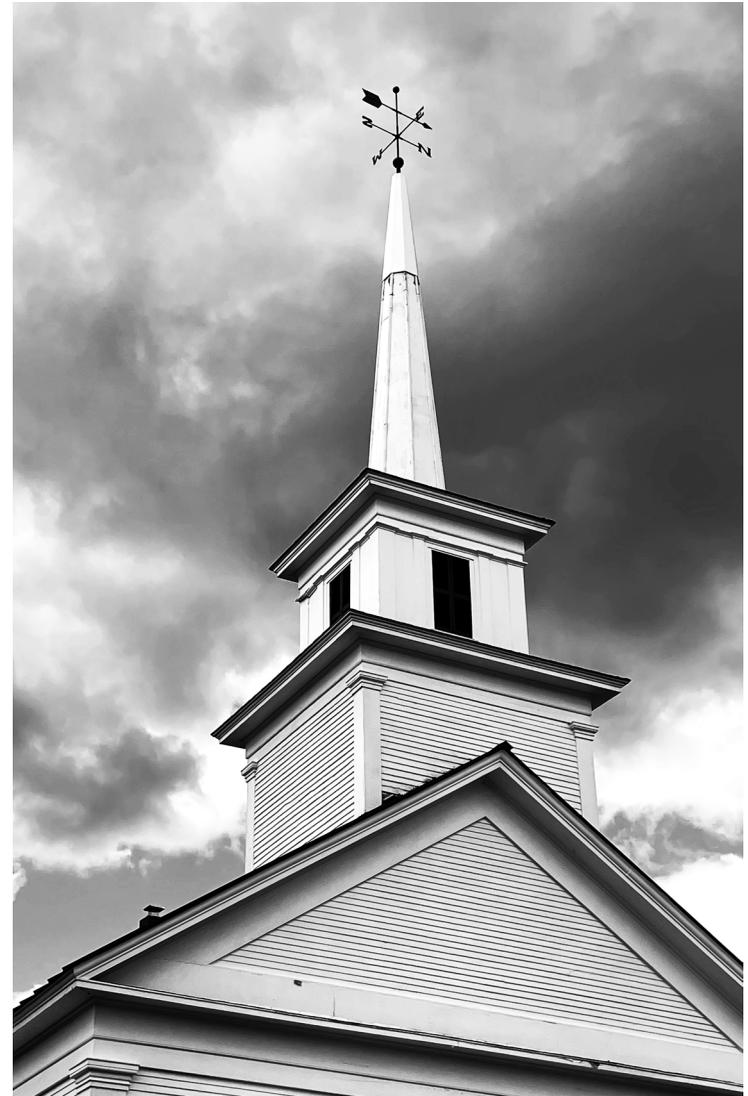


Town of Newark
Vermont



Annual Report
2023

GENERAL INFORMATION

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE.....(802)467-3336
1336 Newark Street, Newark, VT 05871
newarktownclerk@gmail.com
Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs 8:00am-3:00pm
*unless otherwise posted

ASSESSOR..... (802)227-2602
jean@nemrc.com

TOWN GARAGE.....(802)467-3178

SELECTBOARD

Meetings are held at the Town Clerk's Office every other
Wednesday; beginning January 10th, 2024 at 6:00 pm.
*unless otherwise posted

PLANNING COMMISSION

Meetings are held at the Town Clerk's Office on the 3rd Thursday
of each month at 6:30 pm. *unless otherwise posted

TRANSFER STATION

Hours: Sunday 9:00am-4:00pm *unless otherwise posted

DOGS

Dogs must be licensed by April 1, 2024

License Fees:

Spayed or Neutered dogs	\$ 9.00
Male or Female dogs	\$13.00
Late Spayed or Neutered	\$11.00
Late Male or Female	\$17.00

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TOWN OFFICERS/STAFF LIST	2-4
REPORTS:	
Auditor's Statement	5
Selectboard Report	5-6
NEMRC Assessor Report	7
Planning Commission Report	8
Newark Volunteer Fire Department Report	8-11
Newark Street School Principal Report	12-13
Kingdom East School Board Report	14-15
TOWN MEETING WARNING	16-17
FINANCIAL REPORTS:	
2024- Proposed Budget Summary	18
General Fund Budget Details	19-22
Highway Fund Budget Details	23-24
Reserve Fund Budget Details	25-26
Community Appropriations	27
Newark Fire Department Budget	28
2023 Budget & Tax Calculation	29
2023 Statement of Taxes	30
Treasurer's Report	31
Education Tax Fund	32
ARPA Fund	32
Grant Funds	33
ASSETS AND DEBTS:	
Notes Payable on Equipment	34
Inventory	35
2023 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES	36-44

