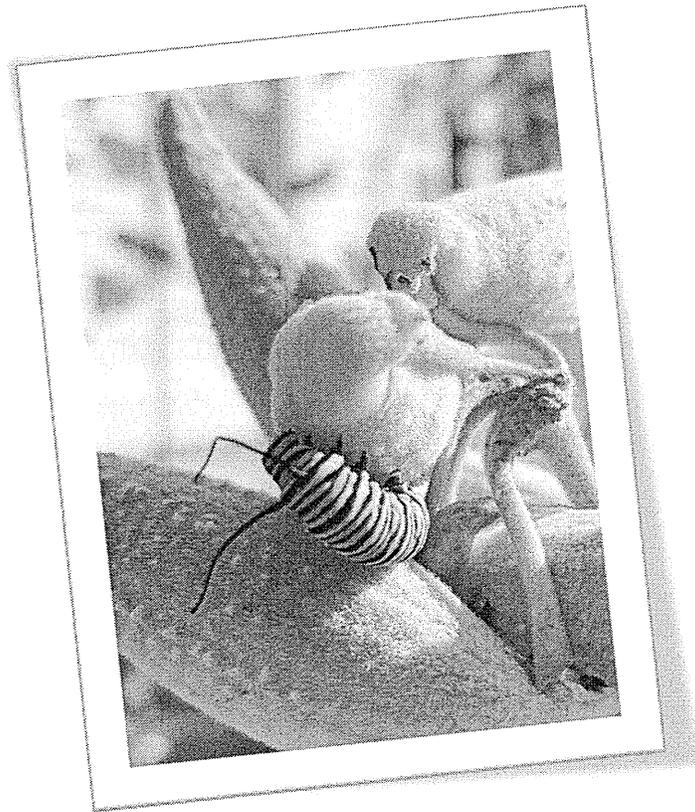


Annual Town Report
for
Hancock, Vermont



Town Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022

Town Meeting at the Hancock Town Hall
Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 10:00 AM

PLEASE BRING THIS REPORT TO TOWN MEETING

AUDITORS’ STATEMENT We reviewed the outside audit report and found no discrepancies. Thank you to Becky Klein for her valuable knowledge.

Geraldine K. Twitchell, Chair; and Rose Juliano

The contents of this town report were requested and approved by the Hancock Select Board.

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An Invitation

To All Townspeople and to Any Other Interested Parties

A Note about This Year's Meeting

This year's town meeting will be held in person on Tuesday, March 7th at 10:00AM in the Hancock Town Hall. We welcome the voters back to meeting in person for the first time since 2020.

Appropriations and Petitions

One will note that our Appropriation amount is significantly smaller than in recent prior years. There are two reasons for this:

- 1: The Selectboard decided to move the funding for White River Valley Ambulance and Granville VFD First Responders from the Appropriations into the main budget. We felt it was a more appropriate place for these important public safety services.
- 2: For the past two years, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the selectboard made the decision to waive the requirement that organizations requesting appropriations from the voters needed to submit petitions in support of their request. The selectboard decided not to waive that requirement this year, however several organizations failed to submit petitions with their requests, and were thus left off the roll of appropriations. The selectboard intends to require petitions going forward, unless there are extenuating circumstances that make a waiver necessary or appropriate.

Unassigned Money Market Account

During the second of half of 2022, the Hancock Select Board was made aware of a Money Market bank account in the Town's name containing approximately \$91,325.89. This account was established in the mid-1990s and has generally been used to receive government payments, grants, and other disbursements to the town that are then to be transferred to the proper accounts to offset town expenses.

At some point over the last many years, funds received into this account were not properly transferred out to the appropriate accounts. This has resulted in an accumulation of funds that now totals \$91,325.89.

The Town's research into this account was hampered by a lack of records from various banks as well as lost documentation. The Select Board has determined that no outside contractors, service providers, or agencies are owed any money from this account and that it is all unencumbered town/taxpayer money.

The Town Auditor has strongly suggested that the funds in this Money Market account be put into the General Fund to be available to offset expenses and reduce taxes.

After due consideration, it is the recommendation of the Hancock Select Board that these funds be transferred to the General Fund to offset taxes in the 23-24 Fiscal Year. The funds suggested for transfer include all but \$1,000 that will need to be kept in the account to keep it open to receive future government transfers.

At Town Meeting the Select Board will be presenting the following to voters:

1. An Article 5(a) to be voted that asks for authorization to include these Money Market funds (\$90,325.89) in the General Fund to offset taxes for the FY 23-24 budget.
2. If this vote is not successful, there will then be a discussion and vote on where the voters would like to have these funds allocated.

The Hancock Select Board recommends that voters approve Article 5(a) at Town Meeting that will allow \$90,325.89 to be added to the FY23-24 budget to reduce taxes.

Budget and Appropriations

PLEASE NOTE that the Appropriation requests in **Article 3** are **NOT** included in the final budget amount in **Article 10**.

TOWN OF HANCOCK ORDINANCE FOR THE CONTROL OF DOGS

Pursuant to Article 24 V.S.A. S 2291 (10) and 24 V.S.A. S1974 (a), the Selectmen of The Town of Hancock hereby adopt the following ordinance relating to the regulation of keeping dogs and providing for their leasing and restraint with the Town of Hancock.

1. Definitions: A dog "running at large" shall mean a dog which is not (a) on a leash, or (b) on or within vehicle, or (c) on the property of its owners or his agent, or hunting with its owner or his agent.
2. A person shall not allow a dog to run at-large within the limits of the Town of Hancock.
3. A person shall not permit any female dog "in heat" to be outside a building or outside a fenced enclosure.
4. A person shall not permit a dog to bark excessively, or to otherwise become a public nuisance, or to create a disturbance.
5. The Hancock Town Animal Control Officer shall be the chief enforcement office of this Ordinance.
6. The Animal Control Officer and any law enforcement officer may use all reasonable methods for catching and impounding a dog in violation of this Ordinance, including the use of tranquilizing and marking apparatus.
7. The Animal Control Officer or any law enforcement officer may impound a dog found in violation of this Ordinance at the pound, and upon complaint, shall impound any dog found in violation of this Ordinance.
8. The procedure for claiming or releasing a dog form the pound shall be as follow:
 - A. Upon delivery to the pound, the pound attendant shall notify the dog's owner, if the dog is licensed. The dog hall be held for three (3) days after the owner is notified, unless claimed earlier.
 - B. If the dog is unlicensed, the pound attendant shall notify the radio station of the dog's description, and the dog shall be held for three (3) days after the first broadcasting of the dog's description, unless claimed earlier.
 - C. If the owner does not claim the dog within the three (3) day period, the dog shall be given to whoever pays the pound fees, rabies shots, and any other necessary fees.
 - D. If no person claims the dog, the dog may be humanely destroyed, and the Town shall pay all necessary fees.
 - E. No dog shall be released from the pound until it is properly licensed, and all pound and other charges are paid.
9. A person claiming the dog from the pound shall pay a reasonable fee for the dog's board, all fees for licensing, and all other necessary charges and expenses incurred by the pound. In addition, such person shall pay to the pound for the benefit of the Town the sum of Ten dollars (\$10) to compensate the Town for its reasonable expenses in enforcing this Ordinance.
10. A person who violates this ordinance shall be fined not more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100).
11. If any part of this ordinance is held to be invalid, such holding shall not affect the remaining portions of this ordinance, which shall remain in full force and effect.
12. This Ordinance shall be effect as agreed May 1, 1974 and adopted by the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Hancock herein.

TIME TO SPAY AND NEUTER YOUR CATS AND DOGS!

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

Licensing a dog:

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

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

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

Animals left UN-neutered are more prone to forms of cancer.

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

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

HANCOCK DOG LICENSE REPORT 2022

FEES COLLECTED: \$452

NUMBER OF DOGS LICENSED: 43

FEES SENT TO THE STATE: \$200

Who's Who in Local Government
A Publication of the Office of the Secretary of State ~ 2018

Serving in local office is a great way to give something back to our community. So why don't you take a turn? Here are the offices you can choose from:

Officials Elected at Town Meeting

Moderator ~ Runs the Annual and Special Town/School Meetings. Should have a good sense of humor, be good at group process, and have experience following Roberts Rules of Order.

Selectboard Member ~ General supervision and control over town; enacts ordinances, regulations, and policies for town; oversees town property and personnel; prepares, presents, and manages budget; oversees roads, including laying out, discontinuing and reclassifying roads. Sits as local board of health, liquor control commission and sewer commission. Should know the town well, be able to understand all sides of complex issues, and have very thick skin.

Town Clerk ~ Records, preserves, and certifies the public records of the town. Issues dog, marriage, civil union licenses and motor vehicle, snowmobile, and motorboat renewals. Runs the local elections, serves as clerk of the Board of Civil Authority, and hears tax abatement requests and tax appeals. Should have the patience of a saint and be a good ambassador for the town.

Town Treasurer ~ Keeps the town and school accounts (unless a separate school treasurer is elected), invests money (with the approval of the legislative body), keeps a record of the taxes voted, and pays orders drawn on him or her. Should be very precise, detail oriented and good at math.

Lister ~ Appraise property within the town for the purpose of property tax assessment. Should be able to be polite, yet firm, and not oversensitive to criticism.

Collector of Delinquent Taxes ~ Collects delinquent taxes for the town and conducts tax sales. Should be good with numbers and able to work with people who are in difficult circumstances.

Trustee of Public Funds ~ Manages, invests, and reports on real and personal property held in trust by the town. This includes cemetery trust funds. Should like investing money.

Cemetery Commissioner ~ Responsible for the care and management of the town's cemeteries. Terms are for five years.

Justices of the Peace ~ Elected every two years. Duties of the Justices of the Peace fall into five categories of responsibilities: elections, tax abatement & appeals, marriages, oaths & Notary and Magistrate.

Board of Civil Authority ~ Members of Selectboard, Town Clerk, Justices of Peace

Local Officials Appointed by the Legislative Body

Health Officer ~ Appointed by the Commissioner of Health to a 3-year term upon recommendation of the Selectboard. Enforces rules and regulations for the prevention and abatement of public health hazards.

Constable (First & Second) ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Operating under Vermont Statutes, in some towns the constable is the town's local law enforcement officer, with all powers of search, seizure and arrest within the town. In other towns the constable only has the power to serve civil process, assist the health officer in the discharge of his or her duties, destroy unlicensed dogs, kill injured deer, remove disorderly people from town meeting, and, if the First Constable, to collect taxes, if no tax collector is elected. Should be good at de-escalating and resolving conflicts.

