a birth or death certificate.

An individual who refuses to complete the application or cannot provide valid identification will be ineligible and referred to the Vital Records Office.

Certified copies of birth and death certificates can be ordered from any town, not just where the birth or death occurred or where the person was a resident.

Certified copies will be issued on anti-fraud paper.

Access to noncertified copies (previously called "informational" copies) is not significantly changed by the new law or rules.

Marriage, civil union, divorce or dissolution certificate copies and processes are not affected by the new law or rules.

VERMONT HEALTH DEPT, HEALTH RECORDS- Phone: 800-439-5008 VitalRecords@Vermont.gov

Vermont Recording Fees will increase on July 1, 2019.

Document Recording Fees \$15 per page

PTTR (property transfer tax return) \$15 per document

Survey plat recording fees \$25 per sheet

Certified copy of records (no change) \$10 per page

Examination of records (vault time) \$4 per hour

Warning Annual Town Meeting- Tuesday, March 7, 2023

RYEGATE, VERMONT WARNING ANNUAL TOWN MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023 RYEGATE TOWN HOUSE

The citizens of the Town of Ryegate who are legal voters in the annual town meeting are hereby notified and warned to meet in the Town House in Ryegate on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 1:00 P.M. to transact the following business:

ARTICLE 1: To elect a town Moderator for a term of one year

ARTICLE 2: To elect all Town Officers required by law:

Town Clerk for a term of one year

Town Treasurer for a term of one year

Select Board Member for a term of three years

Lister, for a term of three years

Two Auditors, one for a term of three years and one for a term of two years

First Constable for a term of one year

Collector of Delinquent Taxes for a term of one year

Cemetery Commissioner for a term of five years

Library Trustee for a term of five years

Two School Directors, each for a term of three years

ARTICLE 3: Shall the voters authorize total fund expenditures for operating expenses of \$1,222,838.24, of which \$1,005,738.24, shall be raised by taxes and \$217,100.00, by non-tax revenues?

ARTICLE 4: Shall the voters authorize payment of real property taxes in one installment, due October 10th and becoming delinquent on October 11th with interest assessed on delinquent taxes pursuant to 32 V.S.S 4873?

ARTICLE 5: Shall the town vote that overdue taxes will bear interest at a rate of one percent per month for the first three months and thereafter one and one-half percent per month from the due date of such tax pursuant to 32 V.S.A. 5136?


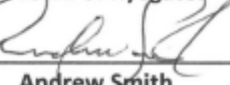
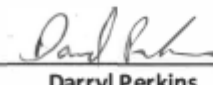
ARTICLE 6: Shall the town vote to establish the amount of the penalty charged by the Collector of Delinquent Taxes for payments made after the due date for payment to eight percent of the tax collected pursuant to 32 V.S.A. 1674?

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money, not to exceed \$14,000.00, for the purpose of paying the Town of Ryegate firefighters and to instruct the Select Board to establish appropriate hourly compensation for the town firefighters when responding to calls during the fiscal year 2023?

ARTICLE 8: To transact any non-binding business that may come before the meeting.

Dated this 16th day of January 2023

By the Select Board members of the Town of Ryegate:

  
Steven Crandall, Chair Andrew Smith Darryl Perkins
Record before Posting Elizabeth Page Town Clerk

Ryegate Town Clerk's Office
Received for record
January 17, 2022 at 5:00 P.M.

Attest: 
Town Clerk

Photos from South Ryegate
Public Library



Important Telephone Numbers and Information

Emergency or Fire 911

RYEGATE TOWN WEBSITE- WWW.RYEGATEVT.ORG

Building Permits	584-3612 Bill Elder 802-584-3880 Town Office
Cottage Hospital	603-747-9000
E Ryegate Fire District #2	802-757-3983 Hoyt Darby
Fire Permits	802-584-3611 Gene Perkins 802-584-3667 Fremont Nelson
Historian	Fremont Nelson, Ryegate Corner George Murphy, South Ryegate

Ryegate Selectboard

Steve Crandall	802-274-9471
Darryl Perkins	802- 584-4710
Andy Smith, Chair	802-633-2260
Town Clerk, Elizabeth Page	802-584-3880 Phone and Fax
Clerk to Select Board, Elizabeth Page	802-584-3064
Town Garage/Road Crew	802-584-3002
Dog Officer- Rachel Clough	802-249-9305
United Ways Agencies for VT 211	
VT Center for Independent Living	802-639-1522
NEK Waste Management	800-734-4602
NEK Youth Services	802-748-8732

State Legislators

Sen. Joseph Benning- R	802-626-3600 office
Sen. Jane Kitchel- D	802-684-3482 home
Rep. Bobby Farlice-Rubio	802-745-7910 office

Selectboard Meetings 2nd and 4th Mondays, 7pm Town Office Building

Town Clerk- Mon 1-5, Tues 1-5, Weds 1-5, Fri 9-1

Recycling Center Friday 3-6 pm Saturday 8- noon

Photo Driver's License

Every Thursday (except holidays)
8:45am- 3:30pm Green Mountain Mall, St. Johnsbury, VT