TOWN OFFICERS

MODERATOR	Ben Bangs	2024
TOWN CLERK/TREASURER	Amber Holden	2025
TAX COLLECTOR	Amber Holden	2024
TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS	Amber Holden	2024
SELECTBOARD	Mark Ellingwood	2024
	John Lewandowski	2025
	Nancy McDermott	2026
AUDITORS	Mary Ann Riggie	2024
	Michelle Coperanis	2025
	Shelley Cunningham	2026
CONSTABLES	John Talbot #1	2024
	Kevin Aucoin #2	2024

APPOINTMENTS / STAFF

ROAD FOREMAN	Tim Girard
ASSISTANT ROAD FOREMAN	John Cunningham
ROAD CREW	Tom Girard George Wilder
ASSISTANT CLERK	Kasey Talbot
CEMETERY SEXTON	Tim Girard
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER	Candace Dane
TREE WARDEN	Luke O'Brien
FENCE VIEWERS	Bruce Carlson Janice Halpin
ENERGY COORDINATOR	Noreen Hession
HEALTH OFFICER	Patrick Anderson
FIRE WARDEN	Lilly Young
WEIGHER OF COAL	Trish Turner
INSPECTOR OF LUMBER, SHINGLES & WOOD	Mike Middleton
REP. TO WASTE DISTRICT	Jan Clausing
REP. TO LYNDON RESCUE	Jan Clausing
REP. TO NVDA	Kim Fried Mark Whitworth
REP. TO CUD	Ben Tilford Mark Whitworth

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Vacant – Seeking Members

PLANNING COMMISSION

Kim Fried
Luke O'Brien(Chair)
Joe Seguin

Trish Turner
Mark Whitworth
Sam Perron

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Linda Barksdale
Lisa Grout
Noreen Hession

Sarah Newell
Mary Ann Riggie

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

Dennis Labounty
Charles Wilson

AUDITORS STATEMENT

We have examined the accounts and records of the Town Officers, and found the financial statements of the municipality as of Dec. 31, 2023 to be correct.

Shelley Cunningham Michele Coparanis MaryAnn Riggie

SELECTBOARD REPORT

2023 has been a busy year for the Newark Selectboard. We continued using the Town's ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act 2021) funds for things that otherwise would require funding through taxes. This year these items included a new roof and siding on the pavilion, a leaf blower and repairs to the sand screen for the Highway Dept., heating repairs, shelving for the new vault, a storage addition and a new outside bulletin board for the Town Clerk's Office. In 2024 we are planning to put a new roof on the Town Clerk's Office as well as a new fence around the transfer station. We also applied for a VT MERP Grant (Municipal Energy Resilience Program); a program aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions from public buildings while reducing utility bills. To date we have received a \$4,000 mini-grant from the MERP program for building energy audits, with up to \$500,000 in Project Implementation grants still possible.

The Town Highway Dept. had a busy year as well. The spring mud season turned out to be one of the worst in recent history and required much gravel and crushed stone to keep our roads passable. Major ditching projects were completed on Center Pond Road and the west end of Schoolhouse Road. The later included 2 drainage culverts and was funded partially from a VTrans Better Roads grant. A new bridge was installed over the outlet of Bald Hill Pond which was partially funded from a VTrans Structures grant. The July flooding caused considerable damage to River's Farm Road and required much repair. The Town's 2013 single axle dump truck was replaced with a 2024 tandem axle truck.

The Selectboard and the Building Committee continued work on the replacement/renovation of the Highway/Fire Department building. As reported last year, we hired Black River Design to come up with designs for each alternative. Those designs and their respective construction estimates have been received and presently the committee is working on solutions to reduce the project costs. Also, as it was reported last year, Newark was successful in obtaining a \$300,000 Federal/State TAD Grant for the construction of a sand/salt storage shed. Presently we are moving ahead with what will be a 3-4 year project. This will alleviate the off- site sand storage issues we presently are dealing with.

We continued our relationship with the Caledonia County Sheriff's Department in 2023, providing Newark with additional police coverage. Besides regular patrols on our roads, we use them in fighting criminal activity in the town.

As a reminder, we ask that Newark residents **not** plow snow out into or across the roads. While this seems like a small thing it can cause significant issues with the Highway Department's snow plowing operations.

The Selectboard would like to take this opportunity to thank the Town Clerk's Office and Highway Department's employees for the outstanding work they perform on behalf of the town. We are very fortunate to have them!

Finally, and in closing, the Selectboard meets every other Wednesday at 6:00 PM at the Town Clerk's Office. These meetings are open to the public and residents are encouraged to attend. If you have something you would like to bring up with the board, we ask that you call the Clerk's Office at 802-467-3336 and ask to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Newark Selectboard

John Lewandowski Mark Ellingwood Nancy McDermott

NEMRC ASSESSOR REPORT

It has been 4 years since the completion of the 2020 town wide reappraisal and the real estate market has changed dramatically – properties selling for more than grand list values. This is reflected in the December 2023 Equalization Study received from the state which calculates the common level of appraisal (CLA) at 81.77% and the coefficient of dispersion (COD) at 17.53%. The entire state of Vermont is experiencing this shift in the market, it's not just Newark.

