



Town of Springfield, Vermont

ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2023

WARNING

ANNUAL TOWN AND TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING HYBRID (PHYSICAL AND REMOTE)

The legal voters of the Town of Springfield and Town of Springfield School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at Riverside Middle School Gymnasium in said Town on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. (8:00 o'clock in the forenoon) until 7:00 p.m. to vote by Australian ballot for Town and Town School District Officers, for all appropriations to be voted by Australian ballot, and all other items of business to be voted by Australian ballot.

A public informational hearing will be held in-person, and will be accessible remotely by electronic means, at the Springfield High School on Monday, March 4, 2024 at **7:00 p.m.** to hear reports of the Town Officers, Town School District Officers and Committees, to discuss all Australian ballot articles on the Annual Town and Town School District Meeting Warning and to do any other business that can legally be done under this Warning.

IN-PERSON PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING WILL BE ACCESSIBLE REMOTELY BY ELECTRONIC MEANS:

- **ZOOM MEETING ID: 829 9266 9830**
- **By computer:** Join meeting by clicking here:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82992669830>
You may be prompted to enter the Meeting ID. You may need to download software <https://zoom.us/>
- **By smartphone, tablet, or other device:** Download and open the <https://zoom.us/> app. You may have to create a free account or sign into your existing account. Select the option to join meeting and enter the Meeting ID. One-tap mobile device click here: [+16465588656](https://zoom.us/j/82992669830)
- **By telephone:** Dial [+1 646 558 8656](https://zoom.us/j/82992669830) and when prompted enter the Meeting ID. Note that long distance rates may apply. Dial-in participants use *9 to raise/lower hand and *6 to mute/unmute.
- **Meeting link** can also be accessed on the home page of the [Town of Springfield website](#)
- **Watch** live on SAPA TV or stream it from [Sapatv.org](https://www.sapatv.org)

**2024 ANNUAL TOWN AND TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
WARNING IS LOCATED ON PAGES 85 TO 87**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Airport Commission	18	Selectboard and Town Manager's Report	4-5
Application for Volunteer Positions	26	Senior Center Report	14
Appointed Boards and Commissions	3	Senior Solutions	31
Appointed Municipal Officers and Department Heads	3	Southeastern Vermont Community Action	32
Appointed Statutory Positions	3	Southern Windsor/Windham Counties Solid Waste Management	19
Assessment Department Report	6-7	Springfield Art and Historical Society	34
Auditor's Report (School)	69	Springfield On The Move	25
Auditor's Report (Town)	42-68	Springfield Regional Development Corporation	20
Board of Civil Authority	17	Springfield School District – Historical Tax Rate	76
Budget to Actuals at a Glance	35	Springfield School District Net Cost By Cost Center	75
Budget Capitals	38-41	Springfield School District Projected Enrollment	77
Budget Summary	37	Springfield School District Proposed Budget – Expenditures	79
Budgeted Revenues	37	Springfield School District Proposed Budget – Narrative	74
Cemetery Commission	17	Springfield School District Proposed Budget – Revenues	80
Code Enforcement	8	Springfield School District Proposed Budget – Summary	78
Community Band	29	Springfield School District Reports	69-73
Dates to Remember	34	Springfield School District Three Prior Years Comparison	81
Declaration of Inclusion Committee	18	Springfield Supported Housing Program	28
Delinquent Tax Collector	7	Springfield Trails & Rural Economy Committee	22
Delinquent Tax Comparison Chart	35	Statement of Taxes	35
Development Review Board	8	Summary of Selectboard's Proposed Budget	37
Directory	2	Tax Analysis	35
Downtown Design Review Commission	8	The MOOver f/k/a The Current	30
Edgar May Health and Recreation Center	23	Town Attorney Report	16
Elected Municipal Officers	3	Town Clerk Report	6
Family Center	28	Town Meeting – Monday Night Reminder – 7:00 p.m. March 4, 2024	Inside Front Cover
Finance Department Report	7	Town Meeting – Notice to Voters	88
Fire Department Report	10	Town Meeting – Summary of 2023	82-83
Green Mountain RSVP	30	Town Meeting – Warning – Informational Meeting – March 4, 2024	85-87
Health Care and Rehabilitation Services	34	Warning – Australian Ballot Vote – March 5, 2024	85-87
Housing Authority	24	Transfer Station and Recycling Center Report	13
Human Resources Department	5	Trustee of Public Funds	36
Humane Society	21	Turning Point Recovery Center	32
Library Report	15	Valley Health Connections	27
Meals & Wheels of Greater Springfield	31	Visiting Nurse and Hospice	27
Mount Ascutney Regional Commission	17	Water and Wastewater Departments	13
Parks, Recreation and Leisure Services Report	9	Windsor County Mentors	33
Planning and Zoning Annual Report	8	Windsor County Report	29
Planning Commission	8	Women's Freedom Center	33
Police Department Report	11-12		
Property Tax Due Dates	41		
Public Works Department Report	12		
Resolutions & Ordinances	6		
River Valley Tech Center School District Summary of 2023	90		
Warning – Annual and Informational Meeting – February 29, 2024	91		
Warning – Australian Ballot Vote – March 5, 2024	91		
River Valley Tech Center Superintendent's Report	89		

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD DIRECTORY

GENERAL INFORMATION

Population: 9,062
Altitude: 410 Feet
Miles: 47 Square
Size: 31,552 Acres

MEETING SCHEDULES

Please check the Town of Springfield Website:
www.springfieldvt.gov for Agendas, Notices and Minutes
of each meeting or call 802-885-2104 to
request a copy. For School Board check: www.ssdvt.org or
call 802-885-5141 to request a copy.

SELECTBOARD

Meetings held second and fourth Monday of each month
(except for June, July, August) at 7:00 p.m., Selectboard's
Meeting Room, Municipal Office

SCHOOL BOARD

Meetings held first and third Monday of each month at 6:30
p.m. at the High School Library

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Meeting held the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at
the Library

PLANNING COMMISSION

Meeting held the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.,
Selectboard's Meeting Room, Municipal Office

SPRINGFIELD HOUSING AUTHORITY

Meeting held the second Tuesday of each month at 8:00 a.m.,
Huber Building, 80 Main Street

CEMETERY COMMISSION

Meeting held the first Wednesday of each month April thru
November at 5:00 p.m. in the Selectboard's Meeting Room,
Municipal Office

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

Meeting is held on second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.,
only if an application is to be considered, in the Selectboard's
Meeting Room, Municipal Office

DOWNTOWN DESIGN REVIEW ADVISORY COMMISSION

Meeting is held when necessary in the Selectboard's Meeting
Room, Municipal Office

AIRPORT COMMISSION

Meeting is held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 5:00
p.m. in the Terminal Building, Hartness State Airport

SPRINGFIELD TRAILS AND RURAL ECONOMY COMMITTEE

Meeting is held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 5:30
p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Municipal Office

DECLARATION OF INCLUSION COMMITTEE

Meetings held fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the
Town Library

TOWN

Municipal Offices:

96 Main Street

Office Hours:

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Monday - Friday

Tel. No

885-2104

Department of Public Works:

Fairground Road

Business Hours:

7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Monday - Friday

Tel. No

886-2208

Police Emergency

Tel. No. 885-2113
or. 911

Police Non-Emergency

201 Clinton Street

Tel. No. 885-2112

Fire and Ambulance Emergency

Tel. No. 911

Fire and Ambulance Non-Emergency

77 Hartness Avenue

Tel. No. 885-4546

Springfield Town Library:

43 Main Street

Business Hours:

Monday-Thursday

9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Friday

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Tel. No.

885-3108

Parks & Recreation Department:

139 Main Street

Tel. No. 885-2727

Senior Citizens' Center:

139 Main Street

Business Hours:

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Monday - Friday

Tel. No.

885-3933

Sewage Disposal Plant:

Clinton Street

Business Hours:

7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Monday - Friday

Tel. No.

885-2854

Transfer Station & Recycling Center:

Fairground Road

Business Hours:

Monday

12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Tel. No.

885-5827

SCHOOLS

Central Offices 885-5141

Athletic Director. 885-7905

Elm Hill School 885-5154

Union Street School 885-5155

Riverside Middle School 885-8490

Springfield High School. 885-7900

Technical Center. 885-8300

ELECTED MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

TOWN MODERATOR		John Middleton
Larry Kraft	2024	Char Osterlund
SCHOOL MODERATOR		Judy Stern
Larry Kraft	2024	Kathy Scott Weaver
		Lisa Young
SELECTMEN		STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Everett T. Hammond	2024	WINDSOR-3
Michael E. Martin	2026	Alice Emmons
Walter E. Martone	2024	Kristi C. Morris
Kristi C. Morris*	2026	
Heather Frahm*****	2024	WINDSOR COUNTY
SCHOOL DIRECTORS		SENATORS
Jessica C. Burlew	2026	Alison Clarkson
Denise Hunter	2025	Richard McCormack
Stephen Karaffa	2024	Rebecca White
Mary Krueger	2025	*Chairperson
Troy Palmer*	2024	**Anna M. Boarini resigned and
LIBRARY TRUSTEES		Char Osterlund was appointed until
Sharon Ayer	2026	March 2024, at which time someone
Christine Boardman***	2025	may run to fill the remaining 1 year
Suzette Chivers	2024	of this term ending March 2025.
pattrice jones*	2025	***Claire Trask resigned and
L. Chris Goding****	2024	Christine Boardman was appointed
Char Osterlund**	2024	until March 2024, at which time
Vacancy*****	2024	someone may run to fill the remain-
TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS		ing 1 year of this term ending
Peter Andrews*	2025	March 2025.
Marc Aube	2024	****Following an unproductive
Gerald Mittica*****	2024	election, L. Chris Goding was
CEMETERY		appointed until March 2024, at
COMMISSIONERS		which time someone may run to fill
Cathryn Feickert	2028	the remaining 2 years of this term
Beth Gray	2026	ending March 2026.
Scott Page*	2027	*****Myrton Graham resigned
Gerald Patch	2025	and no one has been appointed to
Hugh S. Putnam	2024	complete the third year of this term
Barbara A. Courchesne,		ending March 2024.
Ex-Officio		*****Following an unproduc-
JUSTICES OF THE PEACE		tive election, Gerald Mittica was
(Term expires in February 2025)		appointed until March 2024, at
Lori Claffee		which time someone may run to fill
Thornton "Ted" Cody		the remaining 2 years of this term
Warren Cross		ending March 2026.
Alice Emmons		*****Crissy Webster resigned
Jim Fog		and Heather Frahm was appointed
Elizabeth "Beth" Gray		until March 2024, at which time
Randy Gray		someone may run to fill the remain-
Josephine Hingston		ing 1 year of this term ending
Ernest "Pugy" Lamphere*		March 2025.
Stephen Matush		

APPOINTED STATUTORY POSITIONS

CONSTABLE		LISTER	
Paul Stagner	2024	Terry Perkins	2024
TOWN ATTORNEY		David Coleman	2024
Stephen S. Ankuda	2024	TREE WARDEN	
		Mark Blanchard	2026

APPOINTED BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

PLANNING COMMISSION		AIRPORT COMMISSION	
Susan Fog	2024	Paul Bladyka	2025
Beth Gray	2025	L. Alasdair Crawford	2025
Randy Gray	2026	Bruce Johnson*	2026
Steve Kraft*	2024	Peter MacGillivray	2024
Jules O'Guin	2025	Charles Schumacher	2026
Michael Schmitt	2026	Donald Shattuck	2024
Vacancy	2026	Kurt Staudter	2024
Michael E. Martin (Liaison)		Michael E. Martin (Liaison)	
Charles H. Wise, Jr.,		HOUSING AUTHORITY	
Administrative Officer		Peter Andrews*	2025
DOWNTOWN DESIGN		Daniel Harrington	2026
REVIEW ADVISORY		Jessica Martin	2027
COMMISSION		Jeffrey Perkins	2024
Bonny Andrews	2025	Mimi Yahn	2028
William Cronin	2026	Laura Ryan	
Amanda Lamkins	2024	Executive Director	
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW		SPRINGFIELD TRAILS AND	
BOARD		RURAL ECONOMY COMMITTEE	
Michael Kollman	2025	John Bond	2026
Steve Kraft *	2026	Jim Fog*	2025
Matthew Priestley	2026	Charles Gregory	2024
Juanita Rice	2025	Josephine Hingston	2025
Joseph Wilson	2024	Bettina McCrady	2024
Britton Herring, Alternate		Barbara Schultz	2026
Charles H., Wise, Jr.,		Vacancy	2025
Administrative Officer		Kristi C. Morris (Liaison)	
BUDGET ADVISORY		DECLARATION OF	
COMMITTEE		INCLUSION COMMITTEE	
(Review of proposed budget		Daniel Bannan	2026
FY 24/25)		Charis Boke*	2025
Tre Ayer		Caroline Comley	2026
John Bond		Sue Dowdell	2025
Tara Chase		pattrice jones	2025
Jim Fog		Char Osterlund	2025
Heather Frahm		Marianne Morales	2025
Douglas Johnston		Walter E. Martone	2025
Scott Richardson		(Liaison and voting member)	
		Vacancy	
		* Chairperson	

APPOINTED MUNICIPAL OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

TOWN MANAGER		PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR	
Jeffery A. Mobus		Jeffery Strong	
TOWN CLERK/TREASURER		PARKS, RECREATION	
Barbara A. Courchesne		AND LEISURE SERVICE	
DELINQUENT TAX		DIRECTOR	
COLLECTOR		Christopher Merrill	
Barbara A. Courchesne		LIBRARY DIRECTOR	
FINANCE DIRECTOR		Susan Dowdell	
Cathy Sohngen		ASSESSOR	
HUMAN RESOURCES		Nichole Knight	
Charley M. Shepherd		SUPERINTENDENT OF	
POLICE CHIEF		WATER	
Jeffrey S. Burnham		Roy Farrar	
FIRE CHIEF		SUPERINTENDENT OF	
Paul Stagner		WASTEWATER	
PLANNING AND ZONING		Nate Fraser	
ADMINISTRATOR		SENIOR CITIZENS	
Charles H. Wise, Jr.		CENTER DIRECTOR	
		Lori Johnson	

REPORT OF THE SELECTBOARD AND TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE

After what could be best described as a transitional year in 2022, 2023 was a year of building foundations to support the Town of Springfield's efforts for sustained growth. In 2021, the Selectboard adopted a Strategic Plan that recommends specific actions to move the Town forward. The plan is broken down into four main categories. The first category is Downtown and Commercial Development. This includes continued implementation of the 2017 Main Street Master Plan. The next category is Rural Economy and Neighborhoods. This addresses zoning amendments, neighborhood redevelopment, and workforce housing. The third category is Planning and Promotions, and the last category is Infrastructure and Maintenance. The Board updated the Strategic Plan in 2023 to take into account completed projects, changing approaches, and to add more focused action items. The Plan is available on the Town's website under the Government > Documents menu.

In the Designated Downtown area the Town completed or is nearing completion on a number of projects. With the assistance of Springfield On The Move, the Town was able to renew our Designated Downtown certification with the State of Vermont. The Town also completed a scoping study for the Northern Gateway to evaluate the options and feasibility of improving pedestrian and vehicular access to Downtown by adding a new shared-use pathway along River Street between Elm Hill and the plaza. Work on a scoping study to enhance the entrance to Downtown from Clinton Street by reconfiguring the roadway there was also begun with an expected completion date in early 2024.

The Town obtained grants from the State's Flood Hazard Mitigation Program. These grants allow the town to purchase two properties, demolish those properties and return the land to green-space. Two of the town's more prominent dilapidated properties also saw changes. The Town funded the purchase of the Parks & Woolson complex at 33 Park Street by Springfield Regional Development Corporation. Work has already begun to evaluate the contamination challenges that the site presents. This will be a long-term and difficult project but we are on the path forward. Late in the year, a private investor purchased the Oddfellows Building at 15-19 Main Street and has plans to improve this notable and historic Main Street building. Lastly, the Town completed two other projects to improve the Downtown. The Wayfinding Project was completed with the placement of attractive informational signs. Mineral Street and the Springfield Cinema Courtyard also saw improvements; Mineral Street now has a sidewalk for the entire length of the roadway, and the Courtyard landscaping was improved with slate edging and plantings suitable for Downtown.

There has been a significant amount of activity to improve our rural economy and neighborhoods. The Springfield Trails & Rural Economy Committee added signage on the Toonerville Trail, kiosks in Hartness Park, and improved the trails in Hartness Park as well. This project received funding from the State and was supplemented by the efforts of the Town's Parks and Recreation Department. In collaboration with the State, the Town has reconstituted Project Action, with hopes that the coordinated efforts of many groups in our community will improve the living conditions for many in our town. Police Chief Jeff Burnham has taken a leadership role in this effort. The Town has increased its code enforcement actions to address unsafe and blighted properties. These actions have led to the demolition of a few properties to date, with more demolitions and repairs expected. The Selectboard has asked the Planning Commission to determine whether a Neighborhood Development Area might add a tool to the Town's toolbox to assist with improving

our neighborhoods. There has also been slow progress on the Toonerville Trail Extension. While funding for the project has been obtained, it still needs to go through the Act 250 process.

The Planning and Promotions section of the Strategic Plan includes more than marketing; it also includes working with our community partners and addressing staffing shortages that impact Town services. The Town worked with the Springfield Housing Authority (SHA) on a few projects in 2023. Most notably, the Town obtained a \$525,000 grant so that the ventilation system in the Huber Building at 80 Main Street could be improved. In addition, SHA acquired and demolished a property on Pearl Street that was destroyed by fire, and is working to build a new single-family dwelling on the site. We are also working with SHA on a stormwater project.

The Town obtained a \$500,000 grant for the Springfield Regional Development Corporation (SRDC) to perform much-needed code improvement work at 60 Park Street. SRDC and the Town collaborated on the purchase and ongoing remediation of 33 Park Street. The Town provided a loan to Black River Crossings LLC for efficiency improvements to its property at 27-31 Main Street. The Town also addressed staffing challenges as we signed new contracts with three of our four unions in 2023. One improvement of critical importance to the Town was the return to 24-hour police coverage. However, as long as there is a shortage of workers in the region, efforts to remain competitive will be necessary in order to maintain services.

The Town continues to work on its infrastructure. During the 2023 summer construction season, the town paved and repaired just over six miles of road including Seavers Brook Road, South Street, Breezy Hill Road, and Baltimore Road. The Town replaced a large culvert on Eureka Road, 80% funded with a State Structures grant. The Town budgets \$325,000 for paving. In January 2022, the Town updated its Road Surface Management System (RSMS). The purpose of the RSMS is to evaluate the overall condition of the roads using an independent third-party engineer. Voters have overwhelmingly supported road improvements, approving a special appropriation of \$750,000 last year to supplement the amount included in the budget. We understand that there is still a significant amount of work to do on our infrastructure. In the Strategic Plan, there is a greater focus on improving our buildings and other town-owned properties. The Town is constantly pursuing grant opportunities as this necessary work is very costly. If grants are not available to address our needs, it's likely that we'll need to consider issuing bonds for our larger infrastructure projects.

The 2024-2025 Proposed Budget projects total revenues of \$3,436,258, an increase of \$293,040 (or 9.3%) and total expenses of \$15,009,263, an increase of \$764,264 (or 5.1%). Should the proposed budget be passed by the voters, this would mean an increase of \$431,224 (or 3.87%) in the amount to be raised by taxes. There are no new positions requested in the proposed budget. The Town is proposing a major change in one service. The Town Pool and the pool house are both in need of major, and costly, repairs. The Town is proposing a one-year agreement with The Edgar May Health and Recreation Center to provide pool access during the summer. This is only a trial. No long-term decisions have been made. The Town greatly appreciates The Edgar May Center's partnership as we decide how best to move forward.

There are a number of items that contribute to the proposed increase in the budget. There is an increase of \$422,689 for payroll and benefit expenses. Despite this increase, the proposed budget funds a total of 13 patrol officers, short of the 15 positions that would constitute full staffing.

Report of the Selectboard and Town Manager's Office (Continued)

Other significant increases include \$25,000 for the creation of a marketing budget, \$26,000 for enhanced Information Technology support, \$32,000 for diesel fuel, summer and winter road materials, \$37,000 for increased equipment funds for highway and police, an increase of \$25,000 for retaining walls, and a \$25,000 increase for Community Center repairs. Clearly, these increases total more than the \$431,224 increase in the amount to be raised by taxes. The proposed budgeted revenues include an increase of \$150,000 in payments received in lieu of taxes and a \$25,000 increase in net ambulance revenues to partially offset the proposed increased expenses.

The Water and Wastewater Department is also dealing with deteriorating infrastructure. The federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) allocated Springfield \$2.662 million. The Town used roughly 90% of this money in 2023 to replace the ancient and undersized water line along Clinton Street between Bridge Street and the Wastewater Treatment Plant. This water line was replaced and upgraded in order to supply adequate flow and fire protection to the former Jones & Lamson site, allowing for future development there and along Route 11 on the east side of town.

The Town plans to replace the remaining 120-year-old water lines that run under the rest of Clinton Street, Main Street, and River Street. The next sections of water lines to be replaced will be along the rest of Clinton Street, Bridge Street, the lower section of Seavers Brook Road, and Mill Road in North Springfield. This project is expected to cost \$4,000,000. In March of 2023, the Town voted to support a \$3,400,000 bond for this project. Fortunately, the Town received a very favorable funding package

from the State of Vermont. As the project includes substantial funds for lead remediation, up to \$1,000,000 of the project will be forgiven with the remainder of the bond being repaid at 0% for 40 years. The final phase of the project is to replace the water lines under Main Street and River Street. The expectation is that the Town will ask the voters to authorize a bond for this work at the March 2025 Town Meeting.

In November 2023, Selectwoman Crissy Webster resigned her position for personal reasons. Crissy's contributions to the Board and to Springfield made a difference. We thank her for her efforts. The Board appointed Heather Frahm to fill the vacancy until Town Meeting in March 2024.

We want to thank each and every Town employee for their dedication and service throughout the year. We also want to thank the many volunteers who contribute to Springfield, both those who volunteer by serving on Town boards and commissions and the many others who volunteer throughout our community. Together, we make Springfield's future stronger and brighter.

Springfield Selectboard

Kristi C. Morris, Chair

Michael Martin, Vice Chair

Heather Frahm

Everett Hammond

Walter Martone

Jeff Mobus, Town Manager

Email: tosmanager@vermontel.net

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

The Town of Springfield had 3 employees retire in Calendar Year 2023:

- Dee Richardson after 15 years of service in the Finance Department. (6/4/2007 - 6/9/2023)
- David Tewksbury after over 19 years in the Public Works Department (6/4/2004 - 11/30/2023)
- Dan Farrar after over 18 years as Recycling Facilities Manager (8/13/2005 - 12/31/2023)

The Town of Springfield appreciates all your years of service.

Employees with milestone employment anniversaries in Calendar Year 2023 are:

45 Years of Service: Steven Knapp, Cemetery Sexton & Maintenance Worker II

25 Years of Service: Douglas Nelson, Maintenance Worker II

20 Years of Service: Richard Stillings, Police Administrative Secretary

15 Years of Service: Barbara Courchesne, Town Clerk

10 Years of Service: Deborah Ankuda, Police Department Custodian

Donna Craigue, Dispatcher

5 Years of Service: Joshua Blish, Wastewater Collection Foreman

Lori Johnson, Senior Center Director

Denis Menard, Recycling Attendant

Virginia Thulen, Library Aide Substitute

Congratulations on your achievement!

The Town welcomed the following hires:

Fire Department: Jeremy Curfman, Firefighter/EMT (5/2023)
Amanda Silva, Transport EMS Provider (1/2023)

Police Department: William Guzzo, Police Officer (1/2023)
Gabriel Freeman, Police Officer (1/2023)
Tyler Putnam, Dispatcher (1/2023)
Casey Morey, Police Officer (1/2023)
Spencer Foucher, Police Officer (3/2023)
Malissa Franchi, Dispatcher (7/2023)

Library: Jennifer Clary, Youth Services Librarian (9/2023)

Finance: Brittney Rogers, Bookkeeper (7/2023)

Public Works: Quint Eastman, Recycling Maintenance Worker I (5/2023)

Elizabeth Gray, Recycling Attendant (6/2023)

Trixie Whitaker, Office Manager (7/2023)

Michael Kollman Sr., Maintenance Foreman (10/2023)

Water Department: Seth Kimball, Water Technician (11/2023)

Wastewater: Gareld Davis, Plant Operator III/Lead Operator (10/2023)

Charley Shepherd

Human Resources Manager

Phone: 802-885-2104, Ext. 238

Fax: 802-885-1617

Email: toshr@vermontel.net

Website: www.springfieldvt.gov

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES

July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

Resolution No.	Effective Date	Description
R-2022-3	August 15, 2022	Local Cannabis Control Commission
R-2023-1	January 10, 2023	Water System Improvement Bond \$3,400,000
R-2023-2	January 10, 2023	Water System Improvement Reimbursement
R-2023-3	February 13, 2023	Vermont Community Development Program Grant
R-2023-4	February 27, 2023	Public Agency - Mt. Ascutney Regional Commission
Ordinance No.	Effective Date	Description
O-2022-0002	October 24, 2022	Chapter 22 Subdivision Amendment Deletion and Chapter 30 Zoning Restatement
O-2023-0001	July 10, 2023	Chapter 18 Protective Services Residency Requirement

TOWN CLERK

Fiscal Year 2022-2023 included the 2022 August Primary, 2022 November General Election and 2023 March Annual Town and Town School District Meeting.

A special thank you to our dedicated Election Officials and the Board of Civil Authority members who consistently perform Election Day duties with integrity.

The Town Clerk's Office is available M-F 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Services include registering new voters, responding to requests for absentee ballots; issuing dog, hunting, fishing, town, liquor and marriage licenses; preparing certified copies of birth, death and marriage records; preparing cemetery lot deeds; receiving documents for recording in our land records; assisting and answering questions about our records and how to use and access them; issuing motor vehicle, snowmobile and motor boat renewal registrations.

On the town's website you can find both the Town of Springfield's Code of Ordinances as well as an online tutorial on how to navigate the Code of Ordinances at <https://springfieldvt.gov>.

The Town Clerk's Office has many responsibilities set out under the state's statutes and town's charter. In addition to management of the elections, another significant responsibility is preserving, managing, maintaining and recording the town's public records, which includes a variety of documents such as land records, minutes, permits, survey maps, vital records, licenses and election information.

Our land records are indexed, imaged and available online from January 1966 to present. We are currently in the process of adding land records from 1950 through 1966 to the online database. Land records and maps can be found at <https://uslandrecords.com>.

Below are statistics for some of the services that were provided during Fiscal Year 2022-2023:

Cemetery Lots Sold	13
Certified Copies of Vital Records	1426
Documents Recorded	1950
Dog Licenses Issued	806
Hunting & Fishing Licenses Issued	77

Liquor Licenses Issued	27
Marriage Licenses Issued	59
Motor Vehicle Renewals	72
Passport Photos Taken	5
Town Licenses Issued	60
State of VT Green Mountain Passports	58

The Town Clerk's Office also produces the Annual Report each year for which the printing bid was awarded to Springfield Printing Corporation. The Springfield Printing Corporation team goes above and beyond to accommodate, coordinate and make the production process as smooth as possible. It is with much appreciation we thank Mark Sanderson and his staff at Springfield Printing Corporation.

The Secretary of State's Office provides a unique, voter-specific, online resource for all your election-related needs. Visit "My Voter Page" at <https://mvp.vermont.gov> to register online, request an absentee ballot and track its status, update your voter registration record, find your polling place, view a sample ballot, and much more.

In July 2022 we welcomed part-time Assistant Town Clerk, Carrie Kellow. Carrie is also a part-time assistant to the Zoning Administrator and the recorder of the minutes for the Selectboard. Carrie has been contributing her organizational and customer service skills in each department. A very special note of thanks to Assistant Town Clerk, Maxine Aldrich, for her constant dedication and diligent efforts managing our records and providing high-quality service to our community.

Barbara A. Courchesne
Town Clerk, CVC

Town Treasurer, CVT
Delinquent Tax Collector

Phone: 802-885-2104

Email: tosclerk@vermontel.net

Website: www.springfieldvt.gov

ASSESSMENT DEPARTMENT

The Assessor's office is located on the bottom floor of the Municipal Building and we are open Monday-Friday 8:00 to 4:30. Individuals requiring information regarding assessments whether a property owner, potential buyer, real estate appraiser, paralegal or member of the general public should feel free to call 802-885-2109 or email our office at toslisteners@vermontel.net. All of the property records and maps are on our

Town of Springfield Website as well. We will be happy to assist you any of your needs.

You're likely to see us in your neighborhood, working on inspections and permits, please feel free to ask any questions as we are out in the field if you happen to see us. We will leave a yellow tag on your door if we have been to your property, with a date and time on it, so you know we have been there. If we

Assessment Department (Continued)

have any questions and you're not home, they will be a phone number left and person to contact in the Assessment Office.

Having many sales in our town this year, I would like to welcome all of our new residents to Springfield, if you have any questions regarding tax bills, or your assessment please call or email our office, and once again welcome to Springfield.

Nichole Knight, *Assessor*
Johanna Fairbanks, *Assessment Clerk*
David Coleman, *Lister*
Terry Perkins, *Lister*
Phone: 802-885-2109
Email: toslisters@vermontel.net
Website: www.springfieldvt.gov

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR

Total delinquency on June 30, 2023, was \$655,389. This amount has decreased from the prior year's total of \$662,130. The Town's last tax sale was held on October 7, 2021. However, the Town did not hold another tax sale until after the close of the fiscal year on September 7, 2023. After the tax sale proceeds from this sale were applied and due to subsequent collection activity, this delinquent amount was reduced to \$226,242 as of December 31, 2023.

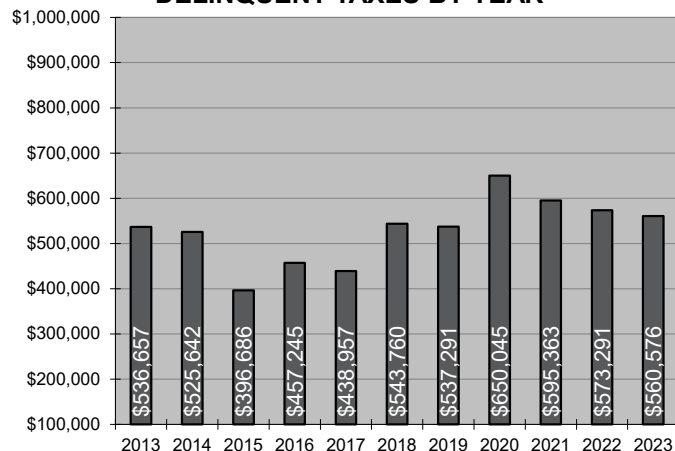
In an effort to address the continuing tax delinquency, the Selectboard approved a new Delinquent Tax Collection Policy in 2009. This formal policy allows me to treat all payers of delinquent taxes equitably and to assist those in need of a plan to reduce and eliminate their delinquency.

Following the final tax due date, letters are mailed to delinquent taxpayers requesting that their delinquent taxes be paid in full or that an agreement be made with the collector for timely payment of these delinquent taxes.

The fourth and final tax due date for the current year's taxes is May 15, 2024. Taxpayers should make every effort to pay as much of their property taxes as possible prior to this date. After May 15, 2024, an 8% collector's fee, in addition to interest, will be assessed to any property tax unpaid on this date.

Barbara A. Courchesne, *Delinquent Tax Collector*
Phone: 802-885-2104
Email: tosclerk@vermontel.net
Website: www.springfieldvt.gov

DELINQUENT TAXES BY YEAR



FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Finance Department is located in the Town Hall. The department is responsible for preparing bills for Town taxes and water/sewer. We also handle the payment of all bills. Other department functions are processing payroll, accounts payable, and the sale of transfer station stickers and punch cards. Normal office hours are 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

For the next fiscal year, property tax bills will be mailed no later than July 15, 2023. Quarterly tax payments are due on August 15, 2023, November 15, 2023, February 15, 2024, and May 15, 2024. The water and wastewater bills are on a 6-month cycle. The bills that are mailed in September are half due on October 31st and half due on December 31st. Bills mailed in March are half due April 30th and half due June 30th.

In 2013, the State of Vermont re-instituted the annual filing of the Homestead Declaration, form HS-145. Homestead filers can file either with their Vermont Income Tax return or online at the State of Vermont website (<http://www.state.vt.us/tax/propertyadj.html>). Please note that only Homestead properties are eligible for the state payment (formerly known as the rebate/prebate).

The Town accept electronic payments (credit card, debit card, e-check PayPal) for property taxes, water and sewer, and ambulance payments. A convenience fee applies for use of the service. Electronic payments can be made on-line by accessing the Town's website (www.springfieldvt.gov/office2.com).

Please take a moment to review the results of the audit that appears later in this Town Report. It provides an objective view on the financial status of the Town. If you have any questions regarding the audit, please feel free to contact me.

The success of the Finance Department is a direct result of the continued hard work and dedication of the employees. Dee, Shanine, and Johanna are very passionate, motivated individuals, who strive to provide exceptional service to employees, customers, and citizens of the Town of Springfield.

After 16 years of service, Dee Richardson retired from the Town in June 2023. Her dedication, experience, and overall presence will be greatly missed. During her many years of service to the Town she built relationships with the customers and residents, many of whom ask about her and wish her well in her retirement years. We all hope retirement offers Dee and Scott an opportunity to spend their days close to the ones they love and the time to do all the things in life that bring them joy and happiness.

Cathy Sohngen, *Finance Director*
Phone: 802-885-2104
Email: tosfinance@vermontel.net
Website: www.springfieldvt.gov

PLANNING & ZONING ANNUAL REPORT

PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

Administrative Officer Renee Vondle retired December 31, 2022. We wish her well in her retirement. Charles Wise has taken on the role of Administrative Officer for Springfield.

The Planning and Zoning Department has been working on improving the efficiencies in the department by digitization of zoning records and simplifying applications for permits. This digitization process has created a significant decrease in the amount of paper created and printing expenses of the department. Permit applications are available on the Town's website and may be submitted electronically via email.

Rental Registry: The Rental Registry was approved to be repealed by the Selectboard on October 9, 2023, with an effective date of December 8, 2023.

Access Permits: The Planning and Zoning Department has taken on the permitting process for driveways/accesses to properties. This was previously down by the Public Works Department.

Special Flood Hazard Areas: With the recent flooding in surrounding Towns, it is important to understand flood risks and how we can safely develop areas in our Town that have the potential to be affected by flooding to decrease the risk of loss. When considering development of property near bodies of water you must check in with the Administrative Officer to determine the risk of flooding for the property.

Administrator Permit Activity: 7 Signs; 26 Accessory Structures; 5 Single Family Dwellings; 4 Exterior Alterations; 1 Boundary Line Adjustment; 1 Accessory Dwelling; 2 Access permits.

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

The Development Review Board (DRB) consists of 5 volunteer residents and 1 alternate seat appointed by the Selectboard. The DRB holds public hearings on the second Tuesday of each month. The DRB is a quasi-judicial body responsible for reviewing proposed land development and administering our Land Use Development Ordinances.

Current DRB Members: Steve Kraft, Chair; Juanita Rice; Matt Priestley; Michael Kollman; Joe Wilson; Britton Herring, Alternate.

DRB Actions: 2 Special Flood Hazard Area reviews; 2 variances; 2 short term rentals; 9 changes of use; 1 art installation; 1 accessory structure; 1 boundary line adjustment; 2 subdivisions; 4 Downtown Design Reviews.

DOWNTOWN DESIGN REVIEW ADVISORY COMMISSION

The Downtown Design Review Advisory Commission (DDRAC) consists of 3 volunteer residents appointed by the Selectboard. The DDRAC holds public hearings to review proposed development in the designated downtown area and make recommendations to the Development Review Board regarding the proposed development. The DDRAC is an on-demand commission that only meets when there are applications for development in the designated downtown area.

Current Members: William Cronin; Bonny Andrews; Amanda Lamkins.

DDRAC Actions: review of clothespin sculpture in Comtu Cascade Park; review of Springfield Housing Authority proposed terraced garden at Whitcomb Building; review Springfield on the Move "Light the falls", downward facing LEDs to highlight Slack and Lovejoy dams.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission (PC) consists of 7 volunteer residents and 1 student commissioner, that are appointed by the Selectboard to serve. The PC meets on the first Wednesday of each month. This Board is tasked with long-term comprehensive planning for the Town of Springfield. They are responsible for reviewing and making recommendations to the Selectboard for the Town Plan and the Land-use Development Ordinances.

Current PC Members: Steve Kraft, Chair; Sue Fog; Michael Schmitt; Ginamarie Russell; Jules O'Guin; Beth Gray; Randy Gray; Marshall Simpson Student Commissioner

Starting in 2023 the PC has held their meetings at various locations and businesses in Town to broaden their knowledge of the needs of the Town. The PC alongside the Ordinance Committee have improved our Land-use Development Ordinances which were then adopted by the Selectboard October 24, 2022. The PC continued working on E-911 address corrections through the end of 2022. The E-911 address corrections are on hold as the PC is working on the Town Plan.

Charles H. Wise, Jr.
Planning and Zoning Administrator
Phone: 802-376-6102 and 802-885-2104
Email: toszoning@vermontel.net
Website: www.springfieldvt.gov

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

Chris Palamar, an employee at the Highway Department, doubles as the Code Enforcement Officer for Springfield. The town has specific ordinances governing unsafe buildings, public nuisances, and standards for property maintenance. These regulations are accessible on the town's website: navigate to the Town Clerk section, click on the municipal ordinance link, and refer to Chapter 8 (Buildings and Building Regulations) and Chapter 12 (Health, Sanitation, and Nuisances).

In 2023, Code Enforcement began collaborating with Planning and Zoning due to overlapping issues with zoning

violations. The town prioritizes voluntary compliance to avoid the costs and uncertainties of court cases, which don't guarantee immediate resolution of violations. Residents can anonymously report code violations via a smart-form on the town's website (www.springfieldvt.gov) under Planning & Zoning, or contact Charles Wise at 802.376.6102 / toszoning@vermontel.net. We must emphasize all complaints remain confidential unless the complainant specifically asks to be identified.