Planning Commissioners ~ Appointed unless town votes to elect. Duties include preparing a municipal plan, making recommendations on matters of land development, conservation, and preservation, and to participate in a regional planning program. Makes site plan and subdivision permit decisions unless there is a Development Review Board in town. Should have a good working knowledge of all aspects of the town and be able to listen to many sides of an issue.

Zoning Administrator ~ Appointed by the Planning Commission with the approval of the Selectboard. Approves or denies applications for zoning permits. Administers the municipal bylaws literally. Enforces regulations pertaining to the Zoning Ordinance.

Fire Warden ~ Appointed by the State Fire Commissioner with approval of the Selectboard. Prevents forest fires in the town by enforcing the laws designed to prevent forest fires. Issues permits for open burning within the Town. Term is for five years.

Road Commissioner ~ Appointed by the Selectboard, the Road Commissioner has no independent authority, but assists the Selectboard in overseeing town highways. Should have experience with town highways and be a good communicator.

Regional Planning Commission Representative ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Helps develop the regional plan and assess municipal land use plans but has no independent authority.

Animal Control Officer (Pound keeper) ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Enforces ordinances and cares for the animals that are impounded within the town.

Humane Officer ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Enforces State and Federal regulations surrounding the humane and proper treatment of all animals. Works closely with Animal Control Officer & Constables.

Emergency Management Coordinator ~ Responsible for the organization, administration and operation of the Town's committee that is formed for emergency management. The coordinator is under the direct control of the Selectboard but may coordinate his or her emergency management efforts with neighboring towns and cities and with the state emergency management division, and with the federal government.

Tree Warden ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Plans and implements a shade tree preservation program for the purpose of shading and beautifying public places. Recommends the removal of diseased, dying, or dead trees which create a hazard to public safety or threaten the effectiveness of disease or insect control programs.

**TOWN OFFICERS OF HANCOCK, VT
2022-2023**

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Auditors (3 year)

First, expires 2023

Geraldine K Twitchell

Second, expires 2024

Rose Juliano

Third, expires 2025

VACANT

Budget Committee (3year)

First, expires 2023

Eva M Jesso

Second, expires 2024

Maurice Eaton

Third, expires 2025

Marjorie Ross

Cemetery Commission (3 year)

First, expires 2023

Maurice Eaton

Second, expires 2024

Larry Bettis

Third, expires 2025

Geraldine K Twitchell

Constable (1 year)

VACANT

Delinquent Tax Collector (1 year)

Jaime Morin

Justices of the Peace

Roger Comes

Maurice Eaton

John Ross

Margorie Ross

Monica Collins

Library Trustees (5 year)

First, expires 2023

Margaret Rogal

Second, expires 2024

Gretchen Perera

Third, expires 2025

Rose Juliano

Fourth, expires 2026

Eva M Jesso

Fifth, expires 2027

Jody Jesso

Listers

OFFICE ELIMINATED TM 2022

Moderator (1 Year)

James Leno

Road Commissioner (1 year)

Dan Perera

GHUD School Board (3 year)

ELECTED AT GHUD MEETING

First, expires 2023

Samantha Sheehan

Second, expires 2024

Stacey Peters

Third, expires 2025

Sara Deering

Select Board (3 year)

First, expires 2023

Scott Gillette (Chair)

Second, expires 2024

Dan Perera (Clerk)

Third, expires 2025

James Leno

Town Clerk (3 year) expires 2025
Town Treasurer (3 year) expires 2025

Jody Jesso
Jody Jesso

APPOINTED OFFICIALS:

WRVA Board Member
E-911 Coordinator
Asst. Town Clerk/Treasurer
Asst. Town Clerks
Civil Defense
Emergency Management
Energy Coordinator
Fence Viewers

John Ross - resigned
Scott Gillette
Janet Jesso
Eva Jesso and Marjorie Ross
James Leno
Renée Veilleux
Eduardo Angulo Alvarez

Fire Warden
Health Officer
Deputy Health Officers

Daniel Perera
John Ross
Garrett Troumbley
Jonathan Deering
VACANT
Scott Gillette
Dan Perera
James Leno

Inspector of Wood, Shingles & Lumber
Animal Control Officer
Septic/Sewage Officer
Solid Waste/Recycle Coordinator
Tri-Valley Transit Board Member
Town Service Member
Tree Warden
Weigher of Coal
Planning Commission (6 years)

Scott Gillette
Thomas Patterson
VACANT
James Leno
VACANT
Wendell Thurston
VACANT
Garrett Troumbley
John Ross

TRORC
EC Fiber
Representatives

VACANT
VACANT
VACANT
VACANT
VACANT
VACANT
Monica Collins
Scott Gillette
Dan Perera

**WARNING OF
TOWN OF HANCOCK, VERMONT ANNUAL MEETING
MARCH 7, 2023, 10:00AM**

The legal voters of the Town of Hancock, VT, are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Hancock Town Hall in said town to transact the following business by floor vote:

Article 1: To elect a Town Moderator for the next year ensuing.

- Article 2: To elect all Town Officers as required by law:
- Selectboard Member – three year term
 - Auditor- three year term
 - Constable - one year term
 - Collector of Delinquent Taxes – one year term
 - Cemetery Commissioner - three year term
 - Road Commissioner – one year term
 - Library Trustee – five year term
 - Advisory Budget Committee – three year term

Article 3: Shall the voters appropriate a total of \$6789.54 to the following social service agencies pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 2691:

Green-Up Vermont – Supports Green Up Day	\$50.00
WomenSafe – Provides assistance related to sexual and domestic violence for people of all genders	\$500.00
Tri Valley Transit (Stagecoach) – Provides regional mass transit	\$558.00
Central Vermont Council on Aging – Provides services to seniors	\$800.00
Park House – Senior housing non-profit	\$600.00
Visiting Nurse Alliance of VT/NH, Inc. – Non-profit that provides home healthcare and hospice services	\$1475.00
Quin-Town Senior Center – non-profit providing Meals on Wheels services to valley seniors.	\$2,716.00
Addison County Restorative Justice – provides restorative justice programs to Addison County residents (court diversion, etc.)	\$90.54
TOTAL	\$6789.54

Article 4: Shall the voters authorize the Cemetery Commission to roll over surplus funds from one budget year to the next budget year, in perpetuity, until otherwise amended by the voters?

Article 5: A. Shall the voters authorize the Select Board to move \$90,325.89 (Dollars) from a Money Market Account to the General Fund for the purpose of reducing Property Taxes for Fiscal Year 2023/2024.

B. In the event Article 5(a) does not pass, what shall the voters authorize the Select Board do with \$90,325.89 (Dollars) being held in a Money Market Account?

Article 6: Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to apply the remaining balance in the General Fund of FY 22-23 to reducing the next fiscal year's amount to be raised by taxes.

Article 7: Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to transfer the balance from the Road Commissioner's Money Market Account to the Highway Capital Fund.

Article 8 Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to transfer the balance from the Fire Department budget into the Fire Department Equipment Fund.

Article 9: Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to collect current taxes pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 4791, and if so, to set the payment dates. The dates being of four equal installments dated August 15, 2023; November 15, 2023; February 15, 2024; and May 15, 2024.

Article 10: Shall the Town of Hancock appropriate the sum of \$415,160.00 to pay the current expenses for the general and highway funds for the ensuing twelve months, with 2023 – 2024 taxes becoming delinquent after May 15th, 2024, and with the County and State taxes to be paid from the general fund.

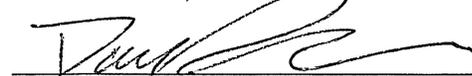
Article 11: To transact any non-binding business.

Dated this 17th day of January, 2023

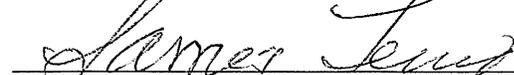
By the Selectboard of the Town of Hancock



Scott Gillette, Chair



Daniel Pereira



Jim Leno

FY2024 Town of Hancock General Fund -- Selectboard Budget

Account		Budget FY - 2022	Actual FY-2022 Pd:12	Budget FY - 2023	Budget FY - 2024
10-4-00 TAX REVENUE					
10-4-00-011.00	Current Property Taxes	257735.00	227191.33	0.00	227191.00
10-4-00-011.01	Current Tax Interest	600.00	1138.58	0.00	1140.00
10-4-00-012.00	Delinquent Property Taxes	40000.00	50501.39	0.00	15000.00
10-4-00-012.01	Delinquent Tax Interest	4000.00	6885.02	0.00	3000.00
10-4-00-014.00	Delinquent Tax Penalty	1500.00	3366.81	0.00	1500.00
10-4-00-031.00	PILOT	0.00	0.00	0.00	45000.00
10-4-00-032.00	Current Use	10000.00	11156.00	0.00	10000.00
Total TAX REVENUE		313835.00	300239.13	0.00	302831.00
10-4-01 INTEREST INCOME					
10-4-01-041.00	Gen. Fund Bank Interest	0.00	134.75	0.00	100.00
10-4-01-051.00	Money Market Interest	65.00	56.05	0.00	50.00
10-4-01-061.00	Town Savings Interest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total INTEREST INCOME		65.00	190.80	0.00	150.00
10-4-11 TOWN CLERK REVENUE					
10-4-11-021.00	Dog Licenses	150.00	229.00	0.00	200.00
10-4-11-022.00	Liquor Licenses	325.00	370.00	0.00	370.00
10-4-11-023.00	Marriage Licenses	0.00	20.00	0.00	60.00
10-4-11-041.00	Town Clerk Fees	4500.00	5532.15	0.00	4500.00
Total TOWN CLERK REVENUE		4975.00	6151.15	0.00	5130.00
10-4-19 OTHER REVENUE					
10-4-19-080.02	State Equalization Paymen	250.00	262.00	0.00	250.00
10-4-19-090.00	Quin Town Rent	3000.00	3000.00	0.00	3000.00
10-4-19-090.01	Town Hall & Town Green Re	150.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
10-4-19-090.02	Miscellaneous	0.00	2475.30	0.00	0.00
10-4-19-345.00	LHMP Grant		2502.75		
Total OTHER REVENUE		3400.00	8340.05	0.00	3350.00
10-4-22 PUBLIC SAFETY					
10-4-22-031.00	Police Patrol Income	5000.00	493.24	0.00	500.00
Total PUBLIC SAFETY		5000.00	493.24	0.00	500.00
10-4-96 TRANSFERS IN					
10-4-96-085.00	Transfer In	0.00	14433.20	0.00	0.00