The following breakdown is a summary of the 2023 Newark Grand List and provided for your information:

<u>Property Type</u>	<u># of Parcels</u>	<u>Listed Value</u>
Residential	318	66,356,700
Mobile Homes	43	3,033,900
Seasonal / Camps	194	23,140,100
Utilities	2	1,928,900
Farms	3	1,036,900
Open land	135	9,379,800
TOTALS	695	104,876,300
Less exemptions *		(10,596,700)
Total Municipal Grand List		94,279,600

*Exemptions include: Current Use: \$10,052,400 Veterans: \$200,000,
Statutory: \$344,300

Town Residents are reminded to file
their HOMESTEAD DECLARATION (form HS122) by April 15, 2024.

For information or to file online, visit www.tax.vermont.gov

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Wilson VMPA, NEMRC Assessor

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

The Newark Planning Commission met regularly throughout 2023. We were pleased to welcome Sam Perron to the group. We regret the departure of Trish Turner, who was a tremendous asset to the group. Trish served with good humor, was a quick learner, and was a great resource for finding information and providing input.

Our current town plan expires at the end of 2024, and we intend to bring a draft plan for community input later in spring and have a final plan approved later in the year. In addition to meeting updated statutory requirements, the plan will address changes in community statistics (i.e. census data, school info, housing figures, etc.) and incorporate many small and large updates to the plan content. The vision for the Newark town plan- and the community itself- remains unchanged from the sentiments shared over the past two decades: a vibrant rural community, welcome to all, situated in the Northeast Kingdom's natural landscape.

Newark has faced some significant challenges in recent years: the covid pandemic, school consolidation, high tax rates, a growing affordability gap, and ever-increasing demands on our personal time. Our community is not unique in this respect but, as we enter this next planning cycle, we look forward to returning to a sense of normalcy and, hopefully, a renewed commitment to civic engagement. Our all-volunteer fire department, selectboard, planning commission, conservation commission, and building committee require public engagement. The planning commission welcomes your input and participation and encourages every member of the community to find ways to be involved. If you have considered joining a community group and have questions, feel free to reach out to any member of the planning commission: Kim Fried, Luke O'Brien, Sam Perron, Joe Seguin, and Mark Whitworth.

The Planning Commission generally meets at 6:30 PM on the third Thursday of each month (a time commitment of roughly 2-3 hours per month). Meeting agendas and minutes are available at the Town Office.

We look forward to a productive year in 2024.

NEWARK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

We thank the residents of Newark for your continued support as we continue to serve the Town of Newark with fire protection and emergency medical services. In 2023, our volunteers responded to 83 incidents in Newark and our mutual aid towns, including structure fires, alarm activations, motor vehicle accidents, and medical emergencies in conjunction with Lyndon Rescue. Our 2023 call volume is a 31% increase from 2022. We are dispatched to all fire

and medical emergencies in Newark and parts of Westmore that are more accessible from Newark.

Our appropriation request for this year is \$39,215, just under with our 2022 appropriation. However, we contend with the rising cost of most materials and supplies, as well as slight increases in the cost of dispatching from the Town of Saint Johnsbury, and our liability, property, automotive, and workers' compensation insurance policies. Saint Johnsbury Dispatch provides this vital service not only to Saint Johnsbury Police and Fire Departments but also to most Caledonia County fire and EMS agencies, including Newark, which share the cost of operating the dispatch center.

We continue to wait for our FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant funded Tanker truck which was awarded to us in 2021. Supply chain issues for vehicles have significantly delayed the delivery of this apparatus. We continue to check in with the apparatus dealer to determine when the Tanker will be delivered, hopefully in early 2024. This truck will replace our 1977 Maxim Tanker truck, which has various mechanical and safety issues. The new Tanker will save the Department and tax-payers significant maintenance costs. This 2024 E-One International Tanker will join our 2005 E-One International Engine and 1984 Chevrolet brush truck.

In September, FEMA notified us that we would receive another AFG grant to replace aging communications equipment. \$31,000 of federal funding was awarded to us, saving the Town 95% of the cost of this equipment. Part of our budget this year was used to meet the requirement that we fund at least 5% of the project. The funding will purchase new portable radios for our responders, mobile radios for our trucks, a base radio for our station, and headset systems for our Tanker and engine, improving communication in noisy emergency scenes.

This is in addition to another federally funded project through the Saint Johnsbury Dispatch Center to install a fire and EMS radio transmitter at the Newark fire station. Equipment is on order, and FCC licensing is in progress for that project, which will improve emergency communications not only for the town of Newark but for surrounding towns' fire and rescue services as well. This new dispatch transmitter will hopefully be installed alongside our grant-funded radios and the construction of our new Tanker truck, which will receive some of the new radio equipment. For additional needs, we are looking for grant opportunities, including replacing our aging brush truck and purchasing a standby generator for the fire station.

Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors continue to be available to Newark residents at no cost through the Fire Safe 802 program from the Vermont

Division of Fire Safety. Through this program, we can install new smoke and CO alarms in your home or business as well as provide fire safety inspections of your property. Inspections are strictly for property owner education and are not for code enforcement. We also participate in the KnoxBox program, which allows residents to purchase key boxes for their property that we can access in an emergency. These are great for those living alone with health issues, seasonal properties, and businesses.

We want to remind residents that burning anything besides yard waste and natural wood products is against Vermont law. Town ordinance requires a burn permit for any fire outside a container such as a wood furnace, stove, or fire pit. To request a burn permit or to check for a burn ban, please call us at 802-467-0003.

We continue to work with the Town on the project to replace or renovate the Town Highway Garage and Fire Station. The 2016 Newark Town Plan set 2018 as the goal to research and identify funding for renovations or replacements of town buildings. We currently house three vehicles in our two bays, which need to be longer to fit modern fire apparatus. The facility needs more space to store our equipment and vehicles efficiently. Working on the vehicles or maintaining equipment is challenging when there are less than 3 feet between each apparatus. This year, the Building Committee, including a Newark Fire member, worked on possible designs for the facility as well as cost estimates. The current facility, with narrow doors and short bays, would only accommodate our new Tanker with some modifications. In August 2023, a wider door was installed in one of our two truck bays to accommodate the wider width of this new truck. It should be noted, however, that not only is this truck wider, but longer than the existing tanker truck. While it is a much-needed replacement for an unsafe and outdated apparatus, it will only compound our space constraints in the current facility.

One of the biggest challenges we continue to face is our membership numbers and availability. We currently have 16 members on our all-volunteer roster. With busy life schedules and work, it's generous to assume that on any given day, about half of those individuals may be available for scheduled events, training, and meetings. If you consider the unpredictable nature of emergency calls, take that half and cut it in half again. That may leave four individuals able to respond to a fire or medical emergency. If two of those folks are out of town or at work, we may have even less available. Of our 16 members, all work various and sometimes multiple jobs out of town, three live out of state for different parts of the year, one is currently on a military deployment, and only four of 16 members are full-time Newark residents.

We greatly appreciate all of our members, but we also recognize that

volunteering in today's busy world is complicated. We are always looking for volunteers for firefighting, EMS, and assisting with fundraisers. No experience is necessary, and we offer training both within the Department, State Fire Academy classes, EMT certification classes, and regional training schools. In an emergency where we need additional assistance, our regional mutual aid departments are invaluable. But in return, we need to be prepared with trained members to respond to their requests for mutual aid.

If you want additional information about volunteering and serving the community with us or have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact us. This year, we are transitioning to a new donation platform that also allows us to send out occasional emailed newsletters for Department news and community events. If you would like to be included on this newsletter list, you can sign up at www.newarkvtfire.org/newsletter or email or call us directly.

Stay safe, and thank you again for your support.

Lilly Young, Chief



Newark Volunteer Fire Department
Lilly Young, Chief

1558 Newark Street, Newark, VT, 05871 (Fire Station)
2931 VT Route 5A, West Burke, VT, 05871
(Mailing/Shipping)
802-467-0003 (Phone) - 802-467-0010 (Fax) -
info@newarkvtfire.org - www.newarkvtfire.org



Newark Street School

Timothy Mulligan, Principal



Newark Street School models how a small rural school provides a pathway to exciting experiences, happiness, and lifelong learning. Community members work side-by-side as partners. We explore the world and serve our community through responsible actions. Plans are developed with environmental integrity, social justice, and economic prosperity in mind. This includes grant writing and community projects with the Vermont Rural Education Collaborative (VREC), Power Hour, Friday Exploratory Program, exploring and preserving Newark's cultural and natural heritage, and developing flexible pathways for student learning.

At a time when recruiting and retaining teachers and school staff has been most challenging, the Newark Street School has hired and maintained highly skilled professionals who maintain expectations for improving student outcomes and professional growth. The Newark faculty, the student body, and Friends of Newark Street School (FONSS) are the core of groups that lead to a sustaining and thriving school and community. The collaboration goes beyond the walls of the school. We have partnered with community members and organizations to provide a robust Friday Exploratory Learning Program, and a morning Power Hour that jumpstarts our bodies and brains with movement and positive energy. We have created