Charles H. Wise Jr., AICP CFM

PARKS, RECREATION AND LEISURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

During the 2022-2023 fiscal year the Parks & Recreation Department focused on growing adult recreational opportunities, maximizing the use of available town property, evaluating our aging facilities needs for future planning, and assisting in the success of many town events. Though all of this made for an extremely busy year, we were still able to offer all our usual youth sport programs and camps while also offering many free organized sport clinics. Through the cooler months the Community Center hosted diverse programs for area residents of all ages. These include basketball, pickleball, volleyball, meeting spaces, party rentals, community open gym, game room activities, candlepin bowling, and more.

PROGRESS, EVENTS, AND HAPPENINGS

The fiscal year started in July 2022 with the tough realization that the Town Pool was not going to open for the season. The final straw was our inability to get chemicals. At the time commercial suppliers were still having difficulties stemming from COVID and other shipping and distribution issues. For the remainder of the summer we addressed some of the many needs the pool has, and prepared for a smoother opening in 2023.

As the winter months arrived and people headed indoors we saw growth in our adult programs, both in participation and offerings. Volleyball had a welcomed post COVID return to the Community Center. Hosting 20 or more players every Wednesday night from October through April. As the winter progressed we saw the existing Pickleball program grow from 12 to more than 40 regular players gathering five days a week. We also added a popular 18-year-old and up Basketball program that took place every Thursday. We are still working on many more future recreation opportunities. Below you will find a full current schedule of our adult programs.

In differing capacities, the Parks & Recreation Department took part in and supported many events around town throughout

the year. These included, but are not limited to; monthly Veggie Van Go food distributions at Riverside, Trunk-or-Treat with the Springfield School District's All-For-One program, the full return of our Winter Carnival in partnership with Crown Point Country Club and the Town Library, Gurney Field Day with the Booster Club and the Springfield School District's Athletic Program, The Springfield Area Parent Child Center's Week of the Young Child Celebration, and The Alumni Day Parade with Springfield's Alumni Association. We are proud to support all Springfield's organizations and to work along side so many wonderful volunteers.

The 22/23 fiscal year ended on a high note with the successful opening of the Town Pool. Though with limited hours of operation due to minimal staff, we still averaged approximately 30 swimmers per day through the season. Getting the pool in full operation also enabled us to have a commercial pool safety and sanitation analysis done on our aging facility. The information gained from this analysis will greatly aid the department and town in future planning for this facility and community swimming opportunities in Springfield.

If you would like to see a specific program offered, or would like to volunteer with the Parks & Recreation Department please contact at 802-885-2727.

Chris Merrill, *Director*
Adam Middleton, *Asst. Director*
139 Main Street
802-885-2727

Email: cmerrillspringfieldrec@gmail.com
Email: amiddletonspringfieldrec@gmail.com
Website: www.springfieldvt.parksandrec.com
Facebook: Springfield, VT Parks & Recreation

COMMUNITY CENTER ADULT PROGRAM WINTER SCHEDULE

Senior Walk: Mon-Fri 11am – Noon
Pickleball: Sunday (Competitive) 10am – Noon
Mon-Thurs 9am – 11am
Fri 8am-11am & 12 – 2pm
Basketball: 30+ Mon 8 – 10pm
18+ Thurs 8 – 10pm
Dodgeball: Tue 8 – 10pm
Volleyball: Wed 8 – 10pm

SPRINGFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT

Springfield Fire Department continues to expand public and emergency services to the Town of Springfield and all its constituents. We are once again seeing an increase in calls for service. This past fiscal year we served 3089 documented calls for service which is almost 200 more calls than the previous year and a huge 32% increase in call volume in just 10 years. The only reason we can successfully continue to do this is because of the people we have working here at Springfield Fire Department. They endlessly serve, always look to make things better and truly care for this industry and the product being delivered to the Town of Springfield and the residents.

Our non-emergency ambulance transfer business is stabilized and is providing a very positive revenue stream for the Town of Springfield. Out transfer business operates 5 days week, at least 8 hours a day and we performed 499 non-emergency transfers this past fiscal year. We have added Amanda Silva and Sean Goings to the fulltime staff in EMS positions as the primary care providers for this non-emergency transfer business. Both Sean and Amanda are also in Firefighter classes being taught by the Vermont Fire Academy to further expand their skill sets and knowledge. Sara Allen has proven to be a critical part of this service not only by being the logistical person which includes scheduling and dispatching the EMS crews for the transfers; she also does all billing for this business as well as the billing for emergency services. With her input we have created a new and streamlined billing policy this past year that will certainly improve data and revenue collection.

I am very happy to announce that Captain John Claflin has been promoted to the position of Deputy Fire Chief. John brings 21 years of experience as a fulltime firefighter here at the Springfield Fire Department. He graduated from Southern Maine Technical College with a degree in Fire Sciences. He holds a number of certifications including a Paramedic License, Fire Officer Certification as well as completing FEMA class ICS300. John has always been a committed member to his family and the Town of Springfield. If you don't already know Deputy John Claflin, please come and introduce yourself to him here at the Fire Department or visit him at his market, JC's Market and Deli, in North Springfield.

With the promotion of Deputy John Claflin, an open Captains spot needed to be filled. That spot was filled by Firefighter/Paramedic, Paul Spicer. Captain Spicer continues to grow and expand his knowledge base in all aspects of emergency response and in the medical field. He is the first person on Springfield Fire Department to earn the level of a Critical Care Paramedic provider. To fill Captain Spicer's position I am super pleased to announce that Jeremy Curfman, a dedicated Call Firefighter/EMT, eagerly and deservingly took the spot. Jeremy brings a large amount of excitement and energy to this department and we are fortunate to have him on board. I also want to thank Jeremy for his service as an active member of the National Guard. Firefighter Nick Skrocki will be a paramedic

by the time this report is printed. This will make about 50% of our staff members licensed Paramedics with the rest at the National Advanced EMT level. We also have Call Members Jerry Beaudry, Michelle Dunning, Britin Baldwin and Edward Bromley in Firefighter class with the Vermont Fire Academy.

Springfield Fire Department was fortunate enough to be awarded an AFG Grant for almost \$100,000.00. This money was used to replace our outdated and worn firefighting bunker gear. Keeping our people safe is obviously on the for-front of my mind all the time. This new gear not only brings us back to meeting the NFPA standards for PPE but it also ensures we have the best protective wear for our people which means we are able to better serve the community in time of need.

Our current staffing level is my largest concern for the department at this time. All the positions are currently filled; however, our staffing does not come close to meeting any industry standard or even any national or local staffing models. Our call volume continues to add to the risk of physical and psychological injury to our members. As stated in previous Annual Reports, our staffing level consists of a minimum of two staff members on duty. We are forced to stack emergency calls sometimes three deep, due to not having appropriate staff to immediately respond. This is a risk that will come to haunt us someday with the types and number of emergency calls we are seeing. Fixing this issue is my task. A plan will be made and introduced to add appropriate staffing to meet safety standards while keeping the cost to the tax base at a minimum. In some industries, like the firefighting industry, it takes a horrible event to make appropriate changes and improvements. I will do what I can to not allow that here in Springfield.

We had our first person complete a year of internship with us here at the fire department. His name is Tyler Sprague and he attended Bellow Falls High School, graduating in 2023. He was a great intern and he set the bar high for future candidates. If anyone is interested in the emergency services as a career path and would like to be considered as a future intern, if you need to acquire ride time necessary for EMS licensure or if you would like to job shadow, please contact us. We will support any interest you have in this career.

Springfield Fire Department is actively engaged in bringing public safety to the citizens. We are offering classes to the public that include, Active Shooter Response, Stop the Bleed, basic first aid classes, AED operations, Stop, Drop and Roll instruction for children and hopefully soon we will have certified CPR classes available to the public. If there is any other area we can assist with safety awareness or public safety, please do not hesitate to ask us. Also, if at any time you would like a tour of our Fire Department, please give us a call, we would love to have you stop by.

Paul Stagner, *Fire Chief*
Website: www.springfieldvtfire.org

SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

The members of Springfield Police Department have been diligently working to move the department forward. There have been significant efforts made to the infrastructure, roles within the department, and police department strategy towards improving community policing.

DEPARTURES

Retiring and returning to the State of Florida in 2023 was Cpl. Steven Neily. Alicia DePietro left the department to take an administrative position at the Chester Police Department. Both employees contributed meaningfully to the Springfield Police Department and will be missed. However, Alicia remains on the department as a part-time dispatcher.

APPOINTMENTS

During the past year, Patrol Officer Positions were offered and accepted by Casey Morey and Spencer Foucher. Both officers come with full-time Vermont certification experience. After a modified field training program they were added to the patrol schedule, much to the delight of the other patrol officers.

A promotional process occurred during the year. Dan Deslauriers was promoted to the rank of Patrol Lieutenant, an administrative role. Jeremy Fitzgibbons was promoted to the rank of Patrol Sergeant. Philip Perkins was promoted to the rank of Patrol Corporal. The promotions helped with the much needed structure in the organization.

Tyler Putnam and Malissa Franchi were offered and accepted positions to full-time dispatch. Their arrival filled the empty position created when Alicia left and the unfilled position that had been empty for a period of time. The dispatch center is now fully staffed with five people. It is functioning very well.

POLICE DEPARTMENT STAFFING

Through the Town's generosity, the Police Department was allowed two additional patrol positions. With the departure of Cpl. Neily, we currently have three patrol officer vacancies. There have no interested certified patrol officer candidates, which leaves the possibility of uncertified officers being hired. A few people have expressed interest and we have begun the early processes of background investigations. It is my hope to have at least two going to the Police Academy in January.

INITIATIVES

The Police Department has started efforts to address motor vehicle traffic at schools. There has been collaboration with school staff and patrol to best address vehicle traffic in the safest way possible.

The Animal Control Officer (ACO) position has been stood up. Lisa Baker, who is also a Springfield Police Department Dispatcher, has accepted the position and has been trained at a national standard for animal control officers. The State of Vermont also has a program but offers it on a very limited basis. Lisa will attend the next Vermont ACO training.

The Police Department has introduced a drone program to the department. Two officers have attended training to develop department's program. They will continue their training to include the necessary flight instruction. There are many regulated procedures to utilizing this type of technology. It is not for play or to bypass individual rights. There will be tracking and supportive documentation for each and every flight. Often times, search warrants are required.

New and updated Mobile Data Terminals (MDT's) have been installed in the five front line patrol vehicles. They have been programmed to work with the State of Vermont's record management system. They have attached printers to issue civil violations and warnings. Most importantly, they are all working properly.

Dispatch console upgrades have begun. The current system is at "end of life" and the hardware necessary for the update has started to be purchased. The new system will be easier and more economical to maintain. Burlington Communication is the vendor that the department is working with. They are new to us, but many public safety agencies have raved about their products and customer service.

The Police Department now has surveillance video access to the Springfield High School. There had been access to the vocational part of the school. After working with the Superintendent's Office, a memorandum of understanding was created to clarify, when and why the department would access the cameras. In short, it would be only be for testing, training, or emergencies.

Body camera video systems have been tested and evaluated. A grant for assistance with the purchase of the cameras and necessary software to maintain the videos, has been applied for. While the award has not been given yet, we look forward to the eventual use of body cameras sometime this year.

The Police Department has collaborated with Turning Points Recovery Center to implement a program to call in a Recovery Coach to the department at the time of an arrest, and when the involved party expresses interest. It is an attempt to bring recovery efforts to those in need of it, sooner in criminal justice process.

TRAINING

The following are training classes attended in addition to the VT Police Academy's annual required classes; Street survival, Field Training Officer school, drone program development, officer safety and wellness, homicide investigation, supervisor school, drug investigation, Glock Armorer School, firearms instructor, motor carrier enforcement, ground fighting instructor school. Officers also contributed to the Police Academy training curriculum by participating in scenario based training, working as Teaching Assistants, and assisted with testing for final exam assessments.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

While we attempt to fill the patrol positions we have remained limited in Community Policing Programming. I have many ideas but will implement more when time and staffing permits.

The police department has started to attend school athletic events. This was a desire by school staff, parents, and patrol. In addition to sporting events, officers are at the various schools each school day. The schools and officers rotate each day. It is our attempt at normalizing police at the school and potentially breaking down one barrier to communication. It has been very well received.

The Police Department, as well as other social service, governmental, and civic organizations, have begun the rebuilding efforts of Project Action. There has been a slow start to the strategy development but we have been gaining momentum. It is my intent that Police Department has a significant role in Project Action and its positive impact on Springfield.

Police Department (Continued)

RECOGNITION

I would like to thank many of the citizens of Springfield for their on-going support of the Police Department, as well as Town leadership. I would like to recognize a few organizations for their continued and unwavering support of the Springfield Police Department members.

The police departments of Charlestown, NH, Weathersfield, and Chester Police Department have continued to respond to Springfield police incidents without hesitation. While we have not had to reciprocate yet, we stand ready to do so.

I would like to thank the Springfield Fire Department for their assistance with a variety of calls for service, almost on a daily basis. The on-going collaboration has been a pleasure.

They have helped with training, traffic, critical incidents, and even a team building event after a department meeting. The support between departments is stronger than ever.

All of this year's accomplishments could not be possible without the amazing staff at the police department. The patrol officers, dispatchers, administrative staff, custodial staff, evidence technician, and Animal Control all have contributed significantly to development of the department. It has been an amazing year. I look forward to the next

Jeffrey S. Burnham, *Chief of Police*

Website: www.springfieldvt.gov/police

Facebook: Springfield Police Department, Springfield, VT

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Road Surface Management System (RSMS) was updated and was used again to help put together the annual paving plan. In keeping with that plan developed for the Town of Springfield we paved 6.12 miles of roads. There is always a significant amount of work that needs to be done such as repairing ditch lines, replacing culverts, replacing water services, raising and or lowering valves, basins, and manholes before the paving contractor can come in to do their work.

We would like to thank the residents of Springfield for their continued support in our effort to improve the quality of the roads in the Town of Springfield.

This year we completed:

1. Mineral Street Box Culvert. We have worked on this project and was completed by Oct. 2022. This project was funded with a Grant from the Agency of Transportation.
2. Mineral Street sidewalk connection. There was a design done to connect the existing sections of the Mineral St sidewalk near the State Office Building. This project was put out to bid and construction will start in the spring.
3. Greeley Road Project. This project was also funded by a Grant from the Agency of Transportation.
4. Park St culvert / slip line EJP performed liner material and assisted Crown Point excavation in installation.
5. The water project "Contract H" was started on Clinton Street and should be completed by end of the year.

Equipment replaced this year includes:

1. large dump truck with plow and wing
2. One caterpillar 950G wheel loader
3. 2023 GMC 2500 crew cab pickup.

The Cemetery Sexton, with the occasional help of a laborer maintains the three large cemeteries as well as five smaller ones.

The Public Works Crew continues to mow & trim over 20 grass islands, gathers and disposes of trash and recycling from all departments as well as the public trash, pet waste and recycling bins throughout town, we remove and replace large planters from storage for the Garden Club; we also remove debris from their garden clean ups and assisted with several tasks in their effort to beautify the areas throughout the town.

The Public Works Department once again this year had several personnel changes. This situation is not unique to Springfield. Municipalities throughout the state and country are having difficulty filling positions. We have a few personnel who are nearing retirement, and the physical demands and long hours are not appealing to those seeking employment these days.

The Department of Public Works Personnel responds to many emergency and non-emergency requests from the citizens of Springfield. We try our best to address each request in a timely manner and with the professionalism they deserve.

With the change in weather patterns over the years we have seen the icing events mixed with snow. Winters are unpredictable, the year 2021/2022 winter brought us 25 Storms of ice/snow mixture events. These chemical storms as we call them are more costly to contend with than a good old-fashioned snowstorm. The roads need to be treated with salt and sand frequently rather than just plowed and treated. To put this into perspective last winter 2022/2023, we also had 25 storm events which required our attention we used almost 4000 tons of salt and close to 5000 cubic yards of winter sand, with a total snowfall of just over 88".

Please remember to give the snow removal equipment the time and space they need to make the roads safe for all to travel this winter.

We would like to thank the Town Manager and Select Board for their support throughout the year as well as the citizens of Springfield for the thank you cards and calls, they are truly appreciated by the crew.

We can be reached at 802-886-2208, Monday – Friday 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Jeffery Strong, *Director, DPW*

Email: dpwjeff@vermontel.net

Donald Turner, *Operations Supervisor, DPW*

Email: pwdept@vermontel.net

Trixie Whitaker, *Office Manager, DPW, W/WW*

Email: pwwa@vermontel.net

Website: www.springfieldvt.gov

WATER DEPARTMENT

The Springfield Water Department continued with Project H (the lower Clinton St. water line replacement project) in the spring of 2023. This project was awarded to Casella Construction Company to carry out the water line replacement and Aldrich and Elliott as the project engineers. In March of 2023 the Town voted to bond for the next phases of the water project. We continued working with Aldrich and Elliott Engineering to start designing the next phase which will be Project I (upper Clinton St., Bridge St., and Mill Rd area). The Water Department staff has been busy locating existing utilities and working with engineers on the layout and timing of Project I. Along with Projects H and I the Springfield Water Department also continues to work on the Town's Lead Reduction Plan which began in 2018. In this plan our goal is to identify and replace all lead service goosenecks/pigtails in the water system.

At this time, I would like to thank the dedicated employees of the Springfield Water Department for all their hard work and to all the other Departments that have assisted us over the year so we can do our jobs. I would also like to thank Rick Chambers for his twenty-seven years of commitment and dedication to the Springfield Water and Sewer Department. Good luck Rick in your new adventure. Thank you to all that support us.

Roy Farrar, *Water Superintendent*

Phone: 802-886-2208

Email: wwsupt@vermontel.net

Website: www.springfieldvt.gov

WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT

I would like to start by extending gratitude to the Wastewater personnel for their dedication to the operation and maintenance of the town's extensive wastewater system and the citizens it serves. I would also like to thank the Selectboard members and Town Manager for their support during the transition of department heads when Rick Chambers left us in pursuit of a new career. Best of luck to Rick and thank you for all the years of service to our community.

Springfields WWTP and composting facility are aging, and we have been working to identify areas of importance for future upgrades or improvements. Like many other communities, our infrastructure is dated. Over the course of the last year, we have made some electrical improvements at our main pump station on Clinton Street. The wastewater staff are also working daily to maintain or replace some of the older equipment that we have at WWTP as well as the ten pump stations that keep the Sewer flowing underground throughout our community.

Currently we are preparing for a twenty-year review at the Treatment Plant. Springfields last upgrade was in 2004. Wastewater is an ever-changing industry and technology has changed a lot during that time. We are also in the beginning phase of a study to identify alternate options for how we handle our sludge, compost, aka biosolids. The compost facility has essentially surpassed its designed service life.

In closing, thank you to the Springfield citizens for your continued support. The staff here are all very proud to be of service to this great community.

Nate Fraser, *Wastewater Superintendent*

Phone: 802-885-2854

Email: wwsupr@vermontel.net

Website: www.springfieldvt.gov

SPRINGFIELD TRANSFER STATION AND RECYCLING CENTER

While casting about for something to contribute to this year's annual report, I chanced upon a report I found from 2004.

It seems some things had not changed all that much to this point. The flow and the storage of recycled materials were an issue then, although improved over the years, there is still not enough room. Marker prices have Risen and Fallen.

It was mentioned that a place was built to store batteries and as things evolved around here, the first shed had been replaced with one that turned out to be too small as well. Why too small you may ask . . . Well batteries have become ubiquitous, they arrive on site faster than they depart, they are in everything, they size anywhere from Commercial equipment sized batteries to automotive size down to button sized batteries and everything in between. The composition of all these batteries is what determines the steps for storing them and transporting them safely.

There are over a dozen different chemistries we encounter every day; nickel cadmium or lithium ion which cannot be

treated like all alkaline flashlight batteries we all have rolling around in the backs of our junk drawers; why not recycle them?? Another thing that people can do is take the batteries out of the things that are going into the trash stream. Years ago, we did have a dumpster fire that is a safe bet that it was started with a discarded battery.

I must have about used my allotment of pager space by now, but on a positive note I would like to express my gratitude to our band of hard-working Employees' and volunteers who help keep the wheels turning no matter what the weather serves us and who help pull it all together to get the job done year after year.

Daniel Farrar, *Recycling Coordinator*

Recycle Center Phone: 802-885-5827

Website: www.springfieldvt.gov

SPRINGFIELD SENIOR CENTER

The Springfield Senior Center is a very busy center as we try to have something for everyone. We are located in the Community Center Building at 139 Main Street, and open weekdays from 8am to 4pm. There are no membership fees associated with our center, we believe that all senior members of the community and surrounding areas can participate in the center activities. We publish a monthly newsletter offering all our events and activities, also a weekly newspaper article, and our popular Facebook page.

As the fiscal year began in July 2022 the Senior Center was up and running at full force, offering many activities for the summer months. We had summer day trips, along with our annual picnic at Tree Farm Campground. We also added Pot Luck Mondays on the first of every month, this is a time when many come and we have lunch together.

When September came around, we were offering our regular classes and activities. Yoga classes, strength training classes, Ceramic classes and Cribbage & Shuffleboard leagues resumed. We also have Nickel Bingo, card and board games along with drop-in corn hole games, and the popular foot clinics we offer. We also added a new card game to our list "Wizard"

In October we hosted a Flu clinic from the VNH. They gave over 50 flu shots that day.

We were able to hold a Christmas Bazaar in November for members to sell their crafts and goods. We offered baked goods, as well as lunch foods. This event was very well attended. This Bazaar is our largest fundraiser that we do. We thank all those who support the Center.

We were also a drop off point for knitted items for the Santa Claus Club. We received many hand-knitted hats, mittens, and blankets to name a few items. Our knitting group the "Knit Wits" also contributes many items. We also collected calendars for the Santa Claus Club to be given out. Thank you to all who donated items for the Santa Claus Club. We also have a food donation box that we donate to local food shelves around town.

In February we received another Elks Gratitude Grant for \$1,000. This money went toward getting our new kitchen sink and cabinets done. We want to thank the Springfield Elk Lodge #1560 for this grant.

Once again, the Senior Center partnered with AARP Tax Aide this year to help individuals with their taxes. This was another successful year in helping many seniors with their taxes.

In May we celebrated the "Senior of the Year" for the first time since 2019. Our Senior of the Year went to Linda Wheeler. The court consisted of Paulette Shambo, Brenda Neronsky, Cindy Wooton and Karen St.Arnaud.

Also in May, Mike Wooton retired as our Ceramic instructor, and we welcomed Kathleen (Kiki) Boyens.

The Senior Center has grown with new members and new ideas to make our Center stronger than ever. We have added more programs that people have ask for. Now more than ever people want to get out and socialize with others. Senior Centers are so important in today's times, any activity large or small is so important to this growing population of people. Our Senior Center is celebrating its 60th year in September of 2023, and going stronger than ever. We would like to extend a big thank you to the taxpayers for your continued support to help make us the Center we are. Our motto is "Enter as strangers, leave as Friends." Thank you to all in the community for being our friends, without your involvement we wouldn't be celebrating our 60th year.

Lori Johnson, *Executive Director*

139 Main Street

Phone: 802-885-3933

Email: lorijohnsonssc@gmail.com

Website: www.springfieldseniorcenter.com

Facebook: Springfield Vermont Senior Center

Advisory Committee-Parks & Rec:

Andy Bladyka

Nancy Houghton

Linda Johnson

Martha Lucas

Denis Menard

Gerry Piper

Linda Wilson

SPRINGFIELD TOWN LIBRARY

MISSION: Springfield Town Library is a community hub for growth, connection, and discovery.

VISION: Springfield Town Library Informs, Includes, and Connects our Community for a Sustainable Future.

VALUES: Helpfulness, Growth, Tolerance and Respect, Trust and Privacy, Security.

Springfield Town Library is a vital community resource where everyone is welcome and valued.

We can give you all sorts of usage statistics from the 2022-2023 fiscal year:

- 19,980 visitors checked out 35,808 items, including 193 passes to area destinations and 6109 digital downloads.
- There were 9623 individual uses of our online databases.
- There were 2419 in-house computer users last year. An additional 68 people used the library's free Wi-Fi each day.
- Over 5300 people participated in library programs, including free summer lunches for youth.

Numbers don't tell the whole story. Behind every number is a problem solved or a need met. One person might fill their water bottle, charge their devices, and stay warm or cool for part of their day. Someone else might need to use a computer to apply for a job or get one-on-one help with their device. Others need documents printed, scanned, faxed, or laminated. Homebound patrons receive book deliveries twice a month. Others bring their children in for books and educational activities or to work on the community puzzle. The 'Family Room' is used for quiet online or in-person meetings, while the Flinn Room hosts community events. There are so many more examples! Your library staff is here to do whatever we can for each person who walks in the door or calls on the phone.

Springfield Town Library is committed making decisions based on the Triple Bottom Line: Environmentally Friendly, Socially Equitable, and Fiscally Responsible.

Starting in July 2022, the library trustees and staff began work on a strategic plan to guide us for the next five years. We talked to people who use the library and people who don't use the library. We asked what people in town need from the library. We talked to experts and regular people about problems in town. We thought about how the library could help.

The new plan has three parts:

1. **The library will provide more resources for people.**
Some resources will help people find housing, look for jobs, or educate themselves.
Some resources will help families keep children safe and healthy.
Some resources will help children do their school work.
The library will also support local groups that help the town.
2. **The library will put on more events that bring people together.**
3. **The library will become certified as a "Sustainable Library."**

This part of the plan has its own three parts:

- a. Library decisions will be good for the environment. This will help the town deal with problems like storms and floods. This will also help people know what to do about climate change.

- b. Library decisions will be thrifty. This will help the town save money.
- c. Library decisions will be fair. This will make sure that everybody feels welcome at the library and in Springfield.

What did the library do in 2022-2023 toward these goals? Here are some of the highlights of what we did:

- Collaborated with WNESU Farm to School Café to provide children with free summer lunches.
- Received a Public Library Association and AT&T Digital Literacy Grant to install an 85" television and collaborated with RVTC students and BRIC personnel to provide technology classes.
- Received grant funds from the Association for Rural and Small Libraries to redesign our gardens and plant pollinators and vegetables for the bees, birds, and the community. A gate from the front ramp to the side garden was installed. Little Libraries were added to the community, places where people could freely share books with others.
- Received a Preservation Trust grant to offset the cost of a consultant to evaluate our building in preparation for future grant funding requests.
- Hosted monthly craft sessions, 3 monthly book clubs, movie nights, and a variety of other programs for people to gather, reducing social isolation.
- Began hosting "Community Conversations" – for people to gather to ask questions of community leaders and learn more about our town and different topics. These and other programs were recorded by SAPA TV to bring the conversation to other who could not otherwise attend, making our programs more accessible.
- Completed "Cultural Competency" staff training and other professional development pertaining to socially equitable practices.
- Collaborated with the Vermont Department of Health to have free COVID test kits available and with the Vermont Attorney General's Office to provide free gun locks.
- Collaborated with the Springfield Rotary Club to be the community drop-off location for soft plastic recycling. We now double-side as much of our printed materials as possible to reduce paper usage.
- Added to our "Library of Things" collection to reduce the amount of things people would have to purchase and eventually throw out. We also relocated this collection to make it more accessible.

Finally, we would be remiss if we did not mention our staff changes this year. We bid a sad farewell to our "maintenance goddess" Jamie Gehring and Youth Services Librarian Michelle Stinson – we wish them all the best. We welcomed Kevin Willard who has been a godsend in keeping our library clean and taking care of everything so very well.

Sue Dowdell, *Library Director*
43 Main Street

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Website: www.springfieldtownlibrary.org

TOWN ATTORNEY

I submit my review of Springfield's significant legal matters for inclusion in the Town Report. I include those matters which are in active litigation, as well as those which may have a potential for future litigation and are appropriate for public disclosure. This report does not include any review of routine matters nor the numerous opinions rendered to the Selectboard and Administration concerning issues that arise during the course of any given year. This report does not address the status of personnel matters.

The Town was sued by Janice Prichard and Susan Lanphere in 2023 alleging that the Town did not properly regulate the Oakland Cemetery and take affirmative action against the family of an occupant of one burial lot when the family of the occupant of a neighboring burial lot allegedly moved boundary markers and installed a bench which encroaches over the boundary line. This matter has been referred to the Vermont League of Cities and Towns PACIF program which has engaged counsel to represent the Town.

We have concluded our litigation with Donald Bishop. The burned out Wall Street property, which the Town cleaned up, was turned over to the Town and the property has now been sold. The new owner is intending to develop housing there. We have judgment against the Bishops for the costs to clean up the Valley Street building for \$14,726.15 due September 1, 2024.

The litigation between Russell Grochowicz and the Town appears to be continuing on with the Town being represented through the Vermont League of Cities and Towns PACIF Program and awaiting Court scheduling.

The litigation over the former Parks & Woolson building has concluded and a local development entity is the new owner with plans to remediate and rehabilitate the property.

The litigation regarding Will Hunter's Community Restoration Corporation's tickets has been concluded with the Court upholding the issuances of the tickets for zoning violations.

The Town Charter has required that the Town Manager take residence in the town within six months of commencement of work. Our former Town Manager, Mr. Neratko, did not accomplish this. Accordingly, the Selectboard terminated his contract

and appointed Springfield resident and former Town employee, Jeffrey Mobus, to take office as full time Town Manager on February 22, 2021. Mr. Neratko sued the Town, in essence claiming the Selectboard could waive the residency requirement. The County Court agreed with the Town that our hands were tied and the Town could not continue to employ Mr. Neratko as Town Manager. Mr. Neratko disagreed with that decision and appealed to the Vermont Supreme Court. During 2023 the Vermont Supreme Court upheld the termination of Mr. Neratko as the Town requested.

During the year the Town has been very active in pursuing burned out or seriously dilapidated buildings and has acquired the same using various sources of funding including specifically grant funding for the Kingsbury building located between the former Parks & Woolson and Elks club. Due to that property beginning to fall into the river the State has funded the acquisition of that property to be demolished and returned to its natural state as a river bank. The same source of funding is being utilized to purchase in 2024 the properties at 34-40 Valley Street and also to return those properties to predevelopment condition.

There is currently no active litigation concerning environmental sites within the Town. However, long term ground water monitoring is in place at a number of locations, and the risk will always exist that either changes will occur in the subsurface flow of contaminants or the state and federal government will impose higher and higher standards requiring affirmative remediation. Bradford Oil Company remains responsible for the former gas plant, and SRDC is moving forward with the J&L Plant 1 site redevelopment.

The Town still awaits the conveyance from the State of Vermont of the surplus land around the Correctional Facility. The completion of the States' obligation under the Correctional Facility Agreement to transfer that land to the Town is unfortunately more of a political issue than a legal issue. We would wonder whether if we were closer to Montpelier or Chittenden County the outstanding promises by the State would have been fulfilled.

Stephen S. Ankuda, Esq.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY

The Board of Civil Authority (BCA) for the Town of Springfield consists of the fifteen elected Justices of the Peace, the Selectboard and the Town Clerk. In addition to administering all elections in the Town of Springfield, this Board serves as the Board of Tax Appeals and Board of Abatement for the Town.

Fiscal Year 2022-2023 included the 2022 August Primary, 2022 November General Election and 2023 March Annual Town and Town School District Meeting.

During Fiscal Year 2022-2023 the Board of Abatement heard 1 request and the Board of Tax Appeals heard 4 appeals.

The Town of Springfield is very fortunate to have an engaged group of citizens who take the time to serve as our elected Justices of the Peace as well as those community members who serve as our Election Officials in various positions at the polls on Election Day.

It is with much appreciation that we thank the members of the Board of Civil Authority for their professionalism, dedication and efforts. A special thank you to the School District for allowing us to use Riverside Middle School Gymnasium as our polling place and especially the efforts of Tim Bixby and his maintenance staff.

Barbara A. Courchesne, *Clerk*
Board of Civil Authority
Phone: 802-885-2104
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CEMETERY COMMISSION

2023 has been a challenge to maintain the cemeteries in Springfield first due to very dry weather in the Spring and then very wet weather over the Summer and Fall months that hampered mowing and other work. The full time crew consisted of two with some additional help before Memorial Day. The cemetery crew was also mowing other areas around town this year due to an overall shortage of help, and did their best to keep up with all the cemeteries.

The cemetery commission met from April to November on the first Wednesday of each month. Commissioners have been researching cleaning and restoration techniques and working on an inventory of damaged monuments and markers in the Summer Hill Cemetery for future repair and restoration projects.

The sale of new lots this past year for Oakland and Pine Grove totaled 13. Oakland Cemetery has a small number of lots left for sale in section J, Pine Grove Cemetery has a large number of lots available for sale in block one of section 5 with block two of section 5 surveyed, pinned and ready when block one is completely sold. The commission will be working on additional sites in the Oakland Cemetery in the near future.

Anyone interested in purchasing a cemetery lot in the town's cemeteries can contact cemetery commissioner Scott Page at Davis Memorial Chapel at 802-885-3322 or at davismemorialchapel@gmail.com.

Scott A. Page, *Chair*
Website: www.springfieldvt.gov

MOUNT ASCUTNEY REGIONAL COMMISSION

The Mount Ascutney Regional Commission (MARC). The MARC is an organization that serves the ten towns in the southern Windsor County Region, including Springfield. The activities and programs of the MARC are governed by a Board of Commissioners that are appointed by each member town. The primary function of the MARC is to assist member towns with their planning and other community related activities, and to promote cooperation and coordination among towns.

During FY23, the dues from member towns contributed about 2% of the MARC's annual budget of \$1,741,824. The town dues assessment of \$11,781 was determined on a \$1.30 per person based upon U.S. Census data. The remaining revenues were derived from federal, state, and other funding sources.

The MARC offers member towns a broad range of services, including assistance with planning, zoning, transportation, water quality, emergency management, data, mapping and other planning activities. In FY23, the MARC has provided a significant number of services to the Town of Springfield including:

- Assistance through our regional Brownfields Program for multiple properties, such as Park Street School, Parks and Woolson, Bryant Grinder, Edgar May Recreation Center, and the Jones and Lamson site;
- Assisted with grant writing and local project management for a variety of projects including the Lincoln Street slope failure, Valley Street dam removal, Toonerville Trail extension project, and feasibility studies for Northern Gateway and Clinton Street Road Diet projects.

- Assisted the Planning Commission with preparing Town Plan updates;
- Evaluated the readiness for applying for Neighborhood Development Area designation and the necessary zoning amendments required as a prerequisite;
- Provided grant writing and project administration assistance for the Park Street School project (HUD, CDBG, and Northern Borders Regional Commission funding);
- Assistance with emergency management planning;
- Assisted with the response and recovery from the July flooding event.
- Assistance in updating the Local Emergency Management Plan;
- Provided technical assistance with the Grants-in-Aid Program;
- Provided information and technical assistance related to American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

We would like to thank town appointed representatives Walter Martone, Crissy Webster and Kristi Morris who have served on the MARC Board and Committees this past year.

Thank you for your continued support of local and regional planning. For more information about the MARC, call us at (802) 674-9201, visit our website at www.marcvt.org, or look us up on Facebook.

Jason Rasmussen, AICP
Executive Director

SPRINGFIELD AIRPORT COMMISSION

The most concerning issue facing Hartness State Airport this past year continues to be the plans to bring runway 5-23 into compliance with Federal FAA requirements and to repave the second longest runway in Vermont. The project timeline has been slowed by the Vermont Transportation Aviation division thereby giving more time to find the additional funding that will be necessary to rebuild the runway in its current configuration, maintaining its 100 foot width and 5,501 foot length.

The Airport Commission has been working to assist the State in finding the funds through possible additional federal and state funding. The commission has been working with staff of senators' and representative's offices to find funds for the project. Unfortunately, this was an election year and the Vermont delegation changed significantly with the retirement of Senator Leahy and Representative Welch replacing him and Representative Balint replacing Senator Welch. This coupled with a change of control in the US House of Representatives, has slowed the process as the new congress got to work.

This year the airport has experienced a resurgence of use following the COVID pandemic period. The New England Soaring Association held an event and the New England Aerobatic Club tried to hold an event in July 2022, but the weather was most uncooperative and the weekend was mostly a washout. Pilots did turn out but conditions did not cooperate! The Civil Air Patrol held two Glider Encampments which were well attended. The Soaring Club did operate the ACE Camp in August for Aviation Career Education for Youth ages 12 to 16 years. The exciting five day program was well attended and offered the participants an exciting agenda of experiences including rides in a hot air balloon, a P-51D Mustang, helicopter, corporate jets and gliders as well as observing jobs in the career field of aviation. The Civil Air Patrol Squadron, VT-007 held open house days to recruit new members and to build the squadron membership.

The airport was used to host a large company meeting which witnessed 7 large corporate jets fly participants into Hartness from around the country. Following the meeting the

departures made Hartness look and feel like a large city airport such as JFK in New York for a few minutes with jets taxiing and taking off, one after the other!

Corporate jet traffic has grown as visitors find the runway size is able to accommodate larger jets which can reach destinations further away. This factor coupled with the ease of access to and from Hartness makes flying much easier and comfortable.

The commission has been working to find ways to promote the advantages available to people when using Hartness State Airport as your home or as a destination for you flying needs. Working with the Agency of Transportation we have assisted in the production of a video of about ten minutes duration that highlights the history and the people and groups who have already "discovered" Hartness State Airport. The video is posted on the Vermont Transportation website under the Aviation division – Springfield Hartness Airport. It is also available to view on YouTube as Hartness State Airport (KVSF)

The Commission would like to offer our heartfelt Thank You to Shayne Wilcox, who retired this summer as Airport Operation and Maintenance director from VTrans after many years of service at Hartness. Shayne has been the Wizard of Snow removal at Hartness for many years. Among aviators, the word is always try Springfield first as it will be clear before anywhere else! Thank You Shayne for your dedication to Hartness and the aviators who fly in and out of Springfield!

The Airport Commission continues to work with the State of Vermont to find a solution to the Runway 5-23 project. The success of the efforts to maintain the runway in its current configuration is the most import goal facing Springfield as concerns economic development for the future. The airport and that runway is our door to the world and the future.

Bruce H. Johnson, *Chairperson*

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DECLARATION OF INCLUSION IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

In January of 2022, the Selectboard passed a Declaration of Inclusion committing to the Town of Springfield to welcome all persons regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, and disability; treat everyone in our community fairly and equitably; ensure equitable access to town resources, positions of governance, educational opportunities and business community; and to reflect these commitments in town actions, policies and operating procedures.

The purpose of the Declaration of Inclusion Implementation Committee is to identify strategies that will put those commitments into practice. In fiscal 2023, the committee created a tool that can be used to assess town policies and procedures and began the long process of surveying town policies to ensure that they are welcoming, fair, and equitable. The committee also shared the tool, so that the Town Manager and Selectboard can use it when contemplating new policies and procedures.

