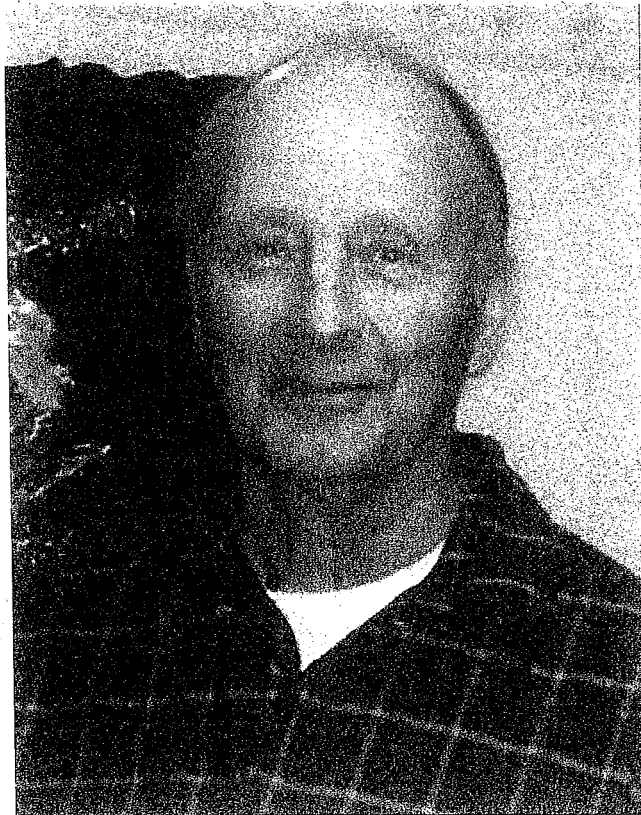


ANNUAL REPORT
TOWN OF
KIRBY
VERMONT



2023

For Year Ending December 31
BRING THIS COPY TO TOWN MEETING

This past few months, my thoughts have turned to some of the men and women who have given of their time and talents to keep our little town functioning capably over its long history.

Last year we honored Wanda Grant, who after 41 years of exceptional service stepped down at the 2023 March meeting. Happily Wanda is still with us, and has given many days of volunteer assistance in helping Erin Patoine to be her able replacement.

Three other townspeople who have given good service to the Town passed on in 2023.

Carol Jensen moved into town from Walden after her husband died, and soon offered to supply her business expertise as an auditor, a position requiring accurate and often tedious work. She served ably in that capacity from 2008 to 2018. Carol had come to love Kirby so much that she came back to spend her final days with Jerry and Flower Toomey high on Kirby Mountain.

Edward "Ted" DeMaio served as first constable from 1993 to 2020. He was a man of many talents, and served the town ably in a job few people want – animal control officer. It was Ted who was called to take in and find a place for an unwanted dog someone had turned loose along a Kirby road, reminded people that their dog's required shots were overdue, and diplomatically answered calls about cruelty to animals. Ted did this not for the money, which was minimal, but largely out of his own pocket, and not because he was on a power trip, but because he had a kind heart and could not bear to see an animal suffer. Any Vermont town should be proud to have such a constable setting an example for all.

When my longtime friend Bob Wood retired in 2006 after 20 years as road commissioner, I wrote on this page:

"For the following twenty years [after 1986] Bob Wood made it his business to faithfully maintain and improve Kirby's roads, and especially the Mountain Road. He straightened out its dangerous curves, broadened and mowed its right of way, installed new culverts and nylon sheeting. Today, thanks to Bob, North and South Kirby are connected by a fine, safe, all-season road that I always gratefully think of as "Bob Wood's parkway".

"One stormy winter night a few years ago I rode the plow truck with Bob. The roar of the engine and the slapping of the wipers made conversation difficult. So I just watched, as Bob skillfully navigated those tons of steel and sand within inches of posts and ditches, skillfully backing and turning with almost no visibility of the road behind, making sure that the roads were open for people to get to work in the morning. I thought about the hundreds of times he had made that cold, lonely circuit in the darkness of a blizzard."

"Like a pastor faithful to his charge, for twenty years Bob Wood served this town with great competence, a keen sense of duty, a frugal concern for the taxpayer's dollar, and a constant attention to how his work could make Kirby a better place."

Bob passed on in 2023. He and Ted and Carol have left behind an admirable legacy of friendship, duty, and competence, for which we are grateful..

- John McClaughry
Moderator

TOWN MEETING 2024

Town meeting will be called to order on Tuesday, March 5th at 10:30 am.

There will also be a potluck following the meeting. We hope to see you there!

INDEX

Auditors Report	15
Cemetery:	
Budget	9
Funds.	33
Dogs:	
Revenue.	37
Names.	37
Control Ordinance.	45-48
Grand List for Past Four Years.	13
Highways:	
Budget	8
Road Related Income	32
Road Related Expenses.	23-25
Road Equipment and Supplies	11
Road Report.	29
Winter Maintenance, General Highway Maintenance/ Resurfacing & Construction.	30
Road Grant Projects.	31
Road Summary Report.	32
Highway Deficit/Surplus	32
Transportation & Road Identification Map	112
Northeast Kingdom Choice School District	
Warning.	50-51
Annual Reports Title Page.	49
NEK Choice Unified School District Annual Report	52
NEK Enrollment & Student Count.	68-70
NEK School Choice School District Report of the Superintendent	53
NEK Choice School District - Audit Report.	56-60
NEK Choice School District 2023-2024 Budget	61-63
Three Prior Years Comparisons.	64
NEK Choice Estimated Tax Rates FY2024.	65
Essex North Supervisory Union 2023-2024 Budget	66-67
ENSU Report of the Director of Student Support	54-55
Officers (Elected & Appointed)	3-4
Property Transfers.	39
Savings-Reappraisal, Town Equipment, Town Records Preservation, Listers Training, Town Building, Highway Department Improvement, & Road Improvement	34-36
Taxes:	
Tax Rate for Past Four Years	13
Statement of Taxes	14
Delinquent Taxes & Amount Paid on Delinquent Taxes	28

Town:

Dates to Remember & Important Facts	4
Warning	5-6
Budget	7-9
Selectboard Report	10
Financial Statement	15-16
Cash Assets, Liabilities, & Net Worth	12
Treasurer's Report (Receipts & Disbursements)	17-19
Town Cash Up	19
Town & Highway Disbursements	20-25
Other Disbursements	25-26
Town Deficit/Surplus	26-27
Inventory	11
Town Clerk's Report	40
Listers' Report	41
Planning Commission/Zoning Board Report	42
Fire Warden Report	43
Kirby Quilter's Report	44
Vital Statistics	38
Other Agencies' Reports:	
Caledonia County Sheriff's Report	78-79
Caledonia Essex Area Ambulance Service Inc	75
Caledonia Home Health & Hospice Report	94-95
Catamount Arts	101
Cobleigh Library	100
Community Restorative Justice Center	102
Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium	80
Kirby Knotweed Action Committee	99
Lyndon Rescue, Inc	76-77
Lyndon Youth Baseball/Softball	90-91
NEK Broadband Report	109
NEKWMD Report Approved Budget	103-104
Northeast Kingdom Youth Services	83-84
Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging	92-93
Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.	81-82
Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District	103-107
NorthWoods Stewardship Center	98
Northeastern Vermont Development Association	73-74
Village Improvement Society/Powers Park	87-89
Representative Scott Beck's Report	71
Representative Scott Campbell's Report	72
Rural Community Transportation, Inc.	85-86
Umbrella	96-97
Vermont Department of Health Local Report	108
VT Spay Neuter Incentive Program	110

TOWN OFFICIALS

Moderator	John McClaughry	2024
Town Clerk	Erin Patoine	2024
Town Treasurer	Erin Patoine	2024
Selectboard	Keith Isham	2024
	Jeffrey Hayes	2025
	Michael Bickford	2026
Road Commissioner	Michael Bickford	2024
Auditors	Emily Hartsock	2024
	Leslie Peters	2025
	Cheryl McMahon	2026
Tax Collector	Erin Patoine	2024
Agent to Convey Town Real Estate	Selectboard	2024
Trustee of Cemetery Funds	Erin Patoine	2024
Listers	Cayle Erik Waring	2024
	Marla Waring	2025
	Arcelie Reyes (resigned)	2026
Sexton	Selectboard	2024
Planning Commission	Sharon Baker	2024
	Ian Balcom	2024
	Mary Etter	2025
	Judith Bourque	2025
	Lucas Bristol (resigned)	2025
	Martin Etter	2026
	Graham Shaw	2026
Justices of the Peace	Karen Moore	
	Timothy Peters	
	Tracy Sherbrook	
	Anne McClaughry	
	Amanda Gochie	
Board of Civil Authority	Selectboard, Justices of the Peace, Town Clerk	
NEK Choice School District Kirby Officers	Miles Etter Dr. Lloyd (Tim) Thompson	

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Assistant Town Clerk & Treasurer	Marla Waring	
Notaries Public	Erin Patoine/Marla Waring	
Health Officer	Shawn McGarvin	
Environmental Officer	Shawn McGarvin	
Town Fire Warden	James Wood	2028
Zoning Board of Adjustment	Sharon Baker	2024
	Ian Balcom	2024
	Mary Etter	2025
	Judith Bourque	2025
	Lucas Bristol (resigned)	2025
	Martin Etter	2026
	Graham Shaw	2026
Administrative Officer	Amanda Gochie	2026
Road Foreman	John Ohina	Cell 802-229-8496

DATES TO REMEMBER

Town Meeting	First Tuesday of March
Dog Licenses	On or Before April 1 st
Town Listers	Start on April 1 st
Selectboard Meetings	First Monday of the month at 6 pm
School Board Meetings	Check with the Essex-North Supervisory Union
Planning Commission & Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting	First Thursday of the month at 6 pm
Town Clerk's Office (phone 802-626-9386)	Tuesday & Thursday 8-3 Email: townclerk.kirbyvermont@gmail.com
NEK Choice School District Budget	March 5, 2024 10 am to 7 pm

IMPORTANT FACTS

Town Chartered	October 1790
Area of Town	15,353.03 acres
Population of Town	575 – 2020 census
Town Website	Kirbyvt.gov – check for Meeting notices and minutes
School Supervisory Union	Essex-North Supervisory Union (802-266-3330)
Representative District	Caledonia-Essex
State Governor	Phil Scott
US Representative	Becca Balint
State Representative	Scott Beck & Scott Campbell
US Senators	Peter Welch & Bernie Sanders
State Senator	Russ Ingalls
Senatorial District	Essex

WARNING
KIRBY TOWN DISTRICT MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024

The inhabitants of the Town of Kirby, who are legal voters in the Town, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Town House in said Kirby on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. to act upon the following:

ARTICLE

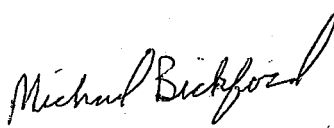
1. To elect a Moderator for the year ensuing.
2. To elect a Town Clerk
3. To consider the Town Report and hear the report of the Auditors.
4. To elect the following:
 - Town Treasurer
 - Selectboard Member (3 yrs.)
 - Auditor (3 yrs.)
 - Delinquent Tax Collector
 - Agent to Convey Town Real Estate
 - Trustee of Cemetery Funds
 - 1 Lister positions – 3 year term
 - 1 Lister position – 2 year term
 - Sexton
 - 2 Planning Commission Members – 3 year term
 - 1 Planning Commission Members – 1 year term
 - All other necessary Town Officers to fill any vacancies
5. Shall the voters of the Town of Kirby authorize the Selectboard to apply to 2024 current expenses Town and Highway surplus monies from 2023?
6. To see if the voters will authorize the Selectboard to apply to 2024 current expenses all monies received from 2022 and 2023 delinquent taxes, interest, and collector's fees.
7. To see what sum the Town will vote to meet current expenses for the year ensuing, and shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to set the rate necessary to raise said assessment based on the 2024 Grand List.
8. To see what method the Town will take to collect taxes, also setting date or dates when taxes are due, and rate of discount, if any.
9. Will the Town levy an interest charge on all delinquent taxes on real and personal property of one percent per month or fraction thereof for the first three months and thereafter one and one-half percent per month or fraction thereof from the due date of taxes, as provided in 32 V.S.A., Section 5136?
10. Will the Town authorize its Selectboard to hire money in anticipation of taxes to meet current expenses, if necessary?
11. Shall the Town vote the sum of \$493.00 to support the operation of the Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium during the ensuing year, in exchange for free unlimited general admission to the Museum for all Kirby residents?

12. Shall the Town of Kirby vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$518.00 for the support of Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc., a not for profit 501(c) (3), to support community members who cannot otherwise afford care?
13. Shall the Town of Kirby vote to appropriate the sum of \$250.00 to Northeast Kingdom Youth Services to be used to support their work with youth and families in our community?
14. Shall the Town of Kirby vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$181.34 for the support of Rural Community Transportation, Inc. to provide services to residents of the Town of Kirby?
15. Shall the Town of Kirby vote to appropriate the sum of \$1000.00 to the Village Improvement Society for the purpose of supporting the operation of the Powers Park Summer Program in 2024?
16. Shall the voters of Kirby vote to appropriate the sum of \$200.00 to the Lyndon Youth Baseball/Softball organization?
17. Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$300.00 to assist the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging in providing services to older Vermonters in the ensuing year?
18. Shall the Town of Kirby vote to appropriate \$500.00 to Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice to be used in providing health care services?
19. Shall the Town of Kirby vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$350.00 for the support of Umbrella to provide services to the residents of the Town?
20. Shall the Town vote to appropriate a sum of \$250.00 in support of the NorthWoods Stewardship Center?
21. Shall the Town vote the sum of \$800.00 to continue the project to manage the spread of the invasive plant knotweed along roadsides and waterways in Kirby, to be carried out by the NorthWoods Stewardship Center?
22. Shall the Town vote the sum of \$1000.00 in support of the Cobleigh Public Library?
23. Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$500.00 in support of Catamount Arts?
24. Shall the Town vote the sum of \$250.00 in support of the Community Restorative Justice Center?
25. To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

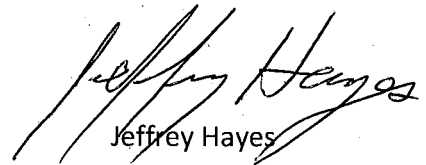
KIRBY SELECTBOARD



Keith Isham



Michael Bickford



Jeffrey Hayes

Attest: 

Town Clerk

Dated: 1/28/24

2024 PROPOSED BUDGET

	Proposed 2023	To Date 12/31/2023	Balance	Proposed 2024
TOWN				
Auditors	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 629.35	\$ 370.65	\$ 1,000.00
Listers	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 4,849.37	\$ 15,150.63	\$ 15,000.00
Selectmen	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00
Town Clerk & Treasurer (includes Assistant)	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 21,645.35	\$ 354.65	\$ 25,000.00
Elections	\$ 700.00	\$ 420.53	\$ 279.47	\$ 2,000.00
Townwide Statistical & Maps Update	\$ 13,600.00	\$ 11,520.00	\$ 2,080.00	\$ 13,600.00
Website & IT Services	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 505.00	\$ 1,495.00	\$ 1,000.00
Fixed Charges-Town (includes S.Kirby Schoolhouse electric, phone,FICA, county tax, & annual dues)	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 28,536.95	\$ 1,463.05	\$ 30,000.00
Insurances-Town (Bond, Property-Town House & S.Kirby Schoolhouse,Workers Compensation, General Liability, Law Enforcement Liability, Public Officials Liability)	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 11,324.50	\$ (1,324.50)	\$ 16,000.00
Legal Expenses	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Printing (Ads & Notices)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 378.00	\$ 622.00	\$ 1,000.00
Town Hall Expenses (includes heating fuel, electric, supplies &,mowing lawns)	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 3,921.69	\$ 578.31	\$ 4,500.00
Hazard Mitigation Planning	\$ 10,150.00	\$ 9,195.00	\$ 955.00	\$ -
Miscellaneous-Town (includes fire costs, training costs, fuel-S.Kirby Schoolhouse, abatement costs, etc.)	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 11,160.37	\$ (7,160.37)	\$ 2,000.00
Landfill		\$ 99.95	\$ (99.95)	\$ -
Fire Expenses				\$ 10,000.00
Town Officials Supplies	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,969.95	\$ (469.95)	\$ 4,000.00
Appropriations	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 4,842.34	\$ 57.66	\$ 7,500.00
Sheriff Contract	\$ 2,340.00		\$ 2,145.00	\$ 4,032.00
Planning Commission & Zoning Board*	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,376.87	\$ 123.13	\$ 4,000.00
Records Preservation*	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 2,000.00
New Equipment-Town	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 311.16	\$ 688.84	\$ 1,000.00
Building Fund	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ -
Total Town Budget	\$ 139,190.00	\$ 119,886.38	\$ 19,108.62	\$ 147,632.00

	Proposed 2023	To Date 12/31/2023	Balance	Proposed 2024
HIGHWAYS				
Deposit to Equipment Fund - went into building cd.	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00		\$ 15,000.00
Diesel Fuel & Oil	\$ 27,500.00	\$ 23,208.63	\$ 4,291.37	\$ 27,500.00
Fixed Charges-Highways (includes cell phone, retirement, & FICA)	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 10,716.51	\$ (1,216.51)	\$ 13,000.00
Garage Expenses(includes heating fuel,electric, & supplies)	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 8,548.49	\$ (1,048.49)	\$ 7,500.00
Insurances-Highways (Property-Garage, Workers Compensation, Auto, General Liability, Health)	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 13,142.14	\$ 11,857.86	\$ 20,000.00
Vacation, Holiday, and Sick Pay	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 5,674.50	\$ 2,325.50	\$ 8,000.00
Municipal Roads General Permit	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,056.67	\$ 943.33	\$ 2,000.00
Miscellaneous-Highways (includes use of personal vehicle stipend, training, printing, etc.)	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,635.00	\$ (135.00)	\$ 3,000.00
Shop Supplies	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,133.31	\$ 366.69	\$ 4,500.00
Road Supplies (includes chloride, traffic cones, signs,etc.)	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 16,032.74	\$ (1,032.74)	\$ 18,000.00
Grader Expenses (includes cutting edges & chains)	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 6,005.56	\$ 3,994.44	\$ 10,000.00
Loader Expenses	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 914.96	\$ 885.04	\$ 1,800.00
Truck Expense (includes cutting edges & chains)	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 18,980.26	\$ 1,019.74	\$ 25,000.00
Truck Loan	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grader Loan	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 23,242.44	\$ 757.56	\$ 8,000.00
New Equipment-Roads	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,526.72	\$ 2,473.28	\$ 5,000.00
Winter Maintenance*	\$ 55,000.00	\$ 73,691.09	\$ (18,691.09)	\$ 85,000.00
General Highway Maintenance/Resurfacing & Construction*	\$ 160,000.00	\$ 92,801.43	\$ 67,198.57	\$ 115,000.00
Class IV	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 960.00	\$ 2,540.00	\$ 3,500.00
Road Grant Projects*	\$ 53,000.00	\$ 46,205.08	\$ 6,794.92	\$ -
Roads Improvement Fund	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ -
Highway Department Improvement Fund	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ -

Total Highway Budget

\$ 449,800.00 \$ 366,475.53 \$ 83,324.47 \$ 371,800.00

CEMETERY

Mowing	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,375.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 2,500.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,000.00
Total Cemetery Budget	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 2,875.00	\$ 1,625.00	\$ 3,500.00

TOTAL TOWN, HIGHWAY & CEMETERY BUDGETS

	Proposed 2023	To Date 12/31/2023	Balance	Proposed 2024
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\$ 593,990.00 \$ 489,236.91 \$ 104,753.09 \$ 522,932.00

***LESS REVENUES**

State Aid To Highways	\$ 49,000.00	\$ 77,234.48	\$ (28,234.48)	\$ 25,000.00
Hazard Mitigation Grant		\$ 5,688.75	\$ (5,688.75)	\$ -
Grants in Aid-2022				\$ -
Grants in Aid-2023	\$ 16,500.00	\$ 15,752.08	\$ 747.92	\$ -
Better Road Grant-Burrington Bridge	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00		\$ -
Reappraisal Fund	\$ 7,799.65	\$ 7,799.65	\$ -	\$ 7,799.65
Estimated Zoning Permits	\$ 500.00	\$ 415.00	\$ 85.00	\$ 500.00
State Hold Harmless Payment & PILOT Program	\$ 29,000.00	\$ 28,566.00	\$ 434.00	\$ 29,000.00
From Records Preservation Fund	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 2,000.00
Surplus(Highways)	\$ 71,460.47	\$ 71,460.47		\$ 109,752.33
Deficit (Town)	\$ 11,051.88	\$ 11,051.88		\$ (3,560.18)
Interest from Cemetery Certificate of Deposit	\$ 25.00	\$ 30.94	\$ (5.94)	\$ 25.00
From Surplus (Cemetery)	\$ 2,964.43	\$ 2,964.43		\$ 563.69
Total Revenues	\$ 210,301.43	\$ 242,163.68	\$ (31,862.25)	\$ 171,080.49

\$ 351,851.51

Grand list 595,356.00
Estimated Tax Rate .59

Town of Kirby Selectboard Report

The Town of Kirby made it through another year. Like everyone else, we had to overcome the inflated cost of everyday essentials and still continue to operate the town to the best of our ability. Every cost is inflated, including office supplies, garage supplies, fuel, and services. I don't see 2024 being much more friendly to the consumer.

We put our ARPA money to good use in 2023.

- 1- We installed a propane automatic generator to run the town hall as well as the garage during a power outage.
- 2- We installed new vinyl siding on the Town Hall.
- 3- We have ordered (and are waiting on delivery for) a heavy-duty roller to help pack the road surface.
- 4- We have a proposal for a new fence at the North Kirby cemetery and we will have an addition to the garage started with the remaining ARPA money.

The biggest issue of the year has been with the fire department's new billing system that was implemented without our knowledge. We are in the process to resolve these issues and to write a Town Policy which will address fire calls.

Keith Isham
Selectboard Chair

INVENTORY

Schoolhouse, South	\$10,000
Town House & Well	75,000
Town Garage	75,000
2 Safes	2,800
Chairs & Furniture	500
Filing Cabinets	600
1 Copier	2,000
3 Computers	1,500
4 Printers & Scanner	800
Generator Setup	12,000
Miscellaneous Items	500
TOTAL INVENTORY	\$180,700

ROAD EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Road Grader, Plow & Wing	\$200,000
Grader Chains	4,000
Loader & Plow	50,000
Old Truck, Body, Plow & Wing	20,000
New Truck, Body & Wing	130,000
Truck Chains	1,500
Sand Screen – Grizzly	5,000
Liquid Chloride Tank	1,500
Shop Tools & Supplies	5,000
Fuel Tank	250
Pressure Washer	2,000
2 Generators	1,000
Leaf Blower	5,000
Sand Shed	3,000
Miscellaneous Equipment & Supplies	3,000
TOTAL ROAD EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES	\$431,250

CASH ASSETS

Town Department, Community National Bank Checkbook 1/1/2024	\$ 285,962.27
Town Department, Passumpsic Savings Bank Checkbook 1/1/2024 (includes \$118,242.27 ARPA Funds – Town Funds \$780.28)	119,022.55
Town Department, Petty Cash on Hand 1/1/2024	84.47
Community National Bank, Certificate of Deposit - Equipment Fund	116,840.31*
Community National Bank, Certificate of Deposit-Equipment Fund2	135,962.25
Community National Bank, Certificate of Deposit Records Preservation	15,992.52
Community National Bank, Certificate of Deposit- Reappraisal Fund	3,509.71
Community National Bank, Certificate of Deposit – Listers Training Fund	3,201.52
Union Bank, Certificate of Deposit – Building Fund	25,135.98*
Union Bank, Certificate of Deposit–Highway Department Improvement Fund	13,977.62
Union Bank, Certificate of Deposit – Highway Improvement Fund	23,180.10
Community National Bank, Savings – Bicentennial Funds	303.28
Unpaid Taxes	70,426.80
Estimated Amounts due from State Treasurer, Class II & III	25,000.00
Estimated Town Inventory	180,700.00
Estimated Road Equipment & Supplies	431,250.00
	\$ 1,450,549.38
*\$15,000.00 was mistakenly deposited into the wrong account – was deposited into the Building Fund Certificate of Deposit Account but should have been deposited into the Equipment Fund Certificated of Deposit Account. This amount will be moved to the correct account when the Certificates of Deposits matures.	