FY2024 Town of Hancock General Fund -- Selectboard Budget

Account	Budget FY - 2022	Actual FY-2022 Pd:12	Budget FY - 2023	Budget FY - 2024
Total TRANSFERS IN	0.00	14433.20	0.00	0.00
10-5-96-085.01 Transfer in - ARPA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Revenues	327275.00	329847.57	0.00	311961.00
10-5-00-101 WAGES TOWN EMPLOYEES				
10-5-00-101.00 Select Board	3600.00	3600.00	3600.00	3600.00
10-5-00-101.01 Select Board Clerk Wages	700.00	150.00	500.00	300.00
10-5-00-101.02 Auditors	2500.00	225.00	700.00	100.00
10-5-00-101.03 Laborers	5000.00	1712.50	3000.00	2000.00
10-5-00-101.04 Listers	2500.00	772.50	5140.00	5140.00
10-5-00-101.05 Animal Control	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
10-5-00-101.06 Flood Plain Administrator	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
10-5-00-101.07 Emergency Mgmt Coodinator	250.00	0.00	250.00	250.00
10-5-00-101.08 Health Officer	50.00	0.00	50.00	50.00
10-5-00-101.09 Delinquent Tax Collector	0.00	3273.86	0.00	1200.00
10-5-00-101.10 Land & Vital Rec Organiza	2500.00	896.25	2000.00	1000.00
10-5-00-101.11 Road Comm Stipend	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00
Total WAGES TOWN EMPLOYEES	18800.00	12130.11	16940.00	15340.00
10-5-10 TOWN EXPENSES				
10-5-10-220.00 Payroll Taxes - FICA	6000.00	3887.06	5500.00	4000.00
10-5-10-220.01 Unemployment tax	400.00	167.94	200.00	200.00
10-5-10-313.00 Short Term Interest	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
10-5-10-331.00 Legal Fees	3000.00	8015.24	3500.00	10000.00
10-5-10-332.01 Professional Audit	5500.00	7785.00	6000.00	8000.00
10-5-10-340.00 Service Contracts/Tech	3000.00	9388.22	3750.00	8000.00
10-5-10-345.00 Local Hazard Mitigation P	0.00	5699.50	0.00	0.00
10-5-10-350.00 Training	300.00	60.00	250.00	200.00
10-5-10-400.00 Town Winter Roads	70000.00	52586.00	70000.00	70000.00
10-5-10-431.00 Summer Mowing Contract	4200.00	4120.00	4300.00	4800.00
10-5-10-432.00 Sand Pit Rental	1850.00	0.00	2000.00	3600.00
10-5-10-540.00 Postage	1300.00	1176.27	1000.00	1300.00
10-5-10-550.00 Printing	600.00	490.00	500.00	600.00
10-5-10-583.00 Mileage Reimbursement	200.00	30.81	100.00	100.00
10-5-10-610.00 Office Supplies	1700.00	1120.52	1500.00	1500.00
10-5-10-731.00 Office Equipment	500.00	219.89	500.00	500.00
10-5-10-750.00 Miscellaneous	0.00	86.74	0.00	0.00

FY2024 Town of Hancock General Fund -- Selectboard Budget

Account		Budget FY - 2022	Actual FY-2022 Pd:12	Budget FY - 2023	Budget FY - 2024
10-5-10-800.00	Del Tax Property Sale Exp	0.00	19707.73	0.00	0.00
10-5-10-999.00	One Time - Prior Year Exp	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total TOWN EXPENSES		98650.00	114540.92	99200.00	112900.00
10-5-11 TOWN CLERK					
10-5-11-101.00	Town Clerk/Treasurer Wages	24500.00	24499.92	30000.00	30750.00
10-5-11-101.01	Asst. TC/TR Wages	3000.00	1447.50	3000.00	2000.00
10-5-11-101.02	Ballot Clerks	300.00	270.00	550.00	300.00
Total TOWN CLERK		27800.00	26217.42	33550.00	33050.00
10-5-18 GENERAL OFFICE					
10-5-18-410.00	Trash	300.00	550.00	0.00	300.00
10-5-18-410.01	Recycling	9000.00	6050.00	6600.00	6600.00
10-5-18-442.00	Copier Lease	1500.00	1170.55	1500.00	1200.00
10-5-18-540.00	Advertising	2000.00	960.76	1500.00	1200.00
10-5-18-650.00	Computer	500.00	234.99	500.00	500.00
Total GENERAL OFFICE		13300.00	8966.30	10100.00	9800.00
10-5-19-8 DUES/ASSESSMENTS					
10-5-19-810.00	Royalton Transfer Station	4100.00	4071.46	4100.00	4100.00
10-5-19-811.00	County Taxes	1575.00	1606.02	1819.00	1800.00
10-5-19-812.00	VLCT Dues	1475.00	1526.00	1526.00	1569.00
10-5-19-812.01	VMCTA	100.00	75.00	100.00	100.00
10-5-19-812.02	Two Rivers Ottaquechee	495.00	494.00	567.00	585.00
10-5-19-812.03	Homeward Bound	450.00	0.00	450.00	500.00
Total DUES/ASSESSMENTS		8195.00	7772.48	8562.00	8654.00
10-5-22 PUBLIC SAFETY					
10-5-22-360.00	Sheriff Patrol	15000.00	7369.04	15000.00	15000.00
10-5-22-360.01	WRVA new account	0.00	0.00	0.00	25848.00
10-5-22-360.02	GVFD new account	0.00	0.00	0.00	2204.00
Total PUBLIC SAFETY		15000.00	7369.04	15000.00	43052.00
10-5-61 MUNICIPAL BUILDING					
10-5-61-431.00	Maint/Repairs/Wtr Testing	6500.00	8105.92	6500.00	8000.00
10-5-61-530.00	Telephone	3300.00	1360.21	2400.00	1500.00
10-5-61-530.01	Internet	0.00	864.00	864.00	864.00

FY2024 Town of Hancock General Fund -- Selectboard Budget

Account		Budget FY - 2022	Actual FY-2022 Pd:12	Budget FY - 2023	Budget FY - 2024
10-5-61-622.00	Electricity	6000.00	4655.61	6000.00	5000.00
10-5-61-622.01	Street Lights	4000.00	4108.59	4000.00	4200.00
10-5-61-624.00	Fuel Oil	10000.00	14327.24	12000.00	20000.00
Total MUNICIPAL BUILDING		29800.00	33421.57	31764.00	39564.00
<hr/>					
10-5-65 INSURANCE					
10-5-65-521.00	Insurance	15000.00	11498.18	12000.00	14500.00
10-5-65-521.01	Health Care Contribution	0.00	0.00	7000.00	0.00
10-5-65-521.02	Retirement Contribution	0.00	0.00	0.00	2000.00
10-5-65-526.00	Workers Comp Insurance	2200.00	1193.82	2200.00	1400.00
Total INSURANCE		17200.00	12692.00	21200.00	17900.00
<hr/>					
10-5-70 LONG TERM DEBT PAYMENTS			0.00		
10-5-70-313.00	Flood Loan - Princ	25000.00	20932.41	20000.00	20000.00
10-5-70-313.01	Flood Loan - Interest	5500.00	4067.59	5000.00	5000.00
10-5-70-313.02	Fire Station - Princ	15000.00	15880.41	15000.00	16000.00
10-5-70-313.03	Fire Station - Interest	5000.00	3119.59	4000.00	3000.00
Total LONG TERM DEBT PAYMENTS		50500.00	44000.00	44000.00	44000.00
<hr/>					
10-5-95 Appropriations					
10-5-95-950.00	Green Up Vermont	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00
10-5-95-950.01	Vermont Adult Learning	115.00	115.00	115.00	0.00
10-5-95-950.02	WomenSafe	500.00	500.00	500.00	0.00
10-5-95-950.03	John Graham Shelter	350.00	350.00	350.00	0.00
10-5-95-950.05	Tri-Valley Transit INC	556.00	556.00	558.00	0.00
10-5-95-950.07	Central Vermont Council A	800.00	800.00	800.00	0.00
10-5-95-950.08	Park House	500.00	500.00	500.00	0.00
10-5-95-950.09	Clara Martin Center	595.00	595.00	595.00	0.00
10-5-95-950.10	VNA of VT/NH Inc	1475.00	1475.00	1475.00	0.00
10-5-95-950.11	Quin-Town Senior Center	2716.00	2716.00	2716.00	0.00
10-5-95-950.12	White River Valley Ambula	19703.00	20026.00	23335.00	0.00
10-5-95-950.13	Granville Volunteer FD	1984.00	1984.00	2101.00	0.00
10-5-9950.14	VT Rural Fire Protection	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00
10-5-95-950.15	Addison Restorative Justi	90.54	90.54	90.54	0.00
10-5-95-950.16	Vermont Family Center	0.00	0.00	250.00	0.00
10-5-95-950.17	Hancock Town Pride			1500.00	0.00
Total APPROPRIATIONS		29434.54	29707.54	35035.54	0.00
<hr/>					

FY2024 Town of Hancock General Fund -- Selectboard Budget

Account	Budget FY - 2022	Actual FY-2022 Pd:12	Budget FY - 2023	Budget FY - 2024
10-5-96 TRANSFERS OUT				
10-5-96-815.00 Cemetery Commission	6100.00	6100.00	7600.00	8500.00
10-5-96-815.01 Fire Department	12000.00	12000.00	12000.00	12000.00
10-5-96-815.03 Library Fund	17500.00	17500.00	17500.00	17500.00
10-5-96-815.04 Building Maint Capital Fu	10000.00	10000.00	10000.00	5000.00
10-5-96-815.06 Reappraisal Fund	2000.00	2000.00	2000.00	200.00
10-5-96-815.07 Highway Capial Project	3000.00	3000.00	2000.00	2000.00
10-5-96-815.08 Tax Mapping	700.00	700.00	700.00	700.00
10-5-96-815.99 Transfer out - other	0.00	1500.00	0.00	0.00
10-5-96-815.09 Road Comm PILOT			45000.00	45000.00
Total TRANSFERS OUT	51300.00	52800.00	96800.00	90900.00
Total Expenditures	359979.54	349617.38	412151.54	415160.00
Total GENERAL FUND	-32704.54	-19769.81	-264961.54	-103199.00