Another focus of the committee this year was housing, which our initial investigations identified as a problem making the town less welcoming and equitable. The committee

sponsored two public events on this topic. At the first event, which was broadcast by SAPA TV, representatives of relevant nonprofits and government agencies shared information that might be useful to renters, property owners, and home buyers as well as local legislators and town employees. At the follow-up event, experts and town residents came together to brainstorm potential solutions to the crisis. The results of that event were forwarded to the Selectboard and Town Manager for potential inclusion in town planning. The committee also assessed all town zoning policies, making one recommendation in that realm.

While working on such long-term projects, the committee also made recommendations that had an immediate impact, for example by making town meetings more accessible to people with disabilities and ensuring that town forms use inclusive language concerning gender identity.

pattrice jones, *Chair*

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SOUTHERN WINDSOR/WINDHAM COUNTIES SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Andover • Athens • Baltimore • Cavendish • Chester • Grafton • Ludlow • Plymouth
Reading • Rockingham • Springfield • Weathersfield • West Windsor • Windsor

www.vtsolidwastedistrict.org



The District was chartered in 1981 and serves fourteen towns. Each member municipality appoints a representative and an alternate to serve on the Board of Supervisors. Springfield's representative is Jeff Mobus; Matt Priestley is the alternate.



The District's household hazardous waste (HHW) depot opened for its second season in May 2023. The Depot was open for five months, two mornings a week by appointment. The site, located at the Alva Waste transfer station in Springfield, is managed by the District. The Depot will re-open in May 2024. We accept a long list of products, which can be read on our website. If you need to dispose of HHW before May, go online to make an appointment in Rutland at www.rcswd.com.



All food scraps were banned from the landfill as of July 1, 2020. The Springfield Transfer Station accepts food scraps (including meat and bones) from people with an access permit. To facilitate backyard composting, the District sold composters (now all gone) and food scrap pails (\$6 each). Contact the District for possible sources of composters. Many composting resources are available on the District's website, which also has a list of haulers that pick-up curbside.



We help schools and businesses comply with diverting food scraps and recycling from the trash.



This is the "reuse" symbol and that is what we do with glass that is brought to the Ludlow, Springfield, and Weathersfield transfer stations. The District works with a company that collects the glass, grinds it, and makes it into new products.



All household batteries (AA, AAA, C, D, 9v, button, coin cell, and rechargeable), are accepted at the Springfield Transfer Station. Batteries are "special recycling" and do NOT go in with other recyclables. Why? Because batteries that still hold a charge have caused fires in Vermont and nationwide.



Two retailers in Springfield accept unwanted paint year-round. Bring paint to Bibens Ace Hardware or Sherwin-Williams during regular business hours and dispose of it for free (cans must be labeled, not leaky, not rusty – bring others to the HHW Depot).

Respectfully submitted,

Mary T. O'Brien, *Recycling Coordinator*
Thomas Kennedy, *District Manager*
Ham Gillett, *Outreach Coordinator*

SPRINGFIELD REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

On behalf of the Board of Directors and members of Springfield Regional Development Corporation, thank you to the residents of the Town of Springfield for the continued support of SRDC.

The J & L Plant 1 demo/cleanup project continues to move forward. Assessment work of the remaining slab was completed in the spring and the Corrective Action Plan is in the process of being updated. Once approved, in early 2024, we can begin preparing for the removal of the slab and the remaining remediation work. Environmental efforts are also occurring at the former Bryant Grinder site, which now houses 3 business leasing space in the ends of the building. SRDC continues to pay property taxes on these sites, as well as all other property that we own, including the Robert S. Jones Industrial Center, which is fully leased.

The Black River Innovation Campus (BRIC), a project that SRDC helped to create, continues to grow and expand with entrepreneurs participating in the Actuator accelerator program, as well as other activities to create a tech ecosystem in Springfield. BRIC is housed at the former Park Street School, which is owned by SRDC. We currently have just over \$6 million in funding from Federal and state grants and will be starting code-related projects in the building as well as site work in early 2024. We are continuing to pursue additional funding for the redevelopment of the site, including creating housing units for those involved with BRIC.

SRDC assists existing companies in the community, as well as those looking to start a business. This includes facilitating available resources, from training funds to specific financing programs (including our Springfield Area Revolving Loan Fund) and other incentives to help preserve and grow employment in our region. Our office includes the Small Business

Development Center and the APEX Accelerator, which helps companies to more effectively bid on government contracts, both State and Federal.

The dominant issue with our area employers continues to be workforce development. SRDC is a close partner with the River Valley Technical Center and River Valley Workforce Investment Board, as well as other regional stakeholders, and is actively working to address a variety of related issues, including increasing the workforce participation rate in the labor market area. We administer the Springfield Area Working Communities Challenge, which is one of 8 projects in Vermont to receive a multi-year grant from the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston to assist low- and moderate-income people with barriers to sustainable employment.

We appreciate the continued support of the Board of Selectmen. Kristi Morris, on behalf of the Selectboard, sits as an Ex-Officio member of the SRDC Board. SRDC also values our strong partnerships with Mt. Ascutney Regional Planning Commission, Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce and Springfield On The Move.

To learn more about SRDC, please contact us at 885-3061 or bobf@springfielddevelopment.org. You can also go to our web site www.springfielddevelopment.org or see updates on our Facebook page!

Again, many thanks for your continued support. Working together, we will ensure that “Great Things Happen Here” for many years to come.

Bob Flint, *Executive Director*
14 Clinton Street
Springfield, VT 05156

SPRINGFIELD HUMANE SOCIETY, INC.

The Springfield Humane Society is happy and proud to serve the residents and animals of Springfield and to offer more services for our community than simply a place to bring stray pets or adopt one. We have many programs for area residents, such as:

- Low cost spay/neuter clinics for cats. We held 14 this past year with nearly 60 cats each.
- Our Spay the Mom program. We take in owned pregnant or nursing cats or dogs, spay the mother, vaccinate her, FREE, and return her to her owner.
- No Place Like Home is our program that helps people keep their pets when they're in a financial bind. We offer free food, litter, and basic veterinary care.
- The Rainbow Bridge fund pays for euthanasia and cremation of pets whose health has deteriorated beyond help and the family doesn't have the funds to help it pass.
- Community outreach. We are continuing to resume our various volunteer opportunities. We have programs where we go out in the community to educate about dog bite prevention.
- Trap-Neuter-Release Do you have a lot of feral cats on your property? We will help you trap them, fix them, and then return them to your property. Eventually the colony is gone through attrition.
- Have you seen something that you think is cruelty or neglect? We work closely with law enforcement, investigating, getting statements, taking pictures, talking to owners, and issuing "orders to comply". We'll do whatever we can to help.

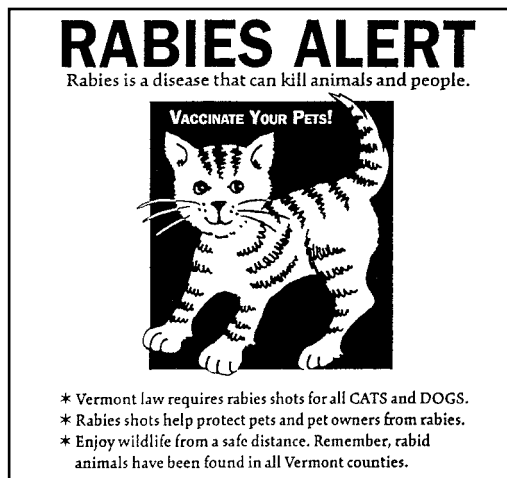
Many people still think the Shelter is a place to avoid bringing an animal. The truth is, it's anything but. We take care of the animals as we would our own. The cats have toys,

climbing towers, ceiling high walkways, hidey holes, and occasionally catnip treats in their community rooms. The days of cat cages lining a room have been over for a long time. The dog kennels have sun tubes for natural light, aroma therapy, music therapy, brain toys, and we have three fenced yards for off leash play.

We work hard to make sure our adoptable animals are as healthy as possible. All are fully vaccinated, neutered, micro-chipped, and wormed. Dogs are tested for four tick borne diseases and treated if necessary. Cats are tested for FIV and FeLV. We check out temperaments, at times calling in volunteer behaviorists to help us place pets successfully. If the animals need extra care, they get it. Examples of such treatments include dental work, hernia repair, heartworm treatment, and tumor removal. We go way beyond what most people expect from shelter care.

This past year was a busy one. We took in 719 animals, including 161 dogs and puppies, 429 cats and kittens, and 29 others (bunnies, rats, guinea pigs, ducklings). 612 animals were adopted, 52 were returned to their owners. The rest were transferred to other shelters, returned to the field in the case of feral cats, died in the shelter, or were euthanized due to aggression or disease. We are proud to say we have a 96% live release rate!

Barbara Estey, *Clerk for Board of Trustees*
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Springfield, Vermont 05156-8820
Phone: 802-885-3997
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Email: spfldhumane@vermontel.net
Website: www.spfldhumane.org



SPRINGFIELD TRAILS AND RURAL ECONOMY COMMITTEE

The Springfield Trails and Rural Economy Committee persevered the past year in holding the commemorative Toonerville Trail Walk/Run, securing new seats, picnic tables, kiosks, trail markers and historical site posts. It kept abreast of progress on advancing that trail through the biohazard site of the former Jones and Lamson machine tool factory, and with the re-design of the I-91 interchange.

SIGNAGE

QR Codes and Plaques: The Committee is developing interpretive signs including text, maps and QR codes for the Toonerville Trail and Hartness Park. Information was provided by the Springfield Art and Historical Society, the Hartness House, the Springfield Town Library, the Mount Kearsarge Indian Museum, the Wyman/Hatt family, the Richards and Kraft families, Gary Pelton, Rich Holschuh, Jack Ridge, and Trish Hanson.

Springfield Area Public Access provided audio recording assistance and preparations began for creating the QR codes and links to a webpage. Design assistance is being provided by the Springfield Printing Corporation. Installation is expected to be complete by December 2023.

In addition, new trail markers were produced for Hartness Park. These were replaced, and trails at the park were blazed, and new, hand-crafted roadside signs were installed by the Parks and Recreation department.

TOONERVILLE TRAIL

Anniversary Walk/Run: The Covid-delayed 20th Anniversary Toonerville Trail Walk/Run was held on September 17th, 2022. It was supported through donations and volunteers from the Springfield Boosters Club (who provided the sound system as well); literature printed gratis by Springfield Printing Corporation; and by volunteers from the Springfield Rotary Club and Springfield High School. There was a pre-race Kiddies' Fun Run. In a first for adapting to changed circumstances, the online registration form had QR capabilities for applicants. The Committee wishes to thank the hard-working, civic-minded and generous members of the Lions Club; financial supporters Paul and Irene Kendall and Parks and Recreation Director Chris Merrill.

Trail Extension Work: The Town developed the final preliminary plan for the Trail extension from the present United (formerly Nortrax) site to Bridge Street. The obstacle to extending it is the completion of the necessary biohazard remediation work on the site of the former J&L plant.

Vegetation Management: The land on both sides of the Toonerville Trail serves as a buffer to the presence of human artifice that is the mark of civilization, in this case, the presence of roads, invasive animal and plant species and associated activities.

The Committee inventoried the invasive species along the Toonerville Trail buffer zone and then contracted out the work to remove invasive plants.

Planting of fruit trees along the trail was considered, but was judged to require too much maintenance to provide a consistently pleasing presence for trail users.

HARTNESS PARK

Access: The access gate to the water tower in Hartness Park, long in need of repair, was fixed, and the parking site adjacent was improved.

The Skitchewaugh Trail access to the park, determined to be the best entrance, was found to be erratic due to lack of a schedule to unlock and lock its gate daily. The Committee asked the Town to resolve the problem.

Benches and Picnic Tables: New benches and picnic tables were installed at Hartness Park

POLLINATOR HABITAT

The Committee unanimously supported the principle of creation of pollinator habitat in town. It decided that the Toonerville Trail bench site with the locust trees could be considered as a pollinator site and have a QR code/text post. The town has set aside a plot of land north of the Recycling Center which might qualify for such a habitat.

UPPER VALLEY TRAILS ALLIANCE CONSIDERATION

An invitation to join the Upper Valley Trails Alliance was declined.

CONTINUED OPERATION OF THE COMMITTEE

In March of 2023 the Select Board re-authorized the existence of the Committee for another three years.

GRANTS

Vorec Grant Review and Conclusion

The following is the list of projects funded by the VOREC applied for in 2021 and their status:

- Mapping/design: done
- Printing brochures/maps: done
- Printing event posters/banners: done
- Toonerville Trail 5K Anniversary race timing, materials: done
- Hartness Park bench: done
- Hartness Park picnic tables: done
- Arborist services: done
- Invasives management contractor: done
- Invasives management inventory: done
- Toonerville Trail maintenance: done
- Four new trailhead kiosks built and installed: done
- QR post historic snippet/recording research/script: remains to be done
- QR post historic snippet/recording production: remains to be done
- QR website development/hosting: remains to be done
- Trail signage (50 plaques): in progress; most have been installed

Other Grant Applications: The committee supplied information for a Sustainable Vermont Trails Grant application in 2023, and the town was notified the application had been received.

Building Strong Communities announced in late spring of 2023 a Request for Proposals for grants. Discussion was deferred to the next fiscal year.

TOWN FOREST POTENTIAL

The committee began considering the potential of the Town Forest, an area bounded by I-91, the Meeting Waters YMCA campground, Route 5 and a few owners of private lands. It is thick second-growth forest with a thousand-foot hill enclosed, open for hunting and otherwise little used.

I-91 TRAIL REVISION

The Department of Transportation shared with the town its plans for renovations and repairs at the I-91 interchange. This will involve the loss of the part of the Toonerville trail passing at present under I-91. The trail re-route is planned to cross 4 entrance or exit ramps and re-join the original trail at the Young's Road/Route 5 junction, though this remains open to public input. The DOT plans to start the work no sooner than 2024.

Jim Fog, *Chair*

Phone: 802-885-2729

Email: jfog@vermontel.net

Website: www.springfieldvt.gov

EDGAR MAY HEALTH AND RECREATION CENTER

The Edgar May Health and Recreation Center is pleased to make this annual report to the residents of Springfield. We are extremely grateful for the continued support to the Center by the citizens of Springfield.

The Edgar May Health and Recreation Center continued its tradition of providing area residents with the opportunities and resources necessary to live an active and healthy lifestyle. The EdgarMay continues to operate its facility and programs seven days per week for a total of 94 hours each week. The facility has nearly 85,000 visits in the past 12 month. Another facility fact is that 56% of our members are either below the age 19 or above the age of 62. The EdgarMay has more than 1500 members from 30 area communities.

During our 2023 fiscal year, 436 individuals benefited from financial support in the form of scholarships to attend and participate in programs at the EdgarMay. The total scholarship dollars awarded in 2023 equaled \$47,568. The EdgarMay continued to provide its scholarship program to cover our Prescription for Exercise Program, fitness classes, Swim Team and swimming lessons and our new Adventure Camp for kids. Scholarships are provided based on a sliding fee scale to all income eligible individuals and families. The award amount is based on household income and household size and priority is given to Springfield residents and seniors.

The EdgarMay continued all of its FREE programming in 2023. This including our Saturday Swimming for Springfield Residents. Each Saturday from 1-3pm any Springfield resident can come swim for FREE. In 2023, there were 488 visits by Springfield residents during these hours. The EdgarMay also offers a FREE aqua class every Wednesday at 10:00 am and a FREE Fitness class called Move to Improve at 11am on Friday mornings at our Studio Momentum location in downtown Springfield. The EdgarMay also provided 54 free showers to area residents who were without power due to various storms and incidents during 2023. Our First Fins Program continued in 2023 which provides every First Grade student in Springfield with a voucher for a FREE session of Swimming Lessons

Our summer camp expanded to 8-weeks of full day camp for more than 30 children during the summer of 2023. This camp provides school ages children the opportunity to swim, climb, create, compete, and adventure outside of town via weekly trips to area destinations.

The mission of the Health and Recreation Center is to provide area residents with the opportunities and resources necessary to pursue a healthy and active lifestyle. If you have not visited us, we hope you will. For additional information, please visit our website, www.edgarmay.org, email info@edgarmay.org, or call us at 885-2568.

Christian Craig, *Executive Director*
140 Clinton Street
Springfield, VT 05156

2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

Revenue	Oct '22-Sept '23
Membership	\$466,684
Programs	\$269,829
Rental Fees	\$10,844
Annual Fund	\$57,055
Grants	\$25,000
Interest	\$97
Civic Improvement	
Fund	\$53,898
Total	\$883,407
Expenses	Oct '22-Sept '23
Depreciation	\$43,707
Insurance	\$27,401
Utilities	\$143,858
Wages	\$541,522
Equipment	\$1,038
Program Expenses	\$27,316
Advertising	\$5,260
Grant Expense	\$0
Membership	
Expense	\$38,906
Supplies	\$47,059
Maintenance	\$63,413
Professional Fees	\$52,108
Rent	\$12,000
Studio Rent	\$13,200
Miscellaneous	\$29,837
Fundraising	
Expense	\$95
Equipment Rental	\$2,830
Total	\$1,049,550
Net Revenue	(\$166,143)

SPRINGFIELD HOUSING AUTHORITY

The units at the Whitcomb and Huber continue to operate under HUD's RAD (Rental Assistance Demonstration) program. This program will give all the tenants a project-based Section 8 voucher, so that their rent remains affordable. These two buildings had a lower occupancy rate than normal at 87%. The current waiting list shows 84 applicants. We anticipate capital projects at both buildings in the coming year. At the Huber Building we replaced the roof, fire alarm panel, did plumbing and elevator upgrades and with the assistance of a CDBG-CV Grant in the amount of \$525,000 hope to have ventilation system completed in the near future. At the Whitcomb Building, we will be replacing the roof in the coming year, as well as continue to address the stormwater issues that have caused previous flooding.

The Authority also manages 64 Section 8 vouchers. Due to many issues, including funding and the tight housing market, we were only able to use 41 of our vouchers for the past year. However, the SHA did use HUD Section 8 funding to lease as many families as possible and paid over \$272,189 to the local landlords for leasing to our Section 8 tenants. Currently, there are 41 families on the waiting list. The waiting period for local residents is over 24 months. Due to the long waiting period for service, the Board closed the waiting list in 2019.

The Maples, the Rural Development project on South Street, shows 80 families on the waiting list. This past year saw an occupancy rate of 92%. Also, during the past year, we continued the process flooring replacement in the units. Our future plans include continued flooring, the purchase of new appliances, and repainting the common areas.

The Mountain View Apartments has been owned by the SHA since 2007. This development had an occupancy rate of 88% this past year and a waiting list of 170 families. The major capital improvements this year consisted of our continued replacement of appliances, continued repaving of the parking lots, the replacement of the water lines under several buildings and the installation of new kitchens as the units become empty, as supply chains allowed.

Westview Terrace Apartments were purchased by the Springfield Housing Unlimited organization in January of 2012. The property had an occupancy rate of 98% this past year. Currently, there are 298 families on the waiting list. These 58 units of family housing are a part of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program. They service families that can

earn up to 60% of the median income for Windsor County. This project continues to be a valuable asset to the Town by providing people of limited income access to safe, clean, and reasonably priced rental housing. The major capital items this year consisted of repaving walkways, appliance replacement, new carpeting & flooring in several apartments.

Ellis Block was officially opened in October of 2011. This property includes a three-screen movie theater as well as another 9 units of affordable housing for the downtown area. The movie theater was an important part of the restoration of the Ellis Block building and continues to be a key part in the revitalization of downtown. The current theater operator, Chad Free, continues to do an outstanding job in making the theater a vital part of the downtown. The Ellis Block is owned by a partnership in which Springfield Housing Unlimited (SHU), the Authority created non-profit, is a co-general partner with Evernorth (formerly Housing Vermont). The Springfield Housing Authority manages the property but has no ownership interest. This past year the nine units were 93% occupied. Currently, there are 87 people on the waiting list.

The Woolson Block, which was co-developed with Evernorth, was completed for residential occupancy in December of 2020. We now have 20 new apartments and 4 refurbished store fronts. The commercial spaced are occupied by Shear Beauty Salon and Uplift Acrobatics. There is a Youth in Transition program on the garden level in the building, providing supportive housing & a live-in manager to the 4 youths currently participating in the program. This building is another key addition to the restoration of downtown. This past year the 19 units were 92% occupied. Currently, there are 157 people on the waiting list.

Finally, the public can now access information on the SHA properties and get applications in person at 80 Main Street, request by phone at 802-885-4905, or on our website: www.springfieldhousingauthorityvt.org

Laura Ryan, *Executive Director*
Peter Andrews, *Chairman*
Daniel Harrington, *Vice-Chairman*
Jeff Perkins
Jessica Martin
Mimi Yahn

SPRINGFIELD ON THE MOVE

Greetings from your Designated Downtown Organization!

We look forward to submitting our annual Town Report as it gives up the opportunity to catch you up on all that's been happening in our Designated Downtown! Once again, our volunteers and financial contributors enable us to accomplish so many wonderful things for our Main Street corridor including:.

***Designated Downtown Renewal.** This past Spring, Town Manager Jeff Mobus and Springfield On The Move's Executive Director Jessica Martin traveled to Montpelier to seek approval for the Designated Downtown application that was submitted to the State at the end of 2022. We are proud to say that we were granted renewal for another eight years.

***The Woolson Block Building Commercial Spaces.** All four spaces are filled!!! Shear Beauty Salon celebrated their second-year anniversary at 33 Main Street this summer. Uplift Acrobatics not only had their one-year anniversary in 37 Main Street space but have committed their lease to include 39 and 41 as well! Both service businesses continue to contribute to our downtown vibrancy through their daily operations and support of all things downtown.

***Light the Falls.** The Slack Dam and the Lovejoy Dams are now lit with a little bit of tweaking yet to do! These complement the already lit Comtu Falls visible from the bridge on Park Street. Thanks to in-kind labor donations from HB Energy Solutions and financial contributions from Boccaccio's, Claremont Savings Bank, the Springfield Housing Authority, and several private donors we were able to get this done. We will be looking to light the Fellows and Parks & Woolson Dams next!

***Adna Brown Stagecoach Mural Install.** Thanks to HB Energy Solutions, the mural has now been framed out and we are currently looking to install the information panel adjacent to the mural. We hope to have this completed by Fall 2023.

***The Alleyway.** Thanks to the Springfield Housing Authority, we were finally able to reinstall the alleyway artwork that was taken down in 2020 for the Huber Building's exterior insulation project. Additional volunteers continue to beautify the alley.

***Downtown Holiday Program.** We had over 120 children participate in the 2022 Downtown Holiday Program! Thanks to Knit Wits for their generous donation of mittens that children received during the evening, Renee Capen for her design of our sticker map, the 28 downtown businesses who participated, and our many volunteers who made it happen!

***Downtown Holiday Window Decorating Contest.** For our inaugural year, we had 18 businesses vying for one of three \$100.00 prizes for a family-friendly, winter-themed window. Our winners (in no order) were: Lawrence & Wheeler/Division of the Richards Group, Shear Beauty Salon, and Uplift Acrobatics. Black River Coffee Bar was an honorable mention. Thanks to all who participated!

***Annual Beautification.** SOM continues to work on Springfield's downtown beautification through the annual upkeep of mulching and weeding of several areas along Main Street. We also work with property owners to power wash their buildings' facades and help them clean their storefront windows. We are appreciative of the Springfield Garden Club's flower boxes and their annual donation to help us with what we do downtown. SOM is truly thankful for all who volunteer to water and weed throughout the entire spring, summer, and fall; it is a tremendous amount of work.

***The Wayfinding Signage Project.** This is a multiphase project in which we had hoped that Phase I would be completed in 2022. Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, this project, with the help of the Town (TOS) and the Mount Ascutney Regional Commission (MARC), has a projected October 2023 timeline for completion.

***Springfield Street Fest and Zero K Donut Dash.** This July 15th was the inaugural date for these two events and they were a tremendous success! In 2024, we hope to expand the events and have multiple musical performances, vendors, and activities to attract locals and visitors to our beautiful downtown. This was funded by Bob and Lisa Rivers, Dragonfly Designs, Lawrence and Wheeler/A Division of the Richards Group, Springfield Regional Development Corporation, Lisa and Jeff Mobus, and HB Energy Solutions.

***The Alan R. Woodbury Memorial Courtyard.** Thanks to the Downtown Transportation Fund, The Town of Springfield, Skyline Landscaping, Standing Stone, LLC, and SOM the courtyard's improvements are complete! Along with the new slate edging are four Redbud sapling trees. The courtyard will be officially dedicated to Alan in October 2023.

***Concerts at the Comtu.** This was the third year that SOM provided attendees with a family-friendly and free concert series in the Comtu Cascade Park on Fridays in August. We received significant funding from Bob and Lisa Rivers which enable us to have four quality bands and appropriate sound provided for the concerts. We received additional funding from the Springfield Housing Authority and Springfield Regional Development Corporation. The Springfield Rotary Club also held their second Memorial Butterfly Release during our final concert's intermission. Our volunteers worked hard to provide these concerts and we all felt fortunate to have been able to provide three of the four scheduled concerts considering this summer's rainy weather.

***Rollin' On The River.** This collaborative event with SAPA-TV is hoping to bring roller skating back to Springfield! For the inaugural year, it is planned to have grades K-5 skate 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm and grades 6-8 skate from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm the first three Saturdays in October in the upper deck of the parking garage at One Hundred River Street! Thanks to the Cosmos Closet at the Springfield Parks & Rec Dept, people can access free roller skates/blades. This multi-day event wouldn't have been possible without funding provided by The Edgar May Health and Rec Center, The Springfield Area Parent Child Center, All-4-One, the Springfield PTA, North Star Health, Alva Waste, the Dance Factory, and Uplift Acrobatics.

On behalf of Springfield On The Move, we thank you for your continued support, both financially and through your volunteer hours—without these we would not be able to continue the positive momentum in downtown Springfield.

Jessica Martin, *Executive Director*
Springfield On The Move
96-A Main Street
Springfield, VT 05156
Phone: 802-885-1527

Email: springfieldonthemove@gmail.com
Website: www.springfieldonthemove.net

**SPRINGFIELD
SELECTBOARD**



TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD
96 Main Street
Springfield, VT 05156

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTED BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ **Work Phone:** _____

Email: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

OFFICE DESIRED

- ☐ Airport Commission
- ☐ Budget Advisory Committee
- ☐ Conservation Committee
- ☐ Development Review Board
- ☐ Downtown Design Review Commission
- ☐ Housing Authority

- ☐ Inclusion Committee
- ☐ Planning Commission
- ☐ Regional Planning Commission
- ☐ Trails & Rural Economy Committee
- ☐ Tree Warden
- ☐ Other:

Reason(s) for desiring office:

Please state reason(s) you believe you are qualified for the office:

Please return or email this form to:

Administrative Assistant
Town of Springfield
96 Main Street
Springfield, VT 05156
tosmanagerasst@vermontel.net
(802) 885-2104 x221

REPORTS OF AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

VISITING NURSE AND HOSPICE FOR VERMONT AND NEW HAMPSHIRE HOME HEALTH, HOSPICE AND PEDIATRIC SERVICES

Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire (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 the care they need within the comfort of their own home allows them to maintain comfort and dignity throughout their time of care.

VNH services reduce cost associated with town programs for emergency response and elder care. With quality care provided at home, there is less need for costly hospital and emergency room trips. And with VNH support, residents can age in place rather than relocating to a state or local nursing home.

Between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023, VNH made 5,603 in-home visits to 251 residents. This included approximately \$151,817 in unreimbursed care to residents.

- **Home Health Care:** 56 residents with short-term medical or physical needs.
- **Hospice Services:** 9 residents who were in the final stages of their lives.
- **Long-Term Care:** 9 residents with chronic medical problems who need extended care in home to avoid admission to a nursing home.
- **Skilled Pediatric Care:** 9 residents for well-baby, preventative and palliative medical care.

VNH serves many of Springfield's most vulnerable citizens—the frail elderly and disabled, at-risk families, people with terminal illnesses, children with chronic medical needs and the uninsured and underinsured. We are dedicated to delivering outstanding home health and hospice services that enrich the lives of the people we serve.

It is with your help that we are able to provide services like this to those in need. Springfield's annual appropriation to VNH helps to ensure that all have access to quality care when and where it is needed most. On behalf of the people we serve, we thank you for your continued support.

Anthony Knox, BS, QDDP
Community Relations Manager
Phone: 888-300-8853
Email: Aknox@vnhcare.org
Website: vnhcare.org

VALLEY HEALTH CONNECTIONS

Valley Health Connections is a non-profit 501(c) 3 located at 268 River Street in Springfield, Vermont. We became incorporated in the State of Vermont on January 21, 2000 as Precision Valley Free Clinic and our mission is to remove barriers and facilitate access to health care for uninsured and underinsured people. We also work to prevent individuals from becoming uninsured.

Since 2013, Valley Health Connections has been a certified assister organization providing assistance to eligible individuals and families who wish to enroll through Vermont Health Connect. We also help Vermonters enroll onto Medicaid and transition from Vermont Health Connect to Medicare. Valley Health Connections' staff work to assist individuals with enrollment onto Medicare and Medicare Part D, the state Medicaid programs and You First (formerly called Ladies First). We increase access to needed medications and dental care by offering funds to help cover the cost to eligible individuals. Over the past year we have worked to increase our visibility in the community. We have launched a new Facebook page, have worked to create a brand new brochure outlining our services, and we are close to launching our very first website! On top of visibility has also been our normal day to day work. One of the biggest focuses has been around the Medicaid Unwind. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, thousands of Vermonters have remained on Medicaid regardless of income over the last three years. Now the state has to determine who remains eligible and who needs to change to a different insurance. Valley Health Connections staff have been working to help Vermonters navigate this confusing process and remain insured.

From 7/1/22 to 6/30/23 we served 406 Springfield residents and provided 235 insurance enrollment assists to these residents; we completed 243 Hospital and North Star financial aid applications, and 101 Social Service enrollments. 88% of the Springfield Residents we worked with either became, or remained, comprehensively insured. Our clinic provided 25 vouchers for medication purchases this year and worked with pharmaceutical companies to complete 50 prescription assistance applications for free medications. Between these applications and our vouchers, \$21,741.45 worth of free medication were provided. We contributed \$360.66 in dental fees during this timeframe as well. This amount is lower than previous years due to difficulty in finding dental homes for patients to be able to access needed care. We have seen access increase though and have been able to help fund more dental care lately.

There is never a charge for our services. We work in close partnership with North Star Health, Springfield Hospital, and Vermont's Free and Referral Clinics (VFRC), formally known as Vermont Coalition of Clinics for the Uninsured and Underinsured.

The staff and Board of Directors of Valley Health Connections wish to thank the people of Springfield for supporting their efforts to improve the health of town residents across the age spectrum.

Samantha Ball, MBA, *Executive Director*
268 River Street
Springfield, VT 05156
Phone: 802-885-1616
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Email: valleyhealth@vermontel.net

SPRINGFIELD FAMILY CENTER, INC.

All of us at the Springfield Family Center remain extraordinarily grateful for the support you provide that aids us in carrying out our mission to reduce hunger in our community. The town of Springfield accounts for about ¼ of our annual operating budget. Grants, fundraising activities and private donations comprise the remainder of crucial funds needed to sustain our ongoing work to meet the basic needs of our food insecure neighbors. This important work truly could not happen without your generosity.

Springfield Family Center's food shelf and hot meal programs provide sustenance and nutrition to those who would otherwise go hungry. Over the course of the past fiscal year, the Springfield Family Center distributed 46,429 meals, 8,311lbs of produce, 6,596 loaves of bread, and provided 674 supplemental shelf stable food boxes from the food shelf to 1268 people cumulatively. In addition, Springfield Family Center distributed 10 Thanksgiving themed boxes, 98 Christmas themed boxes feeding over 300 people and stocked a food shelf room in the local elementary school that was accessed 45 times by 38 households over the course of the school year.

The number of new people requiring access to supplemental food resources is on the rise. Though life has returned to some level of normalcy, the Covid-19 pandemic continues to have a significant impact on Springfield Family Center's services in numerous ways. Throughout the pandemic and slightly beyond, many experiencing financial hardships had access to various Covid-19 pandemic relief funds. These relief funds included, but were not limited to, receiving the maximum dollar allowance to SNAP/3Squares food benefits. This and all other pandemic related funding ended in March of 2023. With inflation and rising foods costs, this reduction in food benefits created significant economic hardships for many. Individuals and families are finding it increasingly difficult to budget sufficient funds to purchase enough food to adequately feed themselves and their family.

Moreover, senior citizens receiving Social Security (SS) benefits recently experienced a small financial increase to those benefits. However, this small increase put many slightly over the allowable SNAP/3Squares income eligibility guidelines, meaning they no longer qualify for this food resource. This has created a hardship for seniors living on fixed incomes. As a result, Springfield Family Center has become a sought-out resource for supplementing their food budgets.

Unfortunately, the number of people struggling with food insecurity continues to rise. All of us at the Springfield Family Center work tirelessly on food drives, fundraising efforts, and local outreach, including established partnerships with local food producers and farmers. Notwithstanding, we struggle to fully accommodate the number of food insecure visitors we see each day. We are, once again, asking for your support. The support we receive from your generosity is imperative to helping us carry out our important hunger relief work. Together, we can ensure that no person or family has to worry about how to put food on the table. Thank you for all you do and for the great care you take in helping your community.

Trisha Paradis, *Executive Director*
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Website: www.springfieldfamilycenter.com

SPRINGFIELD SUPPORTED HOUSING PROGRAM

The Springfield Supported Housing Program (SSHP) is a private, non-profit agency that helps families and individuals who are experiencing homelessness or potentially homeless locate and secure permanent, affordable housing, and then provides program participants with up to two years of at home case management to address any issues that led to the housing crisis and to pursue positive life goals. Case managers provide help with budgeting, landlord-tenant mediation, assistance pursuing employment, education, childcare, substance abuse treatment and other services that lead to healthy, productive living.

SSHP covers the Springfield Agency of Human Services district and places participants in housing from Windsor to Saxtons River. SSHP had 17 units comprised of four, two-bedroom apartments, two three-bedroom apartments, one four-bedroom apartment, and ten one-bedroom units that provide transitional housing to families and individuals experiencing homelessness. For the fiscal year July 2022 to June 2023 SSHP worked with 655 individuals comprised of 447 Adults and 208 children. Our 17 shelter units were available and utilized for the entire year with limited vacancies and served as housing for 29 households with 23 children and 32 adults over the year. Of these households we were able to transition 19 households to permanent housing options. Through all our programs we were able to transition 123 households to permanent housing. All these families and individuals can receive ongoing support services for up to two years. All these families and individuals can receive ongoing support services for up to two years.

We have two full-time case managers that work directly with clients housed in the motels through VT State ESD. We had 131 households comprised of 169 adults and 59 children served in our motels.

SSHP administers a Housing Opportunity Program (HOP) that provides financial assistance for 1st month's rent, security deposit, back rent or back utilities owed to prevent housing insecurity. For the fiscal year July 2022 to June 2023, SSHP was able to provide financial assistance to 99 unduplicated households, 34 were literally homeless, and 57 were at risk of homelessness.

SSHP is also the lead agency for Coordinated Entry for the Springfield AHS district which covers northern Windham County, Rockingham and Bellows Falls. This process allows each person experiencing a housing crisis to meet with and be directed to the best resource. As a result of this process, we meet many households in our area experiencing a housing crisis.

Lee Trapeni, *Executive Director*
56 Main St. Suite 208
PO Box 178
Springfield, VT 05156
Phone: 802-885-3034
Fax: 802-885-3035
Email: ltrapeni@sshpvt.org
Website: www.sshpvt.org

WINDSOR COUNTY REPORT

The County has experienced some changes this year, the first one is the bond that the county tax payers had approved for the Court House renovation has been paid off as of November 01, 2023. Thank you to all the tax payers for supporting this renovation.

Assistant Judge Ellen Terie decided not to run for re-election last year and retired as of January 31, 2023. Assistant Judge Terie was a valued member of the county and we certainly thank her for the 8 years she served Windsor County residents.

We also thank Assistant Judge Michael Ricci, who was also a valued member of the county and served the Windsor County residents for almost 2 years after being appointed by Governor Scott.

Our Deputy Clerk, Dianne Bumps decided to retire from her county position in May of 2023. We thank Dianne for her dedication during her 5 years with Windsor County.

The County Building Superintendent, Bruce Page, who has taken care of both county building since July of 2017 decided to retire from his county position at the end of November 2023. We thank Bruce for all his dedication and hard work.

We thank Mike Chamberlain for the many years he served Windsor County as Sheriff. We wish him well and hope he is enjoying himself.

We wish them all well in their new adventures!

Windsor County residents elected Ryan Palmer as the County Sheriff. Sheriff Palmer has been approaching his new responsibility with a lot of enthusiasm.

Windsor County residents elected two (2) new Assistant Judges, Alison Johannensen and David Singer who assumed office as of February 01, 2023. We welcome both of the assistant judges.

The Assistant Judges are working hard on securing an energy efficiency grant to be used to replace the old boiler in the county building. If the county is successful in securing the grant, we hope the boiler can be replaced within the next year.

The Windsor County Final Budget Hearing is scheduled for Friday, January 19, 2024 at the County Building in Woodstock, Vermont at 5:00 P.M.

Alison Johannensen, *Assistant Judge*

David Singer, *Assistant Judge*

12 The Green

Woodstock, VT 05091

Phone: 802-457-2121

Email: JUD.WindsorUnit@vermont.gov

Website: www.vermontjudiciary.org

COMMUNITY BAND

In what was another challenging year, the Springfield Community Band commenced its 77th year of making music in town under the direction of Nick Pelton in his twelfth season with the band. This year we moved back to the Hartness House for our summer concert series. Weather was a challenge for us and playing all concerts outside was not possible, but the newly renovated dining room at the Hartness House made a great indoor venue. In addition to our summer concert series, we have added a holiday concert. This gives the band a chance to continue playing together throughout the fall months and will provide additional holiday cheer in town! After a holiday break, the band will continue with rehearsals in January to prepare for the next summer season.