LIABILITIES

Passumpsic Savings Bank, Grader Loan (2.92%)	\$ 7,693.07
--	-------------

NET WORTH

Net Worth 12/31/2022 (does not include School funds)	\$ 1,361,021.09
Net Worth 12/31/2023 (does not include School funds)	\$ 1,442,856.31
Net Increase	\$ 81,835.22

GRAND LIST FOR PAST FOUR YEARS

2020 Grand List	
Municipal	\$581,252.00
School	
Homestead	348,693.00
Non-Residential	233,055.00
2021 Grand List	
Municipal	\$590,047.00
School	
Homestead	365,613.00
Non-Residential	224,630.00
2022 Grand List	
Municipal	\$595,110.00
School	
Homestead	349,849.00
Non-Residential	245,457.00
2023 Grand List	
Municipal	\$595,356.00
School	
Homestead	354,088.00
Non-Residential	241,464.00

TAX RATE

2020 Tax Rate		2021 Tax Rate	
Homestead (Residential)	\$1.8671	Homestead (Residential)	\$1.9495
Non-Residential	\$2.2310	Non-Residential	\$2.0286
2022 Tax Rate		2023 Tax Rate	
Homestead (Residential)	\$2.0280	Homestead (Residential)	\$2.5848
Non-Residential	\$1.9993	Non-Residential	\$2.4444

STATEMENT OF TAXES

Municipal Grand List	\$595,356.	
Municipal Tax Rate	x .6313	
Total Municipal Taxes		\$ 375,848.25
Education Homestead Grand List	\$354,088.	
Homestead (Residential) Tax Rate	x 1.9535	
Total Education Homestead Taxes		\$ 691,710.92
Education Non-Residential Grand List	\$241,464.	
Non-Residential Tax Rate	x 1.8131	
Total Education Non-Residential Taxes		\$ 437,798.39
Total Taxes		\$ 1,505,357.56
Total to be Distributed:		
*Town(.1358)		80,849.33
Highways4897		291,545.83
Local Veterans Exemption . .0010		595.36
Cemetery0048		2,857.71
School (Homestead) 1.9535	\$691,710.91	
(Non-Residential) 1.8131	<u>437,798.42</u>	
		<u>1,129,509.33</u>
		\$ 1,505,357.56
Accounted for as follows:		
Collected by Treasurer		\$ 1,311,927.39
Prebates		\$ 125,938.20
Delinquent Taxes to Collector		\$ 69,727.85
Minus Overpayments of Taxes		\$0.00
Late Homestead Penalties		\$ -2,235.58
		\$ 1,505,357.86
(A difference of .30 due to rounding amounts on tax bills)		

AUDITOR'S REPORT

We, the Auditors, have this day, January 27, 2024 completed an audit of the books of the various Town Officers and find all books accurate and correct.

EMILY HARTSOCK

Emily Hartsock

CHERYL MCMAHON

Cheryl McMahon

LESLIE PETERS

Leslie Peters

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

(Expenses of the Town for the Past Five Years)

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019

Town Expenses	
Town Disbursements	\$ 110,600.77
Highway Disbursements (Includes purchase of grader for \$268,000.00)	759,109.11
Other Disbursements – See Town & Highway Disbursement 2019 Town Report, Pages 27-28 (Includes \$259,000.00 for short-term loan that was borrowed to cover expenses until tax monies and grant monies were received. Was paid in full before December 31, 2019)	1,021,367.64

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020

Town Expenses	
Town Disbursements	\$ 86,580.40
Highway Disbursements	354,360.97
Other Disbursements – See Town & Highway Disbursement 2020 Town Report, Pages 28-29	710,884.87

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021

Town Expenses	
Town Disbursements	\$ 75,345.96
Highway Disbursements	344,879.50
Other Disbursements – See Town & Highway Disbursement 2021 Town Report, Pages 27 & 28	837,643.25

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022

Town Expenses	
Town Disbursements	\$ 89,377.45
Highway Disbursements	359,033.16
Other Disbursements – See Town & Highway Disbursement 2022 Town Report, Pages 25 & 26	902,045.42

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

Town Expenses	
Town Disbursements	\$ 119,886.38
Highway Disbursements	366,475.53
Other Disbursements – See Town & Highway Disbursement 2023 Town Report , Pages 23-25	1,015,169.26

2023 TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on Hand, January 1, 2023			\$ 412,325.31
TAXES:			
2023 Taxes (Includes \$2341.00 Town Share of Prebates)		\$ 1,314,268.39	
Kirby School District, Act 60 Administration Fees		\$ 2,408.29	
Erin, Patoine Tax Collector			
Delinquent 2021 Taxes	\$ 3,746.89		
Interest-2021 Taxes	\$ 1,043.20		
Fees-2021 Taxes	\$ 240.76		
Delinquent 2022 Taxes	\$ 17,555.16		
Interest-2022 Taxes	\$ 2,661.28		
Fees-2022 Taxes	\$ 2,019.16		
Delinquent 2023 Taxes	\$ 12,818.44		
Interest-2023	\$ 853.76		
Fees-2023	\$ 321.71		
		\$ 41,260.36	
Total Taxes, Interest & Fees			\$ 1,357,937.04
TOWN FUNDS RECEIVED FROM STATE:			
State of Vermont, Act 60 (Homesteads)		\$ 355.00	
State of Vermont, Act 60 (Reappraisal)		\$ 3,017.50	
State of Vermont, Holdharmless Payment		\$ 28,566.00	
State of Vermont, Pilot Program, Darling State Park		\$ 1,651.84	
Lister Training		\$ 231.00	
Hazard Mitigation Plan Grant		\$ 5,688.75	
Total Town Funds Received From State			\$ 39,510.09
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME:			
Copies		\$ 503.00	
Clerk Fees		\$ 3,673.00	
Community National Bank, NOW Interest		\$ 160.76	
Passumpsic Savings Bank, NOW Interest		\$ 30.49	
Dog Fees		\$ 604.00	
Marriage Licenses		\$ 140.00	
Records Preservation		\$ 1,332.00	
Vault Fees		\$ 222.00	
Unclaimed Property, Extra received from Taxes		\$ 0.54	
Road Access Permit, Brown		\$ 15.00	
Road Access Permit, Hopkins		\$ 15.00	
Road Access Permit, Clode		\$ 15.00	
Road Access Permit, Chase		\$ 15.00	
Posting Notice - Cloutier		\$ 5.00	
Posting Notice - Whitehill		\$ 5.00	
Posting Notice - Lutrus		\$ 5.00	
Posting Notice - McGill		\$ 5.00	
Green Mountain Passport		\$ 2.00	
Overpayment - VLCT		\$ 302.00	
Overpayment - Passumpsic Bank		\$ 15.00	
From Records Preservation Savings		\$ 1,200.00	
Knotweed Grant		\$ 1,000.00	

2023 TREASURER'S REPORT

Hayes - Stamp		\$	1.00	
Current Use		\$	3,348.50	
Scrap Metal		\$	29.20	
Total Miscellaneous Income				\$ 12,643.49
ZONING PERMITS:				
387 Gorham Drive, LLC		\$	25.00	
Mirkin, Benjamin		\$	25.00	
Griffin, Timothy		\$	25.00	
Heinrich, Jenna & Jason		\$	25.00	
Griffin, Timothy		\$	25.00	
Hardman, Mariah/Whitbread, Kristen		\$	25.00	
Caspersen, Todd		\$	25.00	
Burrington, Joseph & Michelle		\$	25.00	
Mattei, Jordan/Gallagher, Melinda		\$	25.00	
Crone, James & Marcella		\$	25.00	
Patoine, Donald & Erin		\$	25.00	
Kurtz, Daniel		\$	25.00	
Goreau, Tara		\$	25.00	
Downing, Kim		\$	25.00	
387 Gorham Drive, LLC		\$	25.00	
Chase, David		\$	25.00	
Total Zoning Permits				\$ 400.00
HIGHWAY RELATED INCOME:				
State of Vermont, State Aid to Highways - Class II		\$	26,929.77	
State of Vermont, State Aid to Highways - Class III		\$	50,304.71	
State of Vermont, Better Road Grants		\$	20,000.00	
State of Vermont, Grants in Aid-2023		\$	15,752.08	
Overload Permits				
Agri-Mark, Inc. dba Cabot Creamery	\$	10.00		
Amerigas Propane	\$	10.00		
Austin Construction, Inc.	\$	10.00		
Bourne's Inc. dba Bourne's Energy	\$	10.00		
Larry M. Brown	\$	10.00		
Calkins	\$	10.00		
Camp Precast Concrete Products, Inc.	\$	10.00		
Cardinal Logistics Management Corp.	\$	10.00		
Carroll Concrete Co. Inc.	\$	10.00		
Gingue Construction, Inc.	\$	10.00		
HB Logging	\$	10.00		
JBL Logging	\$	5.00		
J.P. Sicard, Inc.	\$	10.00		
Kelley-View Farm, Inc.	\$	10.00		
National Energy - Beacon	\$	10.00		
National Energy Control Services	\$	10.00		
R.K. Miles, Inc.	\$	10.00		
Tony Dwyer	\$	10.00		

2023 TREASURER'S REPORT

	\$	175.00	
Total Highway Related Income	\$		113,161.56
Total Receipts	\$		1,523,652.18
TOTAL RECEIPTS & BEGINNING BALANCE	\$		1,935,977.49
DISBURSEMENTS			
Town Disbursements	\$		119,886.38
Highway Disbursements	\$		366,475.53
Other Disbursements	\$		1,015,169.26
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$		1,501,531.17
TOWN CASH UP			
Beginning Balance January 1, 2023	\$		412,325.31
Cash Received	\$		1,523,652.18
	\$		1,935,977.49
Minus Total Disbursements	\$		1,501,531.17
Minus ARPA funds		\$	29,462.00
Ending Balance for December 31, 2023	\$		404,984.32
Plus Accounts Payable	\$		-
Checkbooks Balances December 31, 2023	\$		404,984.32

2023 TOWN & HIGHWAY DISBURSEMENTS

TOWN DISBURSEMENTS			
Auditors			
Cheryl McMahon	\$204.29		
Emily Hartsock	168.04		
Leslie Peters	257.02		
		\$629.35	
Listers			
Apex Software	\$215.00		
NEMRC	1318.55		
Marla Waring, Lister	1446.00		
Cayle E. Waring, Lister	1435.00		
Lister Mileage	271.62		
Lister Postage	163.20		
		\$4,849.37	
Selectmen			
Keith Isham	\$500.00		
Jeffrey Hayes	500.00		
Michael Bickford	500.00		
		\$1,500.00	
Town Clerk & Treasurer			
Erin Patoine	\$15551.60		
Wanda Grant	4781.25		
Marla Waring, Assistant	1277.50		
VT Notary Bar	25.00		
VLCT	10.00		
		\$21,645.35	
Election Expenses			
Erin Patoine, Presiding Officer	\$189.88		
Amanda Gochie, Ballot Clerk	151.57		
Cornelia Rath, Ballot Clerk	79.08		
		\$420.53	
Townwide Reappraisal			
NEMRC	\$11520.00		
		\$11,520.00	
Town Hall Expenses			
Dead River Company	\$3233.36		
Lyndonville Hardware	132.98		
Amazon	49.16		

Doug Hodge	485.00		
Jeffrey Hayes – Reimbursement	21.19		
		\$3,921.69	
FIXED CHARGES - TOWN			
Community National Bank – IRS Social Security Town Share	\$1991.08		
Community National Bank – IRS Medicare Town Share	465.67		
Lyndonville Electric	1030.34		
Green Mountain Power – S. Kirby Schoolhouse	302.17		
Consolidated Communication	927.98		
Verizon Wireless – internet service	746.52		
Caledonia-Essex Ambulance Service, Contract	2409.00		
Lyndon Rescue, Inc., Dues	11263.94		
NEKWMD, Dues	609.50		
Vermont League of Cities & Towns, Dues	1854.00		
St J Fire Extinguisher Sales & Service	120.75		
Northeastern Vermont Development Association, Dues	565.00		
County Treasurer, Caledonia Count – Tax	6251.00		
		\$28,536.95	
Insurances - Town			
VLCT PACIF, Employment Practices Liability	\$287.00		
VLCT PACIF – Property and Casualty	8732.50		
VLCT PACIF, Workers Compensation	2305.00		
		\$11,324.50	
Printing			
The Caledonian-Record			
Town Reports	\$18.00		
Sign Ordinance	120.00		
Highway Access	84.00		
Planning Board – Hearing	48.00		
Vinyl Bids	60.00		
Change of Meeting	48.00		
		\$378.00	
Town Miscellaneous			
Town of Waterford – Fire Department	\$1125.00		
Town of Concord – Fire Department	1200.00		
Town of St Johnsbury – Fire Department	6153.50		
John Ohina – Trash Reimbursement	36.00		

Caledonia County Sheriff's Department, Speed Limit Enforcement	1462.50		
VT State Treasurer – Marriage License Fees	50.00		
Visual Edge IT	461.56		
Passumpsic Bank – overpayment	15.00		
Cayle Waring – Training Reimbursement	\$578.81		
NEKWMD – Tire disposal	78.00		
		\$11,160.37	
Town Official Supplies			
Wanda Grant, Supplies	\$168.31		
Marla Waring, Supplies	123.70		
Erin Patoine, Supplies	105.89		
Judith Bourque – Postage reimbursement	28.68		
Postmaster – Postage	868.03		
Kofile, Inc – Preservation Book	820.58		
Staples	84.23		
Intuit Quickbooks	963.54		
Amazon	296.12		
IDS – Dog Tags & Books	112.55		
Walmart	398.32		
		\$3,969.95	
Appropriations			
Northwoods Stewardship Center	\$250.00		
Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium	493.00		
Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice	500.00		
Lyndon Youth Baseball/Softball	200.00		
Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging	300.00		
Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc	518.00		
Village Improvement Society (Powers Park)	1000.00		
Northeast Kingdom Youth Services	250.00		
Rural Community Transportation	181.34		
Umbrella, Inc	350.00		
Kirby Knotweed Action Committee	800.00		
		\$4,842.34	
Website			
Northeast Kingdom Online	\$505.00		
		\$505.00	
Landfill			
John Ohina – Reimbursement	\$99.95		
		\$99.95	
Planning Commission & Zoning Board			
Amanda Gochie, Zoning Administrator	\$380.68		

Amanda Gochie, Mileage	84.94		
Clarke Atwell – Short Term Rentals	1225.00		
Postmaster – Postage	585.40		
Judith Bourque – Minutes Clerk	531.92		
Silver Mountain Graphics – Printing	540.93		
VLCT – Training	28.00		
		\$3,376.87	
New Equipment			
Walmart – Filing Cabinet	\$311.16		
		\$311.16	
Record Presservation Expenses			
NEMRC, Land Records	\$1200.00		
		\$1,200.00	
Hazard Mitigation Plan Expenses	\$9195.00	\$9,195.00	
Town Building Fund	\$500.00*	\$500.00	
Total Town Disbursements			\$119,886.38

*\$15,000 should have been deposited to equipment fund CD. Will move in 2024.

HIGHWAY DISBURSEMENTS			
Diesel Fuel & Oil			
Dead River, Company - Diesel Fuel	\$22428.83		
KMJ Precision Fuels	779.80		
		\$23,208.63	
Fixed Charges – Highways			
Lyndonville Electric	\$1062.12		
Community National Bank (IRS) Medicare	913.83		
Community National Bank (IRS)	3907.43		
Social Security			
John Ohina – Cell phone	650.00		
VMERS DB Employer share of Retirement	4183.13	\$10,716.51	
Garage Expenses			
Troy Overhead Door	\$5485.00		
John Ohina – Maintenance	1857.00		
Dead River Company - Heating Oil	586.02		
Dead River Company – Furnace Repair	539.63		
Lyle Gadapee	80.84		
		\$8,548.49	
Grader Expenses			
HP Fairfield	\$271.92		
Reed Supply	2280.00		
United Construction	1872.67		

Power Plan	756.97		
John Ohina – Maintenance	824.00		
		\$6,005.56	
Loader Expenses			
Ville Auto	\$315.46		
John Ohina – Maintenance	599.50		
		\$914.96	
Insurances – Highway			
BCBSVT, Health Insurance for John Ohina	\$12072.64		
VLCT PACIF – Workers Compensation	1069.50		
		\$13,142.14	
Vacation, Holidays & Sick Pay			
John Ohina – Holidays	\$1328.00		
John Ohina – Sick Pay	216.00		
John Ohina – Vacation	4008.00		
Erin Patoine - Vacation	122.50		
		\$5,674.50	
Miscellaneous Highways			
John Ohina – Mileage	\$1503.00		
John Ohina - Other Miscellaneous	1092.00		
Wayne Tanner	40.00		
		\$2,635.00	
Shop Supplies			
Tools Plus Industries	\$448.20		
Airgas USA, Cylinder Lease & Supplies	401.87		
Ville Auto Supply	2068.66		
Lyndonville Hardware	554.44		
John Ohina	169.19		
Dad's 4 By Tool & Supply	27.98		
Kimball Midwest	224.76		
Reed Supply	154.24		
Gemplers	83.97		
		\$4,133.31	
Road Supplies			
HS Supplies	\$61.00		
Arrow Central	6734.31		
Tools Plus	216.55		
Gorman Group	5350.95		
Lyndonville Hardware	70.33		
Worksafe	3599.60		
		\$16,032.74	
Truck Expenses			

John Ohina – Maintenance	\$5197.50		
Lyndon Truck Center	3036.69		
Reed Supply	635.00		
Russell Riendeau	200.00		
Black Bart's Welding	175.00		
Northeast Truck Tire	6372.80		
Surplus Center	382.40		
Ville Auto Supply	161.99		
HP Fairfield	2818.88		
		\$18,980.26	
Grader Loan			
Passumpsic Savings Bank – Principal	\$22661.99		
Passumpsic Savings Bank – Interest	580.45		
		\$23,242.44	
New Equipment			
Northern Tool	\$1999.99		
Amazon	131.93		
Harbor Freight	314.80		
Nutrien Ag Solutions	80.00		
		\$2,526.72	
Municipal Roads General Permit Expenses			
State of Vermont – Fees	\$416.67		
VT DEC – Watershed	640.00		
		\$1,056.67	
Winter Highway Maintenance		\$73,691.09	
General Highway Maintenance		\$92,801.43	
Class IV		\$960.00	
Road Grants Projects		\$46,205.08	
Roads Improvement Fund (Union Bank)		\$500.00	
Highway Department Fund (Union Bank)		\$500.00	
Equipment Fund (Union Bank)*		\$15,000.00	
Total Highway Disbursements			\$366,475.53
Total Town & Highway Disbursements			\$486,361.91
*Was mistakenly put into Town Building Fund. Will be moved when CD matures.			
OTHER DISBURSEMENTS (Includes funds transferred to savings accounts, taxes transferred to School & Cemetery, funds received and designated to be paid out, etc.)			
To Savings Accounts			
Community National Bank-			

Records Preservation Fund	\$1240.00		
		\$1,240.00	
Taxes to Other Departments			
NEK Choice School District, Share of Taxes	\$1007084.19		
Kirby Cemetery, Share of Taxes	\$2857.74		
		\$1,009,941.93	
Funds received and paid out			
Erin Patoine, Clerk Fees & Dog Fees	\$3662.00		
Vermont State Treasurer, Share of Dog Fees	\$225.00		
Vermont State Treasurer, Marriage Licenses	\$100.00		
Vermont State Treasurer Unclaimed Property	\$.33		
		\$3,987.33	
Total Other Disbursements			<u>\$1,015,169.26</u>
TOTAL TOWN, HIGHWAY, & OTHER DISBURSEMENTS			<u>\$1,501,531.17</u>
ARPA Fund Expenses –Taken from Separate ARPA Fund Account			
Brookfield SVC, Generator	\$15578.00		
Doug Hodge, Siding of Town Hall	\$13884.00		
Total ARPA Fund Expenses		\$29,462.00	
TOWN DEFICIT/SURPLUS			
Surplus from 2022	\$11051.88		
Share of Taxes	80849.33		
Act 60 School Administrative Fees	\$2408.29		
Minus 2023 Delinquent Taxes	(\$69727.85)		
Amount Paid on Delinquent Taxes (includes principal, interest & fees)	\$41260.36		
Holdharmless Payment	\$28566.00		
Pilot Program Payment	\$1651.84		
Act 60 Homestead Payment	\$355.00		
From Record Preservation Fund	\$1200.00		
Received from Hazard Mitigation Grant	\$5688.75		
Received from Reappraisal Fund	\$7799.65		
Current Use Penalty-Town Share	\$3348.50		
Share of Dog Licenses	\$226.00		

Zoning Permit Fees	\$400.00		
Miscellaneous Income (copies, NOW Interest, vault fees, etc.)	<u>\$1248.45</u>		
Total Town Income		\$116,326.20	
Minus Town Expenses		<u>-\$119886.38</u>	
TOWN DEFICIT			-\$3,560.18

DELINQUENT TAXES

2022 Taxes		
Bassett, Bonnie	Real Estate	\$ 883.70
Bartlett, Stanley	Real Estate	208.10
Chapin, David A. (Thumper Lee Marcy)	Real Estate	1,656.16
Kirby Golf Course	Real Estate	7,476.10
O'Brien, James	Real Estate	4,107.53
Ranney, Richard	Real Estate	159.94
Ranney, Richard & Susan	Real Estate	675.77
Total 2022 Delinquent Taxes		\$15,173.02
2023 Taxes		
Bartlett, Stanley	Real Estate	\$ 3,279.50
Bassett, Bonnie	Real Estate	1,080.42
Brown, Tonya/John R. Burkhart	Real Estate	5,974.12
Camisa, Timothy/Michael Rooney	Real Estate	425.33
Caspersen, Todd & Beth Ann	Real Estate	1,051.09
E-A-K Trust	Real Estate	1,779.53
Giovannucci, Brian	Real Estate	2,187.73
Kinsman, Michael & Cynthia	Real Estate	141.78
Kirby Golf Course	Real Estate	12,554.44
Marcy, Thumper Lee	Real Estate	2,805.09
Mooney, Brian & Sharon	Real Estate	478.87
Nemeth, Lester	Real Estate	919.10
Nemeth, Lester/Istavan Gyuro	Real Estate	2,498.18
Ranney, Richard	Real Estate	175.99
Ranney, Richard & Susan	Real Estate	738.21
Raymond, Cameron/Aleta Mathers	Real Estate	122.23
Richmond, Katherine	Real Estate	586.64
Sargent, William	Real Estate	11,086.21
Schold, Matthew & Jennifer	Real Estate	3,529.72
Smith, Kara	Real Estate	758.57
Squires, Vickie	Real Estate	809.02
Surridge, Paul	Real Estate	648.01
Teracino, Laura	Real Estate	1,085.32
Wood, Scott	Real Estate	538.68
		\$55,253.78
Total 2022 & 2023 Delinquent Taxes		\$70,426.80

AMOUNT PAID ON DELINQUENT TAXES

	1/1/2023 Balance Due	Amount Paid	1/1/2024 Balance Due
2021	\$ 3,746.89	\$ 3,746.89	\$ 0
2022	32,728.18	17,555.16	15,173.02
2023, November 2	69,727.85	14,474.07*	55,253.78
	\$106,202.92	\$ 35,776.12	\$ 70,426.80
*Includes tax amount of \$1,655.63 paid in December, 2023 but not entered in books until January, 2024.			

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT 2023

The major grant projects completed in 2023 were the North Kirby/Kirby Mountain Road intersection and the Burrington Bridge/Ridge Road intersection, which went well. There was also ditching and drainage work done on Brook Road, Ridge Road, and Locust Ridge, which was grant funded.

Mother nature wasn't kind to us in mud season, as things happened quickly, costing us a \$40,000 season. John did a great job maintaining the roads and staying within budget in 2023 and we are grateful for his service. Thank you, John.