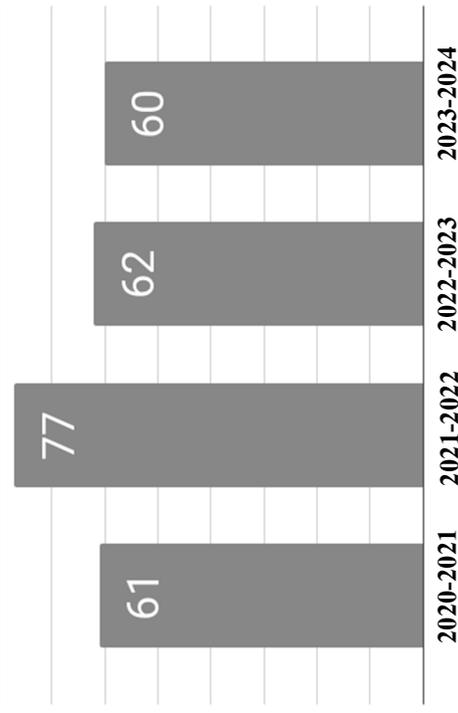
a positive culture that permeates the halls, classrooms, and grounds of our school. This year, we have boosted the KESD goal of 'all students are supported to be socially, emotionally, and physically healthy' by ensuring the education of the Vermont Health Education Standards and threading health and wellness throughout all we do.

We have ongoing initiatives to provide environmental integrity, social justice, and economic prosperity within our community. Specifically, we:

1. Support students, families, and caretakers by optimizing access to school and community based health resources.
2. Prioritize transferable skills and continue to create authentic, meaningful, integrated learning experiences by thinking outside the box of traditional education practices.
3. Maintain high quality staff through creative and efficient scheduling and prioritizing workplace health and wellness.
4. Explore ways to become more environmentally and economically sustainable and continue the community and global effort to decarbonize our energy grid.
5. Localize school food sources, increase the health quality of meals, reduce food waste.

Grades: K-8
 Classroom Teachers : 6.3
 Special Educators: 1
 Support Staff: 5
 # Students PreK-8: 60

Enrollment Trends (As of 10/1/2023)



Kingdom East School Board Report

Kingdom East School District Community,

We greatly appreciate your continued support of all of our KESD schools! We exist to provide rigorous and engaging learning across a variety of environments to ensure the academic and social-emotional growth of ALL KESD students. In addition, we continue to focus on attracting and retaining high-quality staff to contribute to the growth of our students, and the vibrancy of our schools and communities. The KESD School Board is thankful for the heroic efforts of staff, parents and students to make our schools caring places that foster and support the character development and strong social and emotional health of our students.

Specifically, the KESD School Board would like to express our gratitude to Lyndon Town School Principal Amy Gale and Lunenburg School Principal Cheryl McVetty for their amazing contributions to their schools, communities and our district, as they plan for their upcoming retirements. With gratitude and appreciation, we wish Amy and Cheryl the very best in their well-deserved retirement!

Here are a few highlighted successes and continuous work with KESD's Strategic Priorities:

Quality & Robust Academics

- *Art, music, technology, and world language in all schools*
- *iReady data system to track student progress in literacy and math*

Character Development & Social-Emotional Health

• *Anti-bullying, Experiential, Athletics, Afterschool & Summer programs in all schools*
Community Connections

- *Ongoing strong partnerships with Kingdom Trails, Village Sports Shop, Burke Mountain, Lyndon Outing Club and Vermont Rural Education Collaborative (VREC) to provide healthy, engaging learning opportunities for all students*

Effective & Efficient Management of Resources

- *Ad Hoc Facilities committee working on comprehensive facilities plan across all schools*
- *Staff Recruitment and Retention Team working on attracting and retaining high-quality staff*

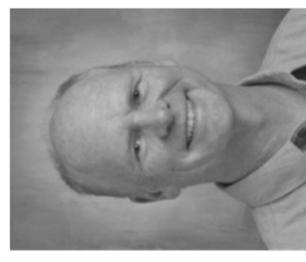
This report highlights our district programs, individual schools, and all of the details of the Board's proposed FY25 budget of **\$49,201,455**. Act 127, new legislation created to better support rural districts like KESD, provides an opportunity for the district to receive greater financial support from the Vermont State Education Fund. While budget development has been challenging due to a new method of counting students under Act 127, coupled with decreasing Common Level of Appraisals (CLAs), the proposed budget also offers an opportunity to continue to support students with the resources needed to meet our strategic priority of providing robust academics for ALL students.

Every policy, decision, and strategy considers our students, staff, and community following the KESD mission statement that guides our efforts:

"In partnership with the community, staff, and students, the Kingdom East School District is committed to providing a collaborative and equitable environment of educational excellence through rigorous learning experiences that develop individual and diverse talents and abilities of all our students to prepare them for successful lives as contributing, responsible citizens."



Cynthia Stuart
School Board Chair



Sean McMannon
Superintendent of Schools

On behalf of our entire team of board members, we thank you for your commitment to the Kingdom East School District and we look forward to serving the needs of our students and community now and into the future.