The community band plays a variety of music: from marches to movie themes, classical to swing and jazz, from whimsical to serious; there's something for everyone. Our members range in age from teens to senior citizens: high school students, current and former band directors, and former band students as well as members from other area musical organizations. We are made up completely of volunteers who share a desire to play their instruments in an organized concert band type setting. In recent years, the band has seen growth in both membership participation and in the size of the audience. It has been wonderful seeing so much enthusiasm from band members and audience members.

The Springfield Community Band is open to all musicians from Springfield and the surrounding area. Anyone interested in joining the band can contact: info@springfieldcommunityband.com. We do not hold auditions: we are a community band and welcome anyone with the desire to play their instrument.

The band greatly appreciates the fiscal support provided by the Town of Springfield. Each year, the band uses the appropriated funds to buy new music to keep our repertoire current and diverse. In addition, we use the funds to pay our conductor, to buy band-logo polo shirts for our new members, to register and inspect our equipment trailer, to rent our post office box, to pay for insurance, and, of course, to purchase the ice cream that we give away at our Children's Concert. We thank the voters of the Town of Springfield for their many years of continued support.

Karen Mather, *Treasurer*

Email: info@springfieldcommunityband.com

GREEN MOUNTAIN RSVP

Green Mountain RSVP (GMRSVP) is an AmeriCorps Seniors program that engages people 55 and older to improve lives, strengthen communities and foster civic engagement. GMRSVP is focused on addressing social isolation, healthy aging, and food insecurity.

Thirty-four (34) GMRSVP volunteers live and serve in Springfield. The Program Director is located here making Springfield the home base for this AmeriCorps Senior Program that serves all three southern Vermont counties, Bennington, Windham and Windsor.

GMRSVP volunteers continue to facilitate the Meals and Wheels program in Springfield. They plan routes, pack food, and deliver meals to over one hundred people per day in Springfield and surrounding towns. This is the result of a strong collaboration with Senior Solutions and St. Mark's Church.

Springfield Santa Claus Club benefits from the leadership of GMRSVP volunteers to facilitate their annual coat distribution and holiday campaign serving hundreds of local families and seniors. GMRSVP volunteers have supported Santa for over 30 years.

GMRSVP Volunteers provide support in the classroom at Elm Hill, deliver books to home bound neighbors for the library, lead exercise classes at the Whitcomb Building and the Senior Center, guide creative activities at the Springfield Art Gym, and work with the local SASH program to distribute food to residents of the Springfield Housing Authority.

Town funding helps us continue to support and develop programs for older adults who wish to volunteer. Our staff and administrative costs are covered by federal funds from the AmeriCorps Seniors Program. Thank you for your continued support of local volunteers.

Contact Program Director, Corey Mitchell in Windsor County at (802) 674-4547 to learn more about GMRSVP and how you can volunteer in Springfield.

Corey Mitchell, *Program Director*
P.O. Box 826
Springfield, VT 05156
Phone: (802) 674-4547
Email: cmitchell@svcoa.net
Website: www.rsvpvt.org

THE MOOVER F/K/A THE CURRENT

Thank you again for Springfield \$12,500 donation last year. As a private non-profit 501c3 transportation company, Southeast Vermont Transit the MOOver relies heavily and more than ever on local contributions. These funds allow us to draw down federal funds to provide operating support and the required match for our replacement vehicles. Springfield has contributed to us for many years, and we thank you again for your support.

The MOOver's mission is to provide a safe, reliable, and efficient transportation system that supports economic opportunity and quality of life for 34 Windham and southern Windsor County towns. We operate fixed bus routes that connect Rockingham to Walpole, Brattleboro, Ludlow, Springfield, DHMC, and Dartmouth College. We provide senior and disabled transportation, Medicaid, and other demand-response service via our fleet of 60 buses and a network of volunteer drivers. We receive state and federal grants plus contributions from 34 towns, three resorts, human service partners, sponsorships, and fundraising.

The town of Springfield's total operating expenses last year were \$547,348. We provided 133,049 bus, van, taxi, and volunteer rides. Our buses, vans and volunteers traveled 2,128,771 miles over 70,668 hours.

Springfield's contribution supports continuing public transit in your town and throughout the region. Service levels vary by town and from year by year. A town's transportation needs can be minimal some years and large the next. We need your help to remain a healthy company to be able to respond to needs of the elderly, disabled, or in an emergency or crisis when the need arises.

We are requesting a \$12,500 contribution from Springfield this year. We hope you will support our funding request.

Christine Howe, *General Manager SEVT*
706 Rockingham Road
Rockingham, VT 05101
Phone: 802-460-7433
Email: christine@moover.com
Website: www.moover.com

SENIOR SOLUTIONS

Senior Solutions, Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont, Inc. has served the residents of Springfield and Southeastern Vermont since 1973. We have offices in Springfield (main office), Windsor and Brattleboro. Our mission is to promote the well-being and dignity of older adults. Our vision is that every person will age in the place of their choice, with the support they need and the opportunity for meaningful relationships and active engagement in their community.

This is a summary of services provided to Springfield residents in the time period of 10/01/2022-09/30/2023.

Information & Assistance: 567 Calls or Office Visits. Our HelpLine (1-802-885-2669 or 1-866-673-8376 toll-free) offers information, referrals and assistance to older Vermonters, their families, and their caregivers to problem-solve, plan, and access resources. We assist with health insurance problems, long-term care applications, fuel assistance, applying for benefits, and many other needs. Extensive resources are also on our website: www.SeniorSolutionsVT.org.

Medicare Assistance: 164 Calls or Office Visits. Springfield residents received assistance with Medicare issues through our State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). SHIP provides Medicare education and counseling, classes for new Medicare enrollees, and help enrolling in Part D and choosing a drug plan.

In-Home Care Coordination Services: We provided 157 residents with in-home case management or other home-based assistance (totaling 2,196 hours) to enable them to remain living safely at home. A Senior Solutions' case manager meets clients at home to create and monitor a person-centered plan of care. Based on this plan, case managers work to secure the services needed to support the client in the community. We also support clients with self-neglect behaviors, and help those who experience abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

Nutrition services and programs: 192 residents received Home-Delivered Meals provided by Meals and Wheels of Greater Springfield Inc. We also supported community meal gatherings at the Springfield Family Center and other meal sites in our region.

Senior Solutions administers federal and state funds to local organizations to help them operate these meal programs. However, the funds we provide do not cover the full cost, so local meal sites must seek additional funding. Senior Solutions does not use our town funding to support these meals and does not benefit from any funds that towns provide directly to local meal sites. Senior Solutions also offers the services of a registered dietician to older adults and to local meal sites.

Volunteer Visitors: Our volunteers provided home visits, telephone reassurance, and help with shopping or other errands. Our Vet-to-Vet program matched Veteran volunteers with Veteran recipients.

Other Services: Senior Solutions provides many other services, including caregiver respite, grants for special needs, transportation, wellness and fall prevention programs, legal assistance (through Vermont Legal Aid), assistance for adults with disabilities, and home-based mental health services.

Senior Solutions is enormously grateful for the support of the people from the Town of Springfield.

Mark Boutwell, *Executive Director*
38 Pleasant Street
Springfield, VT 05156
Phone: (802) 885-2669
Email: info@seniorsolutionsvt.org
Website: www.seniorsolutionsvt.org

MEALS & WHEELS OF GREATER SPRINGFIELD

Last year, Meals & Wheels of Greater Springfield delivered **over 17,000 meals** to area seniors who were unable to obtain or prepare food on their own. Volunteer drivers clock more than 22,000 miles annually to make sure that our neighbors receive daily nourishment and wellness checks. We cover one of the largest service areas in southern Vermont, delivering meals in Andover, Baltimore, Chester, Weathersfield, and Springfield, and assisting in Cavendish. These seniors count on us – and frankly, we count on the generosity of the community to make this happen.

A year ago, this organization was \$70,000 in debt to food suppliers. The situation was untenable and threatened the very lifeline providing meals to our most vulnerable neighbors.

Since that time, we have made major structural changes to insure the viability and sustainability of this service:

- We have a brand-new Board of Directors of dedicated, active residents.
- We have moved to a completely volunteer operation, with no full-time paid staff.
- We have obtained rent-free facilities for packaging and distribution.
- We have paid off our debt from over \$70,000 from a grant and generous donations.

And in all of this transition, not one senior missed a single meal!

But there's more! We have made significant improvements to the service:

- Pets are critical to many seniors who are socially isolated, but also costly – so we now bring **free pet food** to our customers with pets!
- Keeping our dollars local and our meals delicious, each Wednesday features a meal purchased from a **local restaurant**.
- All meals meet federal standards for essential nutritional content specifically for seniors, and all at-risk recipients are offered **free nutritional counseling** by a registered dietician to maintain and improve their health.

Of course, we can always use new drivers and volunteers as well! Drivers frequently say that they get back far more than they give as they establish relationships with our older residents.

You are a part of our community, and Meals & Wheels is the foremost way that the community supports our seniors. We hope that you can join us this to support this critical community service.

2023 Board of Directors

Liz Carey, President
Richard Hatch, Vice President
Brian Bosenberg, Treasurer
Jeff Bryan, Secretary
Lori Johnson
Marty Hammond
Rae Taylor

Meals & Wheels of Greater Springfield
139 Main Street
Springfield, VT 05156
Phone: 802-885-2669
Email: LCarey@seniorsolutionsvt.org

SOUTHEASTERN VERMONT COMMUNITY ACTION

Southeastern Vermont Community Action is an anti-poverty, community based, nonprofit organization serving Windham and Windsor counties since 1965. Our mission is to *empower and partner with individuals and communities to alleviate the hardships of poverty; provide opportunities to thrive; and eliminate root causes of poverty*. SEVCA has a variety of programs and services to meet this end. They include: Head Start, Weatherization, Emergency Home Repair, Family Services (crisis resolution, fuel & utility, housing and food assistance), Micro-Business Development, Vermont Matched Savings (asset building & financial literacy), Ready-for Work (workforce development), Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, Community Solar Program, and Thrift Stores.

In the community of Springfield we have provided the following services during FY2023:

Weatherization: 41 homes (85 people) received weatherization services.

Emergency Heating System Replacements: 19 homes (37 people) received emergency heating system repairs or replacements.

Head Start: 30 families (114 people) received comprehensive early education and family support services.

Energy & Financial Coaching: 2 households (3 people) received coaching to reduce their energy burden and the associated costs.

Tax Preparation: 7 households (9 people) received income tax preparation assistance.

Family Services: 250 households (472 people) received 1,040 services (crisis resolution, financial counseling, nutrition education, referral to and assistance with accessing needed services)

Fuel/Utility Assistance: 110 households (287 people) received 175 assists to obtain emergency heating fuel or to resolve utilities disconnects.

Housing Assistance: 8 households (14 people) received 11 assists to secure or maintain housing.

Solar Energy Program: 13 households (26 people) received solar energy credits on their electric bills to reduce their energy burden, totaling \$5,590.

Emergency Home Repair: 6 households (10 people) received emergency home repairs to address immediate health or safety concerns in their home.

The combined value of services provided to Springfield residents exceeded \$392,139.00.

Community support, through town funding, helps to build a strong partnership. The combination of federal, state, private, and town funds allow us to not only maintain, but to increase and improve service. We thank the residents of Springfield for their support.

Kathleen Devlin, *Interim Executive Director*
Southeastern Vermont Community Action, Inc. (SEVCA)
91 Buck Drive
Westminster, VT 05158
Phone: 802-722-4575 or 802-464-9951
Email: sevca@sevca.org
Website: www.sevca.org

TURNING POINT RECOVERY CENTER

Turning Point Recovery Center (TPRC) enhances the spiritual, mental, physical, and social growth of our community as a means of promoting successful recovery from substance use disorder. The Center seeks to facilitate recovery of individuals, and their families, by providing a drop-in and meeting location, peer-to-peer services, transitional living, and prevention and resource referrals.

TPRC would like to thank the Springfield voters for contributing to our programs with the money we received from our community, totaling \$9,000. With this money, our Center has been able to provide additional recovery services to individuals within our community by extending financial resources for our guests in transitional living.

Our transition house accommodates up to seven guests. Recovery can be a challenging journey. We lessen the barriers faced in our rural community by offering additional access to transportation, restorative justice practices, employment services, gardening, meal planning, etc. During the fiscal year June 2022 through May 2023, of the 11 guests, 9 identified as in recovery. That's an 82% success rate. That's 11 lives improved through the path of recovery.

TPRC would like to publicly thank the town of Springfield, and its voters, for allowing us to update and advocate for the recovery community. Recovery is possible, with the help of the peer-to-peer support movement. The services we provide can help save a life.

Michael Johnson, *Chief Executive Officer*
7 Morgan Street
Springfield, VT 05156
Phone: 802-376-4028
Email: michael@spfldtp.org
Website: www.spfldtp.org

WOMEN'S FREEDOM CENTER

The Women's Freedom Center's mission is to end physical, sexual, and emotional violence against the women and children of Windham and southern Windsor County. The Freedom Center works to fulfill its mission by educating the community regarding the root causes of violence against women, challenging the systems that help keep it in place, and providing support and services, including shelter and safe housing, to survivors and their children who have experienced domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence. Since our beginnings in 1974, we have provided support to the survivors of these crimes, as well as consultation and educational activities to a wide range of community groups to help create a community in which violence is not tolerated.

Emergency support such as shelter, safety planning, financial assistance, and information and referral is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Ongoing individual and group support for survivors and their children; legal, medical, housing, and social services advocacy; and cooperative work with other agencies are provided during the week. Due to the rural nature of Windham County and southern Windsor County and the isolation inherent in many abusive relationships, we are committed to meeting with survivors wherever we may do so safely. Sometimes, this means assisting them to get to us, and other times, it means us going to them somewhere safe in their community.

During the fiscal year July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, the Women's Freedom Center responded to over 1,900 crisis telephone calls, sheltered 144 people, and provided thousands of hours of individual and group support, advocacy, emergency financial and housing assistance, access to legal representation, transportation and childcare to **1,099 people** (623 women, 2 non-binary individuals, 31 men, and 444 children) who had been abused. These figures include 92 survivors and their 37 children from Springfield. In addition, we provided 50 community outreach activities, including school presentations and workshops, to over 700 people throughout Windham and southern Windsor Counties.

The Women's Freedom Center is a private, non-profit organization relying heavily on community support to provide our free and confidential services. We thank you for your Town's contribution to the Freedom Center and hope you will look at it as an investment in creating a future free from violence, something we all deserve.

Vickie Sterling, *Executive Director*

PO Box 933

Brattleboro, VT 05301

Phone: 802-885-2050

Email: admin@womensfreedomcenter.net

Website: www.womensfreedomcenter.net

WINDSOR COUNTY MENTORS

For 50 years Windsor County Mentors has been creating and nurturing intensive community- and school-based mentoring partnerships, free of charge, to any Windsor County child between 5 and 18 who could benefit from a long-term, trusting relationship with an adult in their community.

Mentoring has been studied extensively and strong evidence shows that mentoring offers vulnerable youth opportunities to share experiences with reliable adults to widen their vision of themselves, helping them to become confident, contributing members of their community and increasing their social and mental wellbeing.

It has been shown that youth with mentors have:

- Increased high school graduation rates, including higher college enrollment rates
- Enhanced self-esteem
- Enhanced self-confidence
- Improved behavior, both at home and at school
- Stronger relationships with parents, teachers, and peers
- Decreased likelihood of initiating drug and alcohol use

In the past year, WCM served and supported school- and community-based mentorships with children from towns throughout Windsor County including six (6) in Springfield. Collectively, our mentors volunteered thousands of hours to their communities.

Our surveys demonstrate the positive effects of mentoring on local families, with a clean sweep this year:

- 100% of Mentors would recommend mentoring to a family member, friend, or colleague.
- 100% of Mentee parents said their child is hopeful about his/her future.
- 100% of Mentees reported that having a mentor has made a difference in his/her life.

WCM employs regional outreach coordinators around Windsor County, assuring that we are able to grant each town the attention it deserves.

Financial support from Windsor County towns helps ensure the well-being of children and their families.

For more information on our mentorships, find us on Facebook, visit our website www.wcmentors.org, or contact us at ProgramsWC@outlook.com 802-674-5101. WCM thanks the voters of Springfield for their support for the children of Windsor County.

Matthew Garcia, *Executive Director*

PO Box 101

Windsor, VT 05089

Phone: 802-674-5101

Email: info@wcmentors.org

Website: www.wcmentors.org

SPRINGFIELD ART & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

First and foremost, we want to thank Springfield voters. Your continued support allows us to preserve our town's fascinating 300-year history.

Our \$9,500 funding request covers a little less than half of our annual expenses. We raise the remainder through memberships, donations, grants, yard sales, and historical calendar sales. The Society is staffed completely by volunteers, so every penny received is used to preserve and promote Springfield's history.

We welcome visitors. Our museum is handicapped accessible with plenty of parking, and open to all--at no charge. We try to present seven free programs a year, usually on the third Saturday of the month, and we are open Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m., and other times by appointment.

A steady flow of historical artifact donations and requests for information are received regularly. We are grateful for these donations and requests not only because they show support for the Society's work, but also because they are crucial to our learning more about Springfield and its people.

We continue to develop our local history and genealogical libraries and now have the Vermont newspapers searchable, on line as well as Ancestry.com. Come in and we will show you how to use them. Also, we are now the keeper of the Fellows Gear Shaper display that was in the Great Hall. In 2023, we have been going through every box we have in the collection, we are about 3/4s done. This has allowed us to reorganize the collection and discover misfiled items. But none of this would happen without your support.

Roseanne "Bunni" Putnam, *SAHS President*
65 Route 106
North Springfield, VT 05150
Phone: 802-886-7935
Website: www.springfieldartandhistorical.org

HEALTH CARE & REHABILITATION SERVICES

Health Care and Rehabilitation Services of Southeastern Vermont, Inc. (HCRS) is a comprehensive community mental health provider serving residents of Windham and Windsor counties. HCRS assists and advocates for individuals, families, and children who are living with mental illness, developmental disabilities, and substance use disorders. HCRS provides these services through outpatient mental health services, alcohol and drug treatment program, community rehabilitation and treatment program, developmental services division, and emergency services programs.

During FY23, HCRS provided 55,957 hours of services to 523 residents of the Town of Springfield. The services provided included all of HCRS' programs resulting in a wide array of supports for the residents of Springfield.

Anyone with questions about HCRS services should contact George Karabakakis, Chief Executive Officer, at (802) 886-4500.

Heather Cloud, *Communications & Fundraising Assistant*
390 River Street, Springfield, VT 05156
Phone: 802-886-4567 x2219
Email: hcloud@hcrs.org
Website: www.hcrs.org

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 4, 2024 – Monday evening Town Meeting
Informational Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m., in-person with
remote access via Zoom at Springfield High School

March 5, 2024 – Town Meeting Australian Ballot
Voting at Riverside Middle School – Polls are open
8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

April 1, 2024 – Dogs must be licensed

April 30, 2024 – Third water/sewer installment due 23/24
year

May 15, 2024 – Final property tax installment due 23/24
tax year

June 30, 2024 – Fourth water/sewer installment due 23/24
year

August 15, 2024 – First property tax installment due
24/25 year

October 31, 2024 – First water/sewer installment due
24/25 year

November 15, 2024 – Second property tax installment due
24/25 year

December 31, 2024 – Second water/sewer installment due
24/25 year

February 15, 2025 – Third property tax installment due
24/25 year

April 30, 2025 – Third water/sewer installment due 24/25
year

May 15, 2025 – Final property tax installment due 24/25
tax year

June 30, 2025 – Fourth water/sewer installment due 24/25
year

**Statement of Taxes
Fiscal Year 2022-2023**

TAXES ASSESSED AND BILLED:

	Assessed Value	Grand List (1% of Assessed)	Tax Rate	Total Taxes Assessed and Billed
Real Estate	\$624,096,209	\$6,240,962	1.8057	\$11,269,305
Machinery & Equipment	\$14,715,716	\$147,157	1.8057	\$265,722
Total Town Taxes				\$11,535,027
Education		\$6,189,598		<u>\$8,740,981</u>
TOTAL TAXES ASSESSED AND BILLED:				\$20,276,008

TAXES ACCOUNTED FOR:

Current year taxes collected	\$19,613,878
Current year taxes delinquent June 30, 2023	<u>\$662,130</u>
	\$20,276,008

DELINQUENT TAX COMPARISON CHART

Tax Year	Due as of 6/30/2023	Due as of 6/30/2022	Due as of 6/30/2021	Due as of 6/30/2020
2011	-	\$0	\$285	\$285
2012	-	\$0	\$1,932	\$1,932
2013	-	\$0	\$2,486	\$2,486
2014	-	\$0	\$5,705	\$5,705
2015	-	\$0	\$6,731	\$6,731
2016	-	\$0	\$5,136	\$5,136
2017	-	\$0	\$6,899	\$6,899
2018	-	\$1,674	\$4,896	\$8,105
2019	\$314	\$1,102	\$4,106	\$89,575
2020	\$1,319	\$3,926	\$59,303	\$522,908
2021	\$16,248	\$118,089	\$497,603	\$0
2022	\$93,097	\$537,339	\$0	\$0
2023	\$449,598	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$560,576	\$662,130	\$595,081	\$649,762

**2022-2023
BUDGET TO ACTUALS AT A GLANCE**

REVENUE BUDGETED:	\$14,386,421
REVENUE RECEIVED:	<u>\$15,357,564</u>
VARIANCE:	<u>\$971,143</u>
EXPENDITURES BUDGETED:	\$13,896,421
EXPENDITURES PAID:	<u>\$14,586,532</u>
VARIANCE:	<u>\$690,111</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES:	<u><u>\$771,032</u></u>

TAX ANALYSIS PER HUNDRED ASSESSED TAX DOLLARS

	HOMESTEAD 23-24	NON- RESIDENTIAL 23-24	HOMESTEAD 22-23	NON- RESIDENTIAL 22-23	HOMESTEAD 21-22	NON- RESIDENTIAL 21-22
SCHOOL	\$1.4504	\$1.4275	\$1.4049	\$1.4216	\$1.7704	\$1.7708
TOWN & HIGHWAY	\$1.7184	\$1.7184	\$1.6343	\$1.6343	\$1.8342	\$1.8342
SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS	\$0.1647	\$0.1647	\$0.1582	\$0.1582	\$0.1835	\$0.1835
VOTED CONTRACTS	\$0.0072	\$0.0072	\$0.0069	\$0.0069	\$0.0093	\$0.0093
COUNTY TAX	<u>\$0.0064</u>	<u>\$0.0064</u>	<u>\$0.0063</u>	<u>\$0.0063</u>	<u>\$0.0082</u>	<u>\$0.0082</u>
	\$3.3471	\$3.3242	\$3.2106	\$3.2273	\$3.8056	\$3.8060

TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS

	PARKER	CEMETERY	LIBRARY	CAMPBELL	WOOLSON	STETSON	EUREKA	IMPROVE FUND	HUMANE SOCIETY	TOTAL
6/30/2022 INVESTMENT ACCT	\$370,992	\$751,334	\$393,691	\$23,212	\$48,869	\$13,594	\$23,584	\$64,925	\$302,077	\$1,992,280
6/30/2022 CHECKING	\$9,002	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,002
6/30/2022 TOTAL BY FUND	\$379,994	\$751,334	\$393,691	\$23,212	\$48,869	\$13,594	\$23,584	\$64,925	\$302,077	\$2,001,282

22/23 REVENUE	\$8,974	\$18,150	\$9,500	\$561	\$1,186	\$333	\$571	\$1,570	\$7,185	\$48,030
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22/23 EXPENSES

MISCELLANEOUS	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$103	\$0	\$5,302	\$5,406
POSTAGE	\$55	\$112	\$58	\$3	\$7	\$2	\$4	\$10	\$43	\$294
INVESTMENT FEES	\$2,288	\$4,625	\$2,422	\$143	\$302	\$85	\$146	\$400	\$1,839	\$12,250
OPERATING TRANSFERS	\$0	\$10,400	\$5,447	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15,847
TOTAL OPER EXPENSES	\$2,343	\$15,136	\$7,927	\$147	\$310	\$87	\$252	\$410	\$7,185	\$33,797

22/23 NET OPERATING	\$6,631	\$3,014	\$1,573	\$415	\$876	\$246	\$319	\$1,160	\$0	\$14,234
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22/23 NON OPERATING

GAIN/LOSS ON SALE	-\$3,138	-\$6,359	-\$3,322	-\$197	-\$414	-\$115	-\$200	-\$550	-\$2,469	-\$16,762
CAP GAIN DISTIBS	\$9,355	\$18,992	\$9,920	\$585	\$1,232	\$342	\$595	\$1,637	\$7,458	\$50,114
PRINCIPAL RECEIPTS	\$0	\$2,700	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,700
PRINCIPAL DISTRIBUTED	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$14,261	-\$14,261
TRUSTEES FEES	-\$450	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$450
UNREALIZED GAIN/LOSS	\$18,507	\$37,586	\$19,453	\$1165	\$2411	\$637	\$1173	\$3257	\$13,274	\$97,463
TOTAL NON OPER EXPS	\$24,274	\$52,920	\$26,051	\$1,553	\$3,228	\$864	\$1,568	\$4,345	\$4,001	\$118,804

NET NON OPERATING	\$30,905	\$55,933	\$27,624	\$1,968	\$4,104	\$1,109	\$1,887	\$5,505	\$4,001	\$133,038
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6/30/2023 INVESTMENT ACCT	\$4,018,988	\$8,072,268	\$4,213,315	\$25,181	\$52,974	\$14,704	\$25,471	\$70,430	\$306,078	\$21,253,318
6/30/2023 CHECKING	\$8,389	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,389
6/30/2023 BALANCE	\$4,102,877	\$8,072,268	\$4,213,315	\$25,181	\$52,974	\$14,704	\$25,471	\$70,430	\$306,078	\$21,261,707

**SUMMARY OF SELECTBOARD'S PROPOSED BUDGET
FISCAL 2024-2025**

OPERATING BUDGETS	21-22 EXPENDED	22-23 EXPENDED	23-24 BUDGET	24-25 BUDGET	DIFF FROM 23-24
ADMIN	\$1,077,611	\$1,358,604	\$1,295,276	\$1,434,413	\$139,137
FIRE/AMB	\$1,798,298	\$2,022,044	\$1,937,472	\$2,070,891	\$133,419
FIXED	\$3,257,631	\$2,911,823	\$3,919,680	\$4,043,717	\$124,037
LIBRARY	\$539,666	\$538,337	\$573,536	\$601,640	\$28,104
PARKS & REC	\$376,561	\$375,575	\$411,781	\$422,472	\$10,691
POLICE	\$1,953,983	\$1,804,201	\$2,283,708	\$2,390,414	\$106,706
PUB WKS	\$2,810,206	\$4,107,814	\$3,794,230	\$3,972,941	\$178,711
REIMB SVCS	\$404,183	\$356,879	\$0	\$0	\$0
SENIOR CTR	\$62,216	\$66,960	\$69,316	\$72,775	\$3,459
TOTAL OPERATING	\$12,280,355	\$13,542,237	\$13,425,872	\$15,009,263	\$724,264

**BUDGET SUMMARY
FISCAL 2024-2025**

	22-23	23-24	24-25	\$ DIFFER	% DIFFER
OPERATING BUDGET	\$13,425,872	\$14,284,999	\$15,009,263	\$724,264	5.07%
REVENUE OTHER THAN TAXES	\$2,811,530	\$3,143,218	\$3,436,258	\$293,040	9.32%
TO BE RAISED BY TAXES	\$10,614,342	\$11,141,781	\$11,573,005	\$431,224	3.87%

**BUDGETED REVENUES
(OTHER THAN TAXES)
FISCAL 2024-2025**

	<u>24-25</u>	<u>23-24</u>	<u>22-23</u>	<u>21-22</u>
GENERAL	\$1,480,000	\$1,320,000	\$1,181,500	\$1,072,875
TOWN CLERK	\$130,675	\$124,135	\$114,555	\$117,550
POLICE	\$29,550	\$27,050	\$27,050	\$37,050
FIRE/AMBULANCE	\$979,100	\$905,100	\$726,325	\$862,343
PUBLIC WORKS	\$676,433	\$675,433	\$660,500	\$646,000
PARKS & RECREATION	\$7,000	\$5,000	\$7,100	\$8,000
LIBRARY	\$8,500	\$6,500	\$9,500	\$9,500
REIMBURSEMENTS & OTHER	<u>\$125,000</u>	<u>\$80,000</u>	<u>\$85,000</u>	<u>\$15,000</u>
GRAND TOTALS	\$3,436,258	\$3,143,218	\$2,811,530	\$2,768,318

BUDGETED CAPITALS

PUBLIC WORKS

BUDGET YEAR 2024/2025

	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29
EQUIPMENT	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Beginning Balance	\$474,970	\$179,139	\$6	\$120,006	\$65,006	\$55,006	\$40,006
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$425,000	\$425,000	\$450,000	\$450,000	\$450,000
Plow Dump- repl 1.5 /year	(\$199,409)	(\$390,000)	\$0	(\$200,000)	(\$400,000)	(\$200,000)	(\$400,000)
Excavator	\$0	(\$255,000)	(\$105,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace S38 - (2001 JOHN DEERE JD-6405)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$220,000)	\$0
Compressor	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$45,000)	\$0
Replace S20 - (2009 GMC SIERRA 1500)	(\$51,305)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace Backhoe	(\$131,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace Loader S13 2011	(\$278,250)	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sidewalk Tractor (1996 TRACKLESS MT 5)	\$0	\$0	(\$140,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace S7 (2009 GMC 3500)	\$0	\$0	(\$60,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace S11 (2007 GMC 3500 Dump) 1/3 rd	(\$35,867)	\$15,867	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace S29 (2015 JOHN DEERE 644 K)	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$280,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace S24 (2018 - CHEVY 2500)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$60,000)	\$0	\$0
Ending Balance	\$179,139	\$6	\$120,006	\$65,006	\$55,006	\$40,006	\$90,006
PAVING	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Beginning Balance	\$298,597	\$113,285	\$138,285	\$163,285	\$188,285	\$213,285	\$238,285
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION	\$300,000	\$325,000	\$325,000	\$325,000	\$325,000	\$325,000	\$325,000
Paving, Sidewalk and Gravel	(\$485,312)	(\$300,000)	(\$300,000)	(\$300,000)	(\$300,000)	(\$300,000)	(\$300,000)
Ending Balance	\$113,285	\$138,285	\$163,285	\$188,285	\$213,285	\$238,285	\$263,285
CEMETERY EQUIPMENT	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Beginning Balance	\$18,749	\$0	\$133	\$10,133	\$20,133	\$30,133	\$18,749
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION	\$6,000	\$16,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Replace S11 Cemetery Dump 2/3rd of cost	(\$24,749)	(\$15,867)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ending Balance	\$0	\$133	\$10,133	\$20,133	\$30,133	\$40,133	\$28,749
LAND MAINTENANCE	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Beginning Balance	\$6,280	\$17,155	\$17,155	\$17,155	\$17,155	\$17,155	\$17,155
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION	\$14,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
Land Maintence - Tree Removal	(\$3,125)	(\$12,000)	(\$12,000)	(\$12,000)	(\$12,000)	(\$12,000)	(\$12,000)
Ending Balance	\$17,155	\$17,155	\$17,155	\$17,155	\$17,155	\$17,155	\$17,155
RETAINING WALLS	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Beginning Balance	\$123,056	\$219,618	\$139,618	\$319,618	\$419,618	\$519,618	\$619,618
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION	\$100,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
Eaton Ave/River St.	(\$3,438)	(\$50,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TO PW EQUIP FUND	\$0	(\$105,000)	\$105,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ending Balance	\$219,618	\$139,618	\$319,618	\$419,618	\$519,618	\$619,618	\$719,618
BRIDGE & PEDESTRIAN	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Beginning Balance	\$124,589	\$293,919	\$433,919	\$463,919	\$253,919	\$433,919	\$363,919
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION	\$175,000	\$240,000	\$240,000	\$180,000	\$180,000	\$180,000	\$180,000
Riverside/ RT 11 Culvert Replacement	(\$5,670)	\$0	\$0	(\$260,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Repl McDonalds Bridge- 10%	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$200,000)	(\$200,000)
Eureka Road Box Culvert #1/#2/#3	\$0	(\$100,000)	(\$60,000)	(\$30,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0
MT VERNON EXT BOX CULVERT	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$50,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0
RANDALL HILL BOX CULVERT	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$50,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0
GREELY RD BRIDGE #34	\$0	\$0	(\$150,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
CUTLER RD BRIDGE	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$50,000)	(\$50,000)
Ending Balance	\$293,919	\$433,919	\$463,919	\$253,919	\$433,919	\$363,919	\$293,919
BUILDING MAINTENANCE	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Beginning Balance	\$45,000	\$110,000	\$147,000	\$147,000	\$147,000	\$192,000	\$237,000
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$65,000
Salt Shed Repairs	\$0	(\$8,000)	(\$45,000)	(\$45,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0
PW Garage Building Repairs	\$0	(\$20,000)	(\$20,000)	(\$20,000)	(\$20,000)	(\$20,000)	(\$20,000)
Ending Balance	\$110,000	\$147,000	\$147,000	\$147,000	\$192,000	\$237,000	\$282,000
Total Annual Contribution Public Works	\$1,060,000	\$1,133,000	\$1,152,000	\$1,117,000	\$1,142,000	\$1,142,000	\$1,142,000

FIRE/AMBULANCE

BUDGET YEAR 2024/2025

FIRE EQUIPMENT	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Beginning Balance	\$353,739	\$443,729	\$13,329	\$163,329	\$313,329	\$463,329	\$13,329
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION	\$125,400	\$125,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
Replace Car #1 and move to Car #2	(\$40,203)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace 1996 Engine 1	\$0	(\$550,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Grant Match Town Portion -AFG FEMA	\$0	(\$5,400)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace 2007 Engine 2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$600,000)	\$0
Ending Balance	\$443,729	\$13,329	\$163,329	\$313,329	\$463,329	\$13,329	\$163,329

AMBULANCE FLEET	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Beginning Balance	\$80,000	\$160,000	\$240,000	\$0	\$80,000	\$160,000	\$240,000
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000
Replace Ambulance A-1	\$0	\$0	(\$320,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ending Balance	\$160,000	\$240,000	\$0	\$80,000	\$160,000	\$240,000	\$320,000

BUILDING MAINTENANCE	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Beginning Balance	\$0	\$0	\$6,000	\$16,000	\$26,000	\$36,000	\$46,000
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION	\$12,000	\$6,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Roof Replacement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Server Replacement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
ESO Data Management System	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Window Replacement - Radio Room	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Bay Doors	(\$12,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ending Balance	\$0	\$6,000	\$16,000	\$26,000	\$36,000	\$46,000	\$56,000

Total Annual Contribution Fire/Ambulance	\$217,400	\$211,000	\$240,000	\$240,000	\$240,000	\$240,000	\$240,000
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POLICE

BUDGET YEAR 2024/2025

POLICE FLEET	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Beginning Balance	\$16,735	\$6,114	\$6,114	\$6,114	\$6,114	\$6,114	\$6,114
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION	\$0	\$58,000	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$90,000
Police Vehicles	(\$10,621)	(\$58,000)	(\$90,000)	(\$90,000)	(\$90,000)	(\$90,000)	(\$90,000)
Ending Balance	\$6,114	\$6,114	\$6,114	\$6,114	\$6,114	\$6,114	\$6,114

EQUIPMENT FUND	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Beginning Balance	\$28,592	\$39,526	\$39,526	\$19,526	\$49,526	\$99,526	\$74,526
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION	\$29,767	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
Portable Radios	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Technology (10 comp + software)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
New Car Radios	\$0	\$0	(\$40,000)	(\$20,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Evidence Room Improvements	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
New Car Cameras	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
SERVER	(\$18,833)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
BODY CAMS- Grant Funded 2024	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$75,000)	\$0
MDT - Car Computers	\$0	(\$40,000)	(\$20,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
BUILDING - EXT North Wall Repairs	\$0	(\$10,000)	(\$10,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ending Balance	\$39,526	\$39,526	\$19,526	\$49,526	\$99,526	\$74,526	\$124,526

Total Annual Contribution Police	\$29,767	\$108,000	\$140,000	\$140,000	\$140,000	\$140,000	\$140,000
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LIBRARY

BUDGET YEAR 2024/2025

BUILDING FUND	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Beginning Balance	\$40,561	\$63,886	\$21,386	\$11,386	\$11,386	\$21,386	\$36,386
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION	\$30,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000
POSSIBLE GRANT FUNDING	\$0	\$0	\$55,000	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$0
ADA door	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Roofing (Flat Roof above 2nd floor)	\$0	(\$2,500)	(\$100,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Flat Roof (Above 2nd Floor)	(\$6,675)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
HVAC System Improvements	\$0	(\$75,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Energy Conservation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$20,000)	\$0	\$0
Flooring Foyer & Public Restrooms	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$20,000)	\$0
Barnard Wing Repairs	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$10,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Spafford Block	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$5,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ceiling & Wall Repairs, Int Painting	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$10,000)	\$0	\$0
Outside Brick & Cornice	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$30,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Flooring Staff Area & Staff Restrooms	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$10,000)
Ending Balance	\$63,886	\$21,386	\$11,386	\$11,386	\$21,386	\$36,386	\$61,386

Total Annual Contribution Library	\$30,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000
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PARKS & RECREATION

BUDGET YEAR 2024/2025

EQUIPMENT FUND	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Beginning Balance	\$4,450	\$14,450	\$9,450	\$19,450	\$34,450	\$34,450	\$4,450
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
Pool Filter	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pool Vacuum	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Kubota Mower	\$0	(\$15,000)	\$0	\$0	(\$15,000)	\$0	\$0
P&R Vehicle	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$45,000)	\$0
Ending Balance	\$14,450	\$9,450	\$19,450	\$34,450	\$34,450	\$4,450	\$19,450

BUILDING FUND	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Beginning Balance	\$21,843	\$58,343	\$28,043	\$28,043	\$53,043	\$93,043	\$143,043
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION	\$36,500	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
ADA Ramp Replacement	\$0	(\$30,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Tennis Rebuild courts 3-6 ON HOLD	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Freedom Park Pavillion	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$25,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pool Deck \$135,000 Est. ON HOLD	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pool House Plumbing ON HOLD	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Community Center Chimney	\$0	(\$25,300)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Community Center Plumbing- DEFER	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$10,000)	\$0	\$0
Community Center Windows	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Womens Bathroom Repairs/ADA	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Replace Furnace	\$0	\$0	(\$50,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ending Balance	\$58,343	\$28,043	\$28,043	\$53,043	\$93,043	\$143,043	\$193,043

Total Annual Contribution Parks & Recreations	\$46,500	\$35,000	\$60,000	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$65,000
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ADMINISTRATION
BUDGET YEAR 2024/2025

TECHNOLOGY RESERVE FUND	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Beginning Balance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION	\$2,500	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Expenditures	(\$2,500)	(\$10,000)	(\$10,000)	(\$10,000)	(\$10,000)	(\$10,000)	(\$10,000)
Ending Balance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

TOWN HALL BUILDING FUND	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Beginning Balance	\$0	\$0	\$40,000	\$80,000	\$100,000	\$120,000	\$140,000
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION	\$0	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Repairs to 3rd floor	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ending Balance	\$0	\$40,000	\$80,000	\$100,000	\$120,000	\$140,000	\$160,000

COMPENSATED ABSENCES RESERVE FUND	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Beginning Balance	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION	\$180,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Expenditures	(\$180,000)	(\$20,000)	(\$20,000)	(\$20,000)	(\$20,000)	(\$20,000)	(\$20,000)
Ending Balance	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500

Total Annual Contribution Administration	\$182,500	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
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PROPERTY TAX DUE DATES

THE TAX PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR THE JULY 1, 2024 – JUNE 30, 2025 FISCAL YEAR IS:

FIRST QUARTER: AUGUST 15, 2024

SECOND QUARTER: NOVEMBER 15, 2024

THIRD QUARTER: FEBRUARY 15, 2025

FOURTH QUARTER: MAY 15, 2025

ANY PAYMENT NOT RECEIVED OR POSTMARKED BY THE DUE DATE WILL BE SUBJECT TO A 1% INTEREST CHARGE. ANY 2024-2025 TAX BALANCE UNPAID AFTER MAY 15, 2025 WILL BE ASSESSED A PENALTY OF 8%.