TO BE VOTED ON AND ADDED TO THE BUDGET AFTER ARTICLE IS APPROVED

Account	Budget FY - 2024
10-5-95 Appropriations	
10-5-95-950.00 Green Up Vermont	50.00
10-5-95-950.02 WomenSafe	500.00
10-5-95-950.05 Tri-Valley Transit INC	558.00
10-5-95-950.07 Central Vermont Council A	800.00
10-5-95-950.08 Park House	600.00
10-5-95-950.10 VNA of VT/NH Inc	1475.00
10-5-95-950.11 Quin-Town Senior Center	2716.00
10-5-95-950.15 Addison Restorative Justice	90.54
Total APPROPRIATIONS	6789.54

FUND REPORTS

LIBRARY REPORT

FY JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022

BEGINNING BALANCE:	\$ 8,577.20
Income Received:	
Hancock (Budgeted)	\$ 17,500.00
ARPA	\$ 2,000.00
From Savings	\$ 300.00
Total Income:	\$ 19,800.00
Total Expenses:	<u>\$ 22,870.27</u>
ENDING BALANCE:	\$ 5,506.93

RECREATION COM. REPORT

FY JULY 01, 2021- JUNE 30, 2022

NOT TOWN FUNDED

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$639.07
Income Received	
Donations	\$55.00
Fundraisers	\$0.00
Total Income	\$55.00
Total Expenses	\$0.00
ENDING BALANCE	\$694.07

CEMETERY COMMISSION REPORT

FY JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022

Beginning Balance	\$ -
Income	
Hancock Budget	\$ 6,100.00
Total Income	\$ 6,100.00
Expenses	
Labor	\$ 3,978.75
Maintenance	\$ 2,911.02
Equipment Rental	\$ 2,010.00
Total Expenses	\$ 8,899.77
Ending Balance	\$ (2,799.77)
Cem Comm Transferred money to cover expenses	\$2,800.00
Ending Balance	\$0.00

ROAD COMMISSIONER FUND

JULY 2021 -JUNE 2022

BEGINNING BALANCE:	\$ 57,397.46
Income Received:	
Forestry Receipts	58,426.00
State of VT Trans. Aid	13,272.73
Grants in Aid	5,340.00
Interest	10.99
Total Income:	<u>77,049.72</u>
Expenses:	
Labor	330.00
Equipment rentals	217.50
Road Commission Salary	-
Equipment and Supplies	122.34
Road Maintenance	33,063.51
Road improvements	-
Transferred to Highway Capital Project	41,923.37
Misc.	1.00
Total Expenses:	<u>\$ 75,657.72</u>
ENDING BALANCE:	58,785.86

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

FY JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022

Beginning Balance	\$0.00
Income Received:	\$ 12,000.00
Town of Hancock (Budgeted)	
Total Income:	\$ 12,000.00
Expenses:	
911 Phone Charges	\$ 229.24
Gas/Repairs	949.51
Equip/Supplies	2,635.80
Radio/Radio Repairs	1,056.77
Misc.	315.00
Fire School	170.00
Sub Total	5,356.32
Fire Dept. Bldg./Equip. Fund Transfer Out	6,643.68
Total Expenses	<u>12,000.00</u>
ENDING BALANCE	\$0.00

TOWN MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance	\$91,450.65
Interest	\$56.05
Deposit	\$58,426.00
Transfer Out Forestry Receipts	<u>\$ (58,426.00)</u>
ENDING BALANCE	\$91,506.70

RESTRICTED ASSETS FY JULY 2021 - 2022

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Beginning Balance:	\$	(789.56)
Income: Interest Earned	\$	0.14
Expenses:	\$	-
Ending Balance:	\$	(789.42)

HONOR ROLL REPORT

Beginning Balance:	\$	2,053.92
Income: Interest Earned	\$	1.57
Deposit	\$	55.00
Transfer In	\$	82.13
Expenses:	\$	-
Ending Balance:	\$	2,192.62

LIBRARY

Beginning Balance:	\$	4,164.38
Income: Interest Earned	\$	2.75
Grants	\$	-
Expenses: Transfer to Library Fu	\$	(300.00)
Ending Balance:	\$	4,067.12

SANCTUARY ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance:	\$	2,615.23
Income: Interest Earned	\$	2.17
Expenses:	\$	-
Ending Balance:	\$	2,617.40

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Beginning Balance	\$	662.08
Interest Accumulated	\$	0.46
Ending Balance	\$	662.54

FIRE DEPT BUILDING/EQUIP FUND

Beginning Balance	\$	16,465.47
Interest Accumulated	\$	14.36
D/O fr FD Budget	\$	6,643.68
Ending Balance	\$	23,123.51

TAX MAPPING

Beginning Balance	\$	(1,234.00)
Transfer In	\$	700.00
Expenses	\$	(700.00)
Ending Balance	\$	(1,234.00)

REAPPRAISAL FUND

Beginning Balance	\$	19,134.14
Interest Accumulated	\$	14.59
Deposit	\$	4,227.00
Ending Balance	\$	23,375.73

HIGHWAY CAPITAL FUND

Beginning Balance	\$	292,132.84
Income: Interest Accumulated	\$	272.33
VT Highway Supplement	\$	1,469.00
Town Contribution	\$	3,000.00
RD Comm drawoff	\$	41,923.37
Total Income:	\$	46,664.70
Expenses: Service Charge	\$	2.76
Road Improvements	\$	24,918.69
Capital Projects		
Ending Balance	\$	313,876.09

BUILDING MAINTENANCE FUND

Beginning Balance	\$	58,746.29
Income: Interest Accumulated	\$	38.94
Town Contribution	\$	10,000.00
USDA Grant	\$	1,500.00
Expenses: Transfer Out	\$	(14,433.20)
Ending Balance	\$	55,852.03

CEMETERY TRUST FUND REPORT

Certificate of Deposit		
Beginning Balance	\$	13,638.36
Interest Accumulated		171.83
Ending Balance	\$	13,810.19

Savings Account

Beginning Balance	\$	4,002.90
Perpetual Care	\$	-
Revenue recorded but deposited		
Correction Perpetual Care	\$	25.00
Interest Accumulated	\$	2.16
Expense to cover overbudget	\$	(2,800.00)
Bank Fee	\$	(5.00)
Ending Balance	\$	1,225.06

Cemetery Lot \$30 recorded as revenue but not deposited in Cem Savings

ARPA FUND

Beginning Balance	\$0.00
Income	\$49,771.18
Expenses	<u>\$0.00</u>
Ending Balance	\$49,771.08

RECORDS REST. Beg. Bal.

Beg. Bal.	\$1973.00
Income	\$1,510.00
Expense	<u>\$274.96</u>
Ending Balance	\$3,208.04

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Select Board
Town of Hancock, Vermont

Qualified and Unmodified Opinions

We have audited the accompanying modified cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Hancock, Vermont, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Qualified Opinions on the Governmental Activities and General Fund

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter discussed in the Basis for Qualified Opinions and Unmodified Opinions section of our report, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the governmental activities and General Fund of the Town of Hancock, Vermont as of June 30, 2022, and the changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Unmodified Opinions on the ARPA Fund, Highway Capital Fund and Aggregate Remaining Fund Information

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the ARPA Fund, Highway Capital Fund and Aggregate Remaining Fund Information of the Town of Hancock, Vermont, as of June 30, 2022, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Basis for Qualified and Unmodified Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Audit Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Town of Hancock, Vermont and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit qualified and unmodified audit opinions.

Matters Giving Rise to the Qualified Opinions on the Governmental Activities and General Fund.

The Town's fire department and delinquent tax collector maintain separate bank accounts which are not under the supervision of the Treasurer. The beginning and ending balances of these accounts and related activity are not included in the Town's financial statements. The amount by which these bank accounts would affect the assets, liabilities, fund balances, revenues and expenditures of the governmental activities and General Fund has not been determined.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinions are not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1; this includes determining that the modified cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of these financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentation, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Hancock, Vermont's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Town of Hancock, Vermont's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Hancock, Vermont's basic financial statements. The combining schedules of nonmajor governmental funds are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and Government Auditing Standards. In our opinion, the combining schedules of nonmajor governmental funds are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Matters

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises the budgetary comparison information but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated, October 18, 2022, on our consideration of the Town of Hancock, Vermont's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Town of Hancock, Vermont's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Pace & Hawley, LLC

Berlin, Vermont
October 18, 2022

Long-term liabilities

Consistent with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1.C. the Town has not reported long-term liabilities in its governmental activities. The Town's outstanding notes payable as of June 30, 2022, were as follows:

Governmental activities:

Mascoma Savings Bank, fire station note payable, interest at 3.25% through 2022 interest thereafter calculated using Daily Treasury Yield Curve rate. Annual principal and interest payments of \$19,000 through May 2026 and one final payment of \$11,364 on May 2027.

Mascoma Savings Bank, flood loan note payable, interest at 2.75%. Annual principal and interest payments of \$25,000 through March 2026 and one final payment of \$13,685 on April 2027.

Certain outstanding notes from direct borrowings related to governmental activities contain a provision that in an event of default, outstanding amounts become immediately due if the Town is unable to make payment.