Michael Bickford
Road Commissioner

WINTER HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE						
	Class II	Class III	Total			
John China, Labor	\$ 5,085.00	\$ 13,906.00	\$ 18,991.00	Labor		
Wayne Tanner, Labor	\$ 120.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 420.00	\$19,411.00		
Gingue Construction - Winter Sand, Stone, Gravel & Trucking	\$ 5,245.62	\$ 10,491.23	\$ 15,736.85			
JBL Logging - Trucking	\$ 330.00	\$ 2,605.00	\$ 2,935.00	Materials & Trucking		
Calkins Rock Products - Gravel	\$ 3,743.64	\$ 15,069.13	\$ 18,812.77	\$40,955.09		
Matthews Excavating - Trucking		\$ 2,875.00	\$ 2,875.00			
Dad's 4 By Tool & Supply - Tarp	\$ 148.87	\$ 446.60	\$ 595.47			
Town Loader	\$ 25.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 300.00	Town		
Town Grader	\$ 350.00	\$ 975.00	\$ 1,325.00	Equipment		
Town Truck	\$ 3,262.50	\$ 8,437.50	\$ 11,700.00	\$13,325.00		
Total Winter Highway Maintenance	\$ 18,310.63	\$ 55,380.46	\$ 73,691.09			
GENERAL HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE/RESURFACING & CONSTRUCTION						
	Class II	Class III	Total			
John China, Labor	\$ 4,997.00	\$ 18,079.00	\$ 23,076.00	Labor		
John China - Use of Personal Backhoe	\$ 110.00	\$ 330.00	\$ 440.00	\$23,076.00		
John China - Use of Personal Backhoe				Use of Personal Equipment		
John China - Use of Personal Tractor	\$ 461.25	\$ 1,383.75	\$ 1,845.00	\$2,285.00		
Calkins Rock Products - Gravel & Ledge	\$ 7,528.51	\$ 25,522.93	\$ 33,051.44			
Gingue Construction - Gravel	\$ 129.50	\$ 388.50	\$ 518.00	Gravel, Trucking, & Excavation, & Etc.		
JBL Logging - Trucking & Excavating	\$ 715.00	\$ 2,365.00	\$ 3,080.00			
Pike Industries - Stone, Plant Mix & Gravel		\$ 5,620.32	\$ 5,620.32			
Manchester Brook Material - Stone, Plant Mix & Gravel	\$ 372.00	\$ 5,580.00	\$ 5,952.00			
Newport Rental - Mulch Rental		\$ 106.00	\$ 106.00	\$53,277.92		
Petes Equipment - Tractor & Mower Rental	\$ 1,137.50	\$ 3,376.50	\$ 4,514.00			
Arrow Central, Inc. - Culverts & Filter Fabric		\$ 436.17	\$ 436.17			
Town Loader	\$ 325.00	\$ 1,225.00	\$ 1,550.00	Town		
Town Grader	\$ 2,062.50	\$ 5,875.00	\$ 7,937.50	Equipment		
Town Truck	\$ 650.00	\$ 4,025.00	\$ 4,675.00	\$14,162.50		
Total General Highway Maintenance	\$ 18,488.26	\$ 74,313.17	\$ 92,801.43			

CLASS IV						
	General Highway Maintenance	Total				
John China, Labor	\$ 560.00	\$ 560.00	Labor \$560.00			
Town Truck	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	Town Equipment \$400.00			
Town Loader	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00				
Total Class IV	\$ 960.00	\$ 960.00				
ROAD GRANT PROJECTS - CLASS III						
	Grants in Aid - Ridge Road	Grants in Aid - Intersection of North Kirby Road & Kirby Mountain Road	Better Road Grant - Intersection Burrington Bridge Road & Ridge Road	Total		
John China, Labor	\$ 1,120.00	\$ 1,148.00	\$ 3,136.00	\$ 5,404.00	Labor & Mileage \$5,986.50	
John China, Mileage	\$ 320.00		\$ 262.50	\$ 582.50		
Calkins Rock Products - Gravel	\$ 2,322.66	\$ 2,407.35	\$ 6,755.40	\$ 11,485.41	Gravel, Trucking, Excavation, Culverts, & Etc. \$36,818.58	
JBL Logging - Trucking & Excavating	\$ 585.00	\$ 7,137.50	\$ 7,762.50	\$ 15,485.00		
Manchester Brook Material - Gravel	\$ 930.00	\$ 697.50		\$ 1,627.50		
Arrow Central, Inc. - Culverts		\$ 1,569.09	\$ 5,042.90	\$ 6,611.99		
HS Supplies - Filter Fabric		\$ 178.00		\$ 178.00		
Nutrien Ag Solutions - Grass Seed	\$ 275.00		\$ 275.00	\$ 550.00	Town Equipment \$3,400.00	
Steve Houghton - Haybales	\$ 200.00		\$ 260.00	\$ 460.00		
Worksafe - Signs			\$ 314.68	\$ 314.68		
Newport Rental - Mulcher Rental			\$ 106.00	\$ 106.00		
Town Truck	\$ 800.00		\$ 2,100.00	\$ 2,900.00		
Town Loader			\$ 325.00	\$ 325.00		
Town Grader			\$ 175.00	\$ 175.00		
Total Road Grant Projects	\$ 6,552.66	\$ 13,137.44	\$ 26,514.98	\$ 46,205.08		

ROAD SUMMARY REPORT

John Ohina (Regular Pay \$41,011.00 – Overtime Pay \$7,020.00)	\$ 48,031.00
John Ohina, Use of Personal Equipment	2,285.00
John Ohina, Mileage	582.50
Wayne Tanner, Labor	420.00
Arrow Central Inc.	7,048.16
Calkins Rock Products, Inc.	63,349.62
Gingue Construction, Inc.	16,254.85
HS Supplies	178.00
Dad's 4 By Tool & Supply	595.47
JBL Logging	21,500.00
Manchester Brook Material	7,579.50
Matthews Excavating	2,875.00
Newport Rental	212.00
Nutrien Ag Solutions	550.00
Pete's Equipment	4,514.00
Pike Industries	5,620.32
Steve Houghton	460.00
Worksafe	314.68
Town Truck	19,575.00
Town Grader	9,437.50
Town Loader	2,275.00
TOTAL Winter Maintenance, General Maintenance/Resurfacing & Construction, Class IV & Grant Projects	\$ 213,657.60
<i>All Other Road Expenses</i>	<u>152,817.93</u>
TOTAL ALL HIGHWAY EXPENSES	\$ 366,475.53
ROAD RELATED INCOME	
<i>Surplus from 2022</i>	\$ 71,460.47
<i>Share of Taxes</i>	291,545.83
<i>State of Vermont, State Aid to Highways</i>	77,234.48
<i>Grants in Aid</i>	15,752.08
<i>Better Road Grant</i>	20,000.00
<i>Road Access Permits</i>	60.00
<i>Overload Permits</i>	<u>175.00</u>
TOTAL ALL HIGHWAY INCOME	\$ 476,227.86
HIGHWAY SURPLUS	\$ 109,752.33

CEMETERY REPORT

Balance on Hand January 1, 2023		\$ 3,566.15
Receipts		
Community National Bank, Interest from Certificate of Deposit Account		\$ 30.94
John & Louise Miller, Sale of lots		275.00
Robert & Suzanne Wood, Sale of lots		275.00
Guibord Funeral Home, Fee for Wood Burial		950.00
Town of Kirby, Share of Taxes		2,857.74
<i>Total Receipts</i>		\$ 4,388.68
Disbursements		
Waterford Lawn Care-Mowing North & South Kirby Cemeteries		\$ 2,375.00
Town of Kirby Cemetery, Transfer of funds to Certificate of Deposit		500.00
Weaver Construction, Fee for digging Wood grave		950.00
<i>Total Disbursements</i>		\$ 3,825.00

CEMETERY CASH UP - DECEMBER 31, 2023

Balance on Hand January 1, 2023	\$ 3,566.15
Total Receipts	<u>4,388.68</u>
Total Receipts & Beginning Balance	\$ 7,954.83
Total Disbursements	<u>3,825.00</u>
Checkbook Balance, December 31, 2023	\$ 4,129.83

TOWN OF KIRBY CEMETERY FUNDS

Community National Bank, Certificate of Deposit		
Balance as of January 1, 2023		\$ 12,422.48
Deposits		
Interest earned 2023	\$ 49.78	
From Checking Account	<u>500.00</u>	
Total Deposits		\$ 549.78
Withdrawal		
Withdrawal of Interest (deposited into Cemetery checking account)	<u>30.94</u>	
Total Withdrawals		<u>-30.94</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2023		\$ 12,941.32
An additional \$ 22.16 will be withdrawn and deposited into checking account when Certificate of Deposit matures		

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS & SPECIAL FUNDS

REAPPRAISAL FUND (ACT 60) CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT - Community National Bank

Balance as of January 1, 2023		\$ 3,496.05
Deposits		
Interest Earned 2023	\$ 13.66	
Total Deposits		9.25
Certificate of Deposit Balance as of December 31, 2022		\$ 3,509.71
Additional Funds		
Received from State of Vermont 2021		\$ 3,034.50
Received from State of Vermont 2022		3,026.00
Received from State of Vermont 2023		3,017.50
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 12,587.71
Amount used for Reappraisal in 2023	\$ -7,799.65	
		\$ -7,799.65
TOTAL FUND BALANCE		\$ 4,788.06

TOWN EQUIPMENT FUND CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT - Community National Bank (1)

Balance as of January 1, 2023		\$ 95,602.98
Deposits		
Interest Earned 2023	\$ 424.83	
Hourly equipment charges deposited	20,812.50	
Total Deposits		21,237.33
Balance as of December 31, 2023		\$ 116,840.31
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT - Community National Bank (2)		
Balance as of January 1, 2023		\$ 124,987.52
Deposits		
Interest Earned 2023	\$ 499.68	
Hourly equipment charges deposited	10,475.00	
Total Deposits		10,974.68
Balance as of December 31, 2023		\$ 135,962.20
TOTAL EQUIPMENT FUNDS		\$ 252,802.51*
*\$15,000.00 was mistakenly deposited into Town Building Fund Certificated of Deposit – should have been deposited into Equipment Fund Certificate of Deposit. This amount will be moved to the Equipment Fund when Certificates of Deposits matures. This will make the total of the Equipment Fund \$267,802.51.		

TOWN RECORDS PRESERVATION FUND
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT - Community National Bank

Balance as of January 1, 2023		\$ 15,890.41
Deposits*		
Interest Earned 2023	\$ 62.11	
2023 Fees Received	1,240.00	
Total Deposits		1,302.11
Withdrawal		
To cover 2023 expenses	\$ 1,200.00	
Total Withdrawals		- 1,200.00
Balance as of December 31, 2023		\$ 15,992.52
Additional Funds Received after Deposit to Certificate of Deposit		92.00
TOTAL FUND BALANCE		\$ 16,084.52

LISTERS TRAINING FUNDS
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT - Community National Bank

Balance as of January 1, 2023		\$ 3,189.32
Deposits		
Interest Earned 2023	\$ 12.20	
Total Deposits		12.20
Balance as of December 31, 2023		\$ 3,201.52

TOWN BUILDING FUND
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT - Union Bank

Balance as of January 1, 2023		\$ 9,587.94
Deposits		
Interest Earned 2023	\$ 48.04	
Amount Deposited in Error	15,000.00*	
Budgeted Amount	500.00	
Total Deposits		15,548.04
Balance as of December 31, 2023		\$ 25,135.98*
*\$15,000.00 was mistakenly deposited into Town Building Fund Certificated of Deposit – should have been deposited into Equipment Fund Certificate of Deposit. This amount will be moved to the Equipment Fund when Certificates of Deposits matures. This will make the total of the Town Building Fund \$10,135.98.		

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT IMPROVEMENT FUND
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT - Union Bank

Balance as of January 1, 2023		\$ 13,410.43
Deposits		
Interest Earned 2023	\$ 67.19	
Budgeted Amount	500.00	
Total Deposits		567.19
Balance as of December 31, 2023		\$ 13,977.62

**ROAD IMPROVEMENT FUND
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT – Union Bank**

Balance as of January 1, 2023		\$ 22,567.01
Deposits		
Interest Earned 2023	\$ 113.09	
Budgeted Amount	<u>500.00</u>	
Total Deposits		<u>613.09</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2023		\$ 23,180.10

BICENTENNIAL FUNDS

SAVINGS – Community National Bank

(Funds left from the Town's Bicentennial (200th) Celebration - to be used towards the Town's
Semiquincentennial (250th) or Tricentennial (300th) Celebration)

Balance as of January 1, 2023		\$ 255.63
Deposits		
Cash from Safe Left from Bicentennial Celebration	47.50	
Interest Earned 2023	\$.15	
Total Deposits		<u>47.65</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2023		\$ 303.28

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS

(Part of funds included in the Passumpsic Savings Bank Checking Account)

Beginning Balance		\$ 147,704.27
Expenses paid out from Fund		
Generator for Town Hall and Garage	\$ 15,578.00	
Siding for Town Hall	<u>13,884.00</u>	
Total Expenses		<u>-29,462.00</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2023		\$ 118,242.27


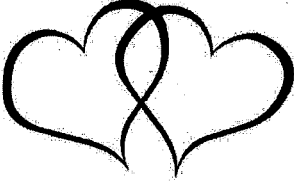



DOG REVENUE 2023

#	Type License	Cost Per	Total
3	Males/Females	\$13.00	39.00
5	Late Males/Females	17.00	85.00
25	Spayed Females/Neutered Males	9.00	225.00
20	Late Spayed Females/Neutered Males	11.00	220.00
1	Special Licenses (10 Dogs for Breeding)	35.00	35.00
	TOTAL		\$604.00
54	Town Treasurer's Fee	-2.00	\$108.00
54	State Treasurer's Fee	-5.00	\$270.00
	<i>Town Received</i>		\$226.00

Apollo, Bart, Bandit, Bella Rose, Bodhi, Buckly, Calvin, Copley, Daizy, Deagan, Dexter, Diesel, Edna, Finley, Finnbar, Gibbs, Harper, Jimmy Dawg, Knut, Lily, Lucky, Maddox, Match, Mick, Micki, Millie, Molly, Moose, Norah, Ollie, Penny, Pochini, Ranger, Ruby, Sage, Sally, Sam, Savannah, Scotlyn, Scout, Sherman, Sissy, Sundance, Sunny, Terra, Thor, Tilly, Tinkerball, Willa, Willow, Xena, Zeus, Zim

VITAL STATISTICS

		
BIRTHS	MARRIAGES	DEATHS
<p style="text-align: center;">Evelyn Marie Burrington Parents: Caleb & Shannon Burrington</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Michael Szymanowski/ Beth Riendeau</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Edward George DeMaio 74 years</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Evan Sherbrook/Kate Nicastri</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Carol Lorraine Jensen 86 years</p>
		<p style="text-align: center;">Robert Maurice Wood 83 years</p>

*For births outside of Vermont – please let the Town Clerk's Office know



2023 Property Transfers



Seller	Buyer	Description
Robillard, Lucas	Raymond, Cameron/Mathers, Aleta	1.47 Acres
Dwyer, Mark & Pauline	Christolini, Mike/Parizo, Ashley	16.52 Acres and Seasonal Dwelling
Daly, Michael	Brown, Alexander & Tonia/Brown, Denise	7.07 Acres
Sumner, George	Rowell, Michael & Cathy	21.50 Acres
Chapin, David	Marcy, Thumper Lee	House and 10.3 Acres
Ranney, Richard	Richard and Susan Ranney Rev. Trust	50 Acres
Ranney, Richard & Susan	Richard and Susan Ranney Rev. Trust	House and 627.8 Acres
Wilson, Eric & Karen	The Second Mountain Trust	House and 6.95 Acres
Nichols, Brian K & Kimberly M	BKN 2022 Trust Brian Nichols	117 Acres
Nichols, Brian K & Kimberly M	BKN 2022 Trust Brian Nichols	14 Acres
Morse, John A Sr	Morse, John A Jr	House and 10.36 Acres
Ward-Bonavita, Leonard N/Bonavita, Sarah K	Killeen, Thomas	10.2 Acres
Eaton, William S & Paula J	William and Paula Eaton Living Trust	Mobile Home and 4 Acres
Rath, Cornelia	CDR 2023 Trust – Cornelia Rath	House and 5.4 Acres
Occaso, Raymond L	Occaso, Raymond L & Salapeo, Romela L	Mobile Home and 2.5 Acres House and .25 Acres
Bourque, Judith M	Bourque, Meaghan	House and 7 Acres
Eaton, William S & Paula J	William and Paula Eaton Living Trust	House and 108.43 Acres
Killeen, Thomas M	Killeen, Thomas M & O'Connor, Kathleen M	10.2 Acres
Patoine, Donald & Erin	Squires, Vickie	Mobile Home and 1.2 Acres
Ostrout, Joseph J	Ostrout, Joseph J/Hanks, Sadie M	House and 5 Acres
Storz, William & Thea	Jackman, Cody N & Trish E	House and 2.1 Acres
Larsen, Rebecca	Pace, Ryan D & Amy L	House and 20.36 Acres
Tony Dwyer's Logging	Stuart, Elvis/Spinner, Lisa	10.74 Acres
Stuart, Elvis/Spinner, Lisa	Evans, Steven & Tina	10.74 Acres

KIRBY TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

This year, we have seen many accomplishments. ARPA projects were completed, including a generator set up and new siding at the town hall, and there is currently a custom roller being built for the roads. We are looking to have the rest of the ARPA funds obligated by the end of March, to include some replacement fencing at the North Kirby Cemetery, a fresh coat of paint at the South Kirby Schoolhouse, and a good start to an added bay on the town garage to house the grader.

While our search for land didn't end the way that we had hoped, we look forward to some creative solutions to space issues at the town house. Please feel free to attend a Selectboard meeting, or even send an email with any ideas you have that may help us see things here with a fresh perspective.

My first ten months as Town Clerk have flown by. Replacing Wanda Grant was an intimidating task to say the least, but I am so grateful to have the opportunity. It has been a pleasure to meet so many town residents, and I look forward to knowing all of your faces.

Erin Patoine
Town Clerk and Treasurer

2023 Lister's Report

To all residents and property owners from the Town of Kirby:

We continued to maintain the town records and update properties with improvements. There have been many over the past few years. New houses (3), permitted work (20), subdivisions, camps (2), parcel sales (24), boundary line adjustments, current use, and the list goes on. We will continue to inspect parcels in 2024 for permitted work from this past year, and parcels that were in the process in prior years.

Homestead Declarations (HS-122) need to be filed each year; we worked on them until December of this year. If they are not filed in a timely fashion it creates extra work for the Lister's and the Town Clerk's office, and results in the property owner assessing an 8% late fee with the town.

The State has started to implement a new, updated grandlist software that will tie many of the separate functions into one common place. This should streamline our work some, however we still need to vet all sales for validity. The state continues to roll out their new software, it isn't fully functional yet.

We met with our State District Advisor and went thru the sales for the past year (as of April 1st 2023). There were many, and several of them sold for vastly more than the listed values. The most current sales study has been completed. Our CLA has fallen off a cliff. It is now at 70.81%. Our COD is at 20.09. We will send out letters asking for information regarding sales to both the seller and the buyer. The State (PVR) may also contact you asking for clarification. We are working on the Statistical Update that we started last year, it will be done for the April 1st Grand List date. When we are done the CLA will be slightly above 1. We have visited most of the properties during the review process. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we continue to fulfill the states statutory requirements.

We are also doing some work on the Tax / Parcel maps to keep them updated.

If you have any questions or concerns about your property assessment you can contact the Town Clerk's office on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 802 626 9386, or email the Lister's directly at listers.kirbyvermont@gmail.com

Respectfully submitted

Marla Waring, Cayle Waring

2023 PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT

During the 2023 year, the Kirby Planning and Zoning Board focused on three areas. First, the board worked to have every resident of Kirby updated on the regulations approved in November of 2022. The board mailed or hand delivered approximately 200 copies of the zoning regulations manual. Our second focus was to standardize procedures for reviewing conditional use permits and regulation enforcement. Finally, the board has been improving communication with the Selectboard and Zoning Administrator.

Currently, there are issues being discussed at the state level that may affect zoning in Kirby. These include light pollution, airspace traffic and water tributaries.

In the past year, the board reviewed and approved three conditional use permits for short term rentals. The Board meets the first Thursday of every month at 6 pm at the Town Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Sharon Baker
Chair – Zoning and Planning
Kirby, VT

Dear Kirby residents,

This year 28 fire permits were issued. Remember that all open burning in town requires a burn permit from the Town Fire Warden except for the period when snow covers the ground. Also, small enclosed campfires such as in a fire pit or fire ring do not require a permit, as long as it is not during the dry periods in the spring and fall. If there is any question please call or text me at (802)-535-5585 or Jennifer at (802)-279-6326.

Only natural vegetation may be burned such as wood (logs, boles, trunks, branches, limbs, and stumps), brush, weeds, grass, and leaves. Materials may not be burned if they have been altered in any way by surface applications or injections of paints, stains, preservatives, oils, glues, or pesticides. The burning of any solid waste (household rubbish) by open fire or incineration in the State of Vermont is prohibited by law.

The person setting the fire must have sufficient help and tools present to control the fire at all times. The fire must not be left unattended until it is entirely extinguished, and high wind conditions must be considered. Restricted materials cannot be used to ignite natural wood materials. A warden may refuse to issue a permit if in their judgment the weather or the site conditions create a dangerous situation. Local burning may be put on hold until significant rainfall is received or vegetation green-up occurs. **Please call or text the Kirby Fire Warden with any questions or to request a burn permit. Jim Wood 802-535-5585 (cell) or Jennifer Wood 802-279-6326 (cell).**

Thank you,

Jim Wood

Kirby Quilters 2023

In 2023, the Kirby Quilters completed and delivered several baby quilts in an effort to get caught up after missing meetings due to Covid. We presented Wanda Grant with a quilt at her retirement in gratitude for her many years of service to the town. A quilt was completed that was started by Edith McNally in a class taught by the Kirby Quilters and given to her great, great granddaughter, McKinley Lin Wood.

Several Kirby Quilters demonstrated quilting at the Caledonia County Fair. Some worked on tying baby quilts and Heidi had interested observers checking out her hand quilting skills.

The December tradition of delivering baskets of holiday cheer around Kirby continued this year. 23 baskets were filled and delivered.

This group originally started getting together in 1976. The group has been together long enough that original members have welcomed great grandchildren. We hope it is a tradition that carries long into the future. If you would like to participate in the group, please contact Sue Willey at 626-3207.

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, so here are a few to share!



TOWN OF KIRBY, VERMONT DOG CONTROL ORDINANCE

The Board of the Selectmen of the Town of Kirby hereby establish the following ordinance regarding the Control of Dogs and Wolf-hybrids, for the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of and visitors to, the Town of Kirby in accordance with 24 V.S.A. 2291 (10,15), 20 V.S.A. 3549, and 24 V.S.A. 1971, et seq.

Section 1: Definitions:

1. "Dog" shall mean dogs, wolf-hybrids, or any animal of the canine species.
2. "Excessive noise" shall mean noise created by a dog that interferes with neighbors' enjoyment of their property, or that continues for more than 15 minutes duration between the hours of 9:00 PM and 6:00 AM.
3. "Running at large" shall mean any activity of a dog when such dog is (i) off premises of the owner and (ii) not under control of the owner or some other person designated by the owner.
4. "Owner" shall mean any person who owns or who has actual or constructive possession of a dog.
5. "Pound keeper" shall mean a person or persons appointed by the selectmen to enforce this dog control ordinance and to hold or destroy stray and other dogs as required by this ordinance.
6. "Vicious act" shall mean any action by an unrestrained dog, not within an enclosure, which causes any person to reasonably fear a bodily injury by threatening to immediately attack or by attacking any person, other than persons who are entering upon the premises of the owner.

Section 2: Vaccinations and Licensing

7. Owners of dogs in the Town of Kirby shall cause their dogs to be inoculated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian in accordance with title 20 of Vermont Statutes Annotated, sections 3581, 3581a and any other applicable state laws.
8. Owners of dogs in the Town of Kirby shall cause their dogs to be licensed by the Town and shall attach the license to the animal's collar in accordance with title 20 of Vermont Statutes Annotated, sections 3581 and 3582.
9. The Selectmen may ask the Town clerk to notify owners who fail to license their dogs by April 1, by certified mail, by telephone or by hand delivery that they have two weeks to license their dog or they will be fined.
10. The Selectmen may, at any time, issue a warrant for the pound keeper, constable or police officer to seize, impound and destroy dogs that have not been licensed according to state law and this ordinance. The owner shall pay the Town's costs of seizing the dog, keeping it and/or humanely destroying it.
11. Owners shall keep any unvaccinated dogs over 6 months of age confined in a secure location (i.e. indoors or in a completely enclosed cage) until vaccinated and licensed.
12. The Pound Keeper may impound and have vaccinated any unlicensed dogs 6 months old or older that he or she reasonably suspects are not properly vaccinated for rabies, and may require the owner to pay a \$20 impounding fee and the costs of vaccination, care and keeping the dog prior to releasing the dog, subject to the requirements of Section 7, below.

Section 3: Disturbances and Nuisances

13. Owners of dogs in the Town of Kirby shall not allow their dogs to make excessive noise or to create a public nuisance, including but not limited to:
 - A. Damaging personal property, other than the owner's.
 - B. Scattering garbage on property other than the owner's.
 - C. Harassing any person, including pedestrians, bicyclists or other passersby.
 - D. Obstructing traffic.
14. An owner or keeper shall not permit a female dog in heat to be outside a building or secured enclosure.
15. Persons who are injured by disturbances or nuisances created by dogs, shall notify the selectboard by written complaint. The complaint shall describe the incident, date, identity of the owner, description of the dog and shall list any injuries the person suffered.
16. Penalties for violations of these provisions are as follows:
 - A. First offense - written warning by the pound keeper or constable.
 - B. Second offense within a year of the first - a penalty of not more than \$50.
 - C. Third offense within a year of the first - a penalty of not more than \$100 and selectboard shall, upon notice and hearing, determine whether the dog should be removed from its owner and disposed of in a humane way, either by giving it to an animal shelter or a new owner or by destroying the animal. The owner shall pay the Town's costs of impounding or humanely destroying it.
17. The Pound Keeper may impose a fine or impound a dog where the dog has created a public nuisance in his or her presence, or which the owner admits to the pound keeper the dog created.

Section 4: Vicious Dogs:

18. Owners shall not allow their dogs to commit vicious acts or destroy or damage property or domestic animals or fowl not belonging to the owner.
19. Any person may kill or capture any dog acting viciously or to prevent the dog from injuring domestic animals or fowl, pursuant to 20 V.S.A. section 3545. If a person captures a dog, he or she shall give the dog to the pound keeper as soon as possible. The dog will be impounded and the injured party may notify the selectboard in writing of the incident.
20. Any person who has been bitten, such that they required medical attention, may notify the selectboard by written complaint. The complaint shall include a description of the incident, date, identity of the owner, the dog, any injuries the person suffered and the medical attention required. Upon receiving a written complaint the Selectboard shall within 7 days conduct an investigation, and thereafter impose fines and dispose of the dog in accordance with 20 V.S.A. sections 3546 and 3550.
21. The Pound Keeper may impound a dog for committing a vicious act or for committing property destruction in the Pound Keeper's presence, or which the owner admits the dog committed.