MAIL SLOTS ARE LOCATED IN THE GROUND FLOOR AND SECOND FLOOR DOOR AT THE TOP OF THE OUTSIDE STAIRS. PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE ONLINE AT THE TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD'S WEBSITE www.springfieldvt.gov

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
JUNE 30, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page(s)
Independent Auditor's Report	1 - 3
Management's Discussion and Analysis	4 - 9
Basic Financial Statements:	
Government-wide Financial Statements -	
Statement of Net Position	10 - 11
Statement of Activities	12
Fund Financial Statements -	
Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds	13 - 14
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	15 - 17
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Budget and Actual - General Fund	18
Statement of Net Position - Proprietary Funds	19 - 20
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position - Proprietary Funds	21
Statement of Cash Flows - Proprietary Funds	22 - 23
Statement of Net Position - Fiduciary Funds	24
Statement of Changes in Net Position - Fiduciary Funds	25
Notes to Financial Statements	26 - 41
Supplementary Schedules:	
Schedule 1 - Schedule of Town's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability - VMERS	42
Schedule 2 - Schedule of Town's Contributions - VMERS	42
Compliance Reports:	
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards	43 - 44
Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program; Report on Internal Control over Compliance; and Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Required by Uniform Guidance	45 - 47
Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards	48 - 49
Notes to Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards	50
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs	51
Status of Prior Audit Findings	51

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023
AND
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORTS

Mudgett
Jennett &
Krogh-Wisner, P.C.
Certified Public Accountants #435

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Selectboard
Town of Springfield, Vermont

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Springfield, Vermont (the Town) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Springfield, Vermont as of June 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing 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 Springfield, 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 opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Town's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

- 1 -

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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 GAAS 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, misrepresentations, 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 GAAS 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'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'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.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and schedules 1 and 2 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

- 2 -

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements. The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is 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. In our opinion, the accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 12, 2024, on our consideration of the Town's internal control over financial reporting, on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements; and on 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 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's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Montpelier, Vermont
January 12, 2024

Margaret Stewart
Shoshanna P.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS JUNE 30, 2023

The following is a discussion and analysis of the Town of Springfield's (the Town) financial performance including an overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. Readers should consider this information in conjunction with the financial statements which are located after this analysis. This discussion and analysis provide comparisons between FY 2023 and FY 2022.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Government-wide Highlights

The Town's assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources at June 30, 2023, by \$37,086,936 compared to \$34,379,620, at June 30, 2022. This represents an increase of \$2,707,316, compared to a decrease of \$947,189 for fiscal year 2022.

Fund Highlights

At the end of the fiscal year, the Town's governmental funds reported a combined ending fund balance of \$13,255,922, an increase of \$1,306,360 in comparison with a decrease of \$42,452 for the prior year. Of the total fund balance, \$8,414,122 represents amounts restricted, committed or assigned to specific purposes, such as reserves and encumbrances approved by management, and \$624,496 is nonspendable, leaving an unassigned balance of \$4,217,304.

Long-term Debt

The Town's long-term debt decreased \$1,353,434 during the fiscal year and had a total ending balance of \$11,195,273, compared to an ending balance of \$12,548,707, at June 30, 2022.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Town's financial statements consist of five sections: 1) Independent Auditor's Report, 2) Management's Discussion and Analysis, 3) Basic Financial Statements, 4) Supplementary Schedules and 5) Compliance Reports.

- **Independent Auditor's Report** - This is a description by the auditors of the scope of their work and their official opinion of the financial statements of the Town for the 2023 fiscal year.
- **Management's Discussion and Analysis** - An introduction to the basic financial statements that is intended to be an easily read analysis of the Town's financial activities based on currently known facts, decisions, or conditions.
- **Basic Financial Statements** - This section of the report includes government-wide financial statements, fund financial statements, and notes to the financial statements.
- **Supplementary Schedules** - This section of the report includes schedules 1 and 2, which are required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP). These schedules contain required historical pension information for the Town's portion of VMERS.
- **Compliance Reports** - This section includes the auditor's report on the Town's internal controls over financial reporting and on compliance with a description of their findings. Internal controls deal with the Town's processes and procedures that ensure our financial statements are accurate and that Town assets are being safeguarded in a reasonable fashion.

Government-wide Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Town's finances in a manner similar to a private-sector business. The statements provide both short-term and long-term information about the Town's financial position, which helps readers determine whether the Town's financial position has improved or deteriorated during the fiscal year. These statements include all non-fiduciary financial activity on the full accrual basis of accounting. This means that all revenues and expenditures are reflected in the financial statements even if the related cash has not been received or paid as of June 30.

- **Statement of Net Position** - This statement presents information on all of the Town's assets and deferred outflows of resources and its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, with the difference reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may indicate whether the financial position of the Town is improving or deteriorating.
- **Statement of Activities** - This statement presents information showing how the Town's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., uncollected taxes and earned but unused vacation leave).

The government-wide financial statements have separate columns for governmental activities and business-type activities. The Town's activities are classified as follows:

- **Governmental Activities** - Activities reported here include general government, police, fire and ambulance, public works, parks and recreation, senior citizens, library, special appropriations, education, and interest on debt. Property taxes and federal, state and local revenues finance these activities.
- **Business-type Activities** - Activities reported here include the water and sewer, and solid waste activities.

Fund Financial Statements

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Town, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All the Town's funds are categorized as governmental, proprietary or fiduciary.

- **Governmental Funds** - The basic services provided by the Town are reported in the governmental funds. These statements provide a detailed, short-term view of the functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. The government-wide financial statements are reported using the full accrual basis of accounting, but the governmental fund financial statements are reported using the modified accrual basis of accounting. This allows the reader to focus on assets that can be readily converted to cash and determine whether there are adequate resources to meet the Town's current needs.

The Town reports three individual governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund statements for the General and Special Revenue Funds which are considered major funds. Data from the other governmental fund, the Permanent Fund, is also presented, as it is the only nonmajor governmental fund.

- **Proprietary Funds** - Proprietary funds report activities that operate more like those of private-sector businesses and use the full accrual basis of accounting. Proprietary funds are reported as business-type activities on the government-wide financial statements. Since proprietary funds use accrual basis accounting, there are no differences between amounts reported on the government-wide statements and the proprietary fund statements. The Town uses proprietary funds to account for its Water and Sewer, and Solid Waste Funds.

- **Fiduciary Funds** - Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of other parties. Fiduciary activity is not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the Town's own programs. The Town's fiduciary fund is the Trustees of Public Funds Fund.

Reconciliation of Government-wide Financial Statements to Governmental Fund Financial Statements

The governmental activities of the government-wide financial statements and the governmental funds of the fund financial statements do not use the same accounting basis and measurement focus. Because the focus of governmental funds is more limited than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. This comparison can help readers better understand the long-term impact of the Town's near-term financing decisions. Both the Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds and the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities. These reconciliations are presented on the page immediately following each governmental fund financial statement.

The following indicates some of the reporting differences between the government-wide financial statements and the governmental funds financial statements.

- Capital assets used in governmental activities are not reported on governmental fund statements.
- Long-term liabilities, unless due and payable, are not included in the fund financial statements. These liabilities are only included in the government-wide statements. Long-term liabilities include long-term debt and accrued compensated absences. Proceeds from long-term liabilities provide current financial resources on the fund financial statements.
- Property taxes not available to pay current period expenditures are deferred in governmental fund statements, but not deferred on the government-wide statements.
- Deferred inflows of resources relating to deferred pension credits, deferred outflows of resources relating to deferred pension expense, and net pension asset or liability are reported on the government-wide statements but are excluded from the fund financial statements.
- Capital outlay spending results in capital assets on the government-wide statements but is reported as expenditures in the fund financial statements.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Government-wide Financial Statements

The Town's assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$37,086,936 at year end. Net position increased by \$2,707,316 from the previous fiscal year.

TABLE 1
Net Position

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total Primary Government	
	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
Assets	\$ 29,398,162	\$ 32,563,416	\$ 23,959,654	\$ 23,237,344	\$ 53,357,816	\$ 55,800,760
Deferred Outflows of Resources	1,503,946	2,050,976	185,881	253,491	1,689,827	2,304,467
Liabilities	(4,989,238)	(7,964,986)	(12,230,869)	(11,279,911)	(17,220,107)	(19,244,897)
Deferred Inflows of Resources	(3,228,011)	(1,734,471)	(219,905)	(38,923)	(3,447,916)	(1,773,394)
Net Position	\$ 22,684,859	\$ 24,914,935	\$ 11,694,761	\$ 12,172,001	\$ 34,379,620	\$ 37,086,936

The larger portion of the Town's net position, \$27,376,028 and \$25,426,227 in 2023 and 2022, respectively, reflects its net investment in capital assets less any related outstanding debt used to acquire those assets. These assets are recorded net of depreciation in the financial statements. The Town uses capital assets to provide services to citizens; therefore, those assets are not available for future spending. Although the Town's investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities. The remaining portion of the Town's net position, \$9,710,908 and \$8,953,393, in 2023 and 2022, respectively, represents restricted and unrestricted net position.

The following condensed financial information was derived from the Government-wide Statement of Activities and provides detail regarding the change in net position.

	TABLE 2 Change in Net Position					
	Governmental Activities			Business-type Activities		
	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
REVENUES						
Program Revenues:						
Charges for Services	\$ 1,727,776	\$ 1,895,602	\$ 3,080,886	\$ 3,186,801	\$ 4,808,662	\$ 5,082,403
Grants and Contributions	782,530	2,756,552	-	500,000	782,530	3,256,552
Other	63,269	6,852	9,932	4,954	73,201	11,806
General Revenues:						
Property Taxes	19,850,281	20,008,258	-	-	19,850,281	20,008,258
Investment Earnings	(531,465)	523,923	-	-	(631,465)	523,923
Total Revenues	21,892,391	25,191,187	3,090,818	3,691,755	24,983,209	28,882,942
PROGRAM EXPENSES						
General government	5,044,926	5,668,515	-	-	5,044,926	5,668,515
Police	1,939,675	1,941,200	-	-	1,939,675	1,941,200
Fire and ambulance	1,875,960	1,898,452	-	-	1,875,960	1,898,452
Public Works	3,790,975	3,725,055	-	-	3,790,975	3,725,055
Parks and recreation	405,379	318,404	-	-	405,379	318,404
Senior citizens	62,216	66,960	-	-	62,216	66,960
Library	531,114	561,358	-	-	531,114	561,358
Special appropriations	1,116,287	909,540	-	-	1,116,287	909,540
Education	7,554,858	7,344,265	-	-	7,554,858	7,344,265
Water and Sewer	-	-	3,277,683	3,439,941	3,277,683	3,439,941
Solid Waste	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
Interest	29,143	26,322	302,182	270,614	331,325	296,936
Total Program Expenses	22,350,533	22,460,071	3,579,865	3,715,555	25,930,398	26,175,626
Transfers In (Out)	(485,000)	(501,040)	485,000	501,040	-	-
Increase (decrease) in Net Position	\$ (943,142)	\$ 2,230,076	\$ (4,047)	\$ 477,240	\$ (947,189)	\$ 2,707,316

Total governmental activities expenses were \$22,350,533 and \$22,460,071 in fiscal years 2022 and 2023, respectively. The expenses do not include capital outlay, which is reflected as capital asset additions in the government-wide financial statements.

Program revenues are derived directly from the program itself or from parties outside the reporting government's taxpayers or citizenry. They reduce the net cost of the function to be financed from the government's general revenues. Total program revenues from governmental activities were \$2,573,575 in 2022 and \$4,659,006 in 2023. Governmental activities program revenues from charges for services include licenses and permits, planning fees, forfeitures, sale of supplies and several other revenues. Program revenues in the grants and contributions category include federal, state and local grants, and local contributions that are restricted for program use.

General revenues are all other revenues not categorized as program revenues and include property taxes and investment earnings. Total general revenues from governmental activities were \$19,318,816 in fiscal 2022 and \$20,532,181 in fiscal 2023.

Fund Financial Statements

- **Governmental Funds** - The combined fund balance of the governmental funds was \$11,949,562 at June 30, 2022 and \$13,255,922 at June 30, 2023. \$8,414,122 of the FY 2023 fund balance is restricted, committed or assigned. \$624,496 is nonspendable, leaving a remaining unassigned balance of \$4,217,304. The fund balance of the General Fund increased from \$5,689,056 in FY 2022 to \$6,687,222 in 2023.

Revenues and expenditures in the General Fund vary from their operating budgets, as shown on the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Budget and Actual - General Fund. Management has reviewed these variances and finds them to be acceptable. The overall budgetary variance for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, was a positive \$998,166. Revenues exceeded budgeted amounts by \$971,143. Expenditures were more than budgeted amounts by \$690,111.

- **Proprietary Funds** - The Town's proprietary funds provide the same information found in the government-wide financial statements. Total net position of the Town's proprietary funds at June 30, 2023, was \$12,172,001, an increase of \$477,240 from the previous fiscal year.

Capital Assets

The following is a schedule of capital assets as of June 30, 2022 and 2023.

	TABLE 3 Capital Assets June 30,					
	Governmental Activities			Business-type Activities		
	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
Land	\$ 360,612	\$ 437,144	\$ 281,434	\$ 291,684		
Construction in Progress	-	1,669,135	-	-		
Infrastructure	19,317,828	19,424,035	26,565,167	26,565,167		
Machinery and equipment	10,014,276	10,328,785	1,090,058	1,125,779		
Buildings and improvements	4,660,108	4,660,108	18,639,241	18,660,426		
Total Capital Assets	34,352,824	36,519,207	46,575,900	46,643,056		
Less Accumulated Depreciation	20,006,374	20,858,066	22,927,808	23,732,896		
Capital Assets, Net	\$ 14,346,450	\$ 15,661,141	\$ 23,648,092	\$ 22,910,160		

The Town has an investment in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, of \$37,994,542 and \$38,571,301 on June 30, 2022 and June 30, 2023, respectively. The net increase (including additions and deductions) between the two periods amounted to \$576,759.

Debt

The following is a schedule of long-term debt as of June 30, 2022 and 2023.

TABLE 4
Long-term Debt at June 30,
2022

	2022	2023
Governmental activities -		
EPA loan	\$ 133,007	\$ 121,768
Vermont Municipal Bond Bank	770,000	660,000
2015 Series 5	-	28,157
Phone system	<u>903,007</u>	<u>809,925</u>
Total governmental activities		
Business-type activities -		
USDA - Rural Development		
USDA-91-06	\$ 1,494,316	\$ 1,438,441
USDA-92-04	967,762	901,630
USDA-92-10	82,288	77,607
USDA-92-12	283,831	267,684
USDA-92-14	262,349	247,424
USDA-92-15	405,615	387,013
Vermont Municipal Bond Bank		
2014 Series 3	1,820,000	1,680,000
AR1-002	310,285	279,256
AR3-028	330,455	293,738
RF1-019	45,781	-
RF1-055	155,783	103,856
RF1-089	104,401	89,486
RF1-130	26,782	24,104
RF3-172	212,742	206,100
RF1-184	197,948	188,704
RF1-203	1,283,410	746,823
RF3-060	658,325	594,251
RF3-240	2,559,605	2,451,076
RF3-312-1	404,662	388,475
WPL-258	39,360	19,680
Total business-type activities	<u>\$ 11,645,700</u>	<u>\$ 10,385,348</u>

At the end of the fiscal year, the Town had \$809,925 in long-term debt outstanding in governmental activities compared to \$903,007 in the prior year. For the business-type activities, long-term debt outstanding was \$10,385,348 compared to \$11,645,700 in the prior year. Total long-term debt decreased by \$1,353,434.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Town's finances for all of its citizens, taxpayers, customers and creditors. Questions concerning any of the information provided in the report should be addressed to the Town of Springfield, 96 Main Street, Springfield, VT 05156.

- 9 -

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2023 (Page 1 of 2)

	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Totals
ASSETS:			
Current assets -			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,409,720	\$ 2,943	\$ 9,412,663
Investments	2,386,928	-	2,386,928
Delinquent property taxes	655,389	-	655,389
Accounts receivable, net	1,072,522	1,181,167	2,253,689
Inventory	-	135,497	135,497
Prepaid expenses	78,566	-	78,566
Due (to) from other activities	2,232,773	(992,423)	1,240,350
Total current assets	15,835,898	327,184	16,163,082
Noncurrent assets -			
Notes receivable and accrued interest, net	1,066,377	-	1,066,377
Capital assets	36,519,207	46,643,056	83,162,263
less - accumulated depreciation	(20,858,066)	(23,732,896)	(44,590,962)
Capital assets, net	15,661,141	22,910,160	38,571,301
Total noncurrent assets	16,727,518	22,910,160	39,637,678
Total assets	32,563,416	23,237,344	55,800,760
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES:			
Deferred pension expense	2,050,976	253,491	2,304,467
LIABILITIES:			
Current liabilities -			
Accounts payable	1,271,414	36,638	1,308,052
Accrued interest	-	51,695	51,695
Accrued wages	137,688	22,279	159,967
Accrued benefits	440,202	89,825	530,027
Current portion of long-term debt	150,666	725,453	876,119
Total current liabilities	1,999,970	925,890	2,925,860
Noncurrent liabilities -			
Accrued compensated absences	133,075	54,806	187,881
Net pension liability	5,172,682	639,320	5,812,002
Long-term debt	659,259	9,659,895	10,319,154
Total noncurrent liabilities	5,965,016	10,354,021	16,319,037
Total liabilities	7,964,986	11,279,911	19,244,897

The notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

- 10 -

**TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

		Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position									
		Grants and Contributions	Charges for Services	Other	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Totals							
FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS:		Expenses												
Governmental activities -														
General government	\$	5,668,515	\$	1,908,885	\$	523,825	\$	6,852	\$	(3,228,953)	\$	-	\$	(3,228,953)
Police		1,941,200		463,835		27,500		-		(1,449,865)		-		(1,449,865)
Fire and ambulance		1,898,452		-		721,180		-		(1,177,272)		-		(1,177,272)
Public works		3,725,055		-		606,921		-		(3,118,134)		-		(3,118,134)
Parks and recreation		318,404		372,053		12,784		-		66,433		-		66,433
Senior citizens		66,960		-		-		-		(66,960)		-		(66,960)
Library		561,358		11,779		3,392		-		(546,187)		-		(546,187)
Special appropriations		909,540		-		-		-		(909,540)		-		(909,540)
Education (payment to School District)		7,344,265		-		-		-		(7,344,265)		-		(7,344,265)
Interest on debt		26,322		-		-		-		(26,322)		-		(26,322)
Total governmental activities		22,460,071		2,756,552		1,895,602		6,852		(17,801,065)		-		(17,801,065)
Business-type activities -														
Water and sewer operations		3,439,941		500,000		3,186,801		-		-		246,860		246,860
Solid waste		5,000		-		-		4,954		-		(46)		(46)
Interest on debt		270,614		-		-		-		-		(270,614)		(270,614)
Total business-type activities		3,715,555		500,000		3,186,801		4,954		-		(23,800)		(23,800)
	\$	26,175,626	\$	3,256,552	\$	5,082,403	\$	11,806		(17,801,065)		(23,800)		(17,824,865)
GENERAL REVENUES		- PROPERTY TAXES							20,008,258				20,008,258	
		- INVESTMENT INCOME							523,923				523,923	
TRANSFERS IN (OUT)									(501,040)		501,040		-	
									20,031,141		501,040		20,532,181	
CHANGE IN NET POSITION									2,230,076		477,240		2,707,316	
NET POSITION, July 1, 2022									22,684,859		11,694,761		34,379,620	
NET POSITION, June 30, 2023									\$ 24,914,935		\$ 12,172,001		\$ 37,086,936	

The notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2023
(Page 2 of 2)**

	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Totals
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES:			
Deferred pension credits	314,919	38,923	353,842
Revenues collected in advance	1,419,552	-	1,419,552
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>1,734,471</u>	<u>38,923</u>	<u>1,773,394</u>
NET POSITION:			
Net investment in capital assets	14,851,216	12,524,812	27,376,028
Restricted	7,398,116	144,049	7,542,165
Unrestricted	2,665,603	(496,860)	2,168,743
Total net position	<u>\$ 24,914,935</u>	<u>\$ 12,172,001</u>	<u>\$ 37,086,936</u>

The notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2023
(Page 1 of 2)

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Permanent Fund	Totals Governmental Funds
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 7,427,036	\$ 1,982,684	\$ -	\$ 9,409,720
Investments	-	2,386,928	-	2,386,928
Delinquent property taxes	655,389	-	-	655,389
Accounts receivable, net	674,761	397,761	-	1,072,522
Notes receivable, net	-	1,063,542	-	1,063,542
Accrued interest receivable	322,343	2,835	-	2,835
Due from other funds	78,566	672,732	1,237,698	2,232,773
Prepaid expenditures	-	-	-	78,566
Total assets	\$ 9,158,095	\$ 6,506,482	\$ 1,237,698	\$ 16,902,275
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND EQUITY				
LIABILITIES:				
Accounts payable	\$ 1,271,207	\$ 207	\$ -	\$ 1,271,414
Accrued wages	137,688	-	-	137,688
Accrued benefits	440,202	-	-	440,202
Total liabilities	1,849,097	207	-	1,849,304
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES:				
Revenues collected in advance	244,279	1,175,273	-	1,419,552
Unavailable revenue - taxes and fees	377,497	-	-	377,497
Total deferred inflows of resources	621,776	1,175,273	-	1,797,049
FUND EQUITY:				
Fund balances -				
Nonspendable	78,566	-	545,930	624,496
Restricted	372,037	5,331,002	691,768	6,394,807
Committed	1,003,309	-	-	1,003,309
Assigned	1,016,006	-	-	1,016,006
Unassigned	4,217,304	-	-	4,217,304
Total fund balances	6,687,222	5,331,002	1,237,698	13,255,922
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund equity	\$ 9,158,095	\$ 6,506,482	\$ 1,237,698	\$ 16,902,275

The notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2023
(Page 2 of 2)

RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION:

Amount reported on Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds - total fund balances	\$ 13,255,922
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Government-wide Statement of Net Position are different because -	
Capital assets used in governmental funds are not financial resources and are therefore not reported in the funds.	36,519,207
Capital assets	(20,838,066)
Accumulated depreciation	
Liabilities not due and payable in the year are not reported in the governmental funds.	
Accrued compensated absences	(133,075)
Long-term debt	(809,925)
Deferred taxes are reported in the governmental funds to offset uncollected taxes which are not available financial resources.	
Unavailable revenue - taxes and fees	377,497
Balances related to net position asset or liability and related deferred outflows/inflows of resources are not reported in the governmental funds.	
Deferred pension expense	2,050,976
Deferred pension credits	(314,919)
Net pension liability	(5,172,682)
Net position of governmental activities - Government-wide Statement of Net Position	\$ 24,914,935

The notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023
(Page 1 of 3)

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Permanent Fund	Totals Governmental Funds
REVENUES:				
Property taxes	\$ 20,072,999	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,072,999
Less payments to School District	(7,344,265)	-	-	(7,344,265)
Intergovernmental revenue	317,540	2,129,433	-	2,446,973
Licenses, fees, and permits	523,825	-	-	523,825
Departmental income	1,671,488	7,169	-	1,678,657
Investment income (loss)	109,441	317,832	96,650	523,923
Miscellaneous	6,536	315	2,700	9,551
Total revenues	15,357,564	2,454,749	99,350	17,911,663
EXPENDITURES:				
Current -				
Finance and administration	1,323,003	-	-	1,323,003
Police	1,791,212	1,810	-	1,793,022
Fire and ambulance	1,755,724	-	-	1,755,724
Public works	2,956,814	-	-	2,956,814
Parks and recreation	261,329	3,383	-	264,712
Economic development	-	24,503	-	24,503
Senior citizens	66,960	-	-	66,960
Library	538,337	-	-	538,337
Fixed costs	2,876,823	-	-	2,876,823
Miscellaneous	-	68,876	22,894	91,770
Special appropriations	909,540	-	-	909,540
Grant expenditures	-	479,539	-	479,539
Reimbursable services	356,879	-	-	356,879
Bad debt expenditures	-	6,036	-	6,036
Capital outlay	818,781	1,679,047	-	2,497,828
Debt service - principal	148,134	-	-	148,134
- interest	25,930	-	-	25,930
- principal lease liability	19,608	-	-	19,608
- interest lease liability	392	-	-	392
Total expenditures	13,849,466	2,263,194	22,894	16,135,554

The notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023
(Page 2 of 3)

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Permanent Fund	Totals Governmental Funds
EXCESS OF REVENUES OR (EXPENDITURES)	1,508,098	191,555	76,456	1,776,109
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):				
Loan proceeds	31,291	-	-	31,291
Interfund transfers in (out), net	(541,223)	40,183	-	(501,040)
Total other financing sources (uses)	(509,932)	40,183	-	(469,749)
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	998,166	231,738	76,456	1,306,360
FUND BALANCES, July 1, 2022	5,689,056	5,099,264	1,161,242	11,949,562
FUND BALANCES, June 30, 2023	\$ 6,687,222	\$ 5,331,002	\$ 1,237,698	\$ 13,255,922

The notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023
(Page 3 of 3)

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES:

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds	\$ 1,306,360
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Government-wide Statement of Activities are different because -	
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense.	
Additions to capital assets, net of dispositions	2,798,655
Depreciation	(1,483,964)
Lease asset amortization	(19,804)
The issuance of long-term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction has any effect on net position.	
(Increase) decrease in compensated absences	21,322
Proceeds from long-term debt	(55,052)
Principal payments on long-term debt	148,134
Principal payments on lease	19,608
Property tax revenue in governmental funds includes deferred revenue of the prior year but excludes deferred revenue of the current year as taxes uncollected within 60 days are unavailable at year end.	
Unavailable revenue - taxes and fees	(442,238)
Prior year	377,497
Current year	

Changes in net pension asset or liability and related deferred outflows/inflows of resources will increase or decrease the amounts reported in the government-wide statements, but are only recorded as an expenditure when paid in the governmental funds.

Net (increase) decrease in net pension obligation	(440,442)
Change in net position of governmental activities - Government-wide Statement of Activities	\$ 2,230,076

The notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES -
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Original and Final Budget	Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance Over (Under)
REVENUES:			
Property taxes	\$ 12,574,891	\$ 12,728,734	\$ 153,843
Intergovernmental	-	317,540	317,540
Licenses, fees, and permits	389,555	523,825	134,270
Public works	634,000	597,621	(36,379)
Police	27,050	27,500	450
Fire and ambulance	726,325	1,031,913	305,588
Parks and recreation	7,100	5,615	(1,485)
Library	9,500	8,839	(661)
Investment income	18,000	109,441	91,441
Miscellaneous	-	6,536	6,536
Total revenues	14,386,421	15,357,564	971,143
EXPENDITURES:			
General government -			
Finance and administration	1,370,401	1,358,604	(11,797)
Police	1,977,549	1,804,201	(173,348)
Fire and ambulance	1,690,582	2,022,044	331,462
Public works	3,401,591	4,107,814	706,223
Parks and recreation	419,545	375,575	(43,970)
Senior services	65,852	66,960	1,108
Library	555,496	538,337	(17,159)
Fixed costs	3,126,100	2,911,823	(214,277)
Reimbursable services	144,000	356,879	212,879
Special appropriations	1,010,550	909,540	(101,010)
Debt service - principal	110,000	110,000	-
- interest	24,755	24,755	-
Total expenditures	13,896,421	14,586,532	690,111
EXCESS OF REVENUES OR (EXPENDITURES)	490,000	771,032	281,032
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):			
Loan proceeds	-	31,291	31,291
Interfund transfers in (out), net	(490,000)	195,843	685,843
Total other financing sources (uses)	(490,000)	227,134	717,134
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	\$ -	\$ 998,166	\$ 998,166

The notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - PROPRIETARY FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2023
(Page 1 of 2)

	Water and Sewer Fund	Solid Waste Fund	Totals Proprietary Funds
ASSETS:			
Current assets -			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ -	\$ 2,943	\$ 2,943
Accounts receivable, net	1,181,167	-	1,181,167
Inventory	135,497	-	135,497
Due from other funds	-	141,106	141,106
Total current assets	1,316,664	144,049	1,460,713
Noncurrent assets -			
Capital assets			
less - accumulated depreciation	46,643,056	-	46,643,056
Total noncurrent assets	(23,732,896)	-	(23,732,896)
	22,910,160	-	22,910,160
Total assets	24,226,824	144,049	24,370,873

**DEFERRED OUTFLOWS
OF RESOURCES:**

Deferred pension expense	253,491	-	253,491
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LIABILITIES:

Current liabilities -			
Accounts payable	36,638	-	36,638
Accrued interest	51,695	-	51,695
Accrued wages	22,279	-	22,279
Accrued benefits	89,825	-	89,825
Current portion of long-term debt	725,453	-	725,453
Due to other funds	1,133,529	-	1,133,529
Total current liabilities	2,059,419	-	2,059,419
Noncurrent liabilities -			
Accrued compensated absences	54,806	-	54,806
Net pension liability	639,320	-	639,320
Long-term debt	9,659,895	-	9,659,895
Total noncurrent liabilities	10,354,021	-	10,354,021
Total liabilities	12,413,440	-	12,413,440

The notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - PROPRIETARY FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2023
(Page 2 of 2)

	Water and Sewer Fund	Solid Waste Fund	Totals Proprietary Funds
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES:			
Deferred pension credits	38,923	-	38,923
NET POSITION:			
Net investment in capital assets	12,524,812	-	12,524,812
Restricted	-	144,049	144,049
Unrestricted	(496,860)	-	(496,860)
Total net position	\$ 12,027,952	\$ 144,049	\$ 12,172,001

The notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES
IN NET POSITION - PROPRIETARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Water and Sewer Fund	Solid Waste Fund	Totals Proprietary Funds
OPERATING REVENUES:			
Charges for services	\$ 3,186,801	\$ -	\$ 3,186,801
OPERATING EXPENSES:			
Wages	1,370,410	-	1,370,410
Administrative	188,151	-	188,151
Maintenance	350,635	-	350,635
Wastewater	625,335	-	625,335
Dewatering and composting	74,878	-	74,878
Depreciation	830,532	-	830,532
Total operating expenses	3,439,941	-	3,439,941
Operating income (loss)	(253,140)	-	(253,140)
NONOPERATING			
REVENUES (EXPENSES):			
Loan forgiveness	500,000	-	500,000
Redemption contribution	-	4,954	4,954
Plant improvements	-	(5,000)	(5,000)
Interest expense	(270,614)	-	(270,614)
Total nonoperating revenues (expenses)	229,386	(46)	229,340
INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS	(23,754)	(46)	(23,800)
Operating transfers in (out), net	501,040	-	501,040
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	477,286	(46)	477,240
NET POSITION, July 1, 2022	11,550,666	144,095	11,694,761
NET POSITION, June 30, 2023	\$ 12,027,952	\$ 144,049	\$ 12,172,001

The notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS - PROPRIETARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023
 (Page 1 of 2)

	Water and Sewer Fund	Solid Waste Fund	Totals Proprietary Funds
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
Cash received from customers	\$ 3,309,452	\$ -	\$ 3,309,452
Cash paid to suppliers for goods and services	(1,139,174)	-	(1,139,174)
Cash paid to employees for services	(1,321,131)	-	(1,321,131)
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	849,147	-	849,147
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES:			
Purchases of capital assets	(92,600)	-	(92,600)
Principal paid on bonds	(760,352)	-	(760,352)
Interest paid on bonds	(270,614)	-	(270,614)
Net cash provided (used) by capital and related financing activities	(1,123,566)	-	(1,123,566)
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES:			
Transfers in (out)	501,040	-	501,040
Change in due to/from other funds	(226,621)	-	(226,621)
Net cash provided (used) by noncapital financing activities	274,419	-	274,419
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	-	-	-
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, July 1, 2022	-	2,943	2,943
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, June 30, 2023	\$ -	\$ 2,943	\$ 2,943

The notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS - PROPRIETARY FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023
(Page 2 of 2)

	Water and Sewer Fund	Solid Waste Fund	Totals Proprietary Funds
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) TO NET CASH PROVIDED (USED) BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
Operating income (loss)	\$ (253,140)	\$ -	\$ (253,140)
Adjustments to reconcile operating income (loss) to net cash provided (used) by operating activities -			
Depreciation	830,532	-	830,532
(Increase) decrease in -			
Accounts receivable	122,651	-	122,651
Inventory	88,302	-	88,302
Increase (decrease) in -			
Accrued interest	(9,010)	-	(9,010)
Accrued wages	8,360	-	8,360
Accounts payable	20,533	-	20,533
Net pension liability	54,437	-	54,437
Accrued compensated absences	(13,518)	-	(13,518)
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	<u>\$ 849,147</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 849,147</u>

The notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - FIDUCIARY FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2023

	Trustees of Public Funds Fund
ASSETS:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 411,907
Investments	<u>1,721,799</u>
Total assets	<u>2,133,706</u>
LIABILITIES:	
Due to other funds	<u>1,240,350</u>
NET POSITION:	
Restricted	<u>\$ 893,356</u>

The notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET POSITION -
FIDUCIARY FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Trustees of Public Funds
	<u>Fund</u>
ADDITIONS:	
Investment income	\$ 82,195
DEDUCTIONS:	
Disbursements	<u>26,142</u>
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	56,053
NET POSITION, July 1, 2022	<u>837,303</u>
NET POSITION, June 30, 2023	<u>\$ 893,356</u>

The notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023

1. Summary of significant accounting policies:

The Town of Springfield, Vermont (the Town) is an incorporated municipality operating under "The Comprehensive Revision of the Charter of the Town of Springfield, Vermont" approved by voters May 21, 1985. The Town operates under a Selectboard-Manager form of government. The Town's major operations include police and fire protection, ambulance, public works, library, parks and recreation, community development and general administration services. In addition, the Town owns and operates a water and sewer system.

A. Reporting entity - The Town is a primary unit of government under reporting criteria established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). Those criteria include a separately elected governing body, separate legal standing, and fiscal independence from other state and local governmental entities. Based on these criteria, there are no other entities which are component units of the Town.

The financial statements of the Town have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The GASB is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The GASB periodically updates its codification of the existing *Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards* which, along with subsequent GASB pronouncements (Statements and Interpretations), constitutes U.S. GAAP for governmental units.

B. Government-wide and fund financial statements - The basic financial statements include both government-wide and fund financial statements. The government-wide financial statements (the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the Town. The effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support.

In the government-wide Statement of Net Position, the financial position of the Town is consolidated and incorporates capital assets as well as long-term debt and obligations. The government-wide Statement of Activities reflects both the gross and net costs by category. Direct expenses that are clearly identifiable with the category are offset by program revenues of the category. Program revenues include charges for services provided by a particular function or program and grants that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of the particular segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds, proprietary funds and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds and major individual enterprise funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements. Nonmajor funds are summarized in a single column.

C. Basis of presentation - The accounts of the Town are organized on the basis of funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, deferred outflows/inflows of resources, fund balances or net position, revenues, and expenditures or expenses, as appropriate.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023

1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued):

C. Basis of presentation (continued) -

The Town reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund - The General Fund is the primary operating fund of the Town. It is used to account for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Special Revenue Fund - This fund accounts for proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for specific purposes.

The Town also reports the Permanent Fund, a nonmajor governmental fund, to account for the financial resources to be used for the support of the Town's libraries and cemeteries.

The Town reports the following major proprietary funds:

Water Fund and Sewer Fund - The Water and Sewer Fund is used to account for the Town's water and sewer operations.

The Town also reports the Solid Waste Fund, a nonmajor proprietary fund, which consists of residual balances since the fund ceased operations.

The Town also reports fiduciary funds which are used to account for assets held in a trustee capacity (trust funds) or as a custodian (custodial funds) for the benefit of parties outside of the Town. The Town's fiduciary fund is the Trustees of Public Funds Fund, which is a private purpose trust fund.

D. Measurement focus and basis of accounting - The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as are the proprietary fund and fiduciary fund financial statements. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as they become both measurable and available. "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction that can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Expenditures generally are recorded when the fund liability is incurred, if measurable, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures are recorded only when payment is made.

The proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services in connection with the fund's principal ongoing operations. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses. Unbilled service revenue is accrued in the Water and Sewer Fund.

Property taxes are recorded as revenue in the year for which taxes have been levied, provided they are collected within 60 days after year end. Licenses and permits, fines and forfeitures and miscellaneous revenues are recorded as revenues when received because they are generally not measurable prior to collection. Investment earnings and certain intergovernmental grants are recorded as earned.