TOWN OF HANCOCK, VERMONT
Balance Sheet - Modified Cash Basis - Governmental Funds
June 30, 2022

	General Fund	ARPA Fund	Highway Capital Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets					
Cash	\$ 188,218	\$ 49,771	\$ 313,876	\$ 126,230	\$ 678,095
Cash - restricted	-	-	-	13,500	13,500
Due from other funds	788	-	-	-	788
Total assets	<u>\$ 189,006</u>	<u>\$ 49,771</u>	<u>\$ 313,876</u>	<u>\$ 139,730</u>	<u>\$ 692,383</u>
Liabilities and fund balances					
Liabilities:					
Other liabilities	\$ 157	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 157
Due to other funds	-	-	-	788	788
Total liabilities	<u>157</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>788</u>	<u>945</u>
Fund balances:					
Nonspendable	-	-	-	13,500	13,500
Restricted	-	49,771	-	41,749	91,520
Committed	-	-	313,876	84,481	398,357
Unassigned	188,849	-	-	(788)	188,061
Total fund balances	<u>188,849</u>	<u>49,771</u>	<u>313,876</u>	<u>138,942</u>	<u>691,438</u>
Total liabilities and fund balances	<u>\$ 189,006</u>	<u>\$ 49,771</u>	<u>\$ 313,876</u>	<u>\$ 139,730</u>	<u>\$ 692,383</u>

TOWN OF HANCOCK, VERMONT
Statement of Net Position - Modified Cash Basis
June 30, 2022

	Governmental Activities
Assets	
Current assets:	
Cash	\$ 678,095
Cash - restricted	13,500
Total current assets	<u>691,595</u>
Noncurrent assets	<u>-</u>
Total assets	<u>691,595</u>
Liabilities	
Current liabilities:	
Other liabilities	<u>157</u>
Noncurrent liabilities	<u>-</u>
Total liabilities	<u>157</u>
Net position	
Restricted	91,520
Unrestricted	599,918
Total net position	<u>\$ 691,438</u>

TOWN OF HANCOCK, VERMONT
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Modified Cash Basis - Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2022

	General Fund	ARPA Fund	Highway Capital Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues					
Property taxes	\$ 277,693	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 277,693
Penalties and interest on delinquent taxes	11,390	-	-	-	11,390
Intergovernmental	90,960	49,771	1,469	4,527	146,727
Licenses, permits and fines	1,112	-	-	-	1,112
Charges for services	8,632	-	-	1,540	10,172
Interest on cash deposit	202	-	272	249	723
Donations	-	-	-	110	110
Miscellaneous	<u>2,475</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>2,557</u>
Total revenues	<u>392,464</u>	<u>49,771</u>	<u>1,741</u>	<u>6,508</u>	<u>450,484</u>
Expenditures					
Current:					
General government	159,735	-	-	275	160,010
Highways, streets and bridges	90,440	-	24,921	-	115,361
Public safety	12,725	-	-	-	12,725
Culture and recreation	-	-	-	22,870	22,870
Cemetery	-	-	-	8,905	8,905
Appropriations	29,708	-	-	-	29,708
Debt service - principal	36,813	-	-	-	36,813
Debt service - interest	<u>7,187</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,187</u>
Total expenditures	<u>336,608</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,921</u>	<u>32,050</u>	<u>393,579</u>
Excess of revenues or (expenditures)	<u>55,856</u>	<u>49,771</u>	<u>(23,180)</u>	<u>(25,542)</u>	<u>56,905</u>
Other financing sources (uses)					
Transfers in (out)	<u>(74,234)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>44,923</u>	<u>29,311</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balances	(18,378)	49,771	21,743	3,769	56,905
Fund balances, beginning of year	<u>207,227</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>292,133</u>	<u>135,173</u>	<u>634,533</u>
Fund balances, end of year	\$ <u>188,849</u>	\$ <u>49,771</u>	\$ <u>313,876</u>	\$ <u>138,942</u>	\$ <u>691,438</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Selectboard Report

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

At a time when the COVID-19 pandemic still threatens the most vulnerable among us and political turmoil still divides the nation bitterly, we are grateful to live in a small community where tough times bring us together. Thank you to all those who serve as elected and appointed officials and those who volunteer their time to the community. Thank you for everything you do.

Highlights of the year include:

- We have accepted a bid to repave the paved portions of Churchville Rd, Virgin Ave, Recreation Drive, and Killooleet Rd, as well as the apron of Blair Hill Rd. This long overdue infrastructure investment will be a boon to the town for generations. Funding provided by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) means that the town will not incur any debt for this work. Thanks to Dan Perera and Jim Leno for their work developing the prospectus and vetting the contractors who bid for this project. Work will begin in the warmer months of 2023.
- Also funded in part by ARPA has been the installation of backup generators at the Town Hall and the Town Office. In a time of increased threat to utility infrastructure due to unpredictable and severe weather, these generators will provide electricity to these town buildings, which provide emergency shelter in the event of natural disaster and allow continuity of operations for the municipal government. Thanks to Dan Perera for supervising the planning and installation of this vital project.
- Thanks to Monica Collins for all her years of service to the town and welcome the return of Jim Leno to the Selectboard.
- The Town Clerk has expanded hours of service to the residents of the town. The Selectboard welcomes the increased professionalism and efficiency of the Town Clerk's office, and thanks Jody Jesso and Eva Jesso for their continuing work organizing the historical records of the town and getting the town's books in order.
- The Local Hazard Mitigation Plan has been approved by the state. This plan is required for better FEMA funding in the event of a disaster and ensures that we have a plan of action in place in the event of another emergency, natural or otherwise. Many thanks to Monica Collins for shepherding the plan through its drafting and approval process.

Once again, we need volunteers to fill open positions – particularly the **Planning Commission**, a **Health Officer**, and **Animal Control**. We also need a person to sit on the governing board of **White River Valley Ambulance** (thanks to Jack Ross for his many years representing Hancock on this board). Currently, the select board and our members are filling many open roles in addition to the other work we do. We are all busy and these positions do not necessarily pay but they do contribute significantly to making this town a community. We hope you will join us.

Select board meetings are open to all and take place on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of every month at 6pm. Carrying over our policy from a more restricted time of the COVID pandemic, we are meeting in person, but residents may also join Selectboard meeting via Zoom, accessible by computer and telephone. Meeting information is available on the town website – www.hancockvt.org or by calling the town offices. We look forward to having you share your concerns and ideas with us. If you cannot make the meeting, please contact us to share your thoughts.

Respectfully submitted,

Hancock Select Board — Scott Gillette, Chair, Daniel Perera, and Jim Leno

Town Clerk's Report

Thank you to our dedicated selectboard members, committee members, trustees, and community members for working together to navigate business each day. A special thank you to my assistants for always being ready to lend a hand! Your hard work is noticed and appreciated, as always!

Hancock vital statistics for 2022 include 4 marriages, 1 birth, and 4 deaths. We recorded 16 property transfer returns in 2022. We held the primary and general elections, town meeting, and the Granville Hancock Unified School District meeting. We recorded 189 pages of town records and 266 pages of land records! A busy year!

The office is open by appointment during regular business hours: Monday 10AM–4PM, Tuesday 9AM–3PM, Wednesday 9AM–3PM. Please call 767-3660 for an appointment. Our front door remains locked for security reasons, so please knock on the door when you arrive so we know you're out there!

Much work takes place behind the scenes here at the office, and appointments continue to be available outside normal business public access hours for residents needing to conduct business in person; simply call to make arrangements for this service.

Please remember you can use our secure drop box for items that need to be left after hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Jody Jesso

Town Clerk/Treasurer

Hancock Vital Statistics Calendar Year 2022

Births

Leighton Elizabeth Wright

Deaths

Melinda E Branstetter

John Gilbert Coulter

Harvey Marshall Hart St.

Theodore J Jacques, III

Marriages

Rachel Louise Shaw to Eric J Shaw

Cassina Marie Brown to Daniel Todd Johnston

Logan Ross Wright to Kylie Ann Flye

Sonya Noel Carlisle to Brok William Levasseur

Hancock Road Commissioner Report

Hancock proceeded with grant-funded roadwork this year on Fassett Hill Road and Shampeny Hill Road. On Fassett Hill Road, Grants-In-Aid funding assisted with the cost of reshaping and lining ditches on the steepest part of the road. Additional funding from this grant source will be used in 2023 to reshape and line ditches on the lower part of Churchville Road.

On Shampeny Hill Road, a grant was used for an engineering study and the development of construction plans for the replacement of a large culvert. The Town will be applying for a grant to fund the construction of the new culvert in 2023 or 2024. Costs not covered by the grant will come from the Highway Capital Fund and should not result in any increase in taxes for Hancock.

In addition to the grant-funded work mentioned above, most roads in Hancock received new gravel from the town gravel pile.

In preparation for planned paving in 2023, work was done on Killooleet Road and Churchville Road. On Killooleet Road, riprap and a guardrail were installed to limit the risk of flood damage. The riverbank in this area was severely eroded, putting the road at risk of damage from high water. The Town has applied for a grant to fund additional riprap in this area.

On Churchville Road, a section of failing pavement was removed and the roadbed fortified with additional gravel to better receive new pavement next summer.

During the latter part of 2022, bids were solicited and a contractor was selected to do paving work in 2023. Roads that will be receiving a new topcoat of pavement include Churchville Road, Killooleet Road, Recreation Drive, and Virgin Avenue. New paved aprons will be installed at the end of Bettis Road and Blair Hill Road.

The paving in 2023 will result in road closures. Each road mentioned above will likely be closed for up to one entire day. Advance notice will be provided to town residents so that plans can be made to avoid delays and disruptions.

It should be noted that all of the work done in 2022 and all of the planned work and construction in 2023 will be funded through grants, ARPA funds, and the Highway Capital Fund with no additional taxpayer money required.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Perera
Hancock Road Commissioner

Town Assessor's Report

We have completed printing all 256 property record cards. This includes all developed lots with homes, their associated building sketches, and all vacant property parcels. These represent the most updated record cards as of April 1, 2022. They are on the Assessor desk in two binders in alphabetical order. In addition, a copy of the 2022 Grand list is attached. These documents are available to the public and copies can be provided at a cost determined by the town clerk.

There were six homes that were sold between April 1, 2021, and March 31, 2022. They sold for an average of 28.5 percent over their grand list values. That trend continued through December with the average selling price of two additional homes selling for 32.5 percent above their grand list values.

Property sales of vacant lots indicated a similar trend during this period, with sales of a 23.06-acre parcel and a 24.0-acre lot selling for 66 percent and 74 percent above their grand list values.

The town has contracted with CAI Technologies to provide us each year updated tax maps. In the past tax maps were updated every three to four years. The most updated maps are available at the town office and represent property ownership as of April 1, 2022.

We are working on the change of appraisal values for the 2023 Grand List. Several homes under renovation are nearing completion. During our yearly exterior review of properties, we located a new detached garage with an apartment above. In addition, I found several new outbuildings, attached porches and decks on several homes.

Richard Favor

Town Assessor

Hancock Free Public Library Report

Hancock Free Public Library continues to adapt to serve the needs of our patrons. We have been open for browsing, as well as providing curbside and porch pickup services.

There are two computers available for use during library hour and our WIFI is available 24/7 from the parking lot and does not require a password.