Section 5: Running at Large

22. The pound keeper shall immediately impound any dog found running at large and if the owner is known, shall notify the owner of the impoundment by certified mail. If the owner cannot be determined, the pound keeper shall post a notice providing a description of said dog, the date and location where the dog was found, the telephone number and address of the pound keeper, and that the owner should reclaim their dog within 7 days, in the Kirby Town Clerk's office and in two public locations in town. If a local newspaper and/or radio station advertises lost animals, they shall be provided with a copy of the notice and other information they require to advertise the animal.
23. Any dog impounded under the provisions of this ordinance, shall be released only upon the payment of an impounding fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00), a boarding fee of \$7.00 per day payable to the impoundment officer, together with any and all previous dog fines the owner owes to the Town of Kirby. If the impounded dog is unlicensed, it shall be licensed before it is released. No dog shall be released from impoundment until all applicable fees and fines are paid in full.
24. Any dog not reclaimed by its owner within 7 days after receipt of certified letter is returned to the Town, or after posting of public notice, shall be disposed of by the pound keeper in a humane way, either by giving it to a family, a humane society or by humanely destroying it.
25. Owners who notify the Town they want to reclaim their dog within 10 days after the animal is first impounded, shall be entitled to reclaim their animal, if living, from the family or humane society in as is condition, after paying the Town the required amounts, and after reimbursing the family or humane society their out of pocket costs for care and keeping the animal.
26. The Town shall not be liable to any owner or any person in any way for its actions relative to this ordinance or State Law, including for changes in the condition of any animal, whether dead or alive, spayed or neutered, or any other change in the animal's condition while in the care of the Town or of any family or humane society.
27. The Pound Keeper may require the owner to pay the impounding and boarding fees, or to offer proof that the same have been paid (i.e. to the Town Clerk), prior to releasing the dog from impoundment.

Section 6: Action of Selectboard

28. The selectboard or an officer appointed pursuant to 20 V.S.A. section 3550 by the commissioner of Agriculture may fine owners who violate any of the above provisions a civil penalty of up to \$500 per violation in accordance with the provisions of 20 V.S.A. section 3550. Provided, however, that where a specific penalty is provided for a particular violation of this ordinance, the selectboard or officer shall not impose a higher fine or a penalty that is inconsistent with the specific penalty.
29. Any action by the selectboard may be appealed to the Caledonia Superior Court by providing a written notice of appeal specifying i) a description of what action is being appealed from (i.e. impoundment or a fine); ii) the date impoundment commenced, or fine was imposed; iii) a brief statement why the impoundment or fine should not be continued or imposed ("Notice of Appeal"), to the Town clerk and by filing a complaint in the Caledonia Superior Court within 30 days from the selectboard issuing a written decision or providing notice of its intended action.

Section 7: Action by the Pound Keeper:

30. An owner may appeal fines or impoundment by the Pound Keeper to the selectboard by, within 7 days of commencement of impoundment or the fine being imposed, providing to the Kirby Town Clerk, a Notice of Appeal.
31. Except for dogs running at large who are unclaimed within the allowed period, the Pound Keeper may not dispose of a dog by killing it, until authorized to do so by the selectboard.

Section 8: Civil Ordinance:

This is a civil and not a criminal ordinance. Liability for violating provisions of this ordinance shall be limited to those provided in the ordinance.

Section 9: Severability:

If any section of this ordinance is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such finding shall not invalidate any other part of this ordinance.

Section 10: Effective Date:

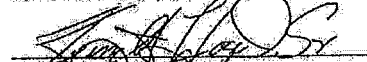
This ordinance shall become effective (60) days after its adoption by the Kirby Selectboard. If a petition is filed under 24 V.S.A. section 1973, that statute shall govern the taking effect of this ordinance.

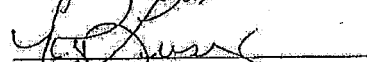
Section 11: Notice:

This ordinance shall be entered into the minutes of the town records and shall be posted in at least five conspicuous places in town. A concise summary accompanied by information as to where the full text may be examined, the right of voters to petition for a vote, and the name, address and telephone number of a person who is available to answer questions about the ordinance shall be published in The Caledonian Record within fourteen days of its adoption.

This ordinance shall become effective sixty days after its adoption unless a petition signed by five percent of the qualified voters in the Town of Kirby asking for a vote on the question of disapproving the ordinance is filed with the Town Clerk or Selectboard within forty-four days after the adoption of the ordinance. If such a petition is filed, the Selectboard shall call a special meeting to vote on that question and the ordinance shall become effective at the end of that meeting unless a majority of those voting on the question disapproves the ordinance or sixty days after its adoption.

SELECTMEN, TOWN OF KIRBY


Kenneth D. Hayes, Sr.


Reginald P. Lussier

Dated: October 2, 2002


William St. Peter

**ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
NEK CHOICE SCHOOL DISTRICT
For the year ending December 31, 2023**



INFORMATIONAL MEETING NOTICE

Thursday, February 29, 2024, at 6:00 PM in the Maidstone Town Hall

Call in remotely with phone number 312-626-6799

Zoom Meeting ID: 827 4171 5908 Passcode: 653833

Our mission of the NEK Choice School District is to acknowledge each student's individuality and provide school choice to help ensure the most rewarding and successful educational experience and environment.

Bloomfield, Brunswick, East Haven, Granby, Guildhall, Kirby, Lemington, Maidstone, Norton, Victory

NEK CHOICE SCHOOL DISTRICT WARNING

The legal voters of NEK Choice School District are hereby duly notified and warned to meet at their respective individual voting locations below, to vote for Articles One (1) through Four (4) by Australian Ballot on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, with the polls open from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Town of Brunswick: Brunswick Community Office Building

Town of Bloomfield: Bloomfield Town Hall

Town of East Haven: East Haven Community Building

Town of Granby: Granby Town Office

Town of Guildhall: Guildhall Town Office

Town of Kirby: Kirby Town Office

Town of Lemington: Lemington Town House

Town of Maidstone: Maidstone Town Office

Town of Norton: Norton Town Office

Town of Victory: Victory Town Office

ARTICLE 1. Shall the voters of NEK Choice School District authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money in anticipation to pay tuition expenses? (Australian Ballot)

ARTICLE 2. Shall the voters of NEK Choice School District authorize the Board of School Directors to withdraw from the reserve fund in order to pay unanticipated tuition expenses? (Australian Ballot)

ARTICLE 3. Shall the voters of the NEK Choice School District approve the Board of Directors to expend \$6,532,757.00 which is the amount the School Board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$12,555.28 per weighted pupil. This projected spending per weighted pupil is 45.59% lower than for the current year. (Australian Ballot)

ARTICLE 4. To elect all School District Officers, as required by law. (Australian Ballot)

ARTICLE 5. Shall the Northeast Kingdom Choice Unified School District voters advise the School Board, the General Assembly, and the Governor that:

- For generations, students throughout our district have benefited from the opportunity to choose from a wide variety of public and independent school options.
- The ability for families to choose a school that meets the unique needs of each student is an important feature of our system that has led to greater opportunity and increased equity among our students.
- The Electorate does not support the funding of any school that discriminates against students or staff on the basis of race, religion, creed, color, national origin, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity.
- The Electorate opposes any effort to curtail choice and the educational opportunities that have been available in our communities for generations and strongly supports the continued autonomy of independent schools. (Australian Ballot)

Given unto our hands this 19th day of January 2024.

Miles Etter

Miles Etter, Chair

Patricia Brown

Patty Brown

Rita Laferriere

Rita Laferriere

Tim Thompson

Tim Thompson

Melanie Jacques-Staats

Melanie Jacques-Staats

Sharon Ellingwood-White

Sharon Ellingwood-White

Carla Curtis

Carla Curtis

Sonia Peters

Sonia Peters

Lyn Schmucker

Lyn Schmucker

Rachel Cliche

Rachel Cliche

Northeast Kingdom Choice Unified School District Annual Report

As we prepare our budget and compile our Annual Reports, there is great opportunity to review and reflect on our past years work, and to look at our future and prepare for the challenges of helping our children receive a solid education that will contribute to their health and growth. We are a unique district in a rural corner of Vermont that encounters challenges that we are committed to successfully meeting. This past year has presented our toughest challenges as a district thus far.

We are all faced with economic challenges in most aspects of our lives; health care, food, heating, transportation to name several. The one that has greatly impacted us is our town taxes and, most significantly, the cost of education. This is our board's major focus and it has been an enormous task to recover from a tumultuous year. Last year we had a new Business Administrator and a new Superintendent leave the district between town meeting and the end of school. Many shortcomings were discovered and the Board worked to solidify the SU office. Fortunately we have come a long way in addressing the problems. The board has worked hard with our SU Administrators, new Superintendent Jenn Lawcewicz, and Business Administrator Beth Drew to resolve issues contributing to our financial difficulties. We have also received support from the Agency Of Education and local legislatures to help us recapture revenue tied to our past year's work. This fiscal year, 24 -25, includes a new funding formula - a weighted pupil count that better addresses the fiscal needs of our district. The Common Level of Appraisal is also a significant contributor to our increased taxes. This dilemma, below current value, is a result of recent property transactions impacted by several factors. A major task to address, but one which town selectmen are working on. We have pushed strongly to keep taxes down and there are some good positives in this budget. SU budget reductions and the weighted pupil count have supported reduced costs. We will continue to do our best to work on fiscal responsibility and offer our children the best opportunities for their growth and development.

Your board is working hard and values your input. Please visit our website to find out about meetings. Let us know of noteworthy accomplishments of your children. We are looking to gather successes from our students and include them on our website. Hope your school year goes well.

Respectfully on Behalf of the NEK Choice Board,



Miles Etter NEK Choice Board Chair

Northeast Kingdom Choice School District

Report of the Superintendent

As the superintendent of schools, I am honored to serve the NEK Choice School District and I greatly appreciate the unique strengths and challenges we have. We are fortunate to have such a wide array of schools to choose from for our children who truly value excellence in education. I am proud of our students and their achievements and grateful for the many opportunities available to them in our rural area.

Our focus this year has been on advocacy and improving fiscal responsibility across the supervisory union. We have worked diligently to improve data management and reporting practices to ensure that NEK Choice District is receiving all available state funding under the new Act 127 pupil weighting formula. NEK Choice has benefited from the new weighting for sparsity and poverty which counts our 306 actual students as 519 weighted students for tax rate calculations.

I have enjoyed meeting with state legislators to advocate for the needs of our students and families. Sustainable resources for mental health support for students, expanding the small schools weighting to include non-operating school districts, and validating the need for school choice are some of the main topics being discussed.

Enrollment in the NEK Choice district has increased 13% since 2020. To date we have 324 students attending 38 schools across Vermont and New Hampshire. Our central office works directly with families to ensure that all necessary documents are completed for tuition and residency and collaborates with schools for data collection and reporting. We have excellent working relationships with all 38 schools and look forward to our continued partnerships.

I am pleased to report an overall reduction in the NEK Choice budget of over \$300,000 primarily due to students graduating and a decrease in the ENSU budget. We have been working closely with board members to create a budget that is fiscally responsible and ensures that all our students' educational needs are supported.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to serve the NEK Choice School District. I look forward to seeing you at our Informational Meeting on February 29, 2024, at 6:00 pm at the Maidstone Town Hall.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Lawcewicz

Superintendent

Essex North Supervisory Union

Report of the Director of Student Support

Erika Proulx

Introduction

As the Director of Student Services for Essex North Supervisory Union, I am pleased to present this comprehensive report detailing the efforts and achievements of our department over the past year. Our commitment to providing quality education to all students, including those with special needs, remains unwavering. This report aims to highlight the various initiatives, programs, and outcomes that define our dedication to inclusive education.

Program Developments

Over the past year, our department has experienced some changes as our previous Director of Student Services became the Superintendent and I stepped into some big shoes. Since I came on board, our department has focused on enhancing and expanding special education programs to better meet the diverse needs of our students. We have introduced new intervention strategies, collaborated with general education teachers, and implemented individualized education plans (IEPs) to address specific learning challenges. We have increased our learning space to include an opportunity for on-site life skills development. Additionally, our team has worked tirelessly to address the social and emotional needs of students through the expansion of our counseling opportunities.

Professional Development

Continuous improvement is at the core of our growth and development. Our dedicated staff has participated in professional development opportunities that have allowed them to work collaboratively with regular education teachers to align our curriculum standards. We are also investigating participation in multi-modal reading instruction to help benefit the needs of students in their reading development. These opportunities provide the skills necessary to create inclusive and supportive learning environments. This commitment to professional growth ensures that our students receive the highest quality education tailored to their individual needs.

Future Directions

Looking ahead, the ENSU Special Education Department is excited to continue its development and collaboration. We are committed to refining our programs, expanding

community outreach, and ensuring that every student has the opportunity to reach their full potential. By fostering a culture of inclusivity, embracing innovation, and upholding high standards, we strive to create an educational environment that nurtures the growth and success of all students, regardless of their unique learning needs.

In conclusion, I am grateful for the experiences I have had thus far in my position and look forward to growing and sharing in the passion, dedication, and collaborative spirit that exemplify the ENSU Special Education Department. Together, with the support of our community, we will continue to make strides towards an inclusive and equitable educational experience for every student.



Proven Expertise & Integrity

January 19, 2024

Board of Directors
NEK Choice School District
Canaan, Vermont

We were engaged by the NEK Choice School District and have audited the financial statements of the NEK Choice School District as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023. The following statements and schedules have been excerpted from the 2023 financial statements:

Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Budgetary Basis - Budget and Actual - General Fund	Schedule 1
Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds	Statement C
Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	Statement E
Schedule of Departmental Operations - General Fund	Schedule B

RHR Smith & Company

RHR Smith & Company, CPAs

SCHEDULE 1

NEK CHOICE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGETARY BASIS
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance
	Original	Final	Amounts	Positive (Negative)
Budgetary Fund Balance, July 1.	\$ 618,009	\$ 618,009	\$ 618,009	\$ -
Resources (Inflows):				
Intergovernmental:				
State support	5,813,523	5,813,523	5,811,077	(2,446)
Other	-	-	1,149	1,149
Interest income	1,000	1,000	10,961	9,961
Amounts Available for Appropriation	<u>6,432,532</u>	<u>6,432,532</u>	<u>6,441,196</u>	<u>8,664</u>
Charges to Appropriations (Outflows):				
Regular instruction	5,094,296	5,094,296	5,542,234	(447,938)
Special education	456,793	456,793	473,865	(17,072)
Administrative and support services	263,434	263,434	242,959	20,475
Total Charges to Appropriations	<u>5,814,523</u>	<u>5,814,523</u>	<u>6,259,058</u>	<u>(444,535)</u>
Budgetary Fund Balance, June 30	<u>\$ 618,009</u>	<u>\$ 618,009</u>	<u>\$ 182,138</u>	<u>\$ (435,871)</u>

See accompanying independent auditor's report and notes to financial statements.

NEK CHOICE SCHOOL DISTRICT

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

JUNE 30, 2023

	General Fund
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 269,329
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 269,329</u>
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable	\$ 87,191
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>87,191</u>
FUND BALANCES	
Nonspendable	-
Restricted	-
Committed	637,596
Assigned	65,712
Unassigned (deficit)	<u>(521,170)</u>
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	<u>182,138</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	<u>\$ 269,329</u>

See accompanying independent auditor's report and notes to financial statements.

NEK CHOICE SCHOOL DISTRICT

COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND
 CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	General Fund
REVENUES	
Intergovernmental revenues	\$ 5,812,226
Interest income	10,961
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>5,823,187</u>
EXPENDITURES	
Current:	
Regular instruction	5,542,234
Special education	473,865
Administrative and support services	242,959
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>6,259,058</u>
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	(435,871)
FUND BALANCES - JULY 1	<u>618,009</u>
FUND BALANCES - JUNE 30	<u><u>\$ 182,138</u></u>

See accompanying independent auditor's report and notes to financial statements.

SCHEDULE B

NEK CHOICE SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHEDULE OF DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Positive (Negative)
Regular instruction -				
Tuition:				
Pre-k	\$ 25,592	\$ 25,592	\$ 46,796	\$ (21,204)
Elementary	2,115,216	2,115,216	2,671,349	(556,133)
Secondary	2,900,088	2,900,088	2,814,703	85,385
Contractual services	53,400	53,400	9,386	44,014
	<u>5,094,296</u>	<u>5,094,296</u>	<u>5,542,234</u>	<u>(447,938)</u>
Special education -				
Assessment	456,793	456,793	473,865	(17,072)
	<u>456,793</u>	<u>456,793</u>	<u>473,865</u>	<u>(17,072)</u>
Administrative and support services -				
Supervisory union assessment	231,699	231,699	231,699	-
School board	19,450	19,450	10,000	9,450
Fiscal services	12,285	12,285	1,260	11,025
	<u>263,434</u>	<u>263,434</u>	<u>242,959</u>	<u>20,475</u>
TOTAL DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS	<u>\$ 5,814,523</u>	<u>\$ 5,814,523</u>	<u>\$ 6,259,058</u>	<u>\$ (444,535)</u>

See accompanying independent auditor's report and notes to financial statements.

NEK Choice School District

2024-2025 (FY25) Preliminary

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE	FY 23 Actual	Approved Budget (FY24)	Proposed Budget (FY25)	Increase/Decrease
Supervisory Union Assessment	231,699.00	285,971	292,173	6,202
Total Superintendent's Office:	231,699	285,971	292,173	6,202

SCHOOL BOARD				
Board Members Stipend	10,000.00	10,700	10,700	-
NEK Choice Clerk		50	50	-
NEK Choice Moderator		50	50	-
Payroll Taxes		-	900	900
Audit Services		13,500	15,000	1,500
Legal Services		3,500	3,500	-
Advertising		1,000	1,000	-
Postage, Printing & Publishing		750	750	-
Dues & Fees-VSBA Data/Dues/New Member		3,400	3,400	-
Supplies		-	-	-
Total School Board:	10,000	32,950	35,350	2,400

TREASURER				
Treasurer Stipend	1,260.00	1,311	1,365	54
Payroll Taxes		-	115	115
General Supplies		-	-	-
Total Treasurer:	1,260	1,311	1,480	169

REGULAR EDUCATION: PreK Tuition				
Tuition-Location TBD PreK \$3656 FY 23 (15)	46,796.00	26,360	54,840	28,480
Total PreK Tuition (15 students):	46,796	26,360	54,840	28,480

REGULAR EDUCATION: Elementary Tuition				
Tuition-Location TBD New Kindergarteners (16)		65,828	80,000	14,172
Tuition-Barnet K-6 (1)		40,686	21,000	(19,686)
Tuition-Burke Town K-6 (0)		55,932	-	(55,932)
Tuition-Canaan K-6 (8)		164,000	172,000	8,000
Tuition-Colebrook Elementary K-6 (2)		41,554	47,320	5,766
Tuition-Concord K-6 (5)		130,508	93,675	(36,833)
Tuition-Good Shepherd K-6 (4)		26,435	12,060	(14,375)
Tuition-Groveton Elementary K-6 (2)		82,068	41,840	(40,228)
Tuition - Heartwood Public Charter School K-6 (5)		-	68,250	68,250
Tuition-Lancaster Elementary K-6 (5)		237,150	111,625	(125,525)
Tuition - Lunenburg School K-6 (4)		-	74,940	74,940
Tuition-Lupine Montessori K-6 (3)		15,466	25,530	10,064
Tuition-Lyndon Town K-6 (12)		193,068	225,000	31,932
Tuition-Mount Royal Academy North K-6 (7)		79,890	114,030	34,140
Tuition-Newark K-6 (5)		74,576	93,675	19,099
Tuition-Peacham K-6 (0)		-	-	-
Tuition-Riverside K-6 (43)		742,545	789,480	46,935
Tuition-St. Johnsbury School K-6 (3)		102,000	53,550	(48,450)
Tuition-Stratford K-6 (4)		206,620	72,200	(134,420)
Tuition-Sunnybrook Montessori K-6 (0)		4,898	-	(4,898)
Tuition-Sutton K-6 (1)		37,288	18,740	(18,548)

Tuition-Thaddeus Stevens K-6 (4)		66,004	70,380	4,376
Tuition-Waterford K-6 (8)		162,744	176,400	13,656
Tuition-Woodland Community K-6 (2)		54,075	23,630	(30,445)
Total Elementary Tuition (144 students):	2,671,348.73	2,583,335	2,385,325	(198,010)

NEK Choice School District
2024-2025 (FY5) Preliminary Budget

REGULAR EDUCATION: Secondary Tuition (7-8/9-12)	FY 23 Actual	Approved Budget (FY24)	Proposed Budget (FY25)	Increase/Decrease
Tuition-Barnet 7-8 (1)		20,343	22,050	1,707
Tuition-Burke Town School 7-8 (2)		18,101	37,500	19,399
Tuition-Canaan 7-8 (5)		132,000	117,500	(14,500)
Tuition - Charleston Elementary School 7-8 (1)		-	17,850	17,850
Tuition-Colebrook Elementary 7-8 (1)		20,500	23,660	3,160
Tuition-Concord 7-8 (3)		18,644	56,205	37,561
Tuition-Danville 7-8 (2)		18,540	44,100	25,560
Tuition - Good Shepherd School 7-8 (1)		-	3,015	3,015
Tuition-Groveton Middle 7-8 (2)		41,033	40,060	(973)
Tuition-Lancaster Elementary 7-8 (3)		23,715	69,285	45,570
Tuition-Lyndon Town 7-8 (4)		18,644	74,940	56,296
Tuition-Mount Royal Academy North 7-8 (2)		47,935	32,580	(15,355)
Tuition-Newark 7-8 (2)		18,644	37,500	18,856
Tuition-Riverside 7-8 (14)		177,963	268,520	90,557
Tuition-St. Johnsbury School 7-8 (4)		51,000	71,400	20,400
Tuition-Stratford Public 7-8 (4)		20,662	72,200	51,538
Tuition-Sutton 7-8 (1)		-	18,740	18,740
Tuition-Thaddeus Stevens 7-8 (1)		16,501	-	(16,501)
Tuition-Waterford 7-8 (2)		20,343	44,100	23,758
Tuition-Woodland Community 7-8 (1)		-	11,815	11,815
Tuition - Arlington School 9-12 (1)		-	19,950	19,950
Tuition-Barnet 9-12 (1)		-	22,050	22,050
Tuition - Bellows Falls Union High School 9-12 (1)		-	23,625	23,625
Tuition-Burke Mountain Academy 9-12 (2)		53,389	38,400	(14,989)
Tuition-Burke Town School 9-12 (2)		-	37,500	37,500
Tuition-Canaan 9-12 (8)		308,000	184,800	(123,200)
Tuition-Colebrook Academy 9-12 (8)		112,555	190,120	77,565
Tuition - East Burke School 9-12 (2)		-	38,400	38,400
Tuition-Groveton High 9-12 (5)		133,565	100,150	(33,415)
Tuition-Holderness 9-12 (1)		17,796	-	(17,796)
Tuition-Lyndon Institute 9-12 (26)		858,072	611,260	(246,812)
Tuition - Lyndon Town School 9-12 (1)		-	18,750	18,750
Tuition-Mount Royal Academy North 9-12 (1)		-	16,290	16,290
Tuition-North Country Charter Academy 9-12 (0)		33,959	-	(33,959)
Tuition-North Country Union High School 9-12 (0)		17,510	-	(17,510)
Tuition-St. Johnsbury Academy 9-12 (36)		665,900	827,820	161,920
Tuition-Waterford 9-12 (3)		-	66,150	66,150
Tuition - Waterville Valley Academy 9-12 (1)		-	19,215	19,215
Tuition-White Mountain School 9-12 (1)		53,389	19,200	(34,189)
Tuition-White Mountain Regional 9-12 (14)		283,244	323,330	40,086
Extra Cost-St. Johnsbury Academy 9-12 Guided		9,500	-	(9,500)
Total Secondary Tuition (171 students):	2,814,702.20	3,211,448	3,620,030	408,582

Total Pre K, Elementary & Secondary Tuition (330 students):	5,532,847	5,821,143	6,060,195	239,052
Total Non Special Education Services:	9,385.88	58,462	56,070	(2,392)
SPECIAL EDUCATION Services:				
Total Special Education Services:	473,865.07	656,193	96,865	(559,328)

Grand Total of NKK Choice School District	6,289,057	6,856,030	6,542,133	(313,897)
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Revenue Statement NKK Choice School District	Actual Revenue	Approved Revenue	Est. Revenue (FY25)	Increase/ (Decrease)
Prior Year Surplus		-	-	-
Education Fund	5,815,248.17	6,855,030	6,541,133	(313,897)
US Forest Grant	1,143.00	-	-	
Misc. Refund	5.48	-	-	
Interest	10,668.70	1,000	1,000	-
Total Revenue:	5,827,065	6,856,030	6,542,133	(313,897)