Ambulance service revenue is recognized as billed. Accounts receivable for ambulance services are reviewed and adjusted for collectability on a routine basis. Allowances for doubtful accounts are established as considered necessary. The allowance for doubtful accounts at June 30, 2023, was \$226,245.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023

1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued):

E. Budgets and budgetary accounting - The Town approves a budget for the General Fund at an annual Town Meeting. The tax rate is determined by the Selectboard (the Board) based on the education and municipal grant lists and the approved operating budget. The accounting method used for budget presentation is the same method used for the financial presentation of operations under U.S. GAAP, however differences between the two consist of reclassification entries to properly reflect transfers in the U.S. GAAP financial presentation. The Town does not legally adopt budgets for other governmental funds. All budgeted amounts lapse at year end.

Encumbrances, for which purchase orders, contracts, and other commitments for the expenditure of monies are recorded in order to set aside that portion of the applicable appropriation, is employed as an extension of formal budgetary integration in the General Fund. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are reported as assignments of fund balances for future expenditures since they do not constitute current expenditures or liabilities. Appropriations lapse at year end. Outstanding encumbrances at June 30, 2023, totaled \$923,645.

F. Property taxes - Property taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property owned as of April 1st. Listers establish a grand list of all property and the Board sets the tax rate required to raise the tax revenue authorized by Town and School District voters and the Vermont Agency of Education. Property taxes for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, were payable in four installments due August 15, 2022, November 15, 2022, February 15, 2023 and May 15, 2023.

G. Use of estimates - The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities and deferred outflows/inflows of resources as well as disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures or expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

H. Risk management - The Town is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees and others; environmental liability; and natural disasters. The Town manages these risks through participation in public entity risk pools covering each of those risks of loss. Management believes such coverage is sufficient to preclude any significant uninsured losses to the Town. There were no settlements in excess of the insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

I. Cash, cash equivalents and investments - The Town considers all cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition to be cash and cash equivalents. Investments and unrealized gains and losses are reflected in the individual fund and government-wide financial statements. Investments of the Town are reported at fair value using quoted prices in active markets for identical assets, a level 1 input, or quoted prices for similar assets, a level 2 input, which are valuation techniques under the framework established by U.S. GAAP for measuring fair value. The Town does not own investments valued with level 3 inputs in inactive markets, or other methods for estimating fair value.

J. Inventory - Inventory in the Water and Sewer Fund is valued at weighted average cost. Inventory is recorded as an expense when consumed rather than when purchased.

K. Prepaid items - Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both government-wide and fund financial statements.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023

1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued):

L. **Capital assets** - Capital assets, which include land, buildings, equipment, vehicles and infrastructure, are reported in the applicable governmental or business-type activities columns in the government-wide financial statements and in the proprietary fund financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the Town as assets with an estimated useful life in excess of one year and an initial, individual cost of more than \$3,000, or \$25,000 for infrastructure. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. The Town does not retroactively report infrastructure assets. The Town began capitalizing newly acquired or constructed general infrastructure assets since the implementation of GASB Statement No. 34. Donated capital assets are recorded at acquisition value. Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. Net interest costs are capitalized on projects during the construction period. Normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of an asset or materially extend an asset's life are not capitalized. Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the useful lives shown below:

Governmental Activities:	
Buildings	40 - 50 years
Improvements	20 - 40 years
Machinery and equipment	7 - 20 years
Police vehicles and ambulances	3 - 5 years
Infrastructure - Roads & Bridges	10 - 20 years
Land improvements	20 - 50 years
Proprietary Fund:	
Wellfields, reservoirs, mains and pipe	67 years
Treatment plants and pump stations	40 years
Meters and hydrants	10 - 67 years
Chlorinating and pumping facilities	50 years
Equipment	5 - 20 years

M. **Deferred outflows/inflows of resources** - In addition to assets and liabilities, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources are reported as separate sections in the applicable statement of net position or balance sheet. Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources in the current period. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources in the current period.

N. **Compensated absences** - Vested or accumulated leave is reported as a fund liability of the applicable fund in the governmental and proprietary fund financial statements. At June 30, 2023, the Town reported \$133,075 and \$54,806 in the General and Water and Sewer Funds, respectively. Accumulated sick leave estimated to be paid as terminal leave upon retirement is recorded in the government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements. At June 30, 2023, the Town reported \$440,202 and \$89,825 in the governmental activities and Water and Sewer Fund, respectively.

O. **Long-term obligations** - Governmental activities, business-type activities, or proprietary funds report long-term debt and other long-term obligations as liabilities in the applicable statement of net position. Governmental funds report the amount of debt issued as other financing sources and the repayment of debt as debt service expenditures.

- 29 -

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023

1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued):

P. **Fund equity** - In the fund financial statements, governmental funds may report five categories of fund balances: nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned. Nonspendable fund balance includes amounts associated with inventory, prepaid expenditures, long-term loans or notes receivable, and trust fund principal to be held in perpetuity.

Restricted fund balance includes amounts that can be spent only for the specific purposes stipulated by constitution, external resource providers, or through enabling legislation.

Committed fund balance includes amounts that can be used only for specific purposes determined by the Town's highest level of decision making authority, the voters, as a result of articles passed at Annual or Special Meetings.

Assigned fund balance includes amounts that are intended to be used by the Town for specific purposes as authorized by the Board.

Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the General Fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in another classification. Deficits are also classified as unassigned.

The Town's policy is to apply expenditures to fund balance in the order of restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned unless the Board specifies otherwise.

2. Deposits and investments:

Fair value and classification - Deposits and investments are stated at fair value as described in note 1.1. The classification of investments as of June 30, 2023, is as follows:

Investment	Fair Value
Government bonds	\$ 408,289
Corporate bonds	352,451
Mutual funds	2,505,394
Corporate stock	842,593
	<u>\$ 4,108,727</u>

Special Revenue Fund investment policy - The Town's Investment Committee has oversight responsibility for funds received and held pursuant to an agreement with the State of Vermont concerning the placement of a correctional facility in the Town and has appointed advisors with discretion for the management of the investments in accordance with the Investment Committee's objectives. The investment policy regarding the allocation of the invested funds is 65% in equities, 30% in fixed income, and 5% in liquid assets.

Fiduciary Fund investment policy - The Town's Trustees of Public Funds are charged with maximizing the return on all investment funds held in the Trustees of Public Funds Fund, while maintaining their security. By state statute, the Trustees may invest in any security issued, insured, or guaranteed by the United States; highly rated bonds, repurchase agreements and debt securities of any federally insured financial institution; shares of a registered investment company, or a unit investment trust, if such mutual investment fund has been in operation for at least ten years and has net assets of at least \$500,000,000; or deposits in federally insured financial institutions. The Trustees have set an approximate investment objective of 40% to 60% in stock mutual funds, with a maximum limit of 15% of the portfolio for any one investment.

- 30 -

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023

2. Deposits and investments (continued):

Custodial credit risk - Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, the Town will not be able to recover its deposits or will not be able to recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. Custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty to a transaction, the Town will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of another party. As of June 30, 2023, \$95,711 of the Town's bank balance of \$9,336,411 was uninsured and uncollateralized.

Interest rate risk - Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will affect the fair value of certain investments. Investments subject to interest rate risk and their maturities as of June 30, 2023, are as follows:

	Fair Value	Investment Maturity		
		Less than One Year	1 to 5 Years	6 to 10 Years
Government bonds	\$ 408,289	\$ 24,410	\$ 292,556	\$ 91,323
Corporate bonds	352,451	157,550	194,901	-
	<u>\$ 760,740</u>	<u>\$ 181,960</u>	<u>\$ 487,457</u>	<u>\$ 91,323</u>

Concentration of credit risk - Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of a government's investment in a single issuer. As of June 30, 2023, the Town does not hold more than 5% of its investments in any one issuer, other than mutual funds.

Credit risk - Credit risk is the risk that an issuer of or counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. The Town's investments in corporate bonds are subject to credit risk. The credit quality ratings as rated by Standard & Poor's are as follows:

Bond Rating	Fair Value
AAA	\$ 47,534
AA+	437,869
AA	28,898
AA-	59,504
A+	24,683
A	14,588
A-	119,802
BBB+	9,669
BBB-	18,193
	<u>\$ 760,740</u>

3. Notes receivable:

The Town, through various federal loan programs, has received grants and advanced funds to encourage community development. These loans, generally secured by subordinated collateral positions, are recorded as notes receivable. Notes receivable as of June 30, 2023, are as follows:

- 31 -

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023

3. Notes receivable (continued):

	Current Interest Rate	Maturity Date	
Mountain View Housing	0.00%	December, 2030	\$ 593,042
South View Housing	2.00%	November, 2027	34,239
South View Housing	0.00%	October, 2042	145,425
100 River Street, LLC	1.00%	September, 2021	961
Springfield Housing	0.00%	July, 2045	220,000
Rusted Roof LLC	2.00%	June, 2025	24,131
SRDC	3.00%	July, 2028	5,376
Springfield Food Co-op	1.00%	November, 2024	351
Springfield Food Co-op	3.00%	February, 2032	66,250
Flying Crow Coffee Co, LLC.	5.00%	December, 2028	8,860
			<u>1,098,635</u>
Less: Allowance for doubtful accounts			<u>(35,093)</u>
			<u>\$ 1,063,542</u>

4. Capital assets:

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2023, was as follows:

	Balance July 1, 2022	Increase	Decrease	Balance June 30, 2023
Governmental activities -				
Capital assets, not depreciated:				
Construction in progress	\$ -	\$ 1,669,135	\$ -	\$ 1,669,135
Land and improvements	360,612	76,532	-	437,144
Total capital assets, not depreciated	<u>360,612</u>	<u>1,745,667</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,106,279</u>
Capital assets, depreciated:				
Infrastructure	19,317,828	106,207	-	19,424,035
Machinery and equipment	10,014,276	946,781	632,272	10,328,785
Buildings and improvements	4,660,108	-	-	4,660,108
Total capital assets, depreciated	<u>33,992,212</u>	<u>1,052,988</u>	<u>632,272</u>	<u>34,412,928</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Infrastructure	10,991,327	790,792	-	11,782,119
Machinery and equipment	6,800,062	550,056	632,272	6,717,846
Buildings and improvement	2,214,985	143,116	-	2,358,101
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>20,006,374</u>	<u>1,483,964</u>	<u>632,272</u>	<u>20,858,066</u>
Total capital assets, depreciated, net	<u>13,985,838</u>	<u>(430,976)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,554,862</u>
Capital assets, net, governmental activities	<u>14,346,450</u>	<u>1,314,691</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,661,141</u>

Depreciation expense of \$1,483,964 in the governmental activities was allocated to expenses of the general government (\$67,081), police (\$148,178), fire and ambulance (\$146,728), public works (\$1,065,068), parks and recreation (\$33,888) and library (\$23,021) programs based on capital assets assigned to those functions.

- 32 -

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023

4. Capital assets (continued):

	Balance July 1, 2022	Increase	Decrease	Balance June 30, 2023
Business-type activities -				
Capital assets, not depreciated:				
Land and improvements:	281,434	10,250	-	291,684
Wellfields, reservoirs, mains, and pipes	26,565,167	-	-	26,565,167
Treatment plants and pump stations	15,597,057	-	-	15,597,057
Meters and hydrants	188,173	-	-	188,173
Chlorination and pumping facilities	3,042,184	21,185	-	3,063,369
Equipment	901,885	61,165	25,444	937,606
Total capital assets, depreciated	46,294,466	82,350	25,444	46,351,372
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Wellfields, reservoirs, mains, and pipes	9,200,423	444,231	-	9,644,654
Treatment plants and pump stations	11,779,021	289,108	-	12,068,129
Meters and hydrants	180,577	2,468	-	183,045
Chlorination and pumping facilities	948,561	65,313	-	1,013,874
Equipment	819,226	29,412	25,444	823,194
Total accumulated depreciation	22,927,808	830,532	25,444	23,732,896
Total capital assets, depreciated, net	23,366,658	(748,182)	-	22,618,476
Capital assets, net, business-type activities	23,648,092	(737,932)	-	22,910,160
Capital assets, net	\$ 37,994,542	\$ 576,759	\$ -	\$ 38,571,301

Depreciation expense of \$830,532 in the business-type activities was fully allocated to the water and sewer program.

5. Interfund receivable and payable balances:

Interfund receivable and payable balances, due to the pooling of cash for cash receipts and disbursements, as of June 30, 2023, are as follows:

	Interfund Receivables	Interfund Payables
Governmental funds -		
General Fund	\$ 322,343	\$ -
Special Revenue Fund	672,732	-
Permanent Fund	1,237,698	-
	<u>2,232,773</u>	<u>-</u>
Proprietary funds -		
Water and Sewer Fund	-	1,133,529
Solid Waste Fund	141,106	-
	<u>141,106</u>	<u>1,133,529</u>
Fiduciary funds -		
Trustees of Public Funds Fund	-	1,240,350
	<u>\$ 2,373,879</u>	<u>\$ 2,373,879</u>

- 33 -

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023

6. Interfund transfers:

Interfund transfers constitute the transfer of resources from the fund that receives the resources to the fund that utilizes them. Transfers made from the General Fund to the Water and Sewer Fund totaling \$540,000 were comprised of the General Fund's annual contribution to reimburse fire protection and CSO debt service expenditures paid by the Water and Sewer Fund. Transfers made from the Water and Sewer Fund to the General Fund totaling \$50,000 were to reimburse expenditures. Transfers made from the General Fund to the Special Revenue Fund totaling \$51,223 were to transfer grant match contributions for completed projects. Transfers from the Special Revenue Fund to the Water and Sewer Fund totaling \$11,040 were to reimburse expenditures.

7. Long-term obligations:

Long-term obligations activity for the year ended June 30, 2023, was as follows:

	Balance July 1, 2022	Additions	Reductions	Balance June 30, 2023	Due Within One Year
Governmental activities -					
Accrued compensated absences	\$ 154,397	\$ -	\$ 21,322	\$ 133,075	\$ 20,000
Long-term debt	903,007	55,052	148,134	809,925	150,666
Lease liability	19,608	-	19,608	-	-
Net pension liability	2,720,901	2,451,781	-	5,172,682	-
	<u>\$ 3,797,913</u>	<u>\$ 2,506,833</u>	<u>\$ 189,064</u>	<u>\$ 6,115,682</u>	<u>\$ 170,666</u>
Business-type activities -					
Accrued compensated absences	\$ 66,249	\$ -	\$ 11,443	\$ 54,806	\$ 8,000
Long-term debt	11,645,700	-	1,260,352	10,385,348	725,453
Net pension liability	336,291	303,029	-	639,320	-
	<u>\$ 12,048,240</u>	<u>\$ 303,029</u>	<u>\$ 1,271,795</u>	<u>\$ 11,079,474</u>	<u>\$ 733,453</u>

8. Superfund Site:

On June 6, 1991, the Selectboard authorized the Town Manager to enter into a Partial Consent Decree with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Browning-Ferris Industries of Vermont, Inc., Emhart Industries, Inc. and Textron, Inc. The Town voted to approve the decree on July 30, 1991. This Partial Consent Decree serves principally to outline the legal duties and relationships of the settling defendants with regard to the Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD is the EPA decision document which sets forth the action for remediation from the seeps and known areas of groundwater contamination. The Town will operate and maintain the pre-treatment plant(s) for 29 years following one year of operation by Textron and Emhart. The effluent from the pretreatment plant will be treated at the sewage treatment facility. In consideration of the Town's efforts, Emhart and Textron have paid the Town \$200,000. The Town is also responsible for oversight costs incurred by the EPA. A discounted liability of \$839,197, for past and current oversight costs of \$871,019, was originally recorded in the statement of net position. The additional annual oversight costs are added to the Town's EPA loan which is to be repaid at a rate of \$35,000 per year at 0% interest. At June 30, 2023, the remaining balance owed is \$121,768.

- 34 -

**TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

9. Debt:

Long-term - Outstanding long-term debt as of June 30, 2023, is as follows:

Governmental activities -

Notes from direct borrowings:

General obligation note, United States Environmental Protection Agency, no interest, annual principal payment of \$35,000. \$ 121,768

General obligation note, Vermont Municipal Bond Bank - 2015 Series 5, interest at 4.212%, annual principal payment ranging from \$115,000 to \$110,000, due November 2028. 660,000

Financed purchase for phone system, monthly payments of \$616, including interest, due November 2027. 28,157

Total governmental activities \$ 809,925

Business-type activities -

General obligation bonds:

General obligation bond, United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development, USDA-91-06, interest at 4.0%, semi-annual payments of \$57,540, due September 2040. \$ 1,438,441

General obligation bond, United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development, USDA-92-04, interest at 4.5%, semi-annual payments of \$54,489, due December 2033. 901,630

General obligation bond, United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development, USDA-92-10, interest at 4.125%, semi-annual payments of \$4,016, due September 2035. 77,607

General obligation bond, United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development, USDA-92-12, interest at 4.125%, semi-annual payments of \$13,852, due September 2035. 267,684

General obligation bond, United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development, USDA-92-14, interest at 4.125%, semi-annual payments of \$12,804, due September 2035. 247,424

General obligation bond, United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development, USDA-92-15, interest at 4.5%, semi-annual payments of \$18,324, due December 2037. 387,013

Total general obligation bonds 3,319,799

Notes from direct borrowings:

General obligation note, Vermont Municipal Bond Bank - 2014 Series 3, interest at 2.923% annual principal payment of \$140,000, due November 2034. 1,680,000

General obligation note, Vermont Municipal Bond Bank - AR 1-002, no interest, annual payment of \$31,029, due November 2031. 279,256

General obligation note, Vermont Municipal Bond Bank - AR3-028, no interest, annual payment of \$36,717, due June 2031. 293,738

General obligation note, Vermont Municipal Bond Bank - RFI-055, no interest annual payment of \$51,928, due September 2024. 103,856

- 35 -

**TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

9. Debt (continued):

Long-term (continued) -

Business-type activities (continued) -

General obligation note, Vermont Municipal Bond Bank - RFI-089, no interest annual payment of \$14,915, due May 2029. 89,486

General obligation note, Vermont Municipal Bond Bank - RFI-130, no interest, annual payment of \$2,678, due November 2031. 24,104

General obligation note, Vermont Municipal Bond Bank - RFI-172, no interest, admin fee at 2%, annual payment of \$10,897, due December 2046. 206,100

General obligation note, Vermont Municipal Bond Bank - RFI-184, no interest, admin fee at 2%, annual payment of \$13,203, due December 2039. 188,704

General obligation note, Vermont Municipal Bond Bank - RFI-203, no interest, admin fee at 2%, annual payment of \$85,606, due December 2039. 746,823

General obligation note, Vermont Municipal Bond Bank - RF3-060, no interest, admin fee at .6%, annual payment of \$68,024, due November 2031. 594,251

General obligation note, Vermont Municipal Bond Bank - RF3-240-2, no interest, admin fee at 1.7%, annual payment of \$152,042, due June 2042. 2,451,076

General obligation note, Vermont Municipal Bond Bank - RF3-312, no interest, annual payment of \$16,187, due November 2046. 388,475

General obligation note, Vermont Municipal Bond Bank - WPL-258, no interest annual payment of \$19,680, due October 2023. 19,680

Total notes from direct borrowings 7,065,549

Total business-type activities \$ 10,385,348

Long-term debt activity for the year ended June 30, 2023, was as follows:

	Balance July 1, 2022	Additions	Retirements	Balance June 30, 2023	Due Within One Year
Governmental activities -					
Notes from direct borrowings:					
EPA loan	\$ 133,007	\$ 23,761	\$ 35,000	\$ 121,768	\$ 35,000
2015 Series 5	770,000	-	110,000	660,000	110,000
Phone system	-	31,291	3,134	28,157	5,666
Total governmental activities	903,007	55,052	148,134	809,925	150,666

- 36 -

**TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

9. Debt (continued):

Long-term (continued) -

	Balance July 1, 2022	Additions	Retirements	Balance June 30, 2023	Due Within One Year
Business-type activities -					
General obligation bonds:					
USDA-91-06	1,494,316	-	55,875	1,438,441	58,132
USDA-92-04	967,762	-	66,132	901,630	69,141
USDA-92-10	82,288	-	4,681	77,607	4,877
USDA-92-12	283,831	-	16,147	267,684	16,820
USDA-92-14	262,349	-	14,925	247,424	15,547
USDA-92-15	405,615	-	18,602	387,013	19,448
	<u>3,496,161</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>176,362</u>	<u>3,319,799</u>	<u>183,965</u>
Total general obligation bonds					
Notes from direct borrowings:					
2014 Series 3	1,820,000	-	140,000	1,680,000	140,000
ARI-002	310,285	-	31,029	279,256	31,029
AR3-028	330,455	-	36,717	293,738	36,717
RF1-019	45,781	-	45,781	-	-
RF1-055	155,783	-	51,927	103,856	51,927
RF1-089	104,401	-	14,915	89,486	14,915
RF1-130	26,782	-	2,678	24,104	2,678
RF3-172	212,742	-	6,642	206,100	6,774
RF1-184	197,948	-	9,244	188,704	9,429
RF1-203	1,283,410	-	536,587	746,823	37,319
RF3-060	658,325	-	64,074	594,251	64,459
RF3-240	2,559,605	-	108,529	2,451,076	110,374
RF3-312	404,662	-	16,187	388,475	16,187
WPL-258	39,360	-	19,680	19,680	
Total notes from direct borrowings	<u>8,149,539</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,083,990</u>	<u>7,065,549</u>	<u>541,488</u>
Total business-type activities	<u>11,645,700</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,260,352</u>	<u>10,385,348</u>	<u>725,453</u>
Total long-term debt	<u>\$ 12,548,707</u>	<u>\$ 55,052</u>	<u>\$ 1,408,486</u>	<u>\$ 11,195,273</u>	<u>\$ 876,119</u>

- 37 -

**TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

9. Debt (continued):

Long-term (continued) - Debt service requirements to maturity are as follows:

	Governmental Activities Notes from Direct Borrowings	
	Principal	Interest
Year ending June 30,		
2024	\$ 150,666	\$ 21,801
2025	151,059	16,078
2026	151,479	11,272
2027	133,696	6,824
2028	113,025	2,684
2029-2030	<u>110,000</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 809,925</u>	<u>\$ 58,659</u>
	Business-type Activities Notes from Direct Borrowings	
	Principal	Interest
Year ending June 30,		
2024	\$ 183,965	\$ 138,085
2025	191,897	130,153
2026	200,172	121,878
2027	208,805	113,245
2028	217,811	104,239
2029-2033	<u>1,238,397</u>	<u>371,854</u>
2034-2038	<u>807,793</u>	<u>127,550</u>
2039-2043	<u>270,959</u>	<u>16,424</u>
2044-2047	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 3,319,799</u>	<u>\$ 1,123,428</u>
	<u>\$ 3,319,799</u>	<u>\$ 7,065,549</u>
		<u>\$ 1,067,684</u>

In prior years, the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank (VMBB) has refunded the 2008 Series 1 direct borrowing with the 2015 Series 5 direct borrowing, resulting in interest savings to the Town of \$72,705. This savings allocation, to be received between FY17 and FY29, has been reflected as a reduction of interest in the debt service requirements table.

In the event that the Town is in default on their payment obligations issued from the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank (VMBB), the State Treasurer has the ability to intercept State funding until the default is cured.

- 38 -

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023

10. Lease:

The Town has entered into an agreement that meets the reporting criteria of a lease in accordance with GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases*. Lease asset and lease liability activity for the year ended June 30, 2023, was as follows:

Governmental activities -					
Lease asset		Balance July 1, 2022	Increase	Decrease	Balance June 30, 2023
Park Street Gym		\$ 39,608	\$ -	\$ 39,608	\$ -
Total lease assets		<u>39,608</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,608</u>	<u>-</u>
Less accumulated amortization for:					
Park Street Gym		19,804	19,804	39,608	-
Total accumulated depreciation		<u>19,804</u>	<u>19,804</u>	<u>39,608</u>	<u>-</u>
Lease asset, net		\$ 19,804	\$ (19,804)	\$ -	\$ -
Lease liabilities					
Park Street Gym		\$ 19,608	\$ -	\$ 19,608	\$ -

The Park Street gym lease expired in June 2023. Amortization expense of \$19,804 in the governmental activities was allocated to expenses of parks and recreation.

11. Fund balances:

Fund balances of the governmental funds are as follows:

Fund Balances:		General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Permanent Fund
Nonspendable:				
Prepaid items		\$ 78,566	\$ -	\$ -
Cemetery principal		-	-	545,930
Total nonspendable		<u>78,566</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>545,930</u>
Restricted:				
Weatherfield Dam		93,876	-	-
Unsafe buildings		32,923	-	-
Reappraisal		150,802	-	-
Records restoration		94,436	-	-
Revolving loan funds		-	1,727,311	-
Civic improvement		-	2,671,345	-
Grants and other purposes		-	932,346	-
Library		-	-	421,315
Cemetery		-	-	270,453
Total restricted		<u>372,037</u>	<u>5,331,002</u>	<u>691,768</u>

- 39 -

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023

11. Fund balances (continued):

Fund Balances (continued):	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Permanent Fund
Committed:			
Ambulance equipment	187,416	-	-
Fire equipment	437,141	-	-
Highway equipment	320,408	-	-
Parks and recreation equipment	58,344	-	-
Total committed	<u>1,003,309</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Assigned:			
Weatherfield Dam - earnings	34,277	-	-
Airport	9,644	-	-
Renovation	48,440	-	-
Future expenditures	923,645	-	-
Total assigned	<u>1,016,006</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Unassigned	4,217,304	-	-
	<u>\$ 6,687,222</u>	<u>\$ 5,331,002</u>	<u>\$ 1,237,698</u>

12. Pension plans:

Vermont Municipal Employees' Retirement System -

Plan description: The Town contributes to the Vermont Municipal Employees' Retirement System (VMERS or the Plan) a cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement system with defined benefit and defined contribution plans, administered by the State of Vermont. The State statutory provisions, found in Title 24, Chapter 125, of the V.S.A., govern eligibility for benefits, service requirements and benefit provisions. The general administration and responsibility for the proper operation of VMERS is vested in the Board of Trustees consisting of five members. VMERS issues annual financial information which is available and may be reviewed at the VMERS office, 109 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont, 05609-6200, by calling (802) 828-2305 or online at <http://www.vermonttreasurer.gov>.

Benefits provided: VMERS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Benefits do vary between the groups included in the Plan, but are determined for the members of each group as a percentage of average compensation in a certain number of the highest consecutive years of service. Eligibility for benefits requires five years of service.

Contributions: Defined benefit plan members are required to contribute 3.5% (Group A), 5.875% (Group B), 11.00% (Group C) or 12.35% (Group D) of their annual covered salary, and the Town is required to contribute 5.00% (Group A), 6.50% (Group B), 8.25% (Group C) or 10.85% (Group D) of the employees' compensation. Defined contribution plan members are required to contribute 5.0% of their annual covered salary and the Town is required to contribute an equal dollar amount. The contribution requirements of plan members and the Town are established and may be amended by the Board of Trustees. The Town's contributions to VMERS for the years ended June 30, 2023, 2022, and 2021, were \$509,175, \$479,330, and \$461,814, respectively. The amount contributed was equal to the required contributions for the year.

- 40 -

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
SCHEDULES OF REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**SCHEDULE OF TOWN'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF
NET PENSION LIABILITY
VMERS
JUNE 30, 2023**

Schedule 1

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2019	June 30, 2018	June 30, 2017	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2015	June 30, 2014
Town's proportion of the net pension liability	1.9158%	2.0771%	1.9632%	2.1429%	2.2459%	2.3134%	2.3734%	2.4083%	2.5294%	2.6631%
Town's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 5,812,002	\$ 3,057,192	\$ 4,966,482	\$ 3,717,833	\$ 3,159,442	\$ 2,802,773	\$ 3,054,530	\$ 1,856,657	\$ 230,849	\$ 969,590
Town's covered payroll	\$ 6,292,410	\$ 5,977,526	\$ 6,046,718	\$ 5,592,199	\$ 5,742,412	\$ 5,566,465	\$ 5,352,509	\$ 4,960,528	\$ 4,928,946	\$ 4,967,335
Town's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	92.365%	51.145%	82.135%	66.482%	55.019%	50.351%	57.067%	37.429%	4.684%	19.519%
VMERS net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	73.60%	86.29%	74.52%	80.35%	82.60%	83.64%	80.95%	87.42%	98.32%	92.71%

**SCHEDULE OF TOWN'S CONTRIBUTIONS
VMERS
JUNE 30, 2023**

Schedule 2

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2019	June 30, 2018	June 30, 2017	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2015	June 30, 2014
Contractually required contribution	\$ 509,175	\$ 479,330	\$ 461,814	\$ 406,889	\$ 411,734	\$ 393,386	\$ 377,793	\$ 360,727	\$ 336,636	\$ 326,277
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	509,175	479,330	461,814	406,889	411,734	393,386	377,793	360,727	336,636	326,277
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Town's covered payroll	\$ 6,292,410	\$ 5,977,526	\$ 6,046,718	\$ 5,592,199	\$ 5,742,412	\$ 5,566,465	\$ 5,352,509	\$ 4,960,528	\$ 4,928,946	\$ 4,967,335
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	8.092%	8.019%	7.637%	7.276%	7.170%	7.067%	7.058%	7.272%	6.830%	6.568%

- 42 -

**TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

12. Pension plans (continued):

Vermont Municipal Employees' Retirement System (continued) -

Pension liabilities, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources: These financial statements include the Town's proportionate share of the VMERS net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources for pension expense, deferred inflows of resources from investment earnings and contributions, and the related effects on government-wide net position and activities. The State of Vermont has provided the following information to all employers participating in VMERS, which is based on its calculation of the Town's 1.91580% proportionate share of VMERS defined benefit plan.

	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total
Town's share of VMERS net pension liability	\$ 5,172,682	\$ 639,320	\$ 5,812,002
Deferred outflows of resources -			
Deferred pension expense	\$ 2,050,976	\$ 253,491	\$ 2,304,467
Deferred inflows of resources -			
Deferred pension credits	\$ 314,919	\$ 38,923	\$ 353,842

Additional information: VMERS obtains an annual actuarial valuation for the pension plan. Detailed information is provided in that report for actuarial assumptions of inflation rates, salary increases, investment rates of return, mortality rates, discount rates, and the calculations used to develop annual contributions and the VMERS net position.

The Town adopted GASB Statement No. 68 in FY 2014 and is developing the ten years of required supplementary information in schedules 1 and 2. This historical pension information includes the Town's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability of VMERS and Town's Contributions to VMERS.

13. Long-Term Solar Contracts:

The Town has entered into separate long-term power purchase agreements for the acquisition of solar power with Springfield Solar Alliance II and with WE 490 Fairbanks Road, LLC. The 20 year contracts call for the Town to purchase all or a portion of the electrical power generated by the other party. The Town receives net metering credits on its bills from Green Mountain Power related to the individual power meters specified in each contract. For the contract with Springfield Solar Alliance II, the Town pays a set service price to the generator which is fixed for the first ten years and after that time the price is tied to 87.5% of the net metering credits received by the Town for the next ten years. For the contract with WE 490 Fairbanks Road, LLC, the Town pays the generator a monthly amount based on an estimated 87.5% of the net metering credits for the related meters. The total payment on this contract is true-up and a new monthly amount is set annually.

14. Subsequent events:

The Town has evaluated subsequent events through January 12, 2024, the date on which the financial statements were available to be issued.

- 41 -

Mudgett
Jennett &
Krogh-Wisner, P.C.
Certified Public Accountants #435

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL
REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN
AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE
WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

The Selectboard
Town of Springfield, Vermont

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Springfield, Vermont (the Town) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated January 12, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Town's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Town's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Town's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Town's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Montpelier, Vermont
January 12, 2024

*Mudgett Jennett &
Krogh-Wisner, P.C.*

Mudgett
Jennett &
Krogh-Wisner, P.C.
Certified Public Accountants #435

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR
FEDERAL PROGRAM; REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER
COMPLIANCE; AND REPORT ON SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
REQUIRED BY UNIFORM GUIDANCE**

The Selectboard
Town of Springfield, Vermont

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the Town of Springfield, Vermont's (the Town) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the Town's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2023. The Town's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs.

In our opinion, the Town of Springfield, Vermont complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2023.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the Town of Springfield, Vermont and to meet our ethical responsibilities, in accordance with 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 opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Town's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the Town's federal programs.

- 45 -

141 Main Street • P.O. Box 937, Montpelier, Vermont 05601 • Phone (802) 229-9193

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the Town's compliance based on our audit. 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 GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the Town's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance we

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, 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 Town's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we consider necessary in the circumstances.
- obtain an understanding of the Town's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

A *deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control

- 46 -

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023
(Page 1 of 2)

Federal Grantor/Pass-through Grantor	Pass-Through Entity Identifying Number	Passed Through to Subrecipients	Expenditures
Program Title	Number	Number	
U.S. Department of Agriculture:			
Community Facilities Loans and Grants	10.766	\$ -	\$ 50,000
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture		-	50,000
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development:			
Passed through the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development - Community Development Block			
Grants/State's Program	14.228 07110-IG-2021-Springfield-53	362,478	362,478
Community Development Block			
Grants/State's Program	14.228 07110-IG-2021-Springfield-13	2,208	4,169
Total U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development:		364,686	366,647
U.S. Department of Justice:			
Bulleproof Vest Partnership Program	16.607	-	1,398
Equitable Sharing Program	16.922	-	1,600
Total U.S. Department of Justice		-	2,998
U.S. Department of Transportation:			
Passed through the Vermont			
Agency of Transportation - Highway Planning and Construction	20.205 CA0483	-	16,122
Highway Planning and Construction	20.205 CA0693	-	10,896
Highway Planning and Construction	20.205 CA0701	-	628
Total Highway Planning and Construction		-	27,646
Passed through the Vermont			
Department of Public Safety - National Priority Safety Programs	20.616 02140-NH23405C-702Q	-	6,760
Total U.S. Department of Transportation		-	34,406

over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Required by the Uniform Guidance

We have audited the financial statements of the Town of Springfield, Vermont as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated January 12, 2024, which contained an unmodified opinion on those financial statements. Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the Uniform Guidance and is not a required part of the 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 financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Montpelier, Vermont
January 12, 2024

Melissa J. Bennett
Shak. Wain, P.C.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023
(Page 2 of 2)

Federal Grantor/Pass-through Grantor Program Title	Federal CFDA Number	Pass-Through Entity Identifying Number	Passed Through to Subrecipients	Expenditures
U.S. Department of the Treasury:				
Passed through the Vermont Department of Public Safety - Coronavirus State and Local	21.027	02140-33500-025	-	77,282
Fiscal Recovery Funds				
Passed through the Vermont Administration Agency - Coronavirus State and Local	21.027	SLFRFVT0208	-	1,324,510
Fiscal Recovery Funds			-	1,401,792
Total U.S. Department of the Treasury				
U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services:				
Passed through the Vermont Department of Libraries -	45.310	011301STACOURIER.FY23.083	-	571
Grants to States				
Total U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services			-	571
Total expenditures of federal awards			\$ 364,686	\$ 1,856,414

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
JUNE 30, 2023

1. Basis of presentation:

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of the Town under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2023. The information in this Schedule is presented in accordance with requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the Town, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in financial position, or cash flows of the Town.

2. Summary of significant accounting policies:

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement. Negative amounts shown on the Schedule represent adjustments or credits made in the normal course of business to amounts reported as expenditures in prior years. The Town has elected not to use the 10 percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed in the Uniform Guidance.

3. Subrecipients:

The Town provided federal awards totaling \$364,686 under CFDA No. 14.228 Community Development Block Grants/State's Program.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
AS OF JUNE 30, 2023

A. Summary of Auditor's Results:

Financial Statements -

Type of auditor's report issued: *Unmodified*

Internal control over financial reporting:

- Material weakness(es) identified? *No*
 - Significant deficiency(ies) identified? *None reported*
- Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? *No*

Federal Awards -

Internal control over major programs:

- Material weakness(es) identified? *No*
- Significant deficiency(ies) identified? *None reported*

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs: *Unmodified*

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516 (a)? *No*

Identification of major program:

- *U.S. Department of the Treasury
CFDA 21.027 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds*
- Dollar threshold used to distinguish between type A and type B programs: *\$750,000*
- Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee? *No*

B. Audit Findings - Financial Statements:

There were no audit findings identified for the year ended June 30, 2023.

C. Audit Findings - Federal Awards:

There were no audit findings identified for the year ended June 30, 2023.

STATUS OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
AS OF JUNE 30, 2023

There are no prior audit findings applicable to this auditee.

REPORTS OF SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT

www.ssdvt.org

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

I am delighted to share with you the remarkable progress our school district has made in recent months, marked by collaborative efforts within our community and a renewed commitment to shaping the future of education. The collaboration between our dedicated educators, parents, and community members has been instrumental in achieving significant milestones.

One of our most noteworthy achievements is the completion of a comprehensive portrait of a graduate. This portrait serves as a guiding North Star in our ongoing efforts to enhance the educational experience for every student within our district. The process of developing this portrait was truly a community endeavor, bringing together diverse perspectives and ideas to create a shared vision of the knowledge, skills, and attributes we aim to instill in our students.

This portrait of a graduate has become the cornerstone of our strategic planning initiative, influencing the redrafting of our strategic plan with a laser focus on teaching and learning. Our commitment to providing a well-rounded education goes beyond academic achievement; it encompasses the crucial realm of social-emotional learning. We recognize the importance of nurturing the whole child, and our strategic plan reflects this commitment to the holistic development of each student.

In alignment with our dedication to equity, we recently conducted an equity audit to identify areas for improvement and ensure that our educational practices are inclusive and responsive to the needs of all students. The insights gained from the equity audit have been pivotal in shaping our strategic plan, guiding us to implement initiatives that address disparities and promote equal access to educational opportunities.

One key aspect of our strategic plan is the emphasis on building a guaranteed and viable curriculum that is competency-based, which is a method that requires students to show what they have learned before leveling up to the next standard. This approach ensures that every student receives a high-quality education that is tailored to their individual needs and promotes a deeper understanding of the subject matter. By focusing on competency-based learning, we are working to increase access and opportunity for all students, recognizing and celebrating their unique strengths and learning styles.

As we move forward, I want to express my gratitude to everyone who has contributed to these accomplishments—our dedicated teachers, supportive parents, engaged community members, and, most importantly, our students who inspire us every day. Together, we are shaping a future where every student can thrive, regardless of their background or circumstances.