Here are some highlights for the year:

- ✓ Grants Received– ARSL and State of Vermont Department of Libraries
- ✓ New Story Walk for the summer program
- ✓ Halloween – Free books, stickers, bookmarks and two story walks for the event
- ✓ The Green Mountain Consortium (better known as Listen Up Vermont) provided Hancock patrons, both readers and listeners, with 772 books for their enjoyment
- ✓ Inter Library Loan (ILL) provides books not in our collection to our patrons
- ✓ Our Adopt an Author Program continues to provide the latest book releases of authors Chris Bohjalian, Janet Evanovich and John Grisham. A recently adopted author is David Rosenfelt. If you also have a favorite author and would like to donate to the library their newest release, please call the library to make arrangements for the Adopt an Author Program.
- ✓ Museum passes are available year-round. Through cooperation with the Rochester Library and the Gaysville Library all our patrons can access a greater number of passes. Depending on the venue, passes are either free and at a discounted rate. Call the library for more information.
- ✓ Valley Readers Book Group continue to meet via Zoom. Their monthly meeting is the 2nd Thursday of the month. Discussion books are provided by the Friends of the Hancock Free public Library. Call the library to reserve your copy.

Contact information for the Hancock Free Public Library:

phone: 802-767-4651 **email:** Hancockvtlibrary@gmail.com

Librarian:

Caroline Meagher

Library Trustees:

Eva Jesso, Chair

Gretchen Perera, Secretary

Margi Rogal, Treasurer

Jody Jesso

Rose Juliano

Friends of the Hancock Free Public Library - 2022 Report

The Friends of the Hancock Free Public Library formed in 2012 to support the Hancock Free Public Library (HFPL). During this time, we've shown that support in a variety of ways including holding programs and events and buying books and materials.

While the Friends haven't held workshops and events due to the pandemic, our book discussion group, Valley Readers, has continued to meet on Zoom. The group meets at 6pm the second Thursday of these months - January-June & September-November.

If you'd like to help support the Friends, there are many ways to do so:

- There is a book discussion group, Valley Readers, which has been going strong for 10 years. The group meets the second Thursday of the month at 6:30pm and anyone is welcome to join. Currently the meetings take place over Zoom, so please reach out if you'd like to be included.
- Our Adopt an Author program is in its sixth year and is a fun way to expand the collection. Ask at the HFPL how you can take part.
- A nice way to remember a loved one, or honor a friend or family member, is to donate to the Friends. The money is used for books and programs to support the HFPL. Friends is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
- Friends of the Hancock Free Public Library has a Facebook so please "like" the page to keep up with the latest happenings.
- Consider joining the Friends group. Donation levels start as low as \$10/year.

If you'd like more information on the Friends, please contact Jill Jesso-White, President, at 767-4128.

Hancock Town Pride - Annual Report for 2022

While COVID has continued to impact our activities, Hancock Town Pride was still able to bring some normalcy to 2022. Hancock Town Pride has been working consistently for 12 years on these three goals: beautifying the town, holding events and activities and fostering community spirit. These past several years have made it challenging to hold events and activities, but we were still able to do things to meet our goals.

We continued our annual tradition of distributing sunflower seeds to anyone interested on Memorial Day. Thanks to Ross Parker and Denise Chapin for the donation of seeds. We also handed out sunflower seedlings planted and donated by Meg Brown, so a big thanks to her as well. We planted the beautiful planters at the base of the bandstand and the wooden barrels with flowers at various locations around town. A big thanks to Dorothy Robson for taking the lead on the planters. Thanks also to all our volunteer waterers who helped with the flowers all summer. All the sunflowers around town looked great.

In 2022 Hancock Town Pride once again sponsored free Summer Concerts on the Town Green, held on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm in July and August. Drawing from local musicians as well as those from around the state, we were able to offer a variety of musical styles for the enjoyment of our audiences.

In July we began with Blood Root Gap, a popular bluegrass trio from the Brandon area. The next concert featured our favorite vocal trio, The Three Sues (Sue Clarke, Sue Ribaud, Susan Rule), who shared the concert with valley musicians Jake Wildwood and Friends. They were followed by the duo of Pete Sutherland and Oliver Scanlon whose lively instrumentals and soulful vocals filled the Town Hall on a rainy evening. We ended July with the VT Bluegrass Pioneers, who have been regulars in our concert series.

August brought us the annual Pete Seeger Memorial Concert, which combined local musicians with musical leaders from Camp Killooleet in a tribute to the songs and causes of Pete Seeger. We ended our season with the Hancock Coffeehouse Singers. In which the voices and instruments of our friends and neighbors blended harmoniously. In these concerts, and in others earlier in the season, the audience was engaged in many sing-along numbers.

Although we had a generally dry summer, we ended up holding four of our six concerts in the Town Hall due to showers. At several of the concerts, hot dogs and water were available from the Fire Department, and salad and dessert were offered by the Hancock Recreation Committee. We appreciate all of the people who came to hear these concerts, and we appreciated receiving financial support from the Town of Hancock. Bringing people together for social and musical events is one of the goals of Hancock Town Pride, and we feel these concerts contributed much toward achieving that goal.

We've been pleased to be able to offer these free outdoor family-friendly concerts, as part of our mission to provide activities and entertainment for residents of Hancock and nearby towns. All are invited to come with their own chairs or blanket and enjoy good music, surrounded by our beautiful Vermont scenery.

In early December we purchased wreaths to hang on our municipal buildings and the bandstand. They looked very festive through the holiday season.

We always welcome new members to join us! We have a Facebook page where we post announcements. Please "like" our page! We would love to hear your ideas and feedback as we work toward adding to the beauty and community spirit of our town.

Respectfully Submitted,
Hancock Town Pride, Jill Jesso-White, President

Service Organization Information for Appropriation Requests

Information provided by the various organizations will be available at the Hancock Town Clerk's Office. The information provided here is merely a synopsis. A number of organizations did not meet the Hancock petition requirement and therefore will not be listed here. Petitions and letters of request are due by Nov. 30 each year.

Green Up Vermont

Green Up Vermont, Inc is a private non-profit that organizes and promotes a statewide Green Up Day, where 250 Vermont communities clean up roads and waterways for the betterment and beautification of our great state. They also provide an educational piece to build pride and awareness of a clean environment. Mark your calendars for Green Up Day May 6, 2023.

Green Up Vermont is requesting \$50, no change from last year.

Women Safe

Womensafe has been dedicated to providing services to victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence and their children since 1980. In Hancock, Womensafe provided: advocacy services to at least 4 residents including parents and caregivers of 3 children. Often, survivors choose not to give any identifying information out of fear for their safety and that of their children. Therefore, there statistics for those served in any given town are understated.

Womensafe is requesting \$500, no change from last year.

Tri-Valley Transit

Tri-Valley Transit enhances the economic, social, and environmental health of the region by providing safe and accessible community transportation services for everyone. Since 1976 they have created a network of transportation choices that connect community members to employment, medical appointments, school, grocery shopping, and other vital quality of life services. During the past four years, your support helped us provide an annual average of 369 fee Dial-A-Ride trips for Hancock residents.

Tri-Valley Transit is requesting \$558, no change from last year.

Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA)

The Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA) is dedicated to the mission of supporting older Vermonters to age with dignity and choice. CVCOA services are available to those age 60 and up, or to adults with disabilities. For more than 40 years, CVCOA has assisted older Vermonters to remain independent for as long as possible. CVCOA serves 54 towns throughout the Central Vermont Region. CVCOA provided individualized support to 23 residents of Hancock. CVCOA Case Manager Kathryn Sherkman was designated to serve older adults in Hancock.

CVCOA is requesting \$800, no change from last year.

Service Organization Information, continued

Park House

Rochester Community Care Home, Inc d.b.a. Park House is grateful to the voters of Hancock for their past support of Park house, which offers affordable independent housing for seniors and other qualifying adults in our Quintown area. Nearly three decades of service to this community would not have been possible without generous community support.

Park House is requesting \$600, \$100 more than last year.

Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire (VNH)

VNH is one of the oldest and largest non-profit providers of in-home healthcare services in the region. VNH is committed to providing the highest quality care throughout all stages of life, from maternal child care to end of life hospice care, and everything in between. Providing individuals and families with care they need within the comfort of their own home allows them to maintain comfort and dignity throughout their time of care. Between July 2021 and June 2022 VNH made 57 in-home visits to 13 Hancock residents.

VNH is requesting \$1475, no change from last year.

Quin-Town Center for Senior Citizens

Quin-Town Center for Senior Citizens is based in Hancock and since 1972 has given senior citizens in the area a place to go for on-site meals each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at noon. They also provide nutritionally balanced meals delivered to homebound members through the Meals on Wheels program. The COVID-19 pandemic impacted the senior center. To keep clients safe, they had to temporarily change on-site dining, currently serving on-site meals on Wednesdays. However, they continue to serve seniors through the Meals on Wheels program which not only provides health meals to seniors but also provides the opportunity to perform a wellness check for our senior neighbors.

Quin-Town is requesting \$2716, no change from last year.

Addison County Restorative Justice (ACRJS)

ACRJS provides community restorative justice responses focusing on the “balanced approach” in meeting the needs of the victim, the community and the program participant. The goal is to help the program participant develop empathy and accept responsibility while providing compensation for loss for the victims and compensation of resources for the community. Anyone given the opportunity to participate in the program is supported to take responsibilities for their actions, connect with community in a positive way, and learn from their experience so as not to reoffend and cause harm to yet another person.

ACRJS is requesting \$90.54, no change from last year.

WHITE RIVER VALLEY AMBULANCE

Thank you, neighbors, for your continued support of White River Valley Ambulance. We are a non-profit, professional emergency medical service and ambulance transport agency serving the towns of Barnard, Bethel, Braintree, Brookfield, Granville, Hancock, Pittsfield, Randolph, Rochester and Stockbridge, an area of over 500 square miles. We are designated as a Vermont Critical Care Paramedic service, the highest licensed skill level that the state recognizes. With our 14 full-time staff and several part-time staff we maintain two Paramedic level staffed ambulances 24/7, 365 days a year. From January 1, 2022, through November 30, 2022, White River Valley Ambulance responded to 1,550 emergency calls and transfers. This includes Advanced Life Support transfer between hospital.

Training in emergency medical response is also an important part of our mission. We are a regional American Heart Association Training Center, providing CPR and First Aid courses to community members across central Vermont. We also provide advanced practice training to emergency response professionals and volunteers from throughout the state.

Funding for WRVA comes from billed insurance and budget allocations from the towns we serve. Every town pays the same amount per capita. In 2022, the per capita amount will increase from \$65.00 to \$72.00. Town contributions pay for about 54% of the cost of ambulance activities.