District: Northeast Kingdom Choice USD		U065		Essex County		FY2022		FY2023		FY2024		FY2025	
SU: Essex North		FY25 is the first year of Act 127 Long Term Weighted Average Daily Membership for pupil counts. Equalized pupils are shown for FY22 - FY24. LTWADM is required to be used for FY25		Essex County		\$9,171		10,227				1,00	
Expenditures													
1.	Adopted or warned union district budget (including special programs and full technical center expenditures)					\$5,427,732	\$5,814,523	\$6,866,796	\$6,532,757				
2.	plus Sum of separately warned articles passed at union district meeting												
3.	Adopted or warned union district budget plus articles					\$5,427,732	\$5,814,523	\$6,866,796	\$6,532,757				
4.	plus Obligation to a Regional Technical Center School District if any												
5.	plus Prior year deficit repayment of deficit												
6.	Total Union Expenditures					\$5,427,732	\$5,814,523	\$6,866,796	\$6,532,757				
7.	S.U. assessment (included in union budget) - informational data												
8.	Prior year deficit reduction (if included in union expenditure budget) - informational data												
Revenues													
9.	Union revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, federal, etc.)					\$394,036	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000				
10.	Total offsetting union revenues					\$394,036	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000				
11.	Education Spending					\$5,033,696	\$5,813,523	\$6,865,796	\$6,531,757				
12.	Northeast Kingdom Choice USD pupils					286.59	292.44	286.68	520.24				
13.	Education Spending per Pupil					\$17,584.10	\$19,879.37	\$23,143.66	\$12,555.28				
14.	minus Less net eligible construction costs (or P&A) per pupil												
15.	minus Less share of S&ED costs in excess of \$99,448 for an individual (per pupil)												
16.	minus Less amount of deficit if deficit is SOLELY attributable to tuitions paid to public schools for grades the district does not operate for new students who moved to the district after the budget was passed (per pupil)												
17.	minus Less S&ED costs if excess is solely attributable to new S&ED spending if district has 20 or fewer equalized pupils (per pupil)												
18.	minus Estimated costs of new students after census period (per pupil)												
19.	minus Total tuitions if tuitioning ALL K-12 unless electorate has approved tuitions greater than average announced tuition (per pupil)												
20.	minus Less planning costs for merger of small schools (per pupil)												
21.	minus Teacher retirement assessment for new members of Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2015 (per pupil)												
22.	minus Costs incurred when sampling drinking water outlets, implementing lead remediation, or retesting:												
23.	Excess spending threshold					\$18,789.00	\$19,597.00	\$22,804	\$12,193				
24.	plus Excess Spending per Pupil over threshold (if any)					\$17,564	\$19,879	\$23,144	\$12,555.28				
25.	Per pupil figure used for calculating District Equalized Tax Rate					\$17,564	\$19,879	\$23,144	\$12,555.28				
26.	Union spending adjustment (minimum of 100%)					158.201%	149.312%	149.865%	136.602%				
27.	Anticipated equalized union homestead tax rate to be prorated [\$12,555.28 + (\$9,171 / \$1,00)]					\$1.5320	\$1.4931	\$1.4987	\$1.3690				
28.	Act 127 tax cap (FY25 - FY29 eligible)												
Prorated homestead union tax rates for members of Northeast Kingdom Choice USD													
		FY2022		FY2023		FY2024		FY2025		FY22 Pa			
T021	Bloomfield	1.5320		1.4931		1.4987		1.3690		1.3690			
T035	Brunswick	1.5320		1.4931		1.4987		1.3690		1.3690			
T064	East Haven	1.5320		1.4931		1.4987		1.3690		1.3690			
T083	Granby	1.5320		1.4931		1.4987		1.3690		1.3690			
T088	Guildhall	1.5320		1.4931		1.4987		1.3690		1.3690			
T106	Kirby	1.5320		1.4931		1.4987		1.3690		1.3690			
T111	Lemington	1.5320		1.4931		1.4987		1.3690		1.3690			
T118	Maldstone	1.5320		1.4931		1.4987		1.3690		1.3690			
T144	Norton	1.5320		1.4931		1.4987		1.3690		1.3690			
T216	Victory	1.5320		1.4931		1.4987		1.3690		1.3690			
28.	Anticipated income cap percent to be prorated from Northeast Kingdom Choice USD [(12,555.28 + \$10,227) x 2.00%]	2.62%		2.49%		2.64%		2.46%		2.46%			
Prorated union income cap percentage for members of Northeast Kingdom Choice USD													
		FY2022		FY2023		FY2024		FY2025		FY23 Pa			
T021	Bloomfield	2.52%		2.49%		2.64%		2.46%		2.46%			
T035	Brunswick	2.52%		2.49%		2.64%		2.46%		2.46%			
T064	East Haven	2.52%		2.49%		2.64%		2.46%		2.46%			
T083	Granby	2.52%		2.49%		2.64%		2.46%		2.46%			
T088	Guildhall	2.52%		2.49%		2.64%		2.46%		2.46%			
T106	Kirby	2.52%		2.49%		2.64%		2.46%		2.46%			
T111	Lemington	2.52%		2.49%		2.64%		2.46%		2.46%			
T118	Maldstone	2.52%		2.49%		2.64%		2.46%		2.46%			
T144	Norton	2.52%		2.49%		2.64%		2.46%		2.46%			
T216	Victory	2.52%		2.49%		2.64%		2.46%		2.46%			

- Using the revised January 9th, 2024 Education Fund Outlook FY25 forecast, the FY25 education fund need results in a property yield of \$9,171 for every \$1,00 of homestead tax per \$100 of equalized property value, an income yield of \$10,227 for a base income percent of 2.0%, and a non-residential tax rate of \$1,452. These figures use the estimated \$13,000,000 surplus from the Education Fund. New and updated data will likely change the proposed property and income yields and perhaps the non-residential rate.

- Final figures will be set by the Legislature during the legislative session and approved by the Governor.

NEK CHOICE ESTIMATED TAX RATES FY25

ESTIMATED Tax Rates for FY25 with Variance to FY24 Tax Rates	FY24	Estimated FY25	Variance
Total Budget	\$6,856,029	\$6,532,757	\$323,272
Local Revenues	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
Education Spending	\$6,855,029	\$6,532,757	\$322,272
Equalized Pupils	297.06	520.24	223.18
Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	\$23,076	\$12,555	-\$10,521
Dollar Equivalent Yield (Tax Commissioner Recommendation)	\$15,479	\$9,171	-\$6,308
NEK Choice Towns Equalized Homestead Tax Rate	\$1.4908	\$1.3690	-\$0.1218

NEK Choice Towns	FY24 Tax Rate	FY25 Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)	FY25 Estimated Tax Rate	Variance
Bloomfield	1.8576	76.34%	1.7933	-0.0643
Brunswick	1.7551	84.79%	1.6146	-0.1405
East Haven	1.6258	81.04%	1.6883	0.0625
Granby	1.6401	78.05%	1.7540	0.1139
Guildhall	1.4461	101.50%	1.3488	-0.0973
Kirby	1.9535	70.81%	1.9333	-0.0202
Lemington	1.6101	83.53%	1.6389	0.0288
Maidstone	1.9642	67.84%	2.0180	0.0538
Norton	1.5466	95.41%	1.4349	-0.1117
Victory	1.7726	80.62%	1.6981	-0.0745

Current FY23 NEK Student Population by Town & Grade

NEK Choice Town	Pre-K	K-5	7-12	Total
Bloomfield	1	12	9	22
Brunswick	0	4	4	8
East Haven	3	19	21	43
Granby	0	1	4	5
Guildhall	1	21	16	38
Kirby	11	77	66	154
Lemington	0	4	8	12
Maidstone	1	9	12	22
Norton	0	5	5	10
Victory	3	0	7	10
Total for District	20	152	152	324

2024-2025 BUDGET REQUEST
2024-2025 BUDGET REQUEST

EXPENDITURE	Approved Budget (FY24)	Proposed Budget (FY25)	Increase (Decrease)	NEK Choice	Canaan
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE					
GENERAL COSTS					
Superintendent Salary	\$120,000	\$120,640	\$640	\$60,320	\$60,320
Treasurer Stipend	\$1,817	\$1,890	\$73	\$945	\$945
Business Administrator Salary	\$70,000	\$73,500	\$3,500	\$36,750	\$36,750
Salaries: AP/Admin Assist/PR/HR (2 FTE)	\$89,784	\$93,704	\$3,920	\$46,852	\$46,852
Payroll & HR Benefits Coordinator Salary	\$50,112	\$0	(\$50,112)	\$0	\$0
Benefits	\$139,080	\$150,138	\$11,058	\$75,069	\$75,069
Advertising	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$0	\$875	\$875
Audit Services	\$21,500	\$22,000	\$500	\$11,000	\$11,000
Contracted Services	\$14,000	\$20,463	\$6,463	\$11,481	\$8,982
Dues & Fees-Registrations/Memberships	\$7,000	\$13,500	\$6,500	\$6,750	\$6,750
General Supplies/Books/Misc	\$5,000	\$5,100	\$100	\$2,550	\$2,550
Legal Services	\$6,500	\$5,000	(\$1,500)	\$2,500	\$2,500
Postage	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000
Prof/OLT Liab. Insurance	\$10,500	\$10,500	\$0	\$5,250	\$5,250
Repairs/Maintenance	\$0	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$1,750	\$1,750
Software	\$21,000	\$22,000	\$1,000	\$11,000	\$11,000
Telephone/Internet	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$0	\$4,500	\$4,500
Travel Expenses	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000
Tuition Reimbursement	\$3,100	\$2,000	(\$1,100)	\$1,000	\$1,000
Total Supervisory Union Expenditures	\$578,143	\$562,685	(\$15,458)	\$282,592	\$280,093

EXPENDITURE	Approved Budget (FY24)	Proposed Budget (FY25)	Increase (Decrease)	NEK Choice	Canaan
TRANSPORTATION					
Owned Bus-Salary	\$10,500	\$10,500	\$0	\$0	\$10,500
Owned Bus-Benefits	\$805	\$855	\$50	\$0	\$855
Owned Bus-Repairs, Inspections, Fuel, Fees, Insurance, Supplies	\$19,800	\$20,135	\$335	\$0	\$20,135
Owned Bus-Lease Year -3 out of 3	\$17,500	\$26,200	\$8,700	\$0	\$26,200
Bus Service-Cont. Reg Student Transportation	\$210,115	\$227,880	\$17,765	\$0	\$227,880
Bus Service-Athletic Transportation, Cont.	\$30,000	\$35,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$35,000
Bus Service-Music/Field Trips Trans., Cont.	\$18,500	\$19,000	\$500	\$0	\$19,000
Bus Service-CTE Transportation, Contracted	\$22,500	\$22,500	\$0	\$0	\$22,500
Total Transportation Expenditures	\$329,720	\$362,070	\$32,350	\$0	\$362,070

EXPENDITURE	Approved Budget (FY24)	Proposed Budget (FY25)	Increase (Decrease)	NEK Choice	Canaan
NON SPECIAL ED					
Salaries-Dir./Asst Dir./Teacher/Paras/PK Para	\$163,720	\$87,335	(\$76,385)	\$45,800	\$41,535
Benefits-Dir./Asst Dir./Teacher/Paras/PK Para	\$88,585	\$14,175	(\$74,410)	\$9,485	\$4,690
BMH,LI,Deaf,PT,OT,SLP,Blind, Subs	\$25,700	\$20,000	(\$5,700)		\$20,000
Equipment-504 Students	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
General Supplies/Dues & Fees-504 Students	\$2,029	\$2,000	(\$29)	\$990	\$1,010
Transportation/Tuition-504 Out of District	\$20,065	\$0	(\$20,065)	\$0	\$0
Total Non Special Ed Services	\$300,099	\$123,510	(\$176,589)	\$56,275	\$67,235

EXPENDITURE	Approved Budget (FY24)	Proposed Budget (FY25)	Increase (Decrease)	NEK Choice	Canaan	Ferdinand	SAU 7
SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES							
Salaries-Dir./Asst Dir./Teachers/Ad. Asst./Paras	\$667,745	\$697,776	\$30,031	\$277,200	\$390,462	\$4,430	\$25,684
Salaries-Adaptive PE (IDEA Grant)	\$4,821	\$5,850	\$1,029	\$705	\$5,145		
Benefits-Director/Asst/Teachers/Paras	\$301,697	\$310,400	\$8,703	\$101,010	\$196,968	\$1,286	\$11,136
Benefits-Adaptive PE (IDEA Grant)	\$1,741	\$2,200	\$459	\$265	\$1,935		
Advertising	\$0	\$700	\$700	\$0	\$700		
Contracted Ser.-(IDEA-B & IDEA PreK Grant)	\$127,638	\$126,650	(\$988)	\$15,200	\$111,450		
Contracted Services-PT/OT/SP/Vis./Deaf/PD	\$603,272	\$390,039	(\$213,233)	\$243,430	\$115,520	\$16,100	\$14,989
Dues & Registrations	\$8,206	\$5,280	(\$2,926)	\$2,030	\$3,250		

Equipment	\$4,900	\$4,900	\$0	\$1,960	\$2,940		
Contracted Services - Learning Center	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000		
General Supplies-Adaptive PE (IDEA Grant)	\$2,080	\$2,080	\$0	\$250	\$1,830		
General Supplies/Books/Software-Special Ed	\$13,139	\$15,450	\$2,311	\$4,100	\$11,350		
Postage	\$1,750	\$1,300	(\$450)	\$520	\$780		
Telephone	\$1,750	\$1,000	(\$750)	\$400	\$600		
Transportation-Out of District Placements	\$309,997	\$139,200	(\$170,797)	\$60,000	\$38,200	\$41,000	
Travel-Director/Asst Director	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	\$600	\$900		
Tuition-Out of Dist. Place./Other Spec Ed Tuit.	\$905,279	\$685,100	(\$220,179)	\$424,100	\$126,000	\$135,000	
Tuition (IDEA Grant)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
Transportation (IDEA Grant)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
Total for Special Education Expenditures:	\$2,985,515	\$2,394,425	(\$561,090)	\$1,131,770	\$1,013,030	\$197,816	\$51,809

Expenditures	Approved Budget (FY24)	Proposed Budget (FY25)	Increase (Decrease)	NEK Choice	Canaan	Ferdinand	SAU 7
GRANTS/Medicaid Funds							
Salaries	\$407,693	\$242,975	(\$164,718)	\$47,635	\$195,340		
Benefits	\$227,410	\$163,480	(\$63,930)	\$32,460	\$131,020		
Contracted Services	\$96,177	\$0	(\$96,177)	\$0	\$0		
Dues & Fees	\$3,500	\$0	(\$3,500)	\$0	\$0		
Supplies, Equipment	\$16,660	\$5,405	(\$11,255)	\$920	\$4,485		
Transportation	\$6,000	\$0	(\$6,000)	\$0	\$0		
Totals for Grant/Medicaid Expenditures:	\$757,440	\$411,860	(\$345,580)	\$81,015	\$330,845	\$0	\$0
Grand Total for All Expenditures:	\$4,920,917	\$3,854,550	(\$1,066,367)	\$1,551,652	\$2,053,273	\$197,816	\$51,809

Revenue Statement	Revenue (FY24)	Estimated (FY25)	Increase (Decrease)	NEK Choice	Canaan	Ferdinand	SAU 7
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE/TRANSPORTATION							
Transportation Aid Revenue from State	\$116,034	\$124,000	\$7,966	\$0	\$124,000		
Interest	\$250	\$250	\$0	\$125	\$125		
SU Assessments	\$555,193	\$559,435	\$4,242	\$280,967	\$278,468		
Transportation Assessment	\$213,686	\$238,070	\$24,384	\$0	\$238,070		
E-Rate Reimbursement	\$2,700	\$3,000	\$300	\$1,500	\$1,500		
Miscellaneous	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
Prior Year Surplus	\$20,000	\$0	(\$20,000)	\$0	\$0		
Total Superintendents Office/Trans. Rev.:	\$907,863	\$924,755	\$16,892	\$282,592	\$642,163	\$0	\$0

Revenue Statement	Revenue (FY24)	Estimated (FY25)	Increase (Decrease)	NEK Choice	Canaan	Ferdinand	SAU 7
NON-SPECIAL ED SERVICES							
Contracted Services-PD to ENSU	\$300,099	\$123,510	(\$176,589)	\$56,275	\$67,235		
Total Non Special Ed Revenue:	\$300,099	\$123,510	(\$176,589)	\$56,275	\$67,235	\$0	\$0

Revenue Statement	Revenue (FY24)	Estimated (FY25)	Increase (Decrease)	NEK Choice	Canaan	Ferdinand	SAU 7
SPECIAL ED SERVICES							
EEE Assessment from District	\$11,276	\$1,537	(\$9,739)	\$1,230	\$307		
EEE Grant from State	\$33,622	\$45,626	\$12,004	\$36,500	\$9,126		
Special Ed Reimbursement from District	\$1,305,428	\$590,847	(\$714,581)	\$96,865	\$412,098	\$30,075	\$51,809
Census Block Grant	\$940,292	\$988,635	\$48,343	\$632,725	\$346,024	\$9,886	
Special Ed Extraordinary Reimb. from State	\$528,617	\$631,000	\$102,383	\$348,030	\$125,115	\$157,855	
IDEA-B Grant Ages 3-21	\$132,080	\$132,570	\$490	\$15,910	\$116,660		
IDEA-B Preschool Grant	\$4,200	\$4,210	\$10	\$510	\$3,700		
Total Special Ed Revenue:	\$2,955,515	\$2,394,425	(\$561,090)	\$1,131,770	\$1,013,030	\$197,816	\$51,809

Revenue Statement	Revenue (FY24)	Estimated (FY25)	Increase (Decrease)	NEK Choice	Canaan	Ferdinand	SAU 7
Grants/Medicaid							
ARP ESSER	\$320,452	\$60,374	(\$260,078)	\$5,574	\$54,800		
CFP Grants	\$366,956	\$292,872	(\$74,084)	\$49,820	\$243,052		
Medicaid Grant	\$70,032	\$58,614	(\$11,418)	\$25,621	\$32,993		
Total Grants/Medicaid Revenue:	\$757,440	\$411,860	(\$345,580)	\$81,015	\$330,845	\$0	\$0

Grand Total All Revenues:	\$4,920,917	\$3,854,550	(\$1,066,367)	\$1,551,652	\$2,053,273	\$197,816	\$51,809
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<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>ENROLLMENT</u>
ABC AND LOL CHILDCARE CENTER	2
ARLINGTON SCHOOL	3
BARNET SCHOOL	3
BELLOWS FALLS UNION HIGH SCHOOL	1
BURKE MOUNTAIN ACADEMY	2
BURKE TOWN	6
CANAAN SCHOOLS	22
CHARLESTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1
COLEBROOK SCHOOLS	10
COMPASS SCHOOL	1
CONCORD SCHOOL	8
DANVILLE SCHOOL	2
EAST BURKE	1
GOOD SHEPHARD SCHOOL	7
GROVETON SCHOOLS	10
HEARTWOOD PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL	5
LANCASTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	8
LITTLE DIPPER DOODLE CHILDRENS CTR	1
LUNENBURG SCHOOL	4
LUPINE MONTESSORI	3
LYNDON INSTITUTE	24
LYNDON TOWN SCHOOL	14
MT. ROYAL ACADEMY NORTH	7
NEWARK SCHOOL	7
NORTH COUNTRY CHARTER ACADEMY	1

RIVERSIDE	72
ST JOHNSBURY ACADEMY	40
ST JOHNSBURY SCHOOL	8
SEVEN HILLS AT CROTCHED MOUNTAIN	1
STRATFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL	10
SUTTON SCHOOL	2
THADDEUS STEVENS	5
THE WHITE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL	2
WATERFORD	12
WATERVILLE VALLEY ACADEMY	1
WMRHS	15
WOODLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL	3
TOTAL # OF SCHOOLS: 38	TOTAL # OF STUDENTS: 324

NEK Choice School District 2023-2024 Student Count

Town	Elementary		Highschool	Total of Students by Town
	PK	K-6	7-12	
Bloomfield	1	12	9	22
Brunswick	0	4	4	8
East Haven	3	19	21	43
Granby	0	1	4	5
Guildhall	1	21	16	38
Kirby	11	77	66	154
Lemington	0	4	8	12
Maidstone	1	9	12	22
Norton	0	5	5	10
Victory	3	0	7	10
Total for District	20	152	152	324

Greetings and Thank You for the continued honor of serving you in Montpelier! The Legislature enters its third week as of today. Vermont's revenue projections for next fiscal year will be made public this week and next Wednesday the Governor will deliver his budget address.

There are several priorities in Montpelier this year that I feel are important and need to be addressed, some of the more pressing: school choice, housing, education tax rates and reform, flood recovery, and the budget.

Not surprisingly, legislators from school districts deciding not to provide choice to their children resent school districts that do. Dealing with these antagonists is a full-time job. These people do not understand what problem they are trying to solve, the public school system, or the public tuition system and independent schools. Nevertheless, they seek dramatic change that would completely upend our education ecosystem and not impact their school districts in the slightest. Already, several bills in the Senate and House have been introduced that would prevent independent schools from continuing to accept students using public tuition. The good news is that many others have joined me in opposing those that mean us harm. We meet regularly to develop effective strategies and communication.

Housing affordability and availability is really a crisis. The crux of the problem, I believe, is the cost to construct or renovate. In almost all cases the cost outweighs the value, often significantly. There is no easy fix, but Act 250 reform seems to be a good place to start. Several bills are being debated in the committees of jurisdiction.

Education tax rates are front and center in Montpelier. The Tax Department's Dec. 1 Letter projected that school districts would increase their education spending by 12% (\$205M), forcing an 18.5% increase in education tax rates. These numbers are sobering, but an early projection subject to change. The bad news is that many fear it will be even worse. Due to a 5% homestead property tax cap intended to protect a handful of districts negatively impacted by pupil weighting changes, a large majority of districts have decided to spend above the cap. It is too early to understand the sum of all these decisions, but many fear that an increase of \$205M has grown to a much larger number. By the time you read this Town Report the situation will likely have changed dramatically.

Layered over this discussion about next year's tax rates is a larger conversation about reforming the Education Fund so that it is understandable, more equitable, and slows the growth in education spending to a rate that taxpayers can afford.

Floods in July and December did a significant amount of damage in Vermont. We were fortunate compared to several other Vermont communities. Montpelier and Barre were especially impacted. Vermont needs to assist those that have yet to receive assistance wherever in Vermont they may live and prepare for the next flooding event, and hopefully avoid it. There seems to be a lot of interest around using a flood bond like what was done after the Flood of 1927. Discussions are ongoing.

This year's budget is shaping up to be very tight, maybe tighter than any passed in recent memory. The reality is that Vermont's economy and revenue increases are again at about 2.0-2.5%, but government pressures are growing at about 3.0-3.5%. Obviously, this is not a sustainable path, and something must give. I am committed to finding efficiencies and reducing spending in programs that underperform without increasing taxes and fees. This is a difficult process, but we must do this to continue with Vermont's longstanding commitment to balance the budget.

The most important job a representative does is listen. Please do not hesitate to reach out to share your ideas. I can be reached at sbeck@leg.state.vt.us or 802.274.0201. I am also available (really prefer) to meet in person. Please reach out! Respectfully, Rep. Scott Beck

This is my third term as State Representative and my first representing Kirby (and Concord) as well as St. Johnsbury. I serve this term on the House Transportation Committee.

Our transportation system is changing. The first generation of electric vehicles has arrived, and frankly the results are mixed. EVs still have higher upfront costs than gas cars, though current incentives practically eliminate the gap for some models. And since they are mechanically much simpler than gas/diesel cars, maintenance costs are lower. Warm-weather range is decent enough for most people, but winter range is still a worry. And then there is the problem of how to maintain roads without revenue from a gas tax.

Yet it's clear the transition to EVs is proceeding. My committee has requested an analysis from VTrans of options for EV drivers — including out-of-staters — to pay their share for the roads. We are working with VTrans to build out a fast-charging network to serve travelers, and to ensure both homeowners and renters have access to chargers at home. Though for many people these are future problems, the lead time required means we must begin dealing with them now.

But not everyone has a car of any kind. Public transit in rural areas is difficult. Fixed routes at limited times meet the needs of too few people, and on-demand service is a challenge with long distances between riders and destinations. Both suffer from outmoded funding mechanisms. RCT and other transit providers are working hard on creative solutions, and my committee is very supportive.

A major issue facing the Legislature this session is the impact of declining Federal dollars post-pandemic on State finances. One way that is hitting us hard locally is education funding and property taxes.

Our schools are facing many issues: misbehavior and loss of learning hangover from the pandemic; higher costs to attract and retain quality teachers and staff; deferred maintenance and construction; and changing funding formulas. It's a lot. Taken together, the pressures undoubtedly will lead to higher property taxes. How much higher is in the hands of school districts across the State. As I write this in January, everyone is looking to local boards to recognize the statewide problem and reflect it in their budgets.

Another issue affecting us locally is public safety services. Police and fire departments struggle to fill vacancies, while gang violence usually thought of as an urban issue seems more and more common here. The funding system for emergency medical services is woefully inadequate, leaving CALEX no choice but to ask towns to pay more. The repeated flooding suffered by other parts of the State last year — but thankfully not too badly here, yet — highlights the need for better emergency planning and preparation, and for upgrading local roads and culverts, before it does hit us.

We continue to work on the perennial issues of housing and workforce. Bills are in committees to reform Act 250 to facilitate appropriate housing development, for example. Fortunately last session we did make progress funding childcare and raising provider pay, and ensuring kids don't go hungry at school — both over vetos by the Governor, by the way. But much more to do, hopefully with the collaboration of the Administration and the Legislature.

Something else I have been working hard on is the Caledonia Food Co-op. Most, I'm sure, are aware of the CFC's effort to purchase the former Walgreens building on Railroad Street in St. Johnsbury. This will be a full-service grocery owned by community members, focused on supporting local producers, and dedicated to bringing fresh, local food to everyone. As you read this, CFC is on the threshold of finalizing purchase of the building, and we need to ask again for the tremendous community support that raised the down-payment last August. Please see www.caledoniafood.coop for information on how you can help!

Thank you for the honor of serving you in Montpelier. Please join me at one of my monthly breakfast meetings on the following Saturdays at 8:00 AM: March 16, Kitchen Counter Cafe, Railroad St, St. Johnsbury; April 20, Mooselook Diner, Rte 2, Concord; May 18, Kitchen Counter Cafe. Or drop me a note at scampbell@leg.state.vt.us.