I invite you to stay engaged with our ongoing initiatives, participate in community discussions, and continue to be a vital part of the positive changes taking place within our school district. Your support is invaluable, and together, we will continue to make strides toward providing an exceptional education for all.

Thank you for your commitment to the success and well-being of our students.

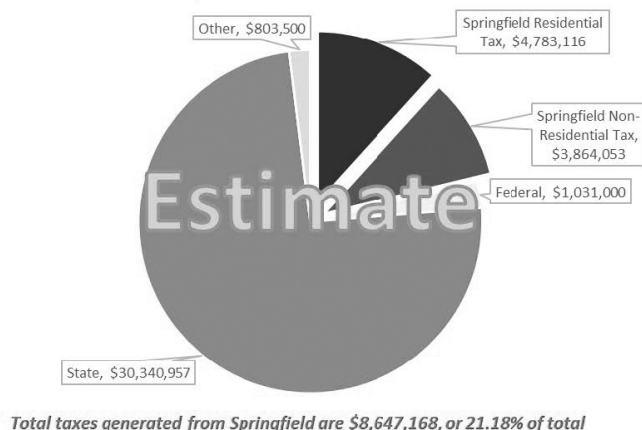
Dr. Sherri Nichols
Superintendent

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

The annual audit of the financial records of the Springfield School District for the 2022–2023 school year is nearly complete. The School Board will be reviewing the audit in late February or early March with the audit being available for review no later than March 31, 2024 at either the Administrative office or on the District's web site at www.ssdvt.org. If anyone wishes to review the audit report in its entirety, they may contact me at 802-885-5120.

Although the FY23 audit is not complete, the Auditor and the District have confirmed a surplus of \$1,600,000 from fiscal year 2022-2023 to be used in FY25. Because of the uncertainty with the State's new education funding formula, the District is asking the voters to transfer \$800,000 of the prior year surplus to the District's operating reserve, better known as the tax stabilization reserve. This will keep the surplus local and out of the State Education Fund. A local reserve will allow the flexibility in utilizing the surplus in ways that best serve the taxpayers of Springfield, such as supporting the District's goal of keeping the residential tax rate relatively stable. If the surplus is not reserved locally, it will be a contribution to the State Education Fund to be used throughout the state. The District is also asking the voters to transfer \$800,000 of the prior year surplus to the capital reserve. This will assist in the District's goal of maintaining the District's buildings.

Please remember, that although the District is required to receive voter approval to spend \$39,839,625, the taxes the town of Springfield will raise to support this spending is estimated to be \$8,647,168, or 21.18% of the need. Another way to explain this is that for every tax dollar (\$1.00) raised in Springfield, the State of Vermont or Federal Government sends Springfield three dollars and seventy two cents (\$3.72) for the operations of its schools. Of the \$8,647,168 raised in Springfield, \$4,783,116 is by the residential tax and \$3,864,053 is by the non-residential tax. Springfield residents are forecasted to receive \$1,246,575 in income sensitivity (prebates) payments to lower their tax obligation.



Richard C. Pembroke
Chief Financial Officer

PRE-K

Preschool is a time for children to develop the necessary skills to support future learning. Research tells us that the brain is 90% wired by age five and that the early years are a critical time in a young child's life. The Springfield School District (SSD) Preschool (PreK) embodies the philosophy that all children deserve access to high-quality, early learning experiences with rich social-emotional engagement.

Historically, Springfield students attended preschool at community-based programs owned and operated by private entities. Due to a multitude of factors many of those programs have closed in recent years leaving the young students of Springfield without access to early education. In August 2021 the District opened its first preschool classroom at the Howard Dean Education Center serving 20 children. Subsequently, in August 2022 the District opened its second preschool classroom and created a unique partnership with a community-based program.

The 2022-2023 structure and enrollment of the Preschool is as follows:

- SSD PreK Classroom 1 - 20 children enrolled
- SSD PreK Classroom 2 - 17 children enrolled

During the FY22 school year families stressed the need for extended hour care outside of the 8:30am - 3:30 pm school day. A Request for Proposal (RFP) was created and issued to all of partner programs as well as state-wide to ensure an equitable bidding process. Proposals were received and reviewed based on a previously established set of criteria. Suzy's Little Peanuts was awarded a two year contract to operate a classroom providing extended hours care from 6:30am - 5:30pm. They were also granted permission to provide full-time child care to additional students within the community that did not have access. During FY23 more than one-third of the Springfield School District families accessed the extended hours program with an additional 10 students receiving full-time child care.

The Springfield School District classrooms are each staffed with a Vermont early childhood licensed educator and high-quality paraprofessionals who have met education requirements through both the Agency of Education and the Child Development Division. Suzy's Little Peanuts is responsible for their own staff and licensing compliance. They currently employ 3 full-time staff and 3 part-time staff to meet the needs of families enrolled.

All three classrooms utilized play-based education with both indoor and outdoor activities to support children's learning and development. The three classrooms align standards and program offerings to ensure consistency across settings and a continuum of learning for all children. The following are used:

- Vermont Early Learning Standards (VELS)
- Early Multi-tiered Systems of Support (EMTSS)
- Second Step Social-Emotional Learning curriculum
- Guided and shared reading strategies
- Teaching Strategies GOLD Assessments

The facility offers opportunities for collaboration with high school age students in theater productions, language classes and tech center programs such as Health Careers and Human Services. The physical property allows for extensive outdoor learning including classroom space, trails and a pond. The classrooms also serve as sites for on-the-job training and soft skills development for students interested in entering the education and/or social science fields.

In addition to classroom expansion, our Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) team established two dedicated rooms to provide early intervention services to children residing

in Springfield, ages 3-6. Services include but are not limited to: speech and language, special education, physical therapy and occupational therapy. Services are also provided as a push-in model within classrooms and at respective private partner program sites. Over the course of the school year six children graduated from IEPs and an additional two exited speech and language. Two children needing 1:1 support moved to a small group structure reducing the need for services and interventions.

At the close of the 2022-2023 school year 23 students transitioned to kindergarten. 100% of the children had gained skills both in regards to social/emotional development and academic learning. The global pandemic had limited children's access to gatherings and posed barriers for exposure to learning opportunities. The Springfield School District Preschool worked tirelessly to close those gaps and prepare their students for a successful academic future.

Rachel Hunter, *Early Education Coordinator*

ELM HILL

Elm Hill School educates approximately 260 children in Kindergarten through second grade. During the 2022-2023 school year, there were fifteen classrooms - five rooms for each grade level with approximately seventeen to eighteen students in each class.

The school year brought back many pre-COVID experiences for teachers, families and the community as visitors were once again welcomed into the building. We started a new annual tradition of a Nutcracker performance by The Dance Factory. Not only was the performance outstanding, many of the dancers were students from the Springfield School District who returned to Elm to share their love of performing with our school. In person musical concerts returned - every grade level shared a performance with our community. Most notably was the "outdoor concert" with second graders on the hill and lawn chairs on the blacktop for the audience. Students were once again able to participate in field trips, such as those to Billings Farm and Magic Wings, to add to the content being taught in classrooms. In other community building activities, students from Elm Hill were able to participate in a statewide event where they had the opportunity to name a snow plow for the State of Vermont. After submissions from each class and voting, Elm Hill's contribution to this event was a new plow named, "Snow Fox."

All 4 One made its on-site debut with a move from Riverside Middle School to Elm Hill. The number of students participating increased and our youngest learners no longer needed to travel to an unknown building for before and after school care.

The school contracted with an English Language Arts consultant for job-embedded professional development and curriculum work which allowed the consultant and literacy coach to meet both one-on-one and in grade level teams to look at student work, assessment data, and literacy curriculum to discover and address students' foundational skills needs in reading. Our program for assessing student growth shifted to iReady and teachers participated in district provided training in the areas of assessments, data, and individualized learning. Understanding that a greater focus was needed on students' emotional well-being, multiple workshops on social emotional learning and play-based learning in early elementary school were presented for staff to help us support all dimensions of growth for our youngest learners.

Rebecca V. Spaulding, *Acting Principal*

UNION STREET SCHOOL

Union Street School had two continuous improvement goals last school year. The first goal focused on math achievement and the second, student behaviors. For both goals, we followed a continuous improvement process that begins by analyzing data in these areas. We looked at math and behavioral data as a whole staff to arrive at these goals and to have root cause discussions about why our school has struggled in these areas in the past. We asked ourselves the following questions:

- What is at the heart of our struggles in math and student behaviors?
- As a school, what can we do collectively to address our needs?

In teams, teachers and support staff brainstormed ideas that would make a positive impact in math and in terms of student behaviors.

For math, we continue our partnership with the All Learners Network (ALN), a professional development team of math experts housed in Vermont. Through ongoing professional development provided by ALN, our teachers have become more confident in their math instruction and our students have more opportunities to share their math thinking with the whole class or within a small group setting. We will continue to emphasize student thinking and problem solving as core components of our math curriculum and instruction.

In addition to the above, Union Street School follows a social-emotional curriculum called “Character Strong.” This program has monthly themes, including respect, responsibility, and kindness. Each month, as a school community we participate in activities centered around the monthly theme, culminating in an all school assembly where we continue to focus on the month’s theme. All classrooms contribute to the bulletin board located at the front of the school, creating a centralized hub that changes each month depending on the theme. In addition, Character Strong includes interactive lessons for classroom teachers for the classroom, lunchroom, and even for the outdoors. Compared to last year, our number of behavioral supports have decreased significantly, an indication that our focus on building relationships is having a positive impact school-wide.

In terms of literacy, this year we were awarded a grant by CLiF, or the Children’s Literacy Foundation. Through the grant, each student will receive 10 free books by the end of the year! In addition, authors and illustrators will visit the school throughout the year to inspire students to read, write, and create. We have a committee that includes staff and Union Street families to brainstorm other literacy-based ideas such as a Literacy Fair and a mobile library, where students can take a book at any time and return it when finished. The more students have access to books at a young age, the more likely they will extend their love of books and stories into adulthood.

We have been working really hard to shape our climate and academic achievement at Union Street School and have confidence that the continuous improvement process described will contribute to a stronger school and academically rigorous environment.

David Cohn, Principal

RIVERSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL

The 2022-2023 school year started with a new energy. Riverside was identified as a PBIS school of distinction

for its rigorous implementation of its Positive Behavior Interventions and Support framework. Mr. Alden joined Riverside as the assistant principal and has been working relentlessly to help support students meet both academic and behavioral expectations through a pro-social and restorative lens. Riverside has also worked closely with the Springfield Police Department to forge a positive relationship with Officers, staff, and students.

Riverside continues to focus on Literacy and Mathematics both through the traditional academic classrooms as well through its robust STEAM department offerings. One of our STEAM teachers, Becca Osborne was celebrated and recognized as a UVM outstanding Teacher for her dedication and commitment to the students of Riverside. Mr. Weyer in support of Mr. Gray and the River Valley Technical Center took a group of Riverside students to compete at a National Robotics competition after successfully competing in the regional competitions.

To me, the great moments of the year are not the staff vs. student basketball game or the school-wide turkey trot, but those moments when we are working with each other and find students and staff smiling or laughing while discovering or learning something new.

It is an honor to work with the staff, students, and families that make up the Riverside Middle School community

Nathan McNaughton, Principal, RMS

SPRINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

The 2022-2023 school year kicked off with the school not needing to follow any school safety protocols for COVID-19 mitigation. People were not required to wear masks but could if they elected to, eat lunch in separate areas, or continue with contact tracing. Our students were able to eat lunch in the cafeteria, downstairs for a quiet lunch location and play basketball to work off some extra energy before heading to their afternoon classes. Our parent/Teacher conferences were in person, we were able to bring back all school assemblies and welcome visitors back into our building. Prom was held at the Hartness House in Springfield. This was the first year since COVID-19 that were back to normal operating conditions. It felt good to be able to connect with people face to face and not virtually. One of the positives that came out of the COVID-19 safety protocols was the ability to have virtual meetings. We continued to offer this to families that couldn’t make meetings in person, but could join us remotely. We have been able to connect with more families and include them in their student’s education.

During the summer SHS started a major construction project updating our ventilation system and lights. During the school year teachers’ classrooms moved to different locations while their rooms were being renovated causing some disruption in our operations, but all in all the construction was pretty smooth and the end results have been positive. The project is expected to be completed in the summer of 2024.

We hired a new assistant principal, Sean Murphy. Sean came to us from Bellows Falls Union High School. From the moment that Sean joined our team he has been an active member. He is in the halls, classrooms, sporting events and other community activities getting to know students, staff and community members. He has worked closely with the restorative

Springfield School District (Continued)

practice coordinator and athletic director. Sean has been a welcomed addition to our school community.

Our teachers continued to work in Professional Learning Communities, reviewing and developing new curriculum, updating scoring rubrics, sharing ideas and offering support. Our Instructional Team and Culture and Climate Team continued to offer professional development for our staff members and activities for our advisory groups to utilize.

We ended our school year with the graduation of 80 students for the class of 2023. Our graduates received \$84,000.00 dollars in scholarships from the VSAC Gilman Foundation. We are extremely proud of the graduating class of 2023 and look forward to hearing about their future endeavors and accomplishments.

Bindy Hathorn, *Principal, SHS*

OCCUPATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (ODP)

The 2023 – 2024 school year has been a busy and productive one for the faculty, staff, and students of the Occupational Development Program, where we continue to serve students who benefit from a curriculum tailored to meet the needs of our wide range of learners, taught by a licensed special educator. As a collaborative program with regional partners, we continue to serve students from Springfield, Windsor, Two River's Supervisory Union, Windham Central Supervisory Union and Bellows Falls are also members of our collaborative. We are also adjusting to leadership change, as Storm Lavella-Schautt resigned his position earlier in the school year. Kelly Ryan and Ms. Hathorn are covering the program while the collaborative looks for a replacement for this school year and moving forward next year.

One of the great highlights of our program continues to be our Unified Basketball team. This team consisted of several students, including partners from the High School. They dedicated time during advisory for practices as well as games that took place after school.

Our On the Job Training (OJT) department continues to work hard to help students gain work experience and the promise of a job in their community of residence. Our students typically work in and out of our schools. There are several local businesses who support our students with opportunities, learning aspects of retail trade, farming, culinary arts, construction trades, and more. Our students also took full advantage of the offerings presented by RVTC.

Throughout the curriculum, ODP continues to provide educational opportunities that help develop skills that our students will need as they enter their adult lives. Engaged in both specially designed language arts and math classes and mainstream classes, while also learning the basics of cooking, home maintenance, and horticulture, our students fully develop the skills they will need for life after graduation. It is with great pride that our students share food that they have made in their Family and Consumer Science class, or projects they have completed successfully in basic shop. We continue to work to raise the bar of expectations for these young men and women, and they continue to surprise us with what they are able to accomplish.

Dana Gordon-Macey, *ODP Director*

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Springfield School District is committed to meeting the needs of all children and youth from the ages of three through twenty-one, or graduation from high school. There are a variety of services designed to meet the needs of students who are experiencing difficulties making progress in the curriculum. Some students require short term interventions; for others modified curricula, or accommodations meet their needs, and some require specialized instruction designed to meet their individual needs in order to experience success in school. Students who require support services are identified by various means, including "child find" activities which are mandated by federal law, and referrals from parents, teachers, human service agencies and the medical community. Generally, support services fall into one of three broad categories: support services offered under Vermont's Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), provision of modifications and accommodations in the regular curriculum and school environment, under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and Special Education services.

Definition of Support services - Vermont's Multi-tiered systems of supports (MTSS)

Schools are committed to helping all children succeed. They have many ways to help children learn and to ensure those who need additional supports are successful. The Multi-Tier System of Supports (MTSS) is one-way schools provide those supports. MTSS is a multi-step process of providing instruction and support to promote the academic and behavioral success of all children. Individual children's progress is monitored and results are used to make decisions about further instruction and intervention.

Modifications and accommodations - Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (504 Plan)

Section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act guarantees that people with disabilities will not be discriminated against due to those disabilities in their access to their education. Students protected under Section 504 have been identified as having a disability that has a substantial impact on a major life function such as: caring for one's self, breathing, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, or learning. A 504 Plan is developed to describe the modifications and/or accommodations that are to be provided to the student who meets the criteria to assure access to the general curriculum.

Special Education Services – Individual Education Plans (IEP)

Criteria for eligibility for special education services are defined by state regulations as defined by the federal legislation – Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA). These children have been identified as: a) having a disability b) that adversely affects their education and c) requires specially designed instruction not available in the regular education curriculum.

The Special Education Department works closely with the rest of the district to improve outcomes for our students. The following graphs illustrate the data taken from both the Docused program used by the district for record keeping and information reported to the Agency of Education on students with disabilities served by our district.

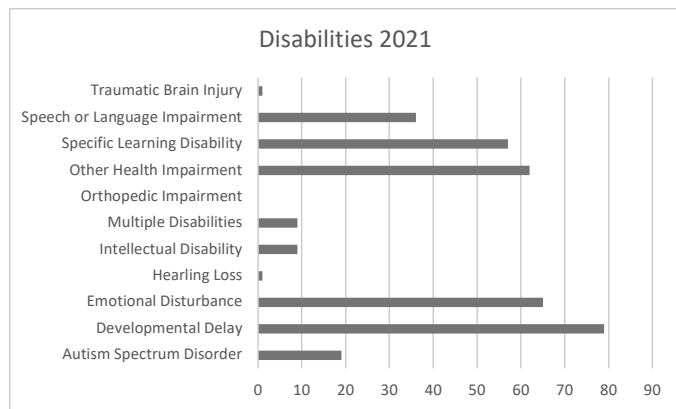
The first chart shows the distribution of students in disabilities for the Child Count turned in Dec. 1 of 2022. *Please note that at the time of writing this report, the numbers for the present year have not been calculated, thus the year delay.*

Springfield School District (Continued)

Primary Disability	Count
Intellectual Disability	11
Multiple Disabilities	9
Developmental Delay	65
Traumatic Brain Injury	1
Autism Spectrum Disorder	22
Hearing Loss	2
Speech or Language Impairment	27
Emotional Disturbance	62
Other Health Impairment	75
Specific Learning Disability	65
Sum	339

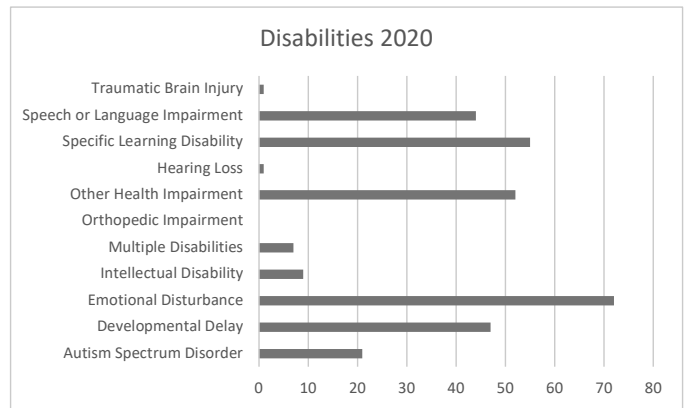
For 2022, the overall number of students receiving Special Education Services, ages 3-21 was 339. This represents an increase of 1 identified student in the district from 2021.

A closer review of the categories reveals reductions in the category of Other Health Impairment and an increase in the area of Developmental Delay. The category of Other Health Impairment can cover disabilities such as ADHD, Epilepsy or any medically based impairment as well. The area of Developmental Delay is typically used for children in the age 3-5 category. We continue to see an increase in the numbers of students with disability related conditions coming into the preschool and daycare settings. This is a trend that appears to have some correlation coming out of COVID. At this time. While children were home, it limited the amount of socialization and developmental activities that children were exposed to as Preschools and daycares were also impacted by COVID.



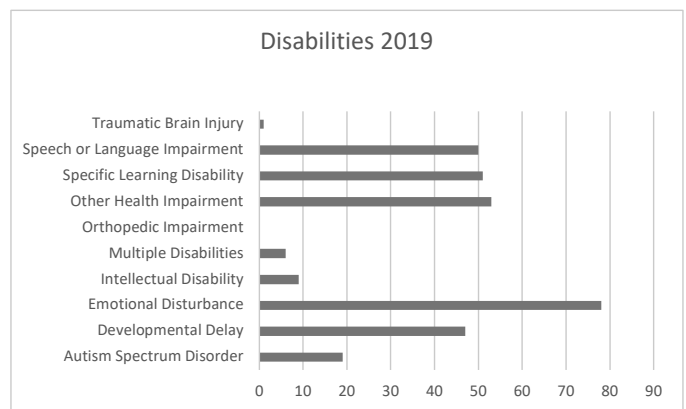
For 2021, the overall number of students receiving Special Education Services, ages 3-21 was 338. This represents an increase of 24 identified students in the district from 2020.

A closer review of the categories reveals some minor changes within categorical statistics. Decreases within categories were found in the following areas. In 2020, we had a decrease of 6 students for Speech Language Impairment. This downward trend continued this year as we saw a decrease of 14 in this category. Within the category of Emotional Disturbance, this year, we observed a decrease of 13. An area with marked increases were the categories of Developmental Delay (which is a disability category used for children from birth to age three (under IDEA Part C) and children from ages three through nine). Other areas with smaller increases were "Other Health Impairment" and Specific Learning Disability".



For 2020, the overall number of students receiving Special Education Services, ages 3-21 was 309. This represents a decrease of 5 identified students in the district from 2019.

A closer review of the categories reveals some minor changes within categorical statistics. For instance; We also had a decrease of 1 for Other Health Impairment. We had a decrease of 6 students for Speech Language Impairment and Emotional Disturbance, increase of 2 for Autism Spectrum Disorder. We had a small increase of 4 in the areas of Specific Learning Disability and finally, we had an increase by 1 in the areas of Hearing Loss and Multiple Disabilities respectively. All other areas remained unchanged from last year.



For 2019, the overall number of students receiving Special Education Services, ages 3-21 was 314. This represents an increase of 45 identified students in the district from 2018.

A closer review of the categories reveals a significant increase 16 students for Developmental Delay and 18 for Emotional Disturbance. We also had an increase of 9 for Other Health Impairment. On a smaller scale, we had an increase of 4 students for Speech Language Impairment, 2 for Autism Spectrum Disorder and 1 for Traumatic Brain Injury. We had a decrease in the areas of Specific Learning Disability and Multiple Disabilities of 2 each respectively. We had decrease of 1 student in the area of Intellectual Disability.

The significant increase in the areas of Emotional Disturbance appears to reflect the behavioral concerns we are seeing as a district. The increase in the area of developmental delay appears to reflect what we and other districts are seeing in that there are more of our youngest students being identified as eligible for Special Education services.

Kelley Ryan, *Director of Special Services*

SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT FY25 PROPOSED BUDGET NARRATIVE SUMMARY

The Springfield School District’s proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) is \$40,822,625. This will be voted upon in two parts. The voters of Springfield will vote on an article for \$39,839,625 to support the PreK through 12th grade population. The remaining \$983,000 will be voted upon as part of the separate regional vote for the River Valley Technical Center budget.

There are multiple pages included in this report which present information about the FY25 Proposed School Budget.

The Enrollment Projections show an anticipated net increase of six (6) students in our PreK-12 population. The district’s preschool partner program enrollment is anticipated to be 75, while the district’s in house program population is anticipated to be 36. The two classrooms housed in the Howard Dean Education Center have been largely funded with federal Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds and a federal earmark grant. The grants are expiring and the district is funding the classrooms through the state education fund. The ten year enrollment projection predicts a stable student population.

The Summary page shows a few key informational items. The FY25 Proposed Budget represents a \$4,390,378 increase, which is a 12.70% increase over the current year. This compares to an 8.40% increase in FY24. While there is an increase in the overall budget, the State is implementing a new taxing formula (ACT127) that is supposed to benefit Springfield tax payers. It has been a struggle to get consistent, confident data out of the State to calculate estimated tax rate. There are multiple variables in the calculation which are driven by the State, such as Long-term Weighted Average Daily Membership (LTWADM), Yield, and Common Level of Appraisal (CLA). These variables have a huge impact in determining what ultimately will be the tax rate you see on your property tax bill. Because of the inconsistent data coming from Montpelier it is unknown what the actual Homestead Tax Rate will be.

The Expenditures page breaks down the FY25 budget into general categories (cost centers, for example Elm Hill School is a cost center). The \$4,247,378 increase is largely in Special Education tied directly to the increased number of students needing special services combined with the increase complexities of the services needed by our students. The district is also forecasting a \$199,000 loss of Federal Grant dollars.

The Net Cost by Cost Center page represents the cost to operate the various departments net of no Education Fund revenue. For example, Grants have no net cost to the Education Fund since they are 100% funded by the federal government. Special Education is the highest cost center after netting out the State and Federal reimbursements. The High School is our second highest net cost center. The revenue to the schools mostly comes from tuition paid from neighboring school districts.

The Revenues page provides detail on the various revenue sources that fund the school budget. The increase in the General State Support Grant, which is the money Springfield receives from the State and is a factor in determining the local tax rates, is \$4,265,378 or 18.21%. This is the net of the combined expenditure increase and revenue decrease.

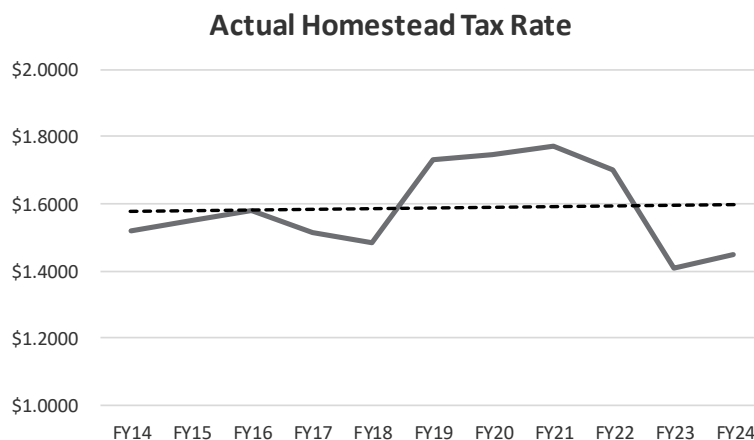
The Three Prior Year Comparison page provides some historical information and is presented in a format required by the State. The document outlines how the actual homestead tax rate is calculated. Please realize these numbers are best guesses based on the inconstant data received from the State. They are not actual.

The Historical Tax Rate Calculation page provides you with the variables and calculations used to determine the Actual Homestead Tax Rate. This is the “Homestead Education” tax on residential property tax bills. The state uses several factors to determine the Actual Homestead Tax Rate. These include Long-term Weighted Average Daily Membership (LTWADM), Excess Spending Threshold, Property Yield, Base Tax Rate, and the Common Level of Appraisal (CLA). This report also provides you with the historical trends for each of these factors. Please note that at the time the Board adopted the budget and at the time of this printing, the State had not finalized the Property Yield and therefore these are estimates only. They are not actual.

Please remember that the State of Vermont and the United States Government contributes 78.82% of the funds needed to operate our schools. Another way to look at this is for every dollar Springfield contributes, the state and feds contribute \$3.72.

For further information please review related documents and the recorded budget sessions on the District’s website, www.ssdvt.org and please attend the upcoming informational sessions.

Richard C. Pembroke
Chief Financial Officer



SPRINGFIELD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Net Cost by Cost Center
FY25
V3

BUILDING or DEPARTMENT	REQUESTED	REVENUE	NET COST
PreK	\$990,201	\$0	\$990,201
Elm Hill	\$3,275,615	\$0	\$3,275,615
Union	\$3,096,538	\$0	\$3,096,538
Riverside	\$3,524,450	\$0	\$3,524,450
High School	\$4,591,110	\$261,500	\$4,329,610
Special Ed	\$12,204,161	\$7,327,000	\$4,877,161
Plant	\$4,389,350	\$495,000	\$3,894,350
Capital Plan	\$862,000	\$0	\$862,000
Debt Service	\$1,569,900	\$0	\$1,569,900
District Wide Svcs	\$4,335,300	\$254,000	\$4,081,300
GRAND TOTAL	\$38,838,625	\$8,337,500	\$30,501,125
RVTC	\$983,000	\$0	\$983,000
TOTAL w/o Grants	\$39,821,625	\$8,337,500	\$31,484,125
GRANTS	\$1,001,000	\$1,001,000	\$0
Grand Total	\$40,822,625	\$9,338,500	\$31,484,125

SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT
HISTORICAL TAX RATE CALCULATION

1/3

	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	
Total Expenditures	2.17%	-0.18%	2.16%	0.58%	4.36%	0.88%	4.38%	5.83%	-0.47%	26.93%	-13.14%	11.61%	↓
Local Revenues	3.33%	-0.35%	9.38%	4.53%	13.59%	-0.32%	-2.42%	14.18%	4.33%	81.51%	-47.25%	-0.19%	↑
Education Spending	1.83%	-0.13%	0.00%	-0.71%	1.19%	1.35%	7.01%	2.90%	-2.34%	4.14%	11.69%	15.67%	↑
Equalized Pupils / W ghtd ADM	-0.35%	-1.93%	-0.80%	-0.50%	-0.83%	-0.37%	-3.93%	-0.43%	2.06%	-1.83%	-0.99%	81.71%	↑
Ed Spending/Eq Pupil	2.19%	1.84%	0.81%	-0.21%	2.03%	1.73%	11.38%	3.34%	-4.32%	6.08%	-41.00%	-36.34%	↓
Yield	4.91%	1.46%	0.00%	4.48%	4.73%	0.59%	4.80%	3.29%	2.90%	17.65%	15.99%	-40.61%	↑
Equalized Tax Rate	\$ 1.6273	\$ 1.7029	\$ 1.7342	\$ 1.6730	\$ 1.6299	\$ 1.6483	\$ 1.7322	\$ 1.7332	\$ 1.6116	\$ 1.4531	\$ 1.4133	\$ 1.4838	
% EHTR Increase over PY	2.9%	4.6%	1.8%	-3.5%	-2.6%	1.1%	6.3%	0.06%	-7.02%	-9.83%	-2.74%	4.99%	↑
CLA	1.6%	2.6%	0.0%	0.6%	-0.4%	-13.5%	-9.8%	-1.36%	-3.19%	8.80%	-5.51%	-9.49%	
Actual Homestead Tax Rate	\$ 1.5189	\$ 1.5498	\$ 1.5786	\$ 1.5144	\$ 1.4817	\$ 1.7321	\$ 1.7453	\$ 1.7704	\$ 1.7004	\$ 1.4092	\$ 1.4504	\$ 1.6825	
% AHTR Increase over PY	1.24%	2.04%	1.85%	-4.06%	-2.16%	16.90%	17.79%	1.44%	-3.95%	-17.13%	2.93%	16.00%	
	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY25 Change
1 Total Expenditures	28,185,921	28,136,012	28,742,934	28,909,582	30,170,460	30,436,739	31,492,214	33,329,695	33,173,509	42,108,225	36,575,247	40,822,625	↓
2 Local Revenues	6,497,346	6,474,646	7,081,993	7,402,479	8,408,162	8,381,551	8,204,424	9,367,450	9,772,800	17,738,849	9,356,500	9,338,500	↑
3 Education Spending	21,688,575	21,661,366	21,660,941	21,507,103	21,762,298	22,055,188	23,287,790	23,962,245	23,400,709	24,369,376	27,218,747	31,484,125	↑
4 Equalized Pupils / LTWghtd ADM	1,369.02	1,342.55	1,331.78	1,325.17	1,314.18	1,309.26	1,262.56	1,257.08	1,283.03	1,259.60	1,247.09	2,266.10	↑
5 Ed Spending per Eq Pupil / LTWghtd ADM	\$15.842	\$16.134	\$16.265	\$16.230	\$16.560	\$16.846	\$18.445	\$19.062	\$18.239	\$19.347	\$21.826	\$13.894	Prof
Excess Spending Threshold	15,456	16,166	17,103	16,466	17,386	17,816	18,311	18,756	18,789	18,789	22,204	22,204	\$0
Excess Spending exclusions	726	734	739	731	744	749	784	832	707	674	613	613	\$0
EdSp/EqPup with over threshold	15,842	16,134	16,265	16,230	16,560	16,846	18,445	19,062	18,239	19,347	21,826	21,826	↑
Base Ed Amt/Prop Yield	9,151	9,285	9,285	9,701	10,160	10,220	10,648	10,998	11,317	13,314	15,443	15,443	↑
6 District Spending Adjustment	173,122%	173,770%	175,171%	167,299%	162,988%	164,829%	173,224%	173,321%	161,161%	145,313%	141,331%	151,494%	↑
Base Tax Rate	0.94	0.98	0.99	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	↑
7 Equalized Homestead Tax Rate	1.6273	1.7029	1.7342	1.6730	1.6299	1.6483	1.7322	1.7332	1.6116	1.4531	1.4133	1.4838	0.0705
8 Common Level of Appraisal	107.14%	109.88%	109.86%	110.47%	110.00%	95.16%	99.25%	97.90%	94.78%	103.12%	97.44%	88.19%	↑
9 Actual Homestead Tax Rate	\$ 1.5189	\$ 1.5498	\$ 1.5786	\$ 1.5144	\$ 1.4817	\$ 1.7321	\$ 1.7453	\$ 1.7704	\$ 1.7004	\$ 1.4092	\$ 1.4504	\$ 1.6825	↑

To cut 1c on actual homestead tax rate

\$ 185,000

Homestead

100,000
200,000
300,000

This increase/decrease
is in
tax in dollar
Tax in dollar

Unknown @ Printing

237.10
237.10
237.10

Springfield School District
Projected Enrollment
1/23/2024

		ACTUALS										PROJECTED							
		FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31	FY32	FY33	FY34		
Enrollment	PreK	Tuitioned Enrolled	141	144	120	122	89	77	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75		
			0	0	0	20	36	37	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36		
	Total	141	144	120	142	125	114	111	111	111	111	111	111	111	111	111	111		
		K	93	79	83	83	91	78	85	84	86	86	85	85	85	85	85		
		1	86	81	80	91	88	95	78	85	85	86	86	85	86	86	86		
	2	80	80	83	89	89	85	95	78	85	84	86	86	85	85	85	86		
	Total	259	240	246	263	268	258	258	247	255	256	257	256	256	256	256	256		
		3	88	84	75	91	84	86	96	80	86	86	87	87	87	87	87		
		4	66	92	83	76	88	83	85	95	79	85	85	86	86	86	86		
		5	88	68	87	85	86	90	84	87	97	80	87	86	88	88	87		
	Total	242	244	245	252	255	258	259	266	262	262	251	259	260	261	260	260		
		6	108	88	70	88	77	88	91	86	89	99	82	89	88	90	90		
		7	90	104	90	74	93	78	89	93	87	90	100	83	90	89	91		
		8	70	91	99	84	86	91	76	87	90	85	88	98	81	87	87		
	Total	268	283	259	246	265	256	256	256	266	266	274	269	269	258	266	267		
		9	105	97	122	133	108	115	121	102	116	121	114	117	131	108	117		
		10	106	85	91	83	93	84	89	94	79	90	94	88	91	101	84		
		11	104	88	77	62	74	80	72	77	81	68	77	81	76	78	87		
		12	69	92	79	67	66	70	76	68	73	77	64	73	76	72	74		
	Total	384	362	369	345	349	341	349	358	341	349	355	349	360	374	360	362		
	SSD	Total	1,294	1,273	1,239	1,248	1,227	1,233	1,239	1,234	1,244	1,248	1,245	1,255	1,260	1,253	1,256		
			-3.22%	-1.62%	-2.67%	0.73%	-2.77%	0.49%	0.51%	-0.42%	0.77%	0.37%	-0.26%	0.81%	0.41%	-0.55%	0.25%		

**Springfield School District
FY25 Proposed Budget
Summary**

CATEGORY	FY23 ACTUAL AMOUNTS <i>UNAUDITED</i>	FY24 CURRENT BUDGET	FY25 PROPOSED BUDGET	DOLLAR CHANGE	% CHG
Operating Budget	\$ 30,461,386	\$ 34,569,247	\$ 38,959,625	\$ 4,390,378	12.70%
Capital Budget	\$ 750,000	\$ 806,000	\$ 862,000	\$ 56,000	6.95%
Grant Budget	\$ 10,896,839	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,001,000	\$ (199,000)	-16.58%
Total Budget	\$ 42,108,225	\$ 36,575,247	\$ 40,822,625	\$ 4,247,378	11.61%
Est. Non-Prop. Tax Revenue	\$ 17,738,849	\$ 9,356,500	\$ 9,338,500	\$ (18,000)	-0.19%
Income Sensitivity Payments	\$ 1,416,790	\$ 1,246,575	\$ 1,246,575	\$ -	0.00%
Est. Property Taxes Raised	\$ 7,362,344	\$ 7,776,326	\$ 8,647,168	\$ 870,842	11.20%
Est. Residential Tax Rate	\$ 1.4092	\$ 1.4504	\$ 1.6825	\$ 0.2321	16.00%
Est. Non-Residential Tax Rate	\$ 1.4216	\$ 1.4275	\$ 1.6351	\$ 0.2076	14.54%

At the time of this printing, the 2023 audit has not yet been received. The School Board will be reviewing a draft in February and the audit will be available for review no later than March 31, 2024 at the School District's Administrative Office and on the District website at: www.ssdvt.org

Springfield voters have established six Reserve Funds. These funds may only be used for the specific defined purpose of the fund. The balances as of 6/30/23 are as follows:

Operating Expense (tax stabilization) Reserve Fund	\$ 800,000
HDEC Facilities Reserve Fund	\$ 254,119
Vehicle Reserve Fund	\$ 1,404
Capital Projects Reserve Fund	\$ 430,824
Roofing Reserve Fund	\$ 4,279
Energy Reserve Fund	\$ 267,090