Looking back on 2022 and ahead to 2023, we are ever grateful for the numerous first responders and fire departments with whom we work with and who volunteer their time to help a neighbor in need. Your dedication and commitment to serve makes a difference in the lives of those who call for help. For that, we can never thank you enough. **3190 Pleasant St., Bethel, VT 05032 802-234-6800 www.wvra.org**

**Matthew Parrish,
Executive Director**

MONTHLY PAYMENTS BY TOWN FOR JANUARY 1, 2023 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2023

Month	Barnard	Bethel	Braintree	Brookfield	Granville	Hancock	Pittsfield	Randolph	Rochester	Stockbridge	Totals
Assessments	71,424.00	139,824.00	86,904.00	47,448.00	21,672.00	25,848.00	36,288.00	343,728.00	79,128.00	51,696.00	903,960.00
January	5,853.83	10,550.00	6,638.17	3,600.00	1,721.17	2,220.33	3,024.00	27,032.00	6,021.00	4,308.00	70,968.50
February	5,853.83	10,550.00	6,638.17	3,600.00	1,721.17	2,220.33	3,024.00	27,032.00	6,021.00	4,308.00	70,968.50
March	5,853.83	10,550.00	6,638.17	3,600.00	1,721.17	2,220.33	3,024.00	27,032.00	6,021.00	4,308.00	70,968.50
April	5,853.83	10,550.00	6,638.17	3,600.00	1,721.17	2,220.33	3,024.00	27,032.00	6,021.00	4,308.00	70,968.50
May	5,853.83	10,550.00	6,638.17	3,600.00	1,721.17	2,220.33	3,024.00	27,032.00	6,021.00	4,308.00	70,968.50
June	5,853.85	10,550.00	6,638.15	3,600.00	1,721.15	2,220.35	3,024.00	27,032.00	6,021.00	4,308.00	70,968.50
July	6,050.17	12,754.00	7,845.83	4,308.00	1,890.83	2,087.67	3,024.00	30,256.00	7,167.00	4,308.00	79,691.50
August	6,050.17	12,754.00	7,845.83	4,308.00	1,890.83	2,087.67	3,024.00	30,256.00	7,167.00	4,308.00	79,691.50
September	6,050.17	12,754.00	7,845.83	4,308.00	1,890.83	2,087.67	3,024.00	30,256.00	7,167.00	4,308.00	79,691.50
October	6,050.17	12,754.00	7,845.83	4,308.00	1,890.83	2,087.67	3,024.00	30,256.00	7,167.00	4,308.00	79,691.50
November	6,050.17	12,754.00	7,845.83	4,308.00	1,890.83	2,087.67	3,024.00	30,256.00	7,167.00	4,308.00	79,691.50
December	6,050.15	12,754.00	7,845.83	4,308.00	1,890.85	2,087.65	3,024.00	30,256.00	7,167.00	4,308.00	79,691.50
Total	71,424.00	139,824.00	86,904.00	47,448.00	21,672.00	25,848.00	36,288.00	343,728.00	79,128.00	51,696.00	903,960.00

Months	Barnard	Bethel	Braintree	Brookfield	Granville	Hancock	Pittsfield	Randolph	Rochester	Stockbridge	Totals
Jan - June	35,123.00	63,300.00	39,829.00	21,600.00	10,327.00	13,322.00	18,144.00	162,192.00	36,126.00	25,848.00	425,811.00
July - Dec	36,301.00	76,524.00	47,075.00	25,848.00	11,345.00	12,526.00	18,144.00	181,536.00	43,002.00	25,848.00	478,149.00
Total	71,424.00	139,824.00	86,904.00	47,448.00	21,672.00	25,848.00	36,288.00	343,728.00	79,128.00	51,696.00	903,960.00
2023 Budget	71,424.00	139,824.00	86,904.00	47,448.00	21,672.00	25,848.00	36,288.00	343,728.00	79,128.00	51,696.00	903,960.00
Difference	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

OPTIONAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS BY TOWN FOR THE SIX MONTHS FOLLOWING DECEMBER 31, 2023 (No increase at least until July 1, 2024)

Month	Barnard	Bethel	Braintree	Brookfield	Granville	Hancock	Pittsfield	Randolph	Rochester	Stockbridge	Totals
January 2023	6,050.17	12,754.00	7,845.83	4,308.00	1,890.83	2,087.67	3,024.00	30,256.00	7,167.00	4,308.00	72,359.50
February 2023	6,050.17	12,754.00	7,845.83	4,308.00	1,890.83	2,087.67	3,024.00	30,256.00	7,167.00	4,308.00	72,359.50
March 2023	6,050.17	12,754.00	7,845.83	4,308.00	1,890.83	2,087.67	3,024.00	30,256.00	7,167.00	4,308.00	72,359.50
April 2023	6,050.17	12,754.00	7,845.83	4,308.00	1,890.83	2,087.67	3,024.00	30,256.00	7,167.00	4,308.00	72,359.50
May 2023	6,050.17	12,754.00	7,845.83	4,308.00	1,890.83	2,087.67	3,024.00	30,256.00	7,167.00	4,308.00	72,359.50
June 2023	6,050.15	12,754.00	7,845.85	4,308.00	1,890.85	2,087.65	3,024.00	30,256.00	7,167.00	4,308.00	72,359.50
Total	36,301.00	76,524.00	47,075.00	25,848.00	11,345.00	12,526.00	18,144.00	181,536.00	43,002.00	25,848.00	434,157.00

AMOUNTS FOR FISCAL YEAR TOWNS' BUDGETS FOR FY 2023-2024

Months	Barnard	Bethel	Braintree	Brookfield	Granville	Hancock	Pittsfield	Randolph	Rochester	Stockbridge	Totals
July - Dec 2023	36,301.00	76,524.00	47,075.00	25,848.00	11,345.00	12,526.00	18,144.00	181,536.00	43,002.00	25,848.00	434,157.00
Jan - June 2024	36,301.00	76,524.00	47,075.00	25,848.00	11,345.00	12,526.00	18,144.00	181,536.00	43,002.00	25,848.00	434,157.00
Total	72,602.00	153,048.00	94,150.00	51,696.00	22,690.00	25,052.00	36,288.00	363,072.00	86,004.00	51,696.00	868,314.00

Granville Fire and First Response

Some of the highlights of this year going into next:

- Granville Fire and First Response switch to Middlebury Ambulance for dispatch service. Switch will take place by the end of December 2022. The switch has come about due to significant dispatch issues where appropriate agencies were not dispatched to emergency calls in a timely manner.
- One instructor coordinator expecting to be licensed in December, giving us the ability to hold EMT classes in house
- 1 paramedic expecting licensure in December
- Current emergency medical staffing – 1 Advanced Emergency Medical Technician, 4 Emergency Medical Technicians, 1 Emergency Medical Responder, 11 Vermont First Responders
- 5 existing personnel are interested in advancing their licensure to a higher level. 1 is currently attending a class to do so
- We are currently in the planning phase of a fire station expansion project. The project would expand the existing building to include a meeting/training room, office space, bathroom, and a third bay specifically for our emergency medical first response vehicle. Information on this project can be found at www.granvillevolunteerfire.org.
- We have reinstated a scheduling practice to assure personnel are available at all hours for emergency calls. This came about due to a low level of availability during mid-day hours of the work week.
- We are also kicking off an annual membership campaign in which we hope to bring two new members to the roster each year.
- An anonymous donor is now contributing \$6k annually to Granville Fire. 1/3 of that will be directed to the emergency medical budget each year.



Granville Volunteer Fire Department

**Quarterly Newsletter
January 2023**

Call Statistics October through December 2022			
	Granville	Hancock	Rochester
Structure Fire			
Brush Fire			
Illegal Burn			
Alarm Activation	1		
Lines Down	1		
Flooding			
Weather Event			
Rescue	1		
HAZ-MAT			
MVC-Injury		1	
MVC-No Injury	1	1	1
Service Call			
Medical	4	7	10
Trauma	1	1	1
Lift Assist		3	3
Life-Line False Al.			1
Psychological			
Total	9	13	16

The Granville Volunteer Fire Department is always looking for new members to help respond to emergencies in Granville, Hancock, and Rochester. Members do not have to engage in all aspects of emergency services and can choose to pursue the subjects that interest them. If you or anyone else would like to know more, please contact us.

Current Staffing	
Emergency Response	20
Fire	14
EMS	18
Rescue	14
Cadet	1
Training Section	5
Leave of Absence	2
Auxiliary/Fundraising	21
Total Members	25

This newsletter is a summary of activity of the Granville Volunteer Fire Department and is considered public information that may be distributed to anyone with interest.

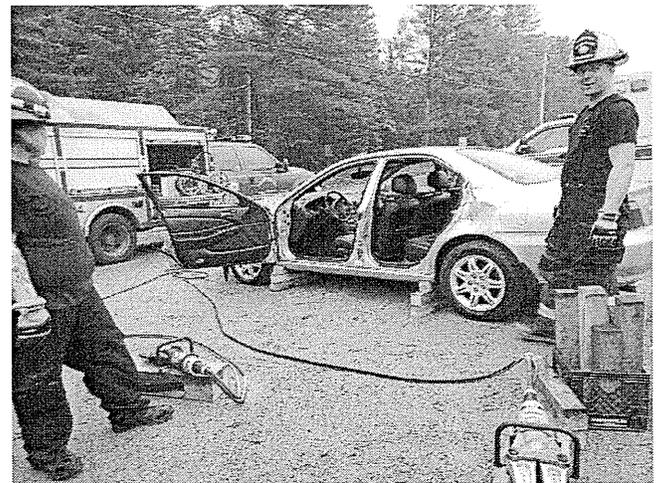
If you would like to add someone to the distribution list, or have any questions, please contact:
Fire/EMS Chief, Dan Sargeant at daniel.sargeant@granvillevolunteerfire.org.

Project Updates

1. Building – Draft design plans in hand. Finance option research underway.
2. Grants/Fundraising – Requesting quotes for personal protective equipment and medical equipment for AFG grant opening in January/February.
3. Dispatching – Equipment has arrived to link Middlebury with Granville. Installation pending.

Staffing & Training Updates

1. Recruiting campaign is starting in late January coupled with the first responder class in April
2. Training – CPR training in the works for February. One member is currently enrolled in EMT class. Two others are scheduled to start in March. First Responder class in the works for new members in April.



VEHICLE EXTRICATION TRAINING COMPLETED ON 7/5/22. CREWS REMOVED DOORS PREPARING FOR PATIENT REMOVAL FROM THE VEHICLE.

Rebecca Yon FF/EMT (Left) and Dan Sargeant FF/EMR (Right)

TRORC 2022 YEAR-END REPORT

The Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission is your regional planning commission. We are governed by a Board of Representatives appointed by each of our 30 member towns. We work to make the area better today, and to articulate a vision for tomorrow that has a thriving regional economy and keeps the Region's outstanding quality of life. The following are highlights from our work in 2022.