NVDA
Northeastern Vermont
Development Association

Request for 2024 Town Dues

Greetings:

The Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) is now making its annual Request for Town Dues. In past years, we have used the term “appropriations” rather than “dues”, but “dues” more accurately reflects the Town’s status as a member community of NVDA, which your Town has been since 1950. We greatly appreciate your continued support.

Town of Kirby

Amount Requested: \$565

Possible funding methods**:

1. As a line item in the operating budget
2. As an article on the warning

Example:

“Shall the town vote to appropriate a sum of money not to exceed \$565 to the Northeastern Vermont Development Association, for planning, development, promoting and publicizing the resources of Caledonia, Essex and Orleans counties with other towns in the three counties?”

****Many of NVDA’s member Towns are also members of the Vermont League of Cities & Towns (VLCT) and have those dues included as a line item in the Town budget, rather than as an article in the Town report. Please consider including the Town’s membership with NVDA as a line item as well.**



To the Voters of Kirby:

The Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) serves Kirby as a regional advocate for stronger communities and vibrant local economies. NVDA is the regional planning commission and economic development organization for Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties, so we are uniquely suited to effectively serve municipalities and businesses.

This year, we are again requesting annual dues from our member communities. These funds are critical, as they allow us to provide direct technical assistance to the 50+ municipalities and the many businesses in our region. Municipal contributions also allow us to leverage additional state and federal funds that benefit our region.

Local governance has become increasingly complex in recent years, and our staff remains available to assist your community in multiple capacities:

- Land use planning and regulation;
- Transportation studies and project planning;
- Digital mapping and GIS services;
- Grant writing and administration;
- Direct business support, referrals, and lending to employers in our region;
- Energy planning and water quality planning to help communities meet evolving statutory requirements;
- Planning for natural hazards and local emergency response;
- Brownfield assessments and remediation assistance;
- Economic development activities to grow and strengthen businesses in our region;
- Training for local officials.

The July flood brought new challenges to local governments and businesses already navigating post-pandemic realities. In addition to our regular services, we participated directly in flood response. We also began helping our communities meet the requirements of Act 47 (the HOME Act) to alleviate the housing crisis, and we continued to aid in regional pandemic recovery through assistance with ARPA funding, as well as other state and federal recovery resources such as the Municipal Energy Resilience Program and the Municipal Technical Assistance Program.

How have we served your community recently? In 2023, NVDA staff updated Kirby's Local Emergency Management Plan which has been adopted by your Town and accepted by Vermont Emergency Management

NVDA dues are just \$0.85 per capita, with a maximum of \$3,965 and a minimum of \$565. We take great pride in serving the communities and businesses of the NEK. This additional contribution allows us to continue providing a high level of professional service. We take pride in keeping communities aware of new opportunities through our e-newsletter and social media. Contact us at tgonyaw@nvda.net to receive our e-newsletter and like us on Facebook.

Sincerely,
David Snedeker
Executive Director



Caledonia Essex Area Ambulance Service Inc.

PO Box 570
1453 Hospital Drive
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819

(802) 748-7599
(802) 748-7545 (fax)
emschief@calexambulance.org

Please accept this notice of Non-Renewal under Section 9 of the ambulance services agreement to be effective on January 1, 2024.

It is CALEX's intention to continue to provide services on January 1, 2024, on a month by month basis under the terms for year 2024 as we work together with the Towns to create a long term funding model and, at the same time explore merger potentials with St. Johnsbury Fire Dept.

Unfortunately, we have had a substantial loss in revenue since the pandemic, despite several operational adjustments. The lack of state/federal reimbursements, changes to our payor mix, increase percentages of non-transport/non-billable and a decrease volume of inter-facility transports have put us in a situation we have no choice but to raise our per capita to \$45.00.

While we have explored budgets under both continuing as is now or combining or merging with SJFD, there is no choice but to increase our requests to the towns. We have been fortunate to keep our expenses down overall, but with the decreases mentioned above it is not covering the costs to maintain the continued services we provide. While we have adjusted operationally as much as possible, the region cannot afford cutting back of personnel due to the high-level demands for EMS.

As we have discussed previously, the cost of readiness for EMS is high and it remains high due to the demand of services and the lack of reimbursements. While there is some effort and conversation to improve funding for EMS, at this point there has been no movement.

Recently, the CALEX Board of Directors and I have met with many of you from our supporting communities to discuss these issues and we are more than happy to continue to discuss these issues further and answer any questions you may have. Many services across our state and region are having similar conversations and this is why we have begun looking at other alternative models to combine services to provide the most cost-effective solution without jeopardizing pre-hospital care.

To be very clear, while none of us have a crystal ball, we certainly did not expect that changes that have occurred since the pandemic would alter the healthcare system in such a way that would require us to ask for this increase towards the end of our contract period. We have been monitoring the trends and we do not see things changing moving into 2024, which leads us to no choice but to ask for this support beginning January 2024.

Thank you,

Michael J. Wright, NRP
Chief / Chief Executive Officer
PO Box 570
Saint Johnsbury, VT 05819
802-748-7542
emschief@calexambulance.org

**A COMMUNITY BASED NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO
EXCELLENCE IN EMERGENCY HEALTH CARE AND TRAINING**

Lyndon Rescue, Inc.
114 Vail Drive
P O Box 401
Lyndonville VT 05851-0401



Office: 802.626.1101
Crew: 802.626.4337
FAX: 802.626.8637
www.lyndonrescue.net
In an emergency, Dial 9-1-1

"CARING FOR THE KINGDOM"

December 29, 2023

Dear Selectboard,

In September 2023, I was hired as Director of Operations for Lyndon Rescue to replace Jillian McLaughlin, who was stepping down but remaining with our organization. I have been with Lyndon Rescue for over 15 years as an EMT. The Lyndon Rescue Board of Directors has approved the budget for 2024. A copy of the budget is included. The first page has a breakdown of what each town paid in 2023 and then the 2024 amount we have budgeted. The town appropriation amounts are up 4.1%, which is less of an increase over last year.

The largest decrease in our expenses is under our vehicle section, as we anticipate paying off our remaining ambulance loan balance early in 2024. With this remaining loan paid off, Lyndon Rescue will fully own all its vehicles, with the oldest model being a 2016 Ford F-450. We will begin the process of replacing this ambulance soon, but manufacturing is on a two year timeline.

The largest increase in our expenses is under facilities. Vermont State University has asked Lyndon Rescue if we are interested in purchasing our current facility from them. Our facility was shared with the University Health Services, who have since vacated and moved elsewhere on campus. A proposal was submitted late in 2023, and we are currently awaiting the decision of the Vermont State University Board on whether they will accept our proposal. The expense increase is based on paying for utilities, a mortgage, and initial light renovation work to make the remainder of the building usable for Lyndon Rescue.

Another increase in expense was personnel wages. Among many other industries, EMS has faced a worker shortage. In order to retain the excellent professionals we have, and to attract talent, we have increased our starting wages and revamped our pay chart to be more equitable for long-term retention of employees. The starting wage for a first year EMT is now \$16.80/hr with our revised pay scale.

Some of our expense increases will be offset by an increase in our billing rates that went into effect in 2023. Our call volume has increased, and as we close out this year, we have surpassed our 2022 call volume.

Please let me or your representative on our Board of Directors know if you have any questions. If you would like the town report letter sent by email so that you can have a color copy PDF to insert into the town report please let me know, at anthony@lyndonrescue.net or (802)626-1101.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Anthony Skelton – NREMT
Director of Operations

A Non-Profit Ambulance Company serving the communities of: Burke, East Haven, Granby, Kirby, Lyndon, Newark, Sheffield, Sutton, and Wheelock

Lyndon Rescue Inc. 2024 Budget

Expense Summary		FY 2023	FY 2024	Percent Change	Per Capita - 2023
Operations Expenses		\$740,555.78	\$781,775.45	5.6%	\$45.93
Administration Expenses		\$230,243.13	\$249,187.98	8.2%	
Facilities Expenses		\$21,020.00	\$36,050.00	71.5%	
Vehicle Expenses		\$135,056.68	\$91,550.00	-32.2%	
CPR, First Aid and Education Expenses		\$6,450.00	\$6,450.00	0.0%	\$47.81
Administration - Billing Expenses		\$29,355.07	\$28,718.26	-2.2%	
Administration - Billing Facility Expenses		\$600.00	\$600.00	0.0%	
Total Expenses		\$1,163,280.66	\$1,194,331.69	2.7%	
Income		\$676,350.00	\$687,500.00	1.6%	
Net Revenue		-\$486,930.66	-\$506,831.69	4.1%	
Town - Lyndon		\$252,191.68	\$262,498.85	4.1%	
Town - Burke		\$75,827.44	\$78,926.53	4.1%	
Town - Sheffield		\$31,323.02	\$32,603.21	4.1%	
Town - Wheelock		\$34,859.50	\$36,284.22	4.1%	
Town - Granby		\$321.50	\$334.64	4.1%	
Town - Kirby		\$11,252.41	\$11,712.30	4.1%	
Town - Sutton		\$41,932.44	\$43,646.23	4.1%	
Town - Newark		\$26,822.06	\$27,918.29	4.1%	
Town - East Haven		\$12,400.61	\$12,907.43	4.1%	

Caledonia County Sheriff's Department

Sheriff James Hemond

970 Memorial Drive St. Johnsbury, VT 05819

P: (802)748-6666 F: (802)748-1684

Email: caledoniasheriff.net

Upon taking office of February of 2023 I was eager to make positive changes within the department. I immediately sought qualified competent applicants to add to the departments depleted roster. During the spring and summer I was able to add four new deputies to the ranks resulting in 11 deputies employed with the department. I reconnected with area Law Enforcement Fire, Emergency Services, Mental Health and Human Services Agencies not only in Caledonia County but State wide. Much of these relationships resulted in opportunities to train, assist with service to community members and law enforcement and combine resources to best serve the community. We completed our annual financial audit for the department in 2023 and it resulted in no findings or problems of any kind.

We continue to add vehicles to our fleet, 3 new patrol cruisers were purchased, replacing an aging fleet that have served us well. We have 9 marked cars, a transport van for prisoner transports, and one unmarked car for civil process service. The radar cart was deployed throughout the county providing speed deterrence where deployed.

It was my great pleasure to return to security services at this year's Caledonia County Fair. This would not have been possible without the dedication of my staff, but also much appreciated help from The Lamoille County Sheriff's Department. The department was also contacted throughout the year by several towns for contracted patrols. Of the 17 towns in the county the department provides services to 13 of these towns. Due to staffing shortages it has been difficult to provide consistent services to these communities but we are working hard to improve as well as increase our presence to provide consistent, quality, and cost effective Law Enforcement Services to you all of you. As much as possible we maintain an active presence 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. The department maintains a Take Back Drugs Location serving as a drop off for expired, unused and no longer needed Rx medications. 2023 saw the expiration of many deputies body armor. Grant money provided by the US Department of Justice sees to it that every six years body armor is replaced to provide every sworn member of Law Enforcement access to daily worn body armor. I took this opportunity to upgrade body armor providing all of us with the most protection available. The department also purchased Axon body worn cameras with funds received from a grant from the state of Vermont. I continue to apply for grants and seek funding to provide the most modern, quality, cost prohibitive equipment for the department to best serve the community.

I would like to announce the retirement of Sergeant Steven Gadapee and Deputy Gilbert Roberts. Each served over 30 years as Law Enforcement Officers and will be missed.

Having served with the department for 18 years I will continue to make my best effort to serve all of you in this wonderful community whether you live, work, play or raise a family. I am always available for any questions or comments here at the office and feel free to visit our Facebook page as well.

Respectfully;

James Hemond

Caledonia County Sheriff



December 7, 2023

Erin Patoine, Town Clerk
Town of Kirby
346 Town Hall Road
Lyndonville, VT 05851



Dear Ms. Patoine:

The Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium respectfully requests that the following special appropriation article appear on the 2024 warning for Kirby Town Meeting:

"Shall the Town vote the sum of \$493 to support the operation of the Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium during the ensuing year, in exchange for free unlimited general admission to the Museum for all Kirby residents?"

The Fairbanks Museum invites Kirby residents to take full advantage of their unlimited free general admission to the Museum to explore the nature, beauty, and wonders of our world. Your municipal appropriation provides essential support for the care of the Museum's historic building and the maintenance and exhibition of the most extraordinary educational collections in northern New England. These are among our region's most prized assets. Each year the Museum offers new opportunities for exploration and discovery, so do come for a visit!

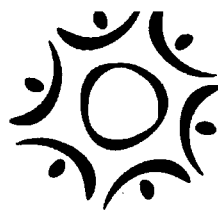
In 2023, we brought in more visitors and campers to the museum than ever before. Once again our outdoor classroom transformed into a butterfly house for the summer, and Franklin's Guides led the way to further discovery for our visitors. Campers learned about astronomy, drones, and robots. We debuted new engaging live shows and movies in our planetarium, and we welcomed Rube Goldberg expert Zach Umperovitch for a weeklong residency and Eddy Lecture. With community support, the Museum is fully engaged in community economic, educational, and cultural development initiatives and contributes significantly to the attraction of visitors to our region. Your appropriation this year will support unlimited access to our new Science Annex.

The Board of Trustees, staff, and volunteers of the Museum are tremendously grateful for the support, encouragement, and collaborative planning that keep our programs relevant and vital. We aim to ensure the Museum delivers services, programs, and a commitment to community development that benefit your town's residents and visitors, as well as contribute to a remarkable quality of life.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Kane".

Adam Kane, Executive Director



NKHS
Northeast Kingdom Human Services

We're
All About
**Being
Human!**

September 20, 2023

Town of Kirby Select Board
346 TOWN HALL RD
LYNDONVILLE, VT 05851
townclerk.kirbyvermont@gmail.com

RE: 2024 Town Meeting Appropriation Request

Dear Town of Kirby Select Board and Community Members:

The professional employees at Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc. follow their mission to empower individuals, families, and communities by promoting hope, healing, and support. We ask you to financially support our mission and agency by including the following article in your 2024 Town Meeting Warning.

ARTICLE: Shall the Town of Kirby vote to raise, appropriate, and expend the sum of \$518 for the support of Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc., a nonprofit 501(c)(3), to support community members who cannot otherwise afford care?

This request is the same amount as voted at the 2023 Town Meeting.

A Fiscal Year 2023 Summary Activity Report of how Northeast Kingdom Human Services (NKHS) supported your town and the Northeast Kingdom is included with this letter.

For more information about our agency and services, please visit our website at <https://www.nkhs.org>, or call our offices in Derby (802-334-6744) or St. Johnsbury (802-748-3181). Emergency Services are available 24/7.

We strive to respond to community needs with quality care.

Respectfully,

Kelsey Stavseth, Executive Director
Northeast Kingdom Human Services Board of Directors and Leadership Team

Contact Ruth Marquette at RMarquette@nkhs.net regarding appropriation questions.

Derby
181 Crawford Road
PO Box 724, Newport, VT 05855
802-334-6744 · Fax 802-334-7455
Toll free 800-696-4979

nkhs.org

St. Johnsbury
2225 Portland Street
PO Box 368, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
802-748-3181 · Fax 802-748-0704
Toll free 800-649-0118



NORTHEAST KINGDOM HUMAN SERVICES, INC. (NKHS) Requesting \$518 in 2024

181 Crawford Road – Derby, P. O. Box 724, Newport, VT 05855 ♦ 802-334-6744 or 800-696-4979

2225 Portland Street, P. O. Box 368, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819 ♦ 802-748-3181 or 800-649-0118

Emergency Crisis Line 802-334-6744 – 24 hours a day/7 days a week

www.nkhs.org

Thank you, **Town of Kirby** 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 2024 appropriation request of **\$518** is the same amount voted on at the 2023 Town Meeting. This represents 0.54% of appropriation requests from 48 towns. We offer supportive, confidential program services for Emergency/Crisis Services, mental health, addiction, and developmental/intellectual disabilities. Our mission is to empower individuals, families, and communities by promoting hope, healing, and support.

Summary Activity Report July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023:

- **3800** individuals of all ages in our service area utilized support services.
- **8** individuals **from the Town of Kirby** accessed supportive care at NKHS.
- Employees provided **over 300 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 700 Northeast Kingdom community members.
- **416** total dedicated professional employees support community members in the Derby or St. Johnsbury offices, the satellite office in Hardwick, telehealth, homes, schools, and throughout Northeast Kingdom communities.

Good mental health is important for everyone. As a Designated Agency serving Vermont's system of care, NKHS is responsible 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. NKHS is asking the Town of Kirby 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 of your community.

Thank you so much for your support!

Respectfully submitted,
Kelsey Stavseth, Executive Director
Board of Directors
Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.



Northeast Kingdom **Youth** Services

63 Eastern Avenue, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819

Phone: (802) 748-8732 • Fax: (802) 748-2383

Email: nekys@nekys.org

September 22, 2023

Town of Kirby
Wanda Grant
346 Town Hall Road
Lyndonville, Vermont 05851

Dear Appropriations Committee,

Please include Northeast Kingdom Youth Services' appropriation request of \$250.00 on the warrant for the Kirby Town Meeting.

Enclosed you will find the information about our services for inclusion in your Town Report.

Northeast Kingdom Youth Services' (NEKYS') mission is to create opportunities for youth, adults, and families to strengthen life skills and resiliency in the face of adversity.

NEKYS's staff relies on appropriations from the area towns it serves to enable them to provide vital case management supports and services through its varied programs. NEKYS' Family and Youth Programs staff is available 24/7 to support youth and their families at times of crisis. Additionally, we can help mediate during family conflict as well as support youth as they transition into adulthood.

Historically NEKYS has served at least 8 Kirby residents per year.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Constance S. Anderson
Executive Director

Board of Directors:

Richard Leighton, President
Elaine Gray

Shawn Timson, Vice President/Treasurer
Janssen Willhoit

John Robillard, Secretary

Staff: Constance Anderson, Executive Director

Kathy Griffin	Star Barden	Brandi Thornton
Chauncey Chery	Trina LaBounty	Tammy Blais

Town Report Summary

2023 NEKYS Served 8 in Kirby

***NEKYS has been offering vital supportive services for youth and families since 1975
In 2023 NEKYS served 417 individuals throughout Caledonia and Essex Counties***

NEKYS Family Programs Provide:

- Staff is available 24/7 to support youth, families, and individuals.
- Supportive counseling for youth and families, case management, support for youth and families within their schools and family mediation.
- Summer Central Scholarship program offering scholarships for children to attend summer activities they otherwise could not afford.

NEKYS Youth Programs Include:

- Staff is available 24/7 to support youth, families, and individuals.
- Support to local young people ages 15-22 that are homeless or at risk of homelessness; have current or past involvement with foster care; are pregnant and/or parenting; experiencing mental health issues; struggling with substance abuse; have current or past involvement with the criminal justice system.
- Programs that utilize a positive youth development, trauma-informed approach that is tailored to meet the needs of young people. Encouragement for each young person to identify their strengths and achieve goals related to housing, education, employment, and life skills.
- Access to short-term and long-term housing support that addresses the complex needs of young adults who are 18-22 years old. Young adults receive support which include in-home case management, rental assistance, landlord mediation, job skill development and educational advancement support.

Northeast Kingdom Youth Services is a private, non-profit agency governed by a community-based, volunteer Board of Directors. We rely on grants, contracts, donations and appropriations from the towns we serve to continue our mission. Thank you for supporting families in our community. Please call our office at 748-8732 if you have any questions.



Rural Community Transportation, Inc.

1677 Industrial Parkway • Lyndonville, Vermont 05851

Phone: (802)748-8170 • Fax: (802)748-5275 • <http://riderct.org>

"COMMUNITY IS OUR MIDDLE NAME"

September 26, 2023

Town of Kirby
Kirby Town Office
346 Town Hall Rd.
Lyndonville, VT 05851

Re: Request for town appropriation

Dear Kirby Voters,

Rural Community Transportation, Inc. (RCT) respectfully requests that the following special appropriation article appear on the 2024 warning for the Town Meeting:

Article: Shall the Town of Kirby vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of **\$181.34** for the support of **Rural Community Transportation, Inc.** to provide services to residents of the Town of Kirby.

RCT is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation which provides public transportation services throughout Caledonia, Orleans, Essex and Lamoille Counties. Request-based rides are available to residents of Kirby year-round. In FY23 RCT provided 1 ride to 1 resident of Kirby traveling 8 miles at a total cost of \$19.50. RCT also provided shuttle service along the Jay-Lyn route in proximity to Kirby.

RCT operates with federal and state funding; however, our funding sources typically require between 20% and 50% locally matched dollars. All town appropriations received are used to provide the required local match, and are therefore vital to RCT's operation.

We hope you will vote to fund this request, and RCT looks forward to continued service to the residents of Kirby.

Sincerely,

Jessy M Pelow
Office Administrator



Rural Community Transportation, Inc.

1677 Industrial Parkway • Lyndonville, Vermont 05851

Phone: (802)748-8170 • Fax: (802)748-5275 • <http://riderct.org>

"COMMUNITY IS OUR MIDDLE NAME"

Special Appropriation Recipient Report

Thank you for your continued support for Rural Community Transportation. Your support is felt in our communities daily. Rural Community Transportation, Inc. (RCT) is a private nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation that has provided public transportation services throughout Lamoille, Caledonia, Orleans, and Essex Counties. RCT operates fare-free shuttle and commuter bus routes, microtransit, and emergency relief transportation facilitating connections between towns in our region and the ability to travel throughout Vermont and beyond. RCT also provides demand-response transportation services under several programs, such as Medicaid, the Older People & People with Disabilities program, and Rides 2 Recovery.

RCT runs four commuter routes to enhance access to employment, connecting Morrisville to the towns of Barre and Waterbury and St. Johnsbury to Montpelier and to Littleton. We operate three shuttle routes tying Morrisville, Newport/Derby, and St. Johnsbury/Lyndonville residents and nearby Vermonters to essential locations, from grocery stores to medical centers. Shopping routes provide similar services spanning Morrisville and Stowe in the west, Newport and surrounding towns in the north, and Lyndon to New Hampshire in the east. Our neighbors, who utilized over 130,000 rides in FY2023, have expressed their gratitude and noted their dependence on our services.

RCT operates with federal and state funding; however, our funding sources typically require between 20% and 50% locally matched dollars. All town appropriations received are used to provide the required local match and are crucial to RCT's operations. Your generosity allows RCT to transform your funding into the ability to thrive, grow, and provide your community with reliable, quality transportation service.

Thank you for your consideration and continued support,

Caleb R. Grant

Executive Director

Rural Community Transportation

Powers Park

December 2023

Town of Kirby
1192 VT-122
Lyndonville, VT 05851

Via email: townclerk.kirbyvermont@gmail.com

Dear Town of Kirby,

As President of the Powers Park Board, I wish to request our annual \$1,000.00 appropriations from the Town of Kirby during its Annual Meeting in March of 2024. The funding requested will go directly towards our operating expenses for the Summer of 2024.

I am attaching a summary of our program from this past summer.

We greatly value our partnership with the Town and look forward to a successful year ahead! Please let me know if you have any questions. On behalf of the Board, thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Sarah Christman

Sarah Christman
President, Village Improvement Society

Enclosure

Powers Park

Village Improvement Society/Powers Park 2023 Report

41 Powers Park, PO Box 715, Lyndonville, VT 05851

powersparkvt@gmail.com | www.powersparkvt.org

In 1915, Powers Park was a place for annual summer meetings. Washington Irving Powers' vision then included the purchase of a 25-acre grove from the Boston and Maine Railroad. Over time, it evolved to have a pond for swimming; we are now on our third swimming pool since 1936. The location of the current Powers Park currently encompasses 18 acres with an in-ground swimming pool, bathrooms, playground, basketball court, tennis courts, nature trails, pump track, pavilion and picnic area.

We continue to pursue the vision of Mr. Powers and his children. We serve over 400 children annually from Lyndon and surrounding towns as well as employ local youth as lifeguards, recreational instructors, and aides. As a community park, many groups and businesses also use the pool and surrounding activities for events such as birthday celebrations, graduations, and family reunions.

We have been hard at work this past year in partnership with Northern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) and Jay Miller Landscape Architecture having been awarded a Planning grant to plan for future improved use and development of the park and its activities for people of all ages and abilities, better linking the park to the town. Hopefully, the community has received survey links to gauge priorities in this endeavor. If not, we invite you to get involved and provide feedback to us via email, mail or joining our group of volunteers and board members.

Other activities that took place and ways appropriation monies are utilized include:

The Playground – The playground is frequently used by many area children. The play area is high on our list to make it more inclusive to all skill levels.

The Pool – Partnering with Local Childcare Centers, Adaptive Sports Partners, KESD and the public, we were able to provide American Red Cross Swim Lessons and open swim to over 450 area children. With utilization of appropriation dollars, we can keep the costs lower than other area summer program activities. With donation money, we hosted Open Swim and Movie nights for the public.

Tennis Courts/Basketball Court – The tennis courts and basketball courts get a lot of use from the public. Within our summer program, we offer tennis instruction to area children as well as keep the courts available for public use. We currently have a group of Pickleball enthusiasts who regularly use the courts weekly for recreational league play. Appropriation monies help with the surface upkeep and maintenance, including the fence.