SPRINGFIELD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
FY25 PROPOSED BUDGET
EXPENDITURES
V3

BUILDING or DEPARTMENT	FY21 ACTUAL	FY22 ACTUAL	FY23 ACTUAL <i>UNAUDITED</i>	FY24 APPROVED	FY25 REQUESTED	DOLLAR CHANGE	% CHANGE
PreK	\$457,457	\$510,135	\$459,740	\$642,413	\$990,201	\$347,788	75.65%
Elm Hill	\$2,607,666	\$2,777,633	\$2,655,518	\$2,939,495	\$3,275,615	\$336,120	12.66%
Union	\$2,425,869	\$2,358,823	\$2,285,326	\$2,442,737	\$3,096,538	\$653,801	28.61%
Riverside	\$2,706,350	\$2,979,713	\$3,132,405	\$3,191,429	\$3,524,450	\$333,021	10.63%
High School	\$3,833,961	\$4,051,688	\$3,943,867	\$4,298,078	\$4,591,110	\$293,032	7.43%
Special Ed	\$6,766,210	\$7,805,232	\$8,247,137	\$10,824,893	\$12,204,161	\$1,379,268	16.72%
Plant	\$3,022,170	\$3,081,759	\$3,074,988	\$3,885,888	\$4,389,350	\$503,462	16.37%
Capital Plan	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$750,000	\$806,000	\$862,000	\$56,000	7.47%
Debt Service	\$1,782,253	\$1,729,382	\$1,679,133	\$1,626,074	\$1,569,900	-\$56,174	-3.35%
District Wide Svcs	\$2,829,989	\$3,680,127	\$4,115,587	\$3,793,940	\$4,335,300	\$541,360	13.15%
TOTAL	\$26,931,925	\$29,474,492	\$30,343,701	\$34,450,947	\$38,838,625	\$4,387,678	14.46%
RVTC	\$793,965	\$737,359	\$867,685	\$924,300	\$983,000	\$58,700	6.77%
TOTAL w/o Grants	\$27,725,890	\$30,211,852	\$31,211,386	\$35,375,247	\$39,821,625	\$4,446,378	14.25%
GRANTS	\$7,478,789	\$5,215,426	\$10,896,839	\$1,200,000	\$1,001,000	-\$199,000	-1.83%
Grand Total	\$35,204,679	\$35,427,278	\$42,108,225	\$36,575,247	\$40,822,625	\$4,247,378	10.09%
VOTED ARTICLES:							
Local Article					\$39,839,625		
RVTC Obligation					<u>\$983,000</u>		
Total					<u><u>\$40,822,625</u></u>		

Springfield SD FY25

Revenue

V3

		FY21 Actual	FY22 Actual	FY23 Actual <i>unaudited</i>	FY24 Approved	FY25 Proposed	Variance (\$)	Variance (%)
LOCAL SOURCES								
	Elementary Tuition	56,700	30,494	18,500	16,000	-	(16,000)	-100.00%
	Secondary Tuition	333,048	389,830	289,186	242,000	252,000	10,000	4.13%
	Excess Cost Revenue	35,628	30,402	51,345	25,000	30,000	5,000	20.00%
	Tuition	425,376	450,726	359,031	283,000	282,000	(1,000)	-0.22%
	Interest	10,373	6,755	73,893	6,000	6,000	-	0.00%
	Interest	10,373	6,755	73,893	6,000	6,000	-	0.00%
	Miscellaneous	52,510	16,984	9,906	10,000	10,000	-	0.00%
	Services to VT LEA						-	0.00%
	RVTC	461,049	468,673	455,802	430,000	430,000	-	0.00%
	HDEC	42,600	42,600	42,600	40,000	40,000	-	0.00%
	SARC	25,850	26,150	26,150	1,000	25,000	24,000	2400.00%
	Fund Transfer	-	-	-	200,000	-	(200,000)	-100.00%
	Gate Receipts	-	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	-	0.00%
	Rentals	-	2,007	7,803	5,000	5,000	-	0.00%
	Misc Revenue	582,009	558,914	544,761	688,500	512,500	(176,000)	-31.49%
	Total Local Sources	1,017,758	1,016,395	977,685	977,500	800,500	(177,000)	-17.41%
STATE SOURCES								
	General State Support Grant	23,482,304	22,954,838	23,818,945	26,700,747	30,925,194	4,224,447	15.82%
	Tech Tuition on Behalf (RVTC)	479,941	467,843	489,348	518,000	558,931	40,931	7.90%
	Education Spending Grant	23,962,245	23,422,681	24,308,293	27,218,747	31,484,125	4,265,378	18.21%
	State Aid Transportation	224,181	219,415	221,296	200,000	200,000	-	0.00%
	Transportation Reimb	224,181	219,415	221,296	200,000	200,000	-	0.00%
	Special Ed Mainstream Block Grant	463,997	467,861	-	-	-	-	0.00%
	ACT 173 Block Grant (CBG)	-	-	3,207,826	3,135,000	3,065,000	(70,000)	-2.23%
	EEE Grant	102,485	100,424	107,519	134,000	132,000	(2,000)	-1.49%
	Special Ed Formula Reimb	2,689,370	2,715,722	-	-	-	-	0.00%
	Special Ed Extraordinary Reimb	547,213	1,204,321	1,694,185	3,300,000	4,100,000	800,000	24.24%
	Special Ed Reimbursements	3,803,065	4,488,328	5,009,530	6,569,000	7,297,000	728,000	16.22%
	State Placed Student Reimbs.	248,207	210,737	325,748			-	0.00%
	Drivers Education	8,333	8,982	8,641	6,000	6,000	-	0.00%
	High School Completion	17,190	37,688	25,499	1,000	1,000	-	0.00%
	Grants/Reimbursements	273,730	257,407	359,888	7,000	7,000	-	0.00%
	Total State Sources	28,263,221	28,387,832	29,899,007	33,994,747	38,988,125	4,993,378	17.59%
FEDERAL SOURCES								
	Indirect from Grants	78,694	159,041	258,353	50,000	30,000	(20,000)	-40.00%
	Grants	2,054,331	4,078,290	9,789,876	1,200,000	1,001,000	(199,000)	-16.58%
	Total Federal Sources	2,133,025	4,237,331	10,048,229	1,250,000	1,031,000	(219,000)	-5.17%
OTHER SOURCES								
	Prior Year Revenue						-	0.00%
	Refund of Prior Year Exp.	176,000	17,401	122,221	3,000	3,000	-	0.00%
	PY Surplus Applied	\$ 326,017	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 350,000	\$ -	(350,000)	-100.00%
	Total Other Sources	502,017	1,017,401	1,122,221	353,000	3,000	(350,000)	-34.40%
	TOTAL REVENUE	31,916,020	34,658,959	42,047,142	36,575,247	40,822,625	4,247,378	12.25%

District: Springfield SU: Springfield		FY25 is the first year of Act 127 Long Term Weighted Average Daily Membership for pupil counts. Equalized pupils are shown for FY22 - FY24. LTWADM is required		T193 Windsor County		Property dollar equivalent yield	<--See bottom note		Homestead tax rate per \$9,171 of spending per LTWADM	
						9,171			1.00	
						10,227			Income dollar equivalent yield per 2.0% of household income	
Expenditures				FY2022	FY2023	FY2024			FY2025	
1.	Budget (local budget, including special programs, and full technical center expenditures)			\$33,173,509	\$33,739,951	\$36,575,247			\$39,839,625	
2.	plus Sum of separately warned articles passed at town meeting	+	-	-	-	-			-	
3.	Locally adopted or warned budget			\$33,173,509	\$33,739,951	\$36,575,247			\$39,839,625	
4.	plus Obligation to a Regional Technical Center School District if any	+	-	-	-	-			\$983,000	
5.	plus Prior year deficit repayment of deficit	+	-	-	-	-			-	
6.	Total Expenditures			\$33,173,509	\$33,739,951	\$36,575,247			\$40,822,625	
7.	S.U. assessment (included in local budget) - informational data		-	-	-	-			-	
8.	Prior year deficit reduction (included in expenditure budget) - informational data		-	-	-	-			-	
Revenues										
9.	Offsetting revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, etc.)			\$9,772,800	\$9,444,770	\$9,356,500			\$9,338,500	
10.	Offsetting revenues			\$9,772,800	\$9,444,770	\$9,356,500			\$9,338,500	
11.	Education Spending			\$23,400,709	\$24,295,181	\$27,218,747			\$31,484,125	
12.	Pupils (eqpup FY22 - FY24, LTWADM FY25)			1,283.03	1,259.60	1,247.09			2,266.10	
13.	Education Spending per Pupil			\$18,238.63	\$19,288.01	\$21,825.81			\$13,893.53	
14.	minus Less ALL net eligible construction costs (or P&I) per Pupil pupil	-	\$600.10	-	\$459.00	-			\$251.24	
15.	minus Less share of SpEd costs in excess of \$66,446 for an individual (per pupil)	-	\$23.53	\$22.87	\$50.83	-			-	
			based on \$60,000	based on \$60,000	based on \$66,206				based on \$66,446	
16.	minus Less amount of deficit if deficit is SOLELY attributable to tuitions paid to public schools for grades the district does not operate for new students who moved to the district after the budget was passed (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-	-			-	
17.	minus Less SpEd costs if excess is solely attributable to new SpEd spending if district has 20 or fewer pupils	-	-	-	-	-			-	
18.	minus Estimated costs of new students after census period (per pupil)	-	-	-	-	-			-	
19.	minus Total tuitions if tuitioning ALL K-12 unless electorate has approved tuitions greater than average announced tuition (per pupil)	-	-	-	-	-			-	
20.	minus Less planning costs for merger of small schools (per pupil)	-	-	-	-	-			-	
21.	minus Teacher retirement assessment for new members of Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2015 (per pupil)	-	\$84.18	-	\$103.00	-			\$65.27	
22.	minus Costs incurred when sampling drinking water outlets, implementing lead remediation, or retesting.	-	\$84.18	-	\$103.00	-			-	
23.	Excess spending threshold		threshold = \$18,789	threshold = \$19,997	threshold = \$22,204				threshold = \$23,193	
24.	plus Excess Spending per Pupil over threshold (if any)	+	\$18,789.00	\$19,997.00	\$22,204.00				\$23,193.00	
25.	Per pupil figure used for calculating District Equalized Tax Rate		Suspended thru FY29	Suspended thru FY29	Suspended thru FY29				Suspended thru FY29	
			\$18,239	\$19,288	\$21,826				\$13,893.53	
26.	District spending adjustment (minimum of 100%)		161.161%	144.870%	141.331%				151.494%	
			based on yield \$11,317	based on yield \$13,314	based on \$15,443				based on \$9,171	
Prorating the local tax rate										
27.	Anticipated district equalized homestead tax rate (to be prorated by line 30) [\$13,893.53 ÷ (\$9,171 / \$1.00)]		\$1.6116	\$1.4487	\$1.4133				\$1.5149	
			based on \$1.00	based on \$1.00	based on \$1.00				based on \$1.00	
28.	Act 127 tax cap (FY25 - FY29 eligible)								\$1.4840	
29.	Percent of Springfield pupils not in a union school district		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%				100.00%	
30.	Portion of district eq homestead rate to be assessed by town (100.00% x \$1.51)		\$1.6116	\$1.4487	\$1.4133				\$1.4840	
31.	Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)		94.78%	103.12%	97.44%				88.19%	
32.	Portion of actual district homestead rate to be assessed by town (\$1.4840 / 88.19%)		\$1.7004	\$1.4049	\$1.4504				\$1.6827	
			based on \$1.00	based on \$1.00	based on \$1.00				based on \$1.00	
		If the district belongs to a union school district, this is only a PARTIAL homestead tax rate. The tax rate shown represents the estimated portion of the final homestead tax rate due to spending for students who do not belong to a union school district. The same holds true for the income cap percentage.								
33.	Anticipated income cap percent (to be prorated by line 30) [(\$13,893.53 ÷ \$10,227) x 2.00%]		2.65%	2.42%	2.49%				2.72%	
			based on 2.00%	based on 2.00%	based on 2.00%				based on 2.00%	
34.	Portion of district income cap percent applied by State (100.00% x 2.72%)		2.65%	2.42%	2.49%				2.72%	
			based on 2.00%	based on 2.00%	based on 2.00%				based on 2.00%	
35.			-	-	-				-	
36.			-	-	-				-	
<div>- Using the revised January 9th, 2024 Education Fund Outlook FY25 forecast, the FY25 education fund need results in a property yield of \$9,171 for every \$1.00 of homestead tax per \$100 of equalized property value, an income yield of \$10,227 for a base income percent of 2.0%, and a non-residential tax rate of \$1.452. These figures use the estimated \$13,000,000 surplus from the Education Fund. New and updated data will likely change the proposed property and income yields and perhaps the non-residential rate.</div> <div>- Final figures will be set by the Legislature during the legislative session and approved by the Governor.</div> <div>- The base income percentage cap is 2.0%</div>										

RESULTS AND SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS YEAR'S ANNUAL TOWN AND TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING MARCH 7, 2023

The legal voters of the Town of Springfield and Town of Springfield School District were notified and warned to meet at Riverside Middle School Gymnasium in said Town on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. (8:00 o'clock in the forenoon) until 7:00 p.m. to vote by Australian ballot for Town and Town School District Officers, for all appropriations to be voted by Australian ballot, and all other items of business to be voted by Australian ballot.

A public informational hearing was held in person with remote access by electronic means, at the Springfield High School Cafeteria on Monday, March 6, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. to hear reports of the Town Officers, Town School District Officers and Committees, to discuss all Australian ballot articles on the Annual Town and Town School District Meeting Warning and to do any other business legally allowed.

ARTICLE 1: Voters elected the following Town Officer and Town School District Officer positions for the ensuing year: Cemetery Commissioner, School Director, Town School District Moderator, Library Trustees, Selectboard, Trustee of Public Funds and Town Moderator.

ARTICLE 2: Voters approved a salary of FIFTY and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$50.00) per meeting for the Town Moderator for the ensuing year. Yes 887; No 213

ARTICLE 3: Voters approved to pay each Selectperson the sum of FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$500.00) to help defray the costs and expenses incurred in serving the Town in that office. Yes 852; No 248

ARTICLE 4: Voters approved the sum of FOURTEEN MILLION, TWO HUNDRED EIGHTY FOUR THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED NINETY NINE and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$14,284,999.00) for the budget of the Town for salaries, incidental and necessary Town expenses, including highways, and for the purposes for which the law requires appropriations, and for which a Town may legally vote. Yes 747; No 351

ARTICLE 5: Voters approved the sum of SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$750,000.00) for repaving, road construction, gravel road improvements, and ancillary professional services for the projects specified in the Road Surface Management System Report dated December 2021 or other duly warranted sidewalk improvements. Yes 904; No 183

ARTICLE 6: Voters approved the sum of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$100,000.00) for sidewalk reconstruction in various locations throughout the Town. Yes 812; No 273

ARTICLE 7: Voters approved Town of Springfield issue general obligation bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed THREE MILLION, FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$3,400,000.00), subject to reduction from the

receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid and other financing sources, for the purpose of making water system improvements, the total estimated cost of such improvements being THREE MILLION, FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$3,400,000.00). Yes 798; No 281

ARTICLE 8: Voters approved the Springfield Town School District authorize the Town Treasurer, subject to the direction and approval of the School Board, to borrow money in anticipation of taxes needed to meet the requirements of the Town School District for the ensuing year. Yes 716; No 373

ARTICLE 9: Voters approved the Springfield Town School District approve a payment of FIFTY and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$50.00) per meeting for the Town School District Moderator for the ensuing year, the funds for which are included in the school budget. Yes 824; No 264

ARTICLE 10: Voters approved the Springfield Town School District approve the payment to each School Board member of FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$500.00) to help defray the costs and expenses incurred in serving in that office, the funds for which are included in the school budget. Yes 780; No 309

ARTICLE 11: Voters approved the Springfield Town School District approve the School Board to spend THIRTY FIVE MILLION, SIX HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED FORTY SEVEN and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$35,650,947.00), which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year. Yes 610, No 480

ARTICLE 12: Voters approved the sum of TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$2,500.00) to the Springfield Community Band for eight (8) concerts. Yes 702; No 381

ARTICLE 13: Voters approved the sum of NINE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$9,000.00) to Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) to assist Springfield in responding to the emergency needs of the community and to provide all available and applicable services to families and individuals in need. Yes 808; No 276

ARTICLE 14: Voters approved the sum of SIXTY THREE THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$63,500.00) to help support the high-quality home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by the Visiting Nurse and Hospice for VT and NH. Care is provided regardless of ability to pay. Yes 877; No 208

- ARTICLE 15: Voters approved the sum of EIGHT THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$8,500.00) for the support of Senior Solutions (formerly Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont) for help to support seniors and their families who are trying to remain at home and not be placed in a nursing home. Yes 909; No 180
- ARTICLE 16: Voters approved the sum of FOUR THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$4,000.00) to help support the Valley Health Connections (formerly Precision Valley Free Clinic) to help the uninsured access health care. Yes 778; No 304
- ARTICLE 17: Voters approved the sum of TWELVE THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$12,500.00) for the support of the MOOver f/n/a the Current operated by Southeast Vermont Transit, Inc., to provide transit services to the residents of the Town of Springfield. Yes 789; No 294
- ARTICLE 18: Voters approved the sum of TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$2,500.00) to Green Mountain RSVP & Volunteer Center of Windsor County to develop opportunities for people age 55 and older to positively impact the quality of life in the community of Springfield through volunteer service. Yes 791; No 290
- ARTICLE 19: Voters approved the sum of TEN THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) to assist with the cost of operating the Meals on Wheels Program of Greater Springfield that provides daily hot & cold congregate and home delivered meals and other nutritional needs to the qualified residents of Springfield. Yes 901; No 177
- ARTICLE 20: Voters approved the sum of THREE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$3,000.00) to Windsor County Partners d/b/a Windsor County Mentors, for youth mentoring services provided to the children of Windsor County. Yes 769; No 316
- ARTICLE 21: Voters approved the sum of FIVE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$5,000.00) to the Springfield Supported Housing to assist families and individuals find permanent housing and provide in home case management services for 6 months to two years after placement. Yes 693; No 381
- ARTICLE 22: Voters approved the sum of FIFTY-FIVE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$55,000.00) to the Springfield Family Center to assist with the cost of providing a free meal daily, a free food shelf, and other services related to hunger, homelessness and related social-service needs in the community. Yes 805; No 275
- ARTICLE 23: Voters approved the sum of FOUR THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$4,000.00) to the Women's Freedom Center for general budget support to provide services to women and their children who are experiencing emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse and are residents of the Town. Yes 781; No 295
- ARTICLE 24: Voters approved the sum of NINE THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$9,500.00) to the Springfield Art and Historical Society to assist in preserving, maintaining, and displaying, for the public, the history and art of the Town of Springfield, Vermont. Yes 705; No 375
- ARTICLE 25: Voters approved the sum of NINE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$9,000.00) to Turning Point Recovery Center Drop-In Center and Transition House to help with the everyday cost of providing recovery services and housing for men and that are in recovery from alcohol, substance abuse and co-occurring disorders. Yes 690; No 388
- ARTICLE 26: Voters approved the sum of TEN THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) to help support outpatient, mental health and substance abuse services by the staff of Health Care and Rehabilitation Services, Inc. Yes 627; No 446

**THE WARRANT TO BE VOTED ON AT THE
ANNUAL TOWN AND TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
BEING HELD MARCH 5, 2024
APPEARS ON PAGES 85 TO 87**

WARNING

ANNUAL TOWN AND TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING HYBRID (PHYSICAL AND REMOTE)

The legal voters of the Town of Springfield and Town of Springfield School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at Riverside Middle School Gymnasium in said Town on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. (8:00 o'clock in the forenoon) until 7:00 p.m. to vote by Australian ballot for Town and Town School District Officers, for all appropriations to be voted by Australian ballot, and all other items of business to be voted by Australian ballot.

A public informational hearing will be held in-person, and will be accessible remotely by electronic means, at the Springfield High School on Monday, March 4, 2024 at **7:00 p.m.** to hear reports of the Town Officers, Town School District Officers and Committees, to discuss all Australian ballot articles on the Annual Town and Town School District Meeting Warning and to do any other business that can legally be done under this Warning.

IN-PERSON PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING WILL BE ACCESSIBLE REMOTELY BY ELECTRONIC MEANS:

- **ZOOM MEETING ID: 829 9266 9830**
- **By computer:** Join meeting by clicking here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82992669830>
You may be prompted to enter the Meeting ID. You may need to download software <https://zoom.us/>
- **By smartphone, tablet, or other device:** Download and open the <https://zoom.us/> app.
You may have to create a free account or sign into your existing account. Select the option to join meeting and enter the Meeting ID. One-tap mobile device click here: [+16465588656](https://zoom.us/j/82992669830)
- **By telephone:** Dial [+1 646 558 8656](https://zoom.us/j/82992669830) and when prompted enter the Meeting ID. Note that long distance rates may apply. Dial-in participants use *9 to raise/lower hand and *6 to mute/unmute.
- **Meeting link** can also be accessed on the home page of the [Town of Springfield website](https://www.springfieldvt.gov/)
- **Watch** live on SAPA TV or stream it from [Sapatv.org](https://www.sapatv.org/)

ARTICLE 1: To elect the following Town Officers and Town School District Officers for the ensuing year:

Cemetery Commissioner	Town Moderator
Library Trustees	Town School District Moderator
School Directors	Trustees of Public Funds
Selectboard	

ARTICLE 2: Shall the Town vote a salary of FIFTY and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$50.00) per meeting for the Town Moderator for the ensuing year?

ARTICLE 3: Shall the Town vote to pay each Selectperson the sum of FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$500.00) to help defray the costs and expenses incurred in serving the Town in that office?

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of FIFTEEN MILLION, NINE THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED SIXTY THREE and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$15,009,263.00) for the budget of the Town for salaries, incidental and necessary Town expenses, including highways, and for the purposes for which the law requires appropriations, and for which a Town may legally vote?

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of EIGHT HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$875,000.00) for repaving, road construction, gravel road improvements, and ancillary professional services for the projects specified in the Road Surface Management System Report dated December 2021 or other duly warranted sidewalk improvements?

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$100,000.00) for sidewalk reconstruction in various locations throughout the Town?

ARTICLE 7: Shall the voters of the Springfield Town School District approve a payment of FIFTY and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$50.00) per meeting for the Town School District Moderator for the ensuing year, the funds for which are included in the school budget?

ARTICLE 8: Shall the voters of the Springfield Town School District approve the payment to each School Board member of FIVE HUNDRED and

Warning (continued)

00/100 DOLLARS (\$500.00) to help defray the costs and expenses incurred in serving in that office, the funds for which are included in the school budget?

ARTICLE 9: Shall the voters of the Springfield Town School District authorize the Town Treasurer, subject to the direction and approval of the School Board, to borrow money in anticipation of taxes needed to meet the requirements of the Town School District for the ensuing year?

ARTICLE 10: Shall the voters of Springfield Town School District approve a contribution of \$800,000 from the district's FY23 surplus to the district's capital fund for the purpose of paying capital expenses as identified in the capital plan approved by the board?

ARTICLE 11: Shall the voters of Springfield Town School District approve a contribution of \$800,000 from the district's FY23 surplus to the district's operating expense reserve fund for the purpose of paying unexpected operational expenses?

ARTICLE 12: Shall the voters of the Springfield Town School District approve the School Board to spend THIRTY NINE MILLION, EIGHT HUNDRED THIRTY-NINE THOUSAND, SIX HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$39,839,625.00), which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year?

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$2,500.00) to the Springfield Community Band for eight (8) concerts?

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of NINE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$9,000.00) to Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) to assist Springfield in responding to the emergency needs of the community and to provide all available and applicable services to families and individuals in need?

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of SIXTY THREE THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$63,500.00) to help support the high-quality home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by the Visiting Nurse and Hospice for VT and NH? Care is provided regardless of ability to pay.

ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of EIGHT THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$8,500.00) for the support of Senior Solutions (formerly Council

on Aging for Southeastern Vermont) for help to support seniors and their families who are trying to remain at home and not be placed in a nursing home?

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of FOUR THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$4,000.00) to help support the Valley Health Connections (formerly Precision Valley Free Clinic) to help the uninsured access health care?

ARTICLE 18: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of TWELVE THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$12,500.00) for the support of the MOOver f/n/a the Current operated by Southeast Vermont Transit, Inc., to provide transit services to the residents of the Town of Springfield?

ARTICLE 19: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$2,500.00) to Green Mountain RSVP & Volunteer Center of Windsor County to develop opportunities for people age 55 and older to positively impact the quality of life in the community of Springfield through volunteer service?

ARTICLE 20: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of TEN THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) to assist with the cost of operating the Meals on Wheels Program of Greater Springfield that provides daily hot & cold congregate and home delivered meals and other nutritional needs to the qualified residents of Springfield?

ARTICLE 21: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$3,000.00) to Windsor County Partners d/b/a Windsor County Mentors, for youth mentoring services provided to the children of Windsor County?

ARTICLE 22: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of FIVE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$5,000.00) to the Springfield Supported Housing to assist families and individuals find permanent housing and provide in home case management services for 6 months to two years after placement?

ARTICLE 23: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of FIFTY-FIVE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$55,000.00) to the Springfield Family Center to assist with the cost of providing a free meal daily, a free food shelf, and other services related to hunger, homelessness and related social-service needs in the community?

ARTICLE 24: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of FOUR THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$4,000.00) to the Women's Freedom Center for general budget support to

Warning (continued)

provide services to women and their children who are experiencing emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse and are residents of the Town?

ARTICLE 25: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of NINE THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$9,500.00) to the Springfield Art and Historical Society to assist in preserving, maintaining, and displaying, for the public, the history and art of the Town of Springfield, Vermont?

Dated this 22nd day of January, 2024
at Springfield, County of Windsor
and State of Vermont.

Kristi C. Morris, *Chair*
Heather Frahm
Everett T. Hammond
Michael E. Martin
Walter E. Martone

Selectboard
Town of Springfield

ARTICLE 26: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of NINE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$9,000.00) to Turning Point Recovery Center Drop-In Center and Transition House to help with the everyday cost of providing recovery services and housing for men and that are in recovery from alcohol, substance abuse and co-occurring disorders?

ARTICLE 27: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of TEN THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) to help support outpatient, mental health and substance abuse services by the staff of Health Care and Rehabilitation Services, Inc.?

Dated this 26th day of January, 2024
at Springfield, County of Windsor
and State of Vermont.

Troy Palmer, *Chair*
Jessica Cady Burlew
Denise Hunter
Stephen Karaffa
Mary Krueger

Board of School Directors
Springfield School District

NOTICE TO VOTERS

BEFORE ELECTION DAY:

CHECKLIST POSTED at Town Clerk's Office by February 4, 2024. If your name is not on the checklist, then you must register to vote. **SAMPLE BALLOTS** will be posted by February 24, 2024.

REGISTER TO VOTE: You may register to vote on Election Day at the polls and then proceed to vote on that day. You may also register to vote any time in person at the town clerk's office 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. M-F or online at www.mvp.sec.state.vt.us.

REQUEST EARLY or ABSENTEE BALLOTS: You or a family member can request early or absentee ballots at any time during the year of the election in person, in writing, by telephone, email or online at www.mvp.sec.state.vt.us. The latest you can request ballots for the March 5, 2024 Town and Town School District Meeting is the close of the Town Clerk's Office on Monday, March 4, 2024. (Any other person authorized by you who is not a family member must apply in writing or in person for a ballot for you.)

WAYS TO VOTE YOUR EARLY BALLOT:

- You may vote in the Town Clerk's Office before the deadline.
- Voter may take his or her ballot(s) out of the Town Clerk's Office and return in same manner as if the ballots were received by mail.
- Have ballot mailed to you and mail or deliver it back to the Town Clerk's Office before Election Day or bring to the polling place before 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.
- If you are ill, injured or disabled before Election Day, you can request by the close of the Town Clerk's Office on Monday, March 4, 2024 to have two Justices of the Peace bring a ballot to you at your home. (Ballots can be delivered on any of the eight days preceding the day of the election or on the day of election.)

ON ELECTION DAY:

If your name was dropped from the checklist in error, or has not been added even though you submitted a timely application for addition to the checklist, explain the situation to your Town Clerk and ask that your name be added to the checklist today.

- If the Town Clerk or Board of Civil Authority does not add your name, you can appeal the decision to a Superior Court Judge, who will settle the matter on Election Day. Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-VOTE (439-8683) for more information.

If you are a first time voter who submitted your application to the checklist individually by mail or online, you must provide a valid Vermont photo identification, or a copy of a government issued document with your current address, before you vote for the first time.

If you have physical disabilities, are visually impaired or can't read, you may have assistance from any person of your choice. If any voters you know have disabilities let them know they can have assistance from any person of their choice.

If you know voters who cannot get from the car into the polling place let them know that ballot(s) may be brought to their car by two Election Officials.

If you have any questions or need assistance while voting, ask your Town Clerk or any Election Official for help.

NO PERSON SHALL:

- Vote more than once per election, either in the same town or in different towns.
- Mislead the Board of Civil Authority about your own or another person's true residency or other eligibility to vote.
- Hinder or impede a voter going into or from the polling place.
- Socialize in a manner that could disturb other voters in the polling place.
- Offer bribe, threaten or exercise undue influence to dictate or control the vote of another person.

FOR HELP OR INFORMATION: Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-VOTE (439-8683). (Accessible by TDD)

If you believe that any of your voting rights have been violated, you may file an Administrative Complaint with the Secretary of State's Office, 128 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633-1101.

If you believe you have witnessed efforts to commit any kind of fraud or corruption in the voting process, you may report this to your local United States Attorney's Office.

If you have witnessed actual or attempted acts of discrimination or intimidation in the voting process, you may report this to the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice at (800) 253-3931.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTERS using Accuvote Ballots

CHECK-IN AND RECEIVE BALLOTS:

- Go to the entrance checklist table.
- State name and, if asked, street address to the Election Official in a loud voice.
- Wait until your name is repeated and checked off by the Election Official.
- An Election Official will give you a ballot.
- Enter within the guardrail and go to a vacant voting booth.

MARK YOUR BALLOT: For each office listed on the ballot, you will see instructions to "Vote for not more than one" or "Vote for not more than two," etc.

- To vote for a candidate, fill in the oval to the right of the name of the candidate you want to vote for.
- **WRITE-IN** candidate(s). To vote for someone whose name is not printed on the ballot, use the blank "write-in" lines on the ballot and either write-in the name or paste on sticker, then fill in the oval.

CAST YOUR VOTE by depositing your voted ballot(s) into the vote tabulating machine.

LEAVE the voting area immediately by passing outside the guardrail.

Barbara A. Courchesne
Town Clerk, CVC
96 Main Street
Springfield, Vermont 05156
(802) 885-2104
tosclerk@vermontel.net

RIVER VALLEY TECHNICAL CENTER SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The River Valley Technical Center School District sending school region includes Bellows Falls Union High School, Expeditionary School at Black River, Fall Mountain Regional High School, Green Mountain Union High School, and Springfield High School. We also enroll students from the Compass School, as well as home-schooled and adult students. In this past year, 309 high school students enrolled in various technical education programs from 16 area towns served by the Center.

River Valley Technical Center offered many programs for high school students last year, including Pre- Technical Foundations and Integrated Pre-Technical Studies for grades 9 and 10, Business Management & Entrepreneurship, Information Technology, Advanced Manufacturing/Engineering, Industrial Trades, Horticulture and Natural Resources, Carpentry, Criminal Justice, Human Services, Audio Video Production, Health Sciences, and Culinary Arts.

RVTC prepares students to be career and college-ready through hands-on learning which incorporates academic skills, technical skills, and our Essential Employability Skills which include Dependability, Communication, Organization, Collaboration, Problem Solving, and Work Ethic. Students receive embedded academic credits/proficiencies and elective credits that help fulfill their high school graduation requirements.

RVTC students participated in a variety of Career Technical Student Organizations including the Future Farmers of America, Future Business Leaders of America, Health Occupations Student of America, SkillsUSA, and Pro Start. RVTC student Gold Medal winners were:

- HOSA - Health Science Career Photography: Keronie Jones – Bellows Falls Union and Olivia Magliola – Compass School.
- FBLA - Accounting: Gavin Joy – Bellows Falls Union, Digital Video Production: Caleb Ghia - Bellows Falls Union, and John Hassett - Fall Mountain Regional, Computer Game and Simulation Programming: Eric Morey - Bellows Falls Union, Coding and Programming: Arman Kazarian and Damian Stagner - Springfield High School.
- ProStart - Management Competition: Victoria Feickert and Isabella Broome - Springfield High, and Grace Burns – Green Mountain Union, Culinary Competition: Jermaine Anders - Springfield High School, Annika Knudsen and Christopher Leary - home school student.

Seventeen students were inducted into the RVTC Chapter of the National Technical Honor Society. Many students earned college credits through dual enrollment with area colleges resulting in students earning 227 college credits. Students also earned 306 industry-recognized credentials. More than 98% of our graduates last year are either in post-secondary education, the military, or employed within six months following high school graduation with 62% of our students going on to post-secondary placements.

The COVID-19 Pandemic continued to have a lingering impact on our Cooperative Education program resulting in reduced participation for students as opposed to previous years resulting in 123 job shadow experiences, 14 paid and 53 unpaid work experiences, and 5 registered apprenticeships.

We are excited by the growth of the River Valley RADs Robotics team with approximately 20 middle and high school students on the team. They participated in various competitions including the 2023 Dragonfly Aerial Drone National Championship at Fairmont State University in Fairmont, West Virginia.

At our Annual Awards Night, we honored our students and awarded approximately \$30,000 in scholarships thanks to long-time support from the Tom Leever Foundation, the Kurt Dechen Memorial Fund and Kelly Flynn for establishing the “James Gould – Tools of the Trade” Fund and the Jan E. Fersing Scholarship.

Our Adult Services program offers adults opportunities for learning specialized skills. RVTC offered a Licensed Nurse Assistance program. In partnership with Vermont Technical College’s Continuing Education and Workforce Development Division, 3 courses were held in Advanced Manufacturing including the ability to earn college credits. Several of these students were referred to us by area businesses.

RVTC enjoys a high degree of student satisfaction with 97% of our students reporting that they look forward to coming to RVTC. If you meet one of our students, talk to them about RVTC!

Scott D. Farr
Superintendent/Director
307 South Street
Phone: 802-885-8300
Email: sfarr@rvtc.org
Website: www.rvtc.org

RESULTS AND SUMMARY OF RIVER VALLEY TECHNICAL CENTER SCHOOL DISTRICT 2023 ANNUAL MEETING AND INFORMATIONAL MEETING

(Member districts: Bellows Falls Union High School District #27, Expeditionary School at Black River, Green Mountain Unified School District #35, and Springfield School District)

ANNUAL MEETING AND INFORMATIONAL MEETING

The legal voters of the River Valley Technical Center School District were warned to meet in the RVTC Café, Rm. B106 at the Howard Dean Education Center, Springfield, Vermont, on Thursday, March 2, 2023, at 7:00 PM, to transact at that time business not involving voting by Australian Ballot or voting required by law to be by ballot.

The business transacted included:

ARTICLE 1: Set compensation the School District will pay to the officers of the River Valley Technical Center School District.

ARTICLE 2: Heard and acted on the reports of the School District officers.

ARTICLE 3: Authorized the Board of Directors to receive and expend funds received through grants, donations, or other outside sources during the ensuing year, so long as such funds do not change the technical-education tuition assessment derived from the operating budget approved by the School District voters.

ARTICLE 4: Authorized the Board of Directors to borrow funds through a bridge loan to cover expenses while waiting for state funding to arrive.

ARTICLE 5: Transacted other business that may legally be brought before this School District Annual Meeting.

The meeting was then be recessed to Tuesday, March 7, 2023, on which date the voters of each member district were further warned to vote on the following article by Australian ballot at their respective polling places:

VOTING BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT **MARCH 7, 2023**

ARTICLE 1: Voters of the River Valley Technical Center School District approve the sum of three million, three hundred thirty-nine thousand five hundred seventy dollars (\$3,339,570) to defray current expenses for the ensuing fiscal year and to pay outstanding orders and obligations. Springfield: Yes 764; No 329

WARNING

RIVER VALLEY TECHNICAL CENTER SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING AND INFORMATIONAL MEETING THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2024

(Member districts: Bellows Falls Union High School District #27, Expeditionary School at Black River,
Green Mountain Unified School District #35, and Springfield School District)

ANNUAL MEETING AND INFORMATIONAL MEETING

The legal voters of the River Valley Technical Center School District are hereby warned to meet in the RVTC Café, Rm. B106 at the Howard Dean Education Center, Springfield, Vermont, on Thursday, February 29, 2024, at 7:00 PM, to transact at that time business not involving voting by Australian Ballot or voting required by law to be by ballot.

The business to be transacted to include:

- ARTICLE 1:** To elect a Moderator for a term of two years
ARTICLE 2: To elect a Clerk for a term of two years
ARTICLE 3: To elect a Treasurer for a term of two years
ARTICLE 4: To see what compensation the School District will pay to the officers of the River Valley Technical Center School District.
ARTICLE 5: To hear and act on the reports of the School District officers.
ARTICLE 6: To see if the School District will authorize the Board of Directors to receive and expend funds received through grants, donations, or other outside sources during the ensuing year, so long as such funds do not change the technical-education tuition assessment derived from the operating budget approved by the School District voters.
ARTICLE 7: To authorize the Board of Directors to borrow funds through a bridge loan to cover expenses while waiting for state funding to arrive.
ARTICLE 8: To transact any other business that may legally be brought before this School District Annual Meeting.

Robert Flint, *Chair*
Paul Orzechowski, *Vice Chair*
Andrew Pennell, *Board Secretary/Clerk*
Sarah Vogel
James Rumrill

The meeting will then be recessed to Tuesday, March 5, 2024, on which date the voters of each member district are further warned to vote on the following article by Australian ballot at their respective polling places:

VOTING BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT MARCH 5, 2024

ARTICLE 1: Shall the voters of the River Valley Technical Center School District approve the sum of three million, two hundred seventy-nine thousand, two hundred seventeen dollars (\$3,279,217) to defray current expenses for the ensuing fiscal year and to pay outstanding orders and obligations?

The legal voters of the River Valley Technical Center School District are further warned that a Public Informational Meeting will be held concerning the aforementioned Australian ballot article on Thursday, February 29, 2024, in the RVTC Café, Rm. B106 at the Howard Dean Education Center, immediately following the business portion of the School District's Annual Meeting.

For more information about the proposed 2024-2025 budget, please contact the office of the RVTC Superintendent/Director at (802) 885-8301. Copies of the RVTC Annual Report are available at town clerk offices and high schools of the member districts, on our website at rvtc.org, or upon request by contacting the RVTC office.

Lois Perlach
Michael Stack
Jessica Burlew
Lyza Gardner
Brenda Blodgett, *Clerk, River Valley Technical Center SD*

VOTING LOCATION AND HOURS ON MARCH 5, 2024
SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT – RIVERSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL
8:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.

**TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD
SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT 05156**