WARNING

NEWARK ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – 2024

The legal voters of the Town of Newark are hereby warned and notified to meet in the Newark Street School at 10:00 a.m. in said Town on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 to transact the following business from the floor:

- Article 1. To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year.
- Article 2. To elect the following Town Officers as required by law:
 - a. Selectboard member for the term of 3 years
 - b. Auditor for the term of 3 years
 - c. Constable #1 for the term of 1 year
- Article 3. Shall the voters authorize the elimination of the office of Trustee of Public Funds and replace it with a financial professional should the need arise.
- Article 4. If Article 3 does not pass: To elect a Trustee of Public Funds for the term of one year.
- Article 5. Shall the voters continue to elect a Constable #2 for the term of 1 year.
- Article 6. If Article 5 passes: To elect a Constable # 2.
- Article 7. Shall the voters authorize all taxes to be paid to the Treasurer, as provided by law, with such taxes to be due on or before October 15, 2024.
- Article 8. Shall the voters approve the total proposed General Fund Operating Budget of \$204,459.57.
- Article 9. Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to use up to \$50,000 of unspent General Fund surpluses, as needed, to help offset the Municipal Tax Rate.
- Article 10. Shall the voters approve the total proposed Highway Fund Operating Budget of \$436,916.00.
- Article 11. Shall the voters approve the proposed appropriation of \$162,911.38 to the Reserve Funds.
- Article 12. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$39,215.00 to the Newark Volunteer Fire Department.

WARNING

NEWARK ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – 2024

Article 13. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$27,918.29 to the Lyndon Rescue, Inc.

Article 14. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$8,908.00 for the following Social Services requests:

\$ 500.00	Caledonia Home Health
\$ 300.00	VT Center for Independent Living
\$ 300.00	Council on Aging
\$ 200.00	Rural Community Transport
\$ 1,162.00	Northeast Kingdom Human Services
\$ 300.00	Burke Senior Meal Site
\$ 400.00	Darling Inn Meal Site
\$ 1200.00	Cobleigh Library
\$ 581.00	Fairbanks Museum
\$ 500.00	Catamount Arts
\$ 565.00	NVDA
\$ 500.00	NorthWoods Stewardship Center
\$ 250.00	American Red Cross
\$ 100.00	Rural Fire Protection
\$ 300.00	Umbrella
\$ 100.00	Northeast Kingdom Learning Services
\$ 100.00	Northeast Kingdom Youth Services
\$ 200.00	Lyndonville Youth Baseball/Softball
\$ 200.00	Powers Park/VIS
\$ 50.00	Green Up Vermont
\$ 500.00	H.O.P.E.
\$ 250.00	Community Restorative Justice Center
\$ 100.00	SymphonyKids
\$ 250.00	Vermont Family Network

Dated this 24th day of January, 2024;

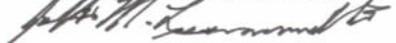
Mark Ellingwood, Selectboard Chair



Nancy McDermott, Selectboard



John Lewandowski, Selectboard



Town of Newark

BUDGET SUMMARY

Town Mtg. 3/05/24

	PROPOSED BUDGET	Less Income (Estimated)	Less Prior Year Fund Balance	2024 Taxes To Raise (to meet budget)
GENERAL FUND: Operating	204,459.57	102,507.54	0.00	101,952.03
HIGHWAY FUND: Operating	436,916.00	50,000.00	74,641.89	312,274.11
RESERVES FUND:				
Municipal Equipment Fund	2,829.80		2,829.80	0.00
Restoration of Records	8,992.49		8,992.49	0.00
Municipal Building Fund	6,594.31		6,594.31	0.00
Lister Reappraisal Fund	62,063.60		55,563.60	6,500.00
Cemetery Maint Fund	9,216.55		7,816.55	1,400.00
Commemorative Fund	1,245.40		1,245.40	0.00
Highway Paving Fund	65,407.28		50,407.28	15,000.00
Highway Equipment Fund	284,470.47		223,080.43	61,390.04
Highway Building Fund	159,037.13		134,037.13	25,000.00
Highway Gravel Fund	69,140.66		15,519.32	53,621.34
xxxx	0.00		0.00	0.00
	668,997.69	0.00	506,086.31	162,911.38
COMMUNITY APPROP:	76,041.29	0.00	0.00	76,041.29
TOTALS:	1,386,414.55	152,507.54	580,728.20	\$653,178.81