Pump Track – Although we did not use any money for the pump track for upkeep, we appreciate our volunteers and Kingdom Trail Crews who help to keep the track open, maintained and help prevent weeds from taking over.

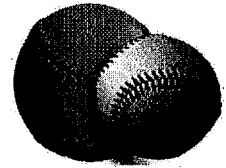
The Pavilion – The Pavilion was once again used to distribute free lunches to area children during the Summer Program season. We also were able to open the pavilion for use for private party rentals.

Lyndonville Farmers Market – With limited use of the bandstand Park, Powers Park was able to host the Lyndonville Farmer's Market on Friday afternoons with local vendors and live music.

Funds from appropriations allow us to keep our program open and, more importantly, hire staff to run our Summer Program. A large portion of our appropriations goes directly to operating expenses.

On behalf of the Board and volunteers at the Village Improvement Society Inc., (Powers Park), we would like to thank the taxpayers and the area businesses for their continued support. We take great pride in our summer program and are excited for the summer of 2024 and future growth! We also welcome anyone to join us in volunteering, becoming a board member or a supporter. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sarah Christman, Heather Tanner, Sarah Lafferty



Lyndon Youth Baseball/Softball
PO Box 1146
Lyndonville, VT 05851-1146

December 26, 2023

Town of Kirby
346 Town Hall Rd
Lyndonville, VT 05851

Dear Town of Kirby:

Please find our request to be placed on the ballot for appropriations. We have also included a second page that is information about our organization.

Lyndon Youth Baseball and Softball was fully operational in 2023 and our number of players increased to bring us back to "Pre-Covid" numbers. **In 2023, LYBS had 12 children from Kirby joining us, which was a small increase from the prior year!**

LYBS held a successful Tag Day fundraiser, again joining baseball and softball to fundraise on the same weekend and kids were excited to be out in the community supporting the league. We also tried out a new fundraiser this year selling VT Beef Jerky which was a HUGE success for our program!

As in the year prior, the operating expenses, uniform/hat expenses, equipment expenses and food expenses continued to increase. All funds from donations, registration fees, appropriations and fundraisers were used to maintain operation and the season necessities. We were able to complete the tee-ball dugouts with donations this year, we had volunteers help with some maintenance to keep the backstop at Shonyo Park in safe working order, Simpson Dirtworx helped us with some field maintenance to redo the Little League Baseball infield, a donation from Beans Homes helped us get new batting cage netting and an upright freezer for the concession stand and outfield fencing for Shonyo Park was also donated as well as a new beverage fridge for the concessions stand. The biggest barrier and a large expense we incur annually was the upkeep of mowing/weedwacking. In prior years this had cost us nearly \$9000 annually to be contracted out and as a league we financially were not able to incur that cost. We attempted to have Board Members and volunteers mow weekly at little to no cost, which proved to be a struggle, so we will attempt to address that barrier this year moving forward and still attempt to maintain financial security.

Our goal as a league is to always keep our registration fees affordable so everybody has the ability to play if they choose! To continue to do so, **we would greatly appreciate your support in the amount \$200 for the 2024 season.** Kirby has always shown generous support of our program for which we are endlessly grateful and appreciative. Thank you for your careful consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Sanville-Signed Electronically

Sarah Sanville
LYBS President



LYBS Overview

Lyndon Youth Baseball/Softball (LYBS) is a non-profit organization who generally serves over 400 children ages 4 to 18 every year. A typical season for LYBS runs from May into July and includes Babe Ruth teams, Little League Majors teams, Minor League teams, Coach Pitch teams, and Tee Ball teams. In addition to our regular season, we also host and attend district, state and regional All-Star tournaments in all of our major divisions (2023 allowed LYBS to host District Little League Baseball and State Babe Ruth Baseball-Lyndon's 15U Baseball team traveled to Massachusetts for Regionals for the third year in a row!). Our program operates in vast majority by the work of more than 100 selfless individuals who volunteer countless hours.

LYBS holds practices offering skills instruction starting at the tee ball level (league age 5) and grows children's skills as they age through our programs. This year we will be piloting a new program Little League is offering for children age 4 (weekly skills). We utilize many area local fields/locations for practices and games (Fisher Field, Lyndon Institute, Northern VT University, West Burke/East Burke fields, Shonyo Park, Lyndon Town School, The Royer Family Field, Kingdom Campground Field and the Caledonia County Fairgrounds) and are appreciative of the community support offered to us.

LYBS operates their own concessions stand at the Fisher Field location providing food and drinks to spectators and has the support of a few volunteers to keep it operating. LYBS utilizes local volunteer umpires to oversee games and all baseball and softball Managers and Coaches in our league are also volunteers. LYBS attempts to contract out annually for mowing and striping of Fisher Field and Shonyo Park. In 2023 we were so grateful to have the field striping expense lessened by a community member who volunteered their time. We are appreciative of David McGinn for that support. We were not able to locate a mower for the 2023 season that was within our budget and that work was attempted by Board Members and volunteers.

LYBS currently operates by a 13-person active Board of Directors. The board is comprised of local community members who share a passion for supporting our local children in a sport that they all love and the board currently has one open position.

We give thanks to the many devoted parents, families and friends who are actively involved in our program. Without each and every volunteer, we wouldn't be able to operate this great program.

November 7, 2023

Town of Kirby Select Board,

On behalf of the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging, we are writing to ask for an appropriation from the town of Kirby to support our work with older Vermonters living in your community. Your support is vitally important as we continue to face challenges due to the increased costs for food and fuel, and the increasing need to protect and feed elder Vermonters.

The NEK Council on Aging serves as a central guide for older Vermonters to gain services and assistance in their communities. In FY2023 the Council aided **over 4,796 residents of the Northeast Kingdom** and with our congregate and home-delivered meals program, **delivered 209,379 meals**.

We also offer a Helpline; Medicare counseling and Bootcamp; exercise and mobility programs; specially-trained staff who help people develop long-range planning as they age; family and caregiver support programs and grants; case management for those who need a bit more support with aging in place; as well as support to apply for fuel, food, and pharmacy programs. Our nutrition programs partially fund 14 meal sites and home delivered meals under the guidance of our registered dietitian. Working with RCT and Legal Aid, we provide for the complex challenges people face while living in a rural community. Our work is supplemented by over 400 volunteers who serve as home-delivered meals drivers, wellness program leaders, and home-based caregivers.

As a private, 501c (3) non-profit corporation, we have been serving older Vermonters for over 44 years. This year, we are requesting the amount of \$300 from the residents of the town of Kirby. We have enclosed a brief letter in support of this request for inclusion in your town report and a copy of our 2023 Annual Report.

Suggested wording for the warning article for town meeting follows: *"Shall the town vote to appropriate the sum of \$300 to assist the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging in providing services to older Vermonters in the ensuing year."*

Please feel free to contact me should you have questions or need additional information.

Warm regards on behalf of the staff and Board of Directors of the NEK Council on Aging,



Meg Burmeister
Executive Director
www.nekcouncil.org

The mission of the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging is to *"Help People Age with Independence and Dignity."* Our goal is to enhance the ability of these Vermonters to live as independently as possible, actively participating in and contributing to their communities.

March 2024

For over 45 years, the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging has been a valued and trusted resource for older Vermonters to age independently, their way. Our mission is to deliver the person-centered support necessary for our older Vermonters to sustain their independence and live well in their communities.

Our valuable services include a Helpline; Medicare counseling and Bootcamp; specially-trained staff who help people develop long-range planning as they age; exercise and mobility programs; family and caregiver support programs and grants; case management for those who need a bit more support with aging in place; as well as assistance in applying for fuel, food, and pharmacy programs.

Our nutrition programs partially fund 14 meal sites and home delivered meals under the guidance of our registered dietitian. Working with RCT and Legal Aid, we provide solutions for the complex challenges people face while living in a rural community. In addition, our work is supplemented by over 400 volunteers who serve as home-delivered meal drivers, wellness program leaders, friends who make neighborly check-in phone calls, and home-based caregivers.

Our service area extends across the entire Northeast Kingdom, all Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties. During this past year, 16 residents of Kirby used the services of our organization to meet their needs. People called our Helpline for assistance with caregiving and programs such as 3SquaresVT, Medicaid and Medicare, our e-learning portals Trualta and GetSetUp, fuel assistance, and transportation, among other services. Our website www.nekcouncil.org provides information on many of our programs and services.

We sincerely thank the residents of Kirby for your continued support in making a difference in the lives of your residents, who are often the most vulnerable. As a private non-profit, we are able to remain independent and put the focus on our clients who need unbiased assistance.

If you have a friend or family member who may benefit from our services, please contact us. We're just a phone call away at the Helpline: 800-642-5119 or (802) 748-5182.

In gratitude,



Meg Burmeister
Executive Director



Northern Counties
HEALTH CARE
Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice

December 01, 2023

Kirby Town Clerk
346 Town Hall Road
Kirby, VT 05851

Dear Town Clerk and Selectboard,

As in previous years, Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice would like to place an Article on your Town Warning to read as follows:

"Shall the Town of Kirby vote to appropriate \$500.00 to Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice to be used in providing health care services."

Caledonia Home Health Care's financial picture continues to be unpredictable given constant changes in the reimbursement policies of the government and private insurance plans. One hundred percent of this appropriation will be utilized for direct patient services.

Please advise if you would like me or a local member of our Board of Directors to attend the Selectboard meeting at which our warning article will be considered. If we do not hear otherwise we will assume that the above article will appear on the Warning for the March 2024 Town Meeting.

We greatly appreciate the support from your town.

Sincerely,

Treney Burgess
Director
Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice

Compassionate Care in Our Home or

Administrative
Office
Concord
Health Center

Danville Health
Center
Hardwick Area
Health Center

Caledonia Home
Health Care & Hospice
161 Sherman Drive
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
802-748-8116 tel • 802-748-4628

Island Pond Health &
Dental Center
Northern Counties
Dental Center

Orleans Dental
Center
St. Johnsbury
Community Health Center

www.NCHCVT.org



Northern Counties

HEALTH CARE

Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice

Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice **Visit Statistics for 2024 Town Appropriations**

Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice (CHHC) is Northern Counties Health Care's (NCHC) certified Medicare and Medicaid comprehensive Home Care and Hospice division.

Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice has proudly served the residents of Caledonia and Southern Essex counties since 1968. Our mission is to provide high quality, accessible, patient-centered health care, and our vision is to be a key partner in building healthy families and thriving communities.

In the last year, Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice was honored to provide 84 visits to 4 residents of Kirby, VT.

While working with residents, we provided physical, occupational, and speech therapies. We provided physician, skilled nursing, physical and occupational therapy, medical social work, home health aide and homemaker visits. We work together with primary care physicians so that care is specific and structured to treatment goals.

2024 Town Appropriation Visit Statistics Kirby, VT

- # of residents served: 4
- Home Care (Therapy, Nursing, MSW): **46 visits**
- Hospice (Nursing, Therapy, Personal Care, Respite): **38 visits**

Total Visits in Kirby, VT = 84 visits

Testimonials

"All my nurses and LNA's make me feel like I matter and all are so caring. They are not only care providers, but more like friends and family."

"Absolutely outstanding and highly professional staff!"

"Every nurse that came to my home was professional, compassionate, competent and caring. CHHC does and exceptional job serving the people of Caledonia County. We are extremely fortunate to have such a great resource in our rural area."

To learn more about our programs and services please visit www.nchcvt.org or call (802) 748-8116. Thank you!

Compassionate Care in Our Home or

Administrative
Office

Concord
Health Center

Danville Health
Center

Hardwick Area
Health Center

Caledonia Home
Health Care & Hospice
161 Sherman Drive
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
802-748-8116 tel • 802-748-4628

www.NCHCVT.org

Island Pond Health &
Dental Center

Northern Counties
Dental Center

Orleans Dental
Center

St. Johnsbury
Community Health Center



Cultivating a Northeast Kingdom where all people thrive free from abuse and oppression

December 1, 2023

Town of Kirby
Wanda Grant
346 Town Hall Rd
Lyndonville, VT 05851

Dear Wanda,

We at Umbrella thank you and your town voters for supporting our agency services in the past. We are asking for your support again to be added to the 2024 Town Meeting Warning.

Shall the Town of Kirby vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$350 for the support of Umbrella to provide services to residents of the Town?

Please find that we have sent the town report and financials with this request and we would be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

Amanda Cochrane
Executive Director



Activity Report for Town of Kirby
Fiscal Year 2024 * July 2023 – June 2024
Town Appropriation Request: \$350

Since 1976, Umbrella has ensured that communities in Caledonia, Orleans and Essex counties have access to services that cultivate a Northeast Kingdom where all people thrive free from abuse and oppression. 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:

- **Social Change** 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 FY23, we provided 2,613 youth with educational workshops throughout our 18 school partners. We provided 387 adults with educational programs through 20 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 FY23, 750 individuals received direct advocacy, 81 people were housed in our emergency shelters as a result of fleeing domestic or sexual violence and 15 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 Northeast Kingdom to receive subsidized child care, appropriate child care referrals and specialized childcare placement support. *The Family Room* offers supervised visitation for families throughout the Northeast Kingdom. In FY23, KCCC served 801 families and the Family Room worked with 63 families.
- **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 FY23 as part of the skill-building program, participants packaged and prepared 39,509 meals for homebound seniors through Meals on Wheels.

Given that some services are provided anonymously, it is difficult to provide each town with a precise number of people served by Umbrella. However, at least 6 households in the Town of Kirby were served by Umbrella in Fiscal Year 2023 and the community as a whole benefited from prevention and outreach programs in schools, as well as training and consultation for human service and law enforcement professionals.

Community support is critical to sustain our programming and to discover innovative approaches to the work Umbrella does. We are deeply grateful for Kirby's support.

Respectfully,

Amanda Cochran
Executive Director

Umbrella Inc. was incorporated in 1981 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation whose mission is:
To cultivate a Northeast Kingdom where all people thrive free from abuse and oppression.
1330 Main St., St Johnsbury, VT 05819 | Phone (802) 748-1992 | Fax (802) 748-1405
EIN: 03-0268884

~~NORTHWOODS~~
STEWARDSHIP CENTER
Connecting people and place through science, education and action

October 2, 2023

Town of Kirby
346 Town Hall Road
Lyndonville, VT 05851

Dear Members of the Kirby Selectboard,

I am writing to express our sincere thanks for your past support and to respectfully request that the Town of Kirby renew its support for NorthWoods Stewardship Center through an annual appropriation of \$250 at Town Meeting.

NorthWoods offers widespread conservation and educational services throughout the region and is supported through the generosity of private individuals, local communities, charitable grants, and fee-for-service contracts. We provide reduced-cost educational programs (including camps, After School Programs, and natural science activities); summer Conservation Corps jobs for local youth; and a variety of practical workshops for adults throughout the year.

Kirby residents may also take advantage of the Dashney Nordic Center at Burke Mountain; a community outdoor recreation source for snowshoeing and xc skiing. Additionally, NorthWoods hosts many programs in the Burke area – including camps, youth outdoor education programs, and workshops.

NorthWoods' Forest Stewardship staff worked with landowners in Kirby to prepare forest management plans, to recommend or implement invasive species removal projects, and to implement projects that have benefits for recreation and the environment.

NorthWoods Stewardship Center is a local organization and we invite all Kirby residents to visit NorthWoods to enjoy a ski, paddle, or nature hike or to join us for one of our youth camps or landowner education programs. Support from the Town of Kirby is critical to the success of these programs and we appreciate your support!

NorthWoods Stewardship Center respectfully requests that the following special appropriation article appear on the 2024 warning for the Town Meeting:

Article: Shall the Town of Kirby vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$250.00 for the 2024 annual support of NorthWoods Stewardship Center.

Thank you. I am happy to respond to any questions or comments.

Sincerely,



Maria Young
Executive Director
NorthWoods Stewardship Center

PO Box 220 / 154 Leadership Drive, East Charleston, VT 05833 802-723-6551

www.northwoodscenter.org

January 8th, 2024

Erin Patoine, Town Clerk
Town of Kirby
346 Town Hall Road
Lyndonville, VT 05851

Dear Ms. Patoine,

As representatives of the Kirby Knotweed Action Committee, we respectfully request that the following special appropriation article appear on the 2024 warning for Kirby Town Meeting:

"Shall the Town vote the sum of \$800 to continue the project to manage the spread of the invasive plant knotweed along roadsides and waterways in Kirby, to be carried out by The NorthWoods Stewardship Center?"

Knotweed is an invasive plant that can quickly take over, causing problems such as erosion, loss of native plant diversity, and damage to wildlife habitats. This problem is especially common along streams and roadsides. In areas where knotweed is widespread, property values can be negatively impacted, as the plant grows through cracks in concrete and pavement causing issues with infrastructure, utilities, drainage, septic systems, walls, and foundations. Knotweed spreads mainly when root and stem fragments are moved to new sites, typically through excavating, ditching, mowing, or ice flows/flooding on rivers and streams. It is difficult to control if it becomes well established, but proactive treatment of small patches can be very successful.

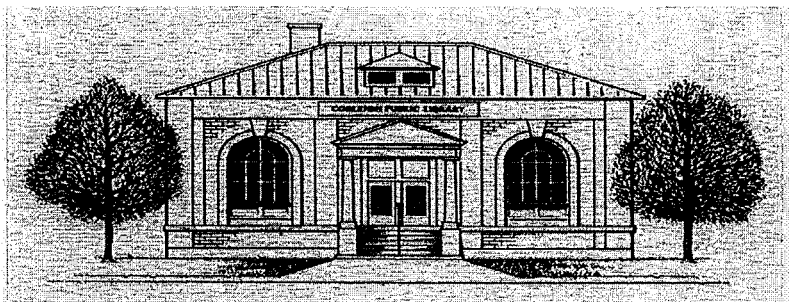
The project to manage the spread of knotweed in Kirby was initiated by several town residents, with support from the NorthWoods Stewardship Center, County Forester Matt Langlais, and the Town of Kirby. A protocol for roadwork was developed by NorthWoods and Matt Langlais and agreed to by the Selectboard of Kirby. This protocol includes avoiding mowing and ditching where knotweed is present; when mowing or ditching is necessary, thoroughly cleaning the machines before moving to an uninfected area, to prevent spreading fragments and causing new infestations. Recommendations for carefully managed treatment of areas of knotweed infestation were proposed by The NorthWoods Stewardship, in consultation with the State of Vermont.

At the 2023 Town Meeting, residents voted to support the project and accept the recommendations for the management of existing knotweed and the prevention of further spread. Led by NorthWoods, and with the help of volunteers including the scouts from Troop 007 of the NEK, the treatment began in the Summer of 2023, with the permission of landowners, and is anticipated to continue next Summer and be a 5-year project.

We are pleased to also report that we have received a grant in the amount \$1,000 from Kingdom Trails to support landowners who would like to treat the knotweed on their property adjacent to the roads. This will support the overall project of eradication and management of knotweed in Kirby.

Sincerely,

Dana Caspersen and Melanie Finn for the Kirby Knotweed Action Committee



Cobleigh Public Library
14 Depot St./P.O. Box 147, Lyndonville, VT 05851
www.cobleighlibrary.org/ (802) 626-5475 info@cobleighlibrary.org

December 28th, 2023

Dear Voters of Kirby,

The Trustees of the Cobleigh Public Library would like to thank you for your prior individual support of the Cobleigh Library. For 2024, we would like to request a formal contribution of \$1000.00 from the Town of Kirby. This annual appropriation, alongside similar contributions from the other local towns that make up the Cobleigh's service area, allow us to continue offering programs and services for Kirby and the rest of the community. Among the library's many offerings:

- Books. Not only our collection of over 35,000 physical volumes but also access to the state and national interlibrary loan networks as well as downloadable ebooks and audiobooks available through the Libby app, and a large streaming video library available through Kanopy
- Internet access, including Wi-Fi inside and outside the building, lending laptops with cameras and microphones for meetings, and public desktop computers
- Printing and copying services, both of which are offered by donation
- Technology help and troubleshooting, both one-on-one assistance and at our weekly computer classes
- Children's programs and storytimes every day of the week, as well as Summer Reading programs, activities, and special events throughout the summertime. Our services also help support a large number of area preschools and daycares, students in the Kingdom East School District and at the Riverside School, as well as early education students at VTSU-Lyndon
- Plus, a wide array of Things: E-bikes. Snowshoes. Fishing poles. Laptops. Wood water meter. Blood pressure cuff. Page magnifiers. Puzzles. Board games. State park passes. Museum passes and discounts. Concert tickets.
- Public meeting space. We serve as a host site for free tax help from AARP, housing support from RuralEdge, job hunting and resume assistance through the Vermont Department of Labor, and other. The library is also utilized by area organizations such as the Lyndon Chamber of Commerce, Burklyn Arts, Northeast Kingdom Dulcimers, VSAC, and others, as well as the local Democratic, Republican, and Progressive caucuses.

And we are always looking to expand our list. Is there something else you would like to see or try out at the library? Let us know! We welcome any chance to better align the free offerings of the library with the needs of our community.

As ever, the Trustees and staff of the Cobleigh Library are grateful for the opportunity to serve the residents of Kirby, and for the support of your annual appropriation. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jessica Simpson, Lorrie Mawhinney, Hilary Adams, Paula Pearce, and Sylvia Dodge
Cobleigh Public Library Trustees



September 15, 2023

Selectboard
Town of Kirby
346 Town Hall Road
Lyndonville, VT 05851

Dear Selectboard:

Jody Fried
Executive Director

Thank you for the opportunity to have Catamount Arts appropriations support request included on the Town Meeting ballot for 2024.

BOARD OF
DIRECTORS
Janet Warner-Ashley
President
Heather Alger
Vice President
Arcelia Reyes
Secretary
Minty Conant
Treasurer

Please consider this letter our official request to have the following article appear on the ballot:

Catamount Film and Arts, 115 Eastern Avenue, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819, respectfully requests the voters of the Town of Kirby, Vermont, an appropriation for 2024 in the amount of \$500 to be approved at the annual Town Meeting.

Timothy Egan
Bobby Farlice-Rubio
Maire Folan
Stephen Genereaux
Rory Higgs
Tom Howell
Kristen Huntington
Celia Jackmauh
Joshua Kantrowitz
Paula Kitchel
Macie Mawhinney
Rebecca McGregor
Erin McMullen
Shawntel Sechrist

Under your watchful care, the Town of Kirby has become a positive model for how a town can and should encourage the Arts. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ashley Van Zandt", written over a horizontal line.

Ashley Van Zandt
Director of Development and Communications

Susan Cherry, Executive Director
Neil Favreau, Program Director
Susan Russell, Reentry Coordinator
Emma Cataford, Reparative Panel
Stephanie Rowe, Victim Outreach Liaison
Amanda Robinson, Court Diversion Programs
Kathleen Hunter, Administrative Assistant
Alexis Eickleberry, Kaitlyn Ross, Housing Coordinators

Programs: *Community Development; Neighborhoods
*Mediation; Circles
*School Training and Support
*Free Legal Clinic/Information and Referral
*Restorative Justice Panels
*Court Diversion Programs
*Restorative Reentry
*Victim Outreach



**THE COMMUNITY
RESTORATIVE
JUSTICE CENTER**

December 1, 2023

Select Board, Town of Kirby
c/o Wanda Grant, Town Clerk
346 Town Hall Rd.
Lyndonville, VT 05851

Dear Select Board of Kirby:

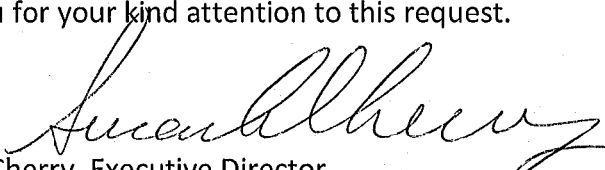
The Community Restorative Justice Center respectfully requests that the following special appropriation article appear on the 2024 warning for the Kirby Town Meeting:

Shall the Town vote the sum of \$250 to support the operation of The Community Restorative Justice Center during the ensuing year? The CRJC believes in preventing and resolving conflict in the community using victim and community needs as guiding information in repairing harm and restoring right relations. We work with schools, neighborhoods, and the criminal justice system to respond to community needs as it relates to justice being served and attending to the needs of victims and community. In this process, we use community members to work with their neighbors to resolve conflict and repair harm.

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 held (1) reparative panel and has served one resident of Kirby at the Legal Clinic. Appropriations from the Town of Kirby would also give technical support to neighborhood associations and mediation referrals 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. We promote the principles of victim-informed restorative justice that transforms practices in workplace, school, institution, and living spaces throughout Caledonia and southern Essex Counties.*

Thank you for your kind attention to this request.

Sincerely,


Susan A. Cherry, Executive Director
The Community Restorative Justice Center, Inc.