Technical Assistance on Planning Issues

Our staff support your local officials by being a wealth of information on many subjects, enabling them to serve you better. We provide advice on zoning, capital budgeting, and preventing flood damage; review solar and cell tower projects; stay abreast of state and federal initiatives so that local government can take advantage of these; and have worked hard to address the region's housing crisis. TRORC staff have also assisted numerous towns with revisions to municipal plans, bylaws and studies.

Economy and Public Health

This year, TRORC obtained Federal grant funding to support the Region's talented artists, food producers, and other parts of the creative economy sector through training and networking events. We also were able to provide many small businesses with grant funds to weather Covid, as well as guidance to towns on using their federal recovery funds. TRORC worked on public health projects with local hospitals, helped towns grapple with new cannabis legislation, and incorporated health-related goals and policies into town plans.

Emergency Management and Preparedness

TRORC staff continued to serve as liaisons between Vermont Emergency Management and local emergency responders, organizations, and town officials on emergency planning. TRORC assisted several communities with updating their Local Hazard Mitigation Plans, helping to reduce future damages from disasters and enable greater state and federal funding when they do happen. When disasters happen, we actively become part of the state and local long-term recovery process.

Energy/Climate Change

TRORC assisted six towns on Enhanced Energy Plans to save money for communities and further the State energy goal of meeting 90% of energy needs from renewable sources by 2050. TRORC has continued working to support town Energy Committees on energy efficiency outreach and education with funding from Efficiency Vermont. We also work on state-level climate policy and local adaptation measures.

Transportation

TRORC managed the Municipal Roads Grants-In-Aid program in our Region getting funding for towns to implement projects including grass and stone-lined ditches, upsizing and replacement of culverts, and stabilizing catch basin outlets. We also work to support our transit agencies, build park and ride lots, and help towns with traffic counts and speed studies.

Specifically in Hancock this past year, TRORC assisted the town with revising the Town Plan. Staff also assisted the town on the Grants in Aid program to complete ditching and culvert improvements on Fasset Hill Road, and assisted in the Better Roads grant application for 2024 to reinforce a riverbank section along Killlooleet Road. TRORC provided technical assistance in preparing a renewal application for the town's Village Center Designation. Staff also supported the town in navigating how to use ARPA funding.

We are committed to serving you, and welcome opportunities to assist you in the future.

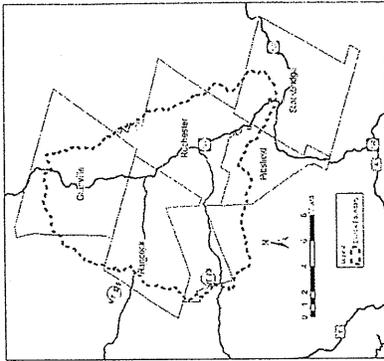
Respectfully submitted,

*Peter G. Gregory, AICP, Executive Director
Jerry Fredrickson, Chairperson, Barnard*



**Upper White River Cooperative Weed Management Association
2022 Report to the Town of Hancock**

2022 was the tenth year that the Upper White River Cooperative Weed Management Association conducted non-native invasive plant surveys, control, education and outreach along town roads and trails located in the Upper White River watershed. See map showing the project area boundary, below.



CWMA partners include the Green Mountain National Forest, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation, Town of Rochester, and White River Partnership. The members are working together to raise awareness about and manage non-native invasive plants.

Non-native invasive plants are plants that are not originally from this area that have exhibited invasive tendencies, spreading rapidly and taking away habitat that native plants need to thrive. They have the potential to negatively impact land and water resources, recreational opportunities, biodiversity, wildlife, and property values. However, the community at large can play a hand in controlling invasive plants on their own properties and community roads through early detection and rapid response activities.

2022 Summary:

Grant funding was received, a coordinator was hired, and several tasks were accomplished.

Monitoring and Control:

With the help of Green Mountain National Forest staff and Vermont Youth Conservation Corps, and CorpsTHAT, approximately 25 acres of wild chervil were controlled on the west end of Bingo Road in Hancock.

While the infestations that have been and continue to be slated for control represent only a fraction of known infestations, and many more are unmappped, they were chosen because they are either in strategic locations, or are relatively more feasible to control than others, or are part of an ongoing effort in those locations.

Education & outreach:

In August, a public presentation was given at the Rochester Public Library entitled: "Replacing Invasive Plants with Native Species in the Home Landscape" for residents in all the Upper White River CWMA towns (Hancock, Granville, Pittsfield, Rochester, and Stockbridge) and beyond. In June, wild chervil management direction was offered to residents and businesses in Hancock, Rochester, and Granville via Front Porch Forum.

Interested landowners are encouraged to take action to control non-native invasive plants on their own properties, or to get involved with the Cooperative Weed Management Association. To get involved locally, contact MaryBeth Deller at the Green Mountain National Forest at mary_deller@usda.gov. To learn more about invasive plants in Vermont, visit the Vermont Invasives website: <http://vtinvasives.org>

TOWN OF HANCOCK, VERMONT
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES MARCH 1, 2022

The legal voters of the Town of Hancock, VT, were warned and notified to meet at the Town Clerk's Office in said town to transact the following business:

Article 1: To elect a Town Moderator for the next year ensuing

James S Leno 57

Blank 3; Spoiled 3

Article 2:

To elect all Town Officers as required by law:

- Town Clerk—3-year term
Jody Jesso 56
Jeannette Bair 2
Blank 3; Spoiled 2
- Town Treasurer—3-year term
Jody Jesso 56
Jeannette Bair 2
Blank 3; Spoiled 2
- Select Board member—3-year term
James S Leno 36
Jeannette Bair 17
Jammie Dzhugashvili 6
Jacques Veilleux 1
Blank 3
- Lister—3-year term
Don Crickard 8
Stacey Peters 2
Jeannette Bair 1
Wendell Thurston 1
Blank 15
- Auditor—3-year term
Rose Juliano 2
Jamie Stone 1
Dan Perera 1
Jeannette Bair 1
Don Crickard 2
Monica Collins 2
Geraldine "Jakey" Twitchell 1
Blank 52; Spoiled 1

- Constable—1-year term
Scott Gillette 52
Blank 9; Spoiled 2
- Collector of Delinquent Taxes—1-year term
Jamie Morin 55
James Leno 1
Blank 5; Spoiled 2
- Cemetery Commissioner—3-year term
Geraldine "Jakey" Twitchell 57
Blank 4; Spoiled 2
- Road Commissioner—1-year term
Dan Perera 51
James Leno 4
Blank 6; Spoiled 2
- Library Trustee—5-year term
Jody Jesso 55
Gretchen Perera 2
Blank 3; Spoiled 2
- Advisory Budget Committee—3-year term
Marjorie Ross 57
Blank 5; Spoiled 1
- WRVA Representative—1-year term
John "Jack" Ross 55
Blank 7; Spoiled 1

Article 3: "Shall the voters authorize the elimination of the Office of Lister and replace it with a professionally qualified assessor appointed by the select board who shall have the same powers, discharge the same duties, proceed in the discharge thereof in the same manner, and be subject to the same liabilities as are prescribed for listers or the board of listers under the provisions of Title 32?" (by ballot)

YES 42

NO 20

Blank 1

Article 4: Shall the voters appropriate a total of **\$35,035.54** to the following social service agencies pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 2691:

Vermont Family Center —Supports families with young children	250.00
Hancock Town Pride —Provides cultural events and opportunities in Hancock	1,500.00
Green-Up Vermont —Supports Green Up Day	50.00
Vermont Adult Learning —Provides adult learning opportunities	115.00
WomenSafe —Provides help related to sexual and domestic violence to all genders	500.00
John Graham Shelter —Provides emergency shelter	350.00
Tri Valley Transit (Stagecoach) —Provides regional mass transit	558.00
Central Vermont Council on Aging —Assistance to seniors accessing social services	800.00
Park House —Senior housing non-profit	500.00
Clara Martin Center —Provides mental health services	595.00
Visiting Nurse Alliance of VT/NH, Inc. —Provides home healthcare and hospice services	1475.00
Quin-Town Senior Center —Provides Meals on Wheels services to valley seniors.	2716.00
White River Valley Ambulance (approx. \$65 per capita)—Ambulance services residents	23,335.00
Granville Volunteer Fire Dept. First Responders —First responder services to valley towns	2101.00
VT Rural Fire Protection —Technical assistance for rural volunteer fire departments	100.00
Addison County Restorative Justice —provides restorative justice programs to Addison County residents (court diversion, etc.)	90.54
TOTAL	\$35,035.54

YES 43
NO 19
Blank 1

Article 5: Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to transfer the balance from the Road Commissioner's Money Market Account to the Highway Capital Fund.

YES 57
NO 4
Blank 2

Article 6: Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to transfer the balance from the Fire Department budget into the Fire Department Equipment Fund.

YES 58
NO 4
Blank 1

Article 7: Shall the voters authorize the Select board to apply the remaining balance in the General Fund of FY 21-22 to reducing the next fiscal year's amount to be raised by taxes.

YES 59
NO 2
Blank 2

Article 8: Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to collect current taxes pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 4791, and if so, to set the payment dates. The dates being of four equal installments dated August 15, 2022; November 15, 2022; February 15, 2023, and May 15, 2023.

YES 60
NO 1
Blank 2

Article 9: Shall the Town of Hancock appropriate the sum of **\$377,116.00** to pay the current expenses for the general and highway funds for the ensuing twelve months, with 2022 - 2023 taxes becoming delinquent after May 15th, 2023, and with the County and State taxes to be paid from the general fund.

YES 36
NO 27

Respectfully Submitted,
Jody Jesso, Town Clerk

Town of Hancock

Informational Sheet

Town Office Hours

10–4 Monday; 9–3 Tuesday; 9–3 Wednesday

(please schedule an appointment)

Selectboard Meetings

6 PM 1st and 3rd Tuesday at the Town Office

Contact Information

Town Clerk & Town Treasurer 767-3660

Email: townclerk@hancockvt.org

Recycling

Company: ABLE Waste Management, 802-672-3569

Location of Dropoff: Rochester Town Office

Time/Date of Dropoff: Every Saturday 8 AM-11AM

Town Website

www.hancockvt.org

Please visit our Town Website to keep up to date with agendas, meeting minutes, contact information, and forms.