576 Railroad St. Suite 2 • St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
Telephone: (802) 748-2977 • Fax: (802) 748-3146
cherry@communityrjc.org
www.communityrjc.org and "Like" us on Facebook

2024 NEKWMD BUDGET- APPROVED

	A	B	C	D
1	BUDGET ITEM	2023 BUDGET	2023 ACTUAL as of 12/31/2023	2024 PROPOSED BUDGET
2	ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES			
3	Advertising	\$300.00	\$144.25	\$300.00
4	Audit -- Financial	\$6,845.00	\$8,750.00	\$9,000.00
5	Audit -- Waste Haulers	\$2,500.00	\$2,129.60	\$2,500.00
6	Bank Charges	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$25.00
7	Surplus	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
8	Cleaning	\$1,920.00	\$1,869.00	\$2,000.00
9	Copier	\$1,500.00	\$1,406.55	\$1,500.00
10	Dues/Permits/Fees/Penalties	\$5,500.00	\$6,444.16	\$6,500.00
11	Heating Fuel	\$1,300.00	\$988.42	\$1,500.00
12	Liability & Casualty Ins.	\$15,000.00	\$12,595.77	\$16,000.00
13	Legal Fees	\$3,000.00	\$702.00	\$2,000.00
14	Postage	\$2,000.00	\$1,860.48	\$2,000.00
15	Office Supplies	\$4,000.00	\$5,715.38	\$3,500.00
16	Secretary Stipend	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
17	Telephone/IT - Office	\$10,000.00	\$8,757.01	\$7,500.00
18	Miscellaneous	\$500.00	\$4,511.00	\$1,000.00
19	Water/Sewer	\$1,200.00	\$1,175.76	\$1,400.00
20	TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	\$55,565.00	\$57,409.38	\$57,025.00
21	Gross Wages	\$445,164.00	\$422,760.32	\$457,414.00
22	OT Wages--Warehouse	\$5,000.00	\$10,439.76	\$9,000.00
23	Fica (Employer Match)	\$27,942.00	\$27,564.01	\$28,918.00
24	Medi (Employer Match)	\$6,534.00	\$6,446.43	\$6,763.00
25	Unemployment/HCP Insurance	\$6,000.00	\$7,326.60	\$7,150.00
26	VMERS (Retirement)	\$25,725.00	\$27,593.95	\$30,709.00
27	Health Insurance	\$60,000.00	\$0.00	\$72,000.00
28	Workman's Comp. Insurance	\$27,500.00	\$25,573.23	\$34,000.00
29	Mileage - Employee	\$4,000.00	\$4,890.17	\$5,000.00
30	Life & Disability	\$5,700.00	\$7,840.36	\$7,750.00
31	Personnel Equipment	\$500.00	\$729.46	\$750.00
32	Training	\$500.00	\$30.00	\$500.00
33	TOTAL PERSONNEL	\$614,565.00	\$541,194.29	\$659,954.00
34	EQUIPMENT EXPENSES			
35	Baler Repairs	\$2,000.00	\$853.13	\$3,000.00
36	Baler Supplies	\$6,000.00	\$7,793.24	\$5,000.00
37	Forklift Fuel	\$3,000.00	\$2,486.31	\$3,000.00
38	Forklift Repairs	\$4,000.00	\$7,804.67	\$3,500.00
39	Misc. Equipment Repairs	\$500.00	\$8,387.94	\$1,000.00
40	Skidsteer Repairs	\$3,000.00	\$4,980.23	\$3,000.00
41	Warehouse Supplies	\$2,500.00	\$3,440.29	\$3,500.00
42	Mack Truck Loan Payment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
43	Trucks--Diesel	\$27,000.00	\$27,537.50	\$28,000.00
44	Trucks--Repairs	\$15,000.00	\$33,038.85	\$27,500.00
45	TOTAL EQUIPMENT	\$63,000.00	\$96,322.16	\$77,500.00

2024 NEKWMD BUDGET

2024 NEKWMD BUDGET- APPROVED

	A	B	C	D
	BUDGET ITEM	2023 BUDGET	2023 ACTUAL as of 12/31/2023	2024 PROPOSED BUDGET
46				
47	BUILDING EXPENSES			
48	Electricity	\$5,400.00	\$5,557.34	\$5,400.00
49	Maintenance	\$2,000.00	\$150.35	\$1,500.00
50	Trash Removal	\$3,600.00	\$4,175.76	\$3,800.00
51	TOTAL BUILDING	\$11,000.00	\$9,883.45	\$10,700.00
52	PROGRAMS EXPENSES			
53	Composting	\$26,000.00	\$22,970.00	\$23,000.00
54	Composter/Bin	\$3,500.00	\$2,785.60	\$3,500.00
55	Foam Cycle	\$0.00	\$48,500.00	\$0.00
56	Organics VT Grant	\$0.00	\$141,335.50	\$0.00
57	Education Outreach	\$7,000.00	\$7,560.43	\$8,000.00
58	Hazmat Disposal	\$35,500.00	\$56,545.30	\$40,000.00
59	Hazmat Supplies	\$5,500.00	\$5,986.48	\$5,500.00
60	Sale of Recyclables-Processing	\$24,000.00	\$33,718.71	\$22,500.00
61	Special Collections	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
62	Supplies	\$400.00	\$494.48	\$500.00
63	Tire Disposal	\$15,000.00	\$17,460.80	\$15,000.00
64	TOTAL PROGRAMS	\$117,150.00	\$337,357.30	\$118,250.00
65	SUB-TOTAL	\$861,280.00	\$1,042,166.58	\$923,429.00
66				
67	Capital Improvement Fund	\$24,000.00	\$26,500.00	\$24,000.00
68	TOTAL CAPITAL FUND	\$24,000.00	\$26,500.00	\$24,000.00
69				
70	TOTAL NEK EXPENSES	\$885,280.00	\$1,068,666.58	\$947,429.00
71	Grants--St of VT	\$80,000.00	\$124,686.17	\$111,000.00
72	Grants--Organics	\$0.00	\$141,335.50	\$0.00
73	Surplus Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
74	Hauling--Recycling Pick-ups	\$59,000.00	\$58,465.00	\$59,000.00
75	Haz Mat/Paint Care	\$5,000.00	\$5,060.34	\$5,000.00
76	Interest Income	\$30.00	\$45.95	\$30.00
77	Miscellaneous Income	\$1,500.00	\$2,945.62	\$2,500.00
78	Program Sales--Composter/Bins	\$2,000.00	\$2,070.60	\$1,500.00
79	Programs- Oil Filter Program	\$150.00	\$125.00	\$150.00
80	Sale of Recyclables	\$122,000.00	\$60,151.24	\$100,000.00
81	Compost Income	\$26,000.00	\$21,550.00	\$23,000.00
82	Electronics Income	\$14,000.00	\$18,751.08	\$19,000.00
83	Scrap Metal Income	\$18,000.00	\$16,631.04	\$18,000.00
84	Battery Income	\$5,000.00	\$4,710.45	\$5,000.00
85	Tire Income	\$15,000.00	\$14,732.50	\$15,000.00
86	Per Capita Assessment	\$50,000.00	\$49,763.82	\$54,506.00
87	Surcharge--Waste Haulers	\$487,600.00	\$544,742.64	\$533,743.00
88	TOTAL NEK REVENUES	\$885,280.00	\$1,065,766.95	\$947,429.00

2024 NEKWMD BUDGET

2024 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
SATURDAY, MAY 11	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Ryegate Transfer Station
SATURDAY, MAY 18	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Peacham Transfer Station
SATURDAY, JUNE 1	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Derby Recycling Center
SATURDAY, JUNE 8	8:00 a.m. – 12:00p.m.	Brunswick Town Office
SATURDAY, JUNE 22	8:00 a.m. – 12:00p.m.	Newport Center Town Garage
WEDNESDAY, JULY 10	3:00 p.m. – 7:00p.m.	Barnet Transfer Station
SATURDAY, AUGUST 3	8:00 a.m. – 11:00a.m.	Greensboro Recycling Center
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14	1:00 p.m. – 5:00p.m.	Lunenburg Transfer Station
SATURDAY, SEPT. 28	8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Lyndon Recycling Center

The NEKWMD reserves the right to terminate any collection early in the event that we are at storage capacity. Please limit HHW disposal at listed events to 25 gallons. If you have more than 25 gallons, please call our office to schedule an appointment at our Lyndonville facility, May 2 – Oct. 3, 2024.

Not going to be able to make any of these dates? NOT A PROBLEM! The NEKWMD will be accepting these materials by appointment at our Lyndonville facility from May 2, 2024 to October 3, 2024. Due to regulatory handling requirements, hazardous wastes will not be accepted without an appointment. Scheduling ahead ensures that a qualified individual will be on-site ready to accept your hazardous waste.

****HHW Collections are free and open to residents of all DISTRICT TOWNS****

What are *Household Hazardous Products*? They are consumer products that contain ingredients that may be:

Toxic- poisonous if eaten, breathed, or absorbed through the skin

Corrosive- can burn or destroy living tissue if spilled on skin

Reactive- creates fumes, heat, or explosion hazards if mixed with certain materials such as water

Explosive- can explode with exposure to heat or pressure

Flammable/Ignitable- can easily be set on fire

To determine if a product in your home is hazardous, check the label for the following words:

Danger indicates that the substance is extremely flammable, corrosive, or toxic.

Poison means that the substance is highly toxic.

Caution/Warning is put on all other hazardous substances that are a somewhat lesser hazard, but are still dangerous if the directions are not followed closely.

Conditionally Exempt Generator businesses can also use the Lyndonville collections for the actual cost of the disposal of their materials. Please call ahead for pricing and an appointment.

CONTACT THE NEKWMD IF YOU HAVE ITEM'S YOU CANNOT IDENTIFY

802-626-3532 or 800-734-4602 or www.nekwmd.org

The NEKWMD hazardous waste collection program is made possible in part by a grant from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. This year's grant totaled \$74074.31

Acceptable HHW Materials

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

- AEROSOLS
- AIR FRESHENERS
- AMMONIA
- ARTS AND CRAFTS SUPPLIES
- BLEACH
- CLEANERS (INCLUDES: DRAIN, OVEN, FLOOR, WINDOW, TOILET, RUG, ETC.)
- DISINFECTANTS
- METAL & FURNITURE POLISH
- MOTHBALLS
- MERCURY THERMOMETERS
- NAIL POLISH & REMOVER
- NI-CD, LITHIUM, MI-MH, AND BUTTON CELL BATTERIES
- SPOT & STAIN REMOVERS
- ALKALINE BATTERIES *

GARDEN SUPPLIES

- CREOSOTE
- DIOXINS
- FERTILIZERS
- FLEA KILLERS
- FUNGICIDES
- HERBICIDES
- INSECT SPRAYS
- MURIATIC ACID
- NO-PEST STRIPS
- PESTICIDES
- RODENT KILLERS

GARAGE

- ANTIFREEZE
- BRAKE FLUID *
- CORROSIVES

- CAR WAXES AND CLEANERS

GARAGE (CONTINUED)

- ENGINE DEGREASERS
- FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS *
- GASOLINE/DRY GAS
- KEROSENE
- LEAD-ACID CAR BATTERIES *
- LIGHTER FLUID
- OIL-BASED PAINT
- LATEX-BASED PAINT
- PAINT THINNER
- PROPANE CYLINDERS
- SEALANTS
- STAINS/STRIPPERS
- SWIMMING POOL CHEMICALS
- TRANSMISSION FLUID *
- WOOD PRESERVATIVES
- USED MOTOR OIL AND FILTERS *

* ALSO ACCEPTED AT OIL AND BATTERY STATIONS YEAR ROUND

PLEASE DO NOT BRING:

- ASBESTOS
- EXPLOSIVES, INCLUDING GUN POWDER, AMMUNITION
- FLARES
- INFECTIOUS WASTE
- PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION
- RADIOACTIVE WASTE, INCLUDING SMOKE DETECTORS
- UNKNOWN GAS CYLINDERS
- EMPTY CONTAINERS

CONTACT THE NEKWMD IF YOU HAVE ITEM'S YOU CANNOT IDENTIFY
802-626-3532 or 800-734-4602 or www.nekwmd.org

The NEKWMD hazardous waste collection program is made possible in part by a grant from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. This year's grant totaled \$74074.31

2024 NEKWMD CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 2	Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection by appointment in Lyndonville begins
MAY 4	Danville Bulky Day, Danville Stump Dump 8am-3pm
MAY 11	Ryegate HHW Collection, Ryegate Transfer Station, 8am-12pm
MAY 18	Peacham HHW Collection, Peacham Transfer Station 8am-12pm
MAY 18	Guildhall Bulky Day, 5635 VT Route 102 (HWY Salt Shed) 8am-12pm
MAY 25	Bloomfield Bulky Day, VT Route 102 Bloomfield, 8am-12pm
MAY 25	Albany Bulky Day, Albany Transfer Station, 8:30am-1pm
MAY 30 - June 1	Sutton Bulky Days, NEKWMD facility Lyndonville, Appointment required
JUNE 1	Derby HHW Collection, Derby Recycling Center, 9am-1pm
JUNE 8	Brunswick Bulky Day & HHW Collection, Brunswick Town Offices, 8am-12pm
JUNE 22	Newport Center HHW Collection, Newport Center Town Garage, 8am-12pm
JUNE 29	Unified Towns and Gores Bulky Day, Hatchery Brook Rd., Averill, 8am-12pm
JULY 10	Barnet HHW Collection, Barnet Transfer Station 3pm-7pm
JULY 20	Maidstone Bulky Day, 1342 Rte. 102 Maidstone 8am-12pm
AUGUST 3	Greensboro HHW Collection, Greensboro Recycling Center 8am-11am
AUGUST 10	Unified Towns and Gores Bulky Day, Rte. 105 UTG Building, Ferdinand, 8am-12pm
AUGUST 14	Lunenburg HHW Collection, Lunenburg Transfer Station 1pm-5pm
AUG 29-31	Sutton Bulky Days, NEKWMD Facility, Lyndonville, Appointment required
SEPTEMBER 14	Bloomfield Bulky Day, VT Route 102 Bloomfield, 8am-12pm
SEPTEMBER 21	Danville Bulky Day, Danville Stump Dump, 8am-3pm
SEPTEMBER 28	Cabot Bulky Day, Cabot Recycling Center, 8am-3pm
SEPTEMBER 28	HHW Collection, NEKWMD Office, No appointment necessary, 8am-3pm
OCTOBER 3	HHW Collection by appointment in Lyndonville ends
OCTOBER 5	Albany Bulky Day, Albany Transfer Station, 8:30-1pm
OCTOBER 19	Brunswick Bulky Day, Brunswick Town Offices, 8am-12pm
For information on these events and others, contact the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District at (802) 626-3532, 800-734-4602, by e-mail at progmgr@nekwmd.org or check the updated calendar of events at www.nekwmd.org	

Local Health Office Annual Report: 2023

St. Johnsbury Local Health Office | 107 Eastern Ave, Suite 9, St. Johnsbury, VT
802-748-5151 | AHS.VDHSJohnsbury@Vermont.gov

Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the Vermont Department of Health. The St. Johnsbury Local Health Office serves towns in Caledonia, southern Essex and a portion of Orange counties. Some highlights of 2023 are below. For more information on our work and the areas we serve, visit HealthVermont.gov/local/st-johnsbury



Pregnant People, Infants and Children

Our Women, Infants & Children (WIC) team received 1 of only 13 national Premiere Level 2023 WIC Breastfeeding Awards of Excellence.

- In 2023, our WIC Program helped more than 775 pregnant people, infants and children under 5. We offer healthy food, breastfeeding support, nutrition education and community service connections.
- We worked with Salvation Farms to give families free local fresh seasonal produce.
- To make our services more accessible, our staff provided tele-WIC and expanded to 5 community clinic sites, including 2 daycares.



Collaborations and Collective Impact

Our team participates in many collaborative efforts in our community. Some 2023 highlights include:

- **NEK Prosper!** - The Caledonia & Southern Essex County Accountable Health Community - working to leverage relationships and collaborative action to build community health equity.
- **NEK United** - Bringing together public health and community leaders to work towards advancing health equity and well-being for all. Our work together will bring limited national funding to our region.
- **Radon Test Kit Distribution** - Our pilot program worked with town clerks, librarians and health centers. It led to an increase in test kits distributed in Caledonia and Southern Essex counties.



Prepared and Responsive

Our team is prepared to respond to changing community needs and emerging public health threats. In 2023 our staff:

- Investigated reports of infectious diseases and outbreaks.
- Vaccinated uninsured or underinsured people with COVID, flu, Mpox and other immunizations.
- Distributed free home drinking water test kits after historic flooding affected many in our community.
- Joined the collaborative NEK long-term recovery planning efforts post-flooding.
- Supported the Northeast Kingdom Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) —contact us to volunteer!



Scan to access
the report online

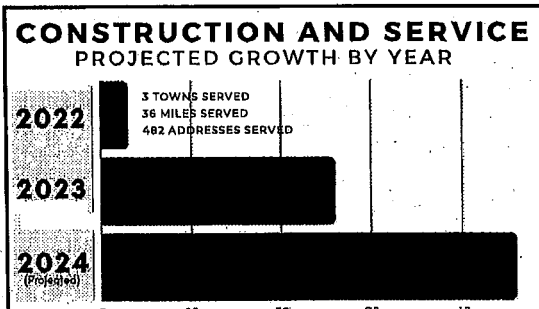


2023 ANNUAL REPORT




DELIVERING ON OUR PROMISE

In 2023, NEK Broadband put in place the additional staff, funding and infrastructure needed to continue delivering on its promise to bring high-speed, reliable internet to unserved and underserved communities in the NEK. We've made significant progress in building the "backbone" of our network throughout the region. This "backbone" of interlocking fiber optic cable will provide extra reliability for our internet service. We received a USDA ReConnect grant of 17.5 million to cover most of Essex County, thus freeing up more funds to expand our network build in the rest of the NEK. This year, we also increased our construction capacity and our ability to purchase and store more materials so that we can increase the speed of our buildout.



2352 
SERVICE AVAILABLE
WE NOW OFFER SERVICE TO
2352 ADDRESSES IN THE
NEK.

179 
CUSTOMERS SERVED
IN 2023, WE OVER DOUBLED
THE NUMBER OF
CUSTOMERS SERVED.

203 
MILES SERVED
AT THE END OF 2023, WE
NOW HAVE 203 MILES OF
FIBER NETWORK SERVED
THROUGHOUT THE NEK.

NEK 
BROADBAND

GRANTS & FINANCING

- We were awarded a USDA ReConnect grant of \$17,474,000 that will cover most of the addresses in Essex county and Eastern Orleans and Caledonia counties.
- The Vermont Community Broadband Board (VCBB) approved an additional \$17.94 million in construction funding, bringing the total investment in NEK Broadband to \$38.9 million to date.
- Our 2022 financials were given an unqualified "clean" opinion (evaluation) by our auditors.

BUILDING CAPACITY

- We are up to 6 full-time staff.
- We now have active warehouses in Danville, St. Johnsbury and Brighton for the storage of construction materials.
- We are working with state and vocational partners to train and increase the workforce in the NEK to help build our network.

BUDGET SUMMARY

OVER \$15,876,591 HAS BEEN INVESTED IN NEK
COMMUNITY-OWNED BROADBAND.

2023 BUDGET TO ACTUAL (PROJECTED)			2024 PROPOSED BUDGET	
	Budget	Actual 2023 (Projected)	Projected Surplus from 2023	\$353,546
Administrative Grant Revenue	\$2,252,718	\$996,599	Administrative Grant Revenue	\$2,564,532
Operations Revenue	\$747,767	\$222,790	Operations Revenue	\$852,455
Capital Grant Revenue	\$28,785,288	\$10,311,147	Capital Grant Revenue	\$36,200,196
Administrative Cost	\$1,847,194	\$852,862	Administrative Cost	\$1,885,621
Operational Cost	\$586,601	\$235,395	Operational Cost	\$678,912
Construction Cost	\$28,785,288	\$10,311,147	Construction Cost	\$36,200,196
Annual Net Cash Flow	\$682,205	\$131,132	Annual Net Cash Flow	\$852,455

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 Vermont's Northeast Kingdom.

SIGN UP FOR UPDATES

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

TIME TO SPAY & NEUTER CATS & DOGS and LICENSE!

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

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

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

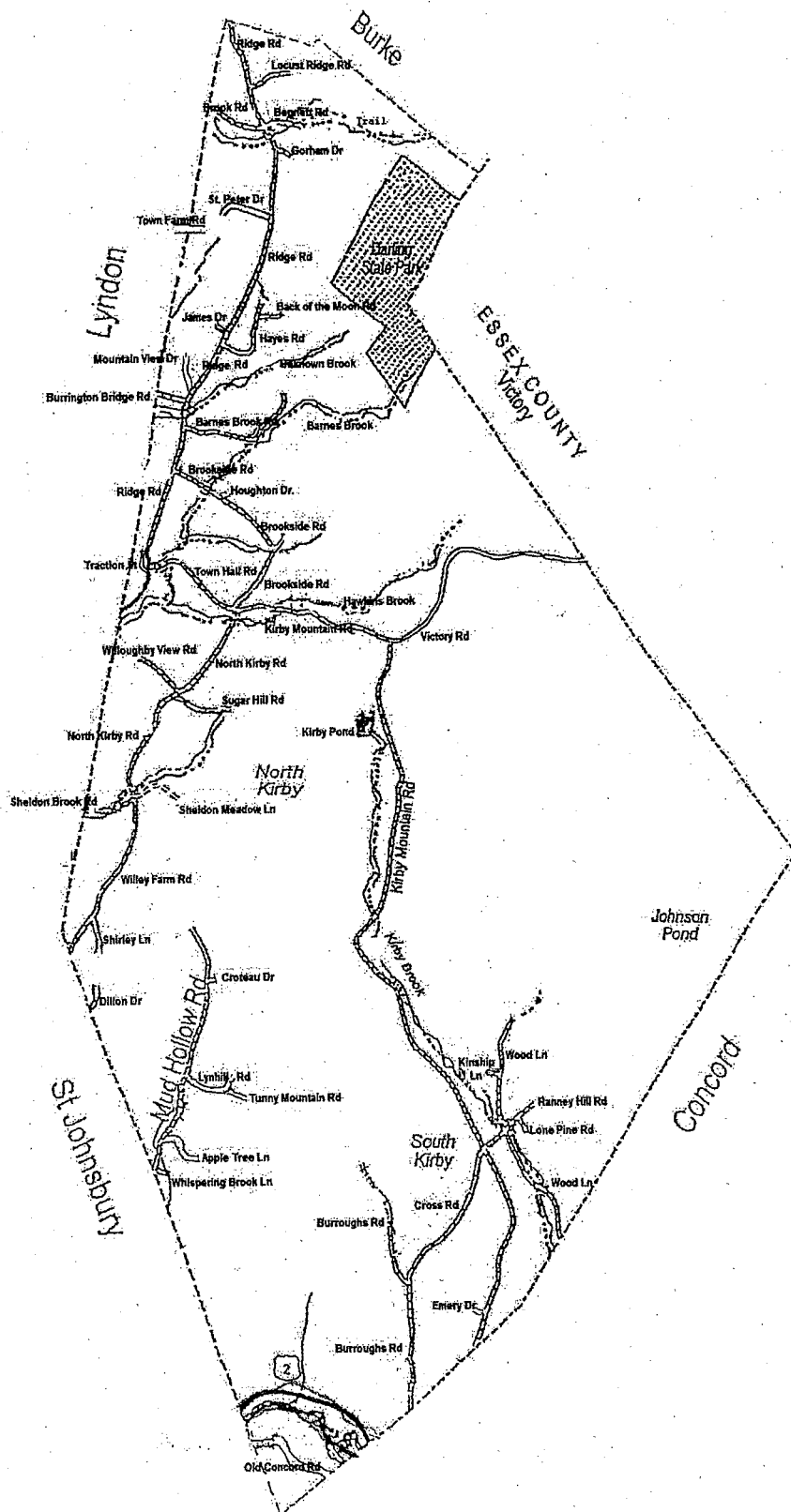
Facts: Female cats as young as 4 months can become pregnant. The "mom" cat can/will become pregnant when nursing is finished. Males travel for miles to find a female in heat, often not returning. Cats and dogs (naturally) mark their territory if not neutered. Resolve Carpet Cleaner and a single moth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

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

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

Sue Skaskiw, Administrator: VSNIP Executive Director: VVSA

NOTES



CLASS	ROAD NAMES
3-4	Apple Tree Ln (18)
Private	Back of the Moon Rd
3	Barnes Brook Rd (6)
4/Trail	Bennett Rd (3)
3	Brook Rd (2)
3	Brookside Rd (7)
3	Burrington Bridge Rd. (5)
3	Burroughs Rd (23, 24)
3	Cross Rd (24)
3	Croteau Dr (16)
3	Dillon Dr (14)
3	Emery Dr. (34)
3	Gorham Dr (32)
3	Hayes Rd (31)
3	Houghton Dr. (33)
Private	James Dr
3	Kinship Ln (27)
3	Kirby Mtn Rd (25, 29)
3	Locust Ridge Rd (28)
3	Lone Pine Rd (22)
3-4	Lynhill Rd (17)
Private	Mountain View Dr.
3	Mud Hollow Rd (15)
3	North Kirby Rd (10)
4	Old Concord Rd (26)
3	Ranney Hill Rd (21)
2	Ridge Rd (State Aid 1)
3	Sheldon Brook Rd (12)
4	Sheldon Meadow Ln (13)
4	Shirley Ln (14)
Private	St Peter Dr
Private	Sugar Hill Rd
Private	Town Farm Rd
3	Town Hall Rd (29)
3(4)	Traction St (30)
Private	Tunny Mountain Rd
4	Victory Rd (9)
Private	Whispering Brook Ln
3	Willey Farm Rd (10)
3	Willoughby View Rd (11)
3-4	Wood Ln (19, 20; 29)

ROAD MILEAGE	
Class 2:	4.010
Class 3:	20.170
Class 4:	3.790
State Highway:	0.967
Trail:	.750
Total Miles:	29.687

Town of Kirby Transportation and Road Identification Map