GENERAL FUND REVENUE	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 PROPOSED BUDGET
Tax Appropriation-General Fund	116,522.42	60,354.60	-
State-HS Late Filing Fees	-	-	-
Interest for FY23 Taxes	-	121.12	-
Penalty for FY23 Taxes	4,000.00	3,807.76	4,000.00
Overpays-Credits to Next Yr	-	373.76	-
Tax Revenues for 2023 Taxes:	120,522.42	64,657.24	4,000.00
Prior Year Delinquent Principal	-	66,046.08	-
Prior Year Delinquent Interest	2,500.00	3,916.58	2,500.00
Prior Year Delinquent Penalty	3,500.00	5,283.69	3,500.00
Tax Revenues for Prior Yrs:	6,000.00	75,246.35	6,000.00
Redeemed Property Revenue	-	-	-
Tax Sale Revenue:	-	-	-
Office Fees	7,500.00	6,670.75	7,000.00
Certified Copy Fees	-	210.00	-
Dog License Fees	1,200.00	1,326.00	1,200.00
Marriage License Fees	-	120.00	-
Land Posting Fees	-	45.00	-
Green Mtn Pass Fees	-	6.00	-
Weight Permit Fees	-	210.00	-
Development Permit Fees	-	100.00	-
Ticket Violation Fee	-	-	-
Liquor License Fees	-	115.00	-
Town Fees Revenue:	8,700.00	8,802.75	8,200.00
Prior Year: State Education Reimb.	-	-	-
Prior Year: Fund Balance Used	-	-	-
Refund Workers Comp	-	-	-
Bank Interest	1,000.00	1,123.07	1,000.00
Reimbursements-Mowing	175.00	-	-
Misc. Revenue:	1,175.00	1,123.07	1,000.00
Current Use (Hold Harmless)	65,800.00	67,455.00	70,000.00
PILOT-Land	4,659.54	4,659.54	4,659.54
PILOT-Buildings	7,800.00	8,648.00	8,648.00
Land Use Change Tax	-	4,289.50	-
Civil Fines	-	-	-
Rev-State Grant	-	-	-
State Revenue:	78,259.54	85,052.04	83,307.54
TOTAL REVENUES:	214,656.96	234,881.45	102,507.54

GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	2023	2023	2024
	Budget	Actual	PROPOSED BUDGET
Wages-Town Clerk/Treasurer	31,113.00	29,345.30	32,670.00
Overtime	1,767.23	2,003.78	2,735.54
Wages-Assistants	14,495.00	14,529.37	15,220.00
Wages-Bookkeeper	0.00	0.00	0.00
Wages-Ballot Clerks	238.00	118.62	207.00
FICA/Medi	3,643.00	3,518.77	3,889.00
Health	33,537.00	33,924.17	38,191.00
Dental	2,247.00	1,848.99	2,247.00
Retirement	2,062.00	2,060.62	2,247.00
Training & Support	250.00	285.20	250.00
Postage	1,100.00	1,096.59	1,100.00
Mileage Reimb.	650.00	838.14	850.00
Membership-VMCTA	35.00	35.00	35.00
Supplies-TC	2,000.00	1,256.29	1,500.00
Town Clerk's Office:	93,137.23	90,860.84	101,141.54
Wages-Selectboard	4,500.00	4,500.00	5,100.00
Wages-Consultants	0.00	0.00	0.00
FICA/Medi	345.00	344.25	391.00
Training & Support	300.00	0.00	0.00
Postage/Printing Town Meeting	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mileage Reimb.	0.00	0.00	0.00
Supplies-SB	150.00	149.90	150.00
Selectboard:	5,295.00	4,994.15	5,641.00
Wages-Auditors	396.00	369.05	411.00
FICA/Medi	31.00	28.20	32.00
Training & Support	150.00	0.00	150.00
Mileage Reimb.	100.00	0.00	100.00
Town Auditors:	677.00	397.25	693.00
Contracted Services-Assessor	14,000.00	11,315.60	12,500.00
Mapping	1,775.00	1,775.00	0.00
APEX Annual Contract	235.00	235.00	235.00
Marshall Swift Contract	260.00	263.44	273.98
Postage	200.00	30.87	100.00
Supplies	200.00	0.00	50.00
Assessors:	16,670.00	13,619.91	13,158.98

GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	2023	2023	2024
	Budget	Actual	PROPOSED BUDGET
Wages-Constable	250.00	0.00	250.00
Wages-Animal Control Officer	150.00	0.00	150.00
Wages-Health Officer	75.00	0.00	75.00
FICA/Medi	37.00	0.00	37.00
Contract Services-Sheriff	6,000.00	3,880.50	4,500.00
Mileage Reimbursement	150.00	0.00	150.00
Dog Boarding/Adopt Fee	150.00	0.00	150.00
Town Services:	6,812.00	3,880.50	5,312.00
Wages-Custodial	1,300.00	1,343.75	1,300.00
FICA/Medi	100.00	102.88	100.00
Mowing	3,200.00	3,725.00	3,725.00
Maintenance/Reno	2,500.00	1,875.14	1,000.00
Telephone/Internet	2,520.00	2,473.54	2,520.00
Electricity	2,000.00	1,682.30	2,000.00
Municipal Building Expenses:	11,620.00	11,202.61	10,645.00
Services-EZ Trash	7,500.00	7,140.00	7,500.00
NEKWMD-Compost Fee	520.00	350.00	520.00
NEKWMD-Recycle Pickup Fee	2,548.00	2,009.00	2,548.00
NEKWMD-Tire Fee	150.00	156.00	150.00
NEKWMD-per capita assess	620.00	619.04	680.00
Maintenance/Reno	2,300.00	2,280.00	2,500.00
Supplies/Equipment	50.00	127.39	50.00
Heating-Propane	350.00	245.07	300.00
Transfer Station:	14,038.00	12,926.50	14,248.00
Insurance-P&C / WC	19,345.00	20,106.25	22,100.00
Unemployment	353.00	352.00	368.00
Insurance Expense:	19,698.00	20,458.25	22,468.00
Tax Abatements	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tax Sale Purchase	0.00	0.00	0.00
Prior Year: State Education Owed	0.00	50,599.06	0.00
Miscellaneous Tax Expenses:	0.00	50,599.06	0.00

GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	2023	2023	2024
	Budget	Actual	PROPOSED BUDGET
Legal Expenses	2,000.00	460.00	2,000.00
NEMRC Annual Support / License	7,090.00	6,270.20	7,375.00
NEMRC Annual Cloud Services	260.00	260.40	270.82
Computer Support	400.00	639.13	400.00
Advertising	400.00	256.50	400.00
Print/Postage-Town Reports	935.00	759.21	850.00
Print/Postage-Town Plan	655.00	0.00	3,000.00
State Fee-Dog	625.00	650.00	625.00
State Fee-Marriage	100.00	100.00	100.00
State Fee-Roads	1,350.00	1,765.00	2,000.00
Membership-VLCT	1,866.00	1,866.00	1,924.00
Membership-Burke C of C	110.00	110.00	110.00
Dog Tags	100.00	90.90	100.00
Software	100.00	0.00	100.00
Interest Expense-Line of Credit	200.00	0.00	0.00
County Tax	10,548.73	8,444.00	11,897.23
Conservation Comm Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00
Misc. Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00
General Expenses:	26,739.73	21,671.34	31,152.05
Transfers Out-Deficit	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transfers Out-Grant Match	20,000.00	11,673.71	0.00
Transfer of General Funds:	20,000.00	11,673.71	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES:	214,686.96	242,284.12	204,459.57

Total Actual Revenues: \$ 234,881.45
Total Actual Expenditures: \$ (242,284.12)
Current Year Fund Balance: \$ (7,402.67)

Prior Year Fund Balance: \$ 185,734.02
Transfer of Fund Balance out to Reserves: \$ -

Total General Fund Balance: \$ 178,331.35

	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 PROPOSED BUDGET
HIGHWAY FUND REVENUE			
Tax Appropriation-HW Operating	333,983.33	333,983.33	-
State of VT-HW Aid Class 2 & 3	80,000.00	122,147.10	40,000.00
HW Supplmt State Aid	-	-	
Rev-State Grant	-	13,435.51	10,000.00
Fund Balance Prior Year	17,544.67	-	-
Refunds-Insurance Claims	-	-	-
Misc. Adjs/Refunds/Donations	-	-	-
TOTAL REVENUES:	431,528.00	469,565.94	50,000.00
HIGHWAY FUND EXPENSES			
Wages-Highway	103,190.00	98,472.08	108,349.00
Wages-Part Time	16,633.00	22,230.05	16,631.00
Overtime	21,531.00	18,554.31	22,608.00
FICA/Medi	10,814.00	10,653.07	11,291.00
Health	47,458.00	48,149.48	46,834.00
Dental	3,495.00	2,882.88	3,495.00
Retirement	8,263.00	7,934.78	9,004.00
Payroll & Benefits:	211,384.00	208,876.65	218,212.00
Training & Support	250.00	30.00	250.00
Maintenance/Reno	2,000.00	2,176.99	2,000.00
Telephone/Internet	2,220.00	2,323.68	2,400.00
Mileage Reimb.	850.00	945.39	900.00
Shop Supplies	1,100.00	401.67	500.00
Clothing	800.00	772.70	1,600.00
Electricity	2,300.00	2,223.49	2,300.00
Heating-Propane	7,000.00	5,917.83	7,000.00
Tools/Small Equipment	1,000.00	267.01	750.00
Radios	0.00	0.00	0.00
Town Garage:	17,520.00	15,058.76	17,700.00
Mowing Services	11,700.00	8,300.00	12,000.00
Engineering Services	5,000.00	8,121.95	0.00
R.O.W. Maintenance	10,000.00	4,510.00	15,000.00
Class 4 Maintenance	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
Pavement Marking	500.00	0.00	500.00
Equipment / Rental	0.00	0.00	0.00
Signage	4,000.00	4,522.95	2,000.00
Road Services:	33,200.00	25,454.90	31,500.00
Guardrail Services	5,000.00	8,091.00	0.00
Guardrails	2,500.00	0.00	0.00
Culvert/Ditching Services	5,000.00	8,761.00	10,000.00
Culverts & Materials	6,000.00	5,823.54	7,500.00
Culverts/Guardrails:	18,500.00	22,675.54	17,500.00

HIGHWAY FUND EXPENSES	2023	2023	2024
	Budget	Actual	PROPOSED BUDGET
Road Materials	7,000.00	7,111.97	9,000.00
Calcium Chloride	22,500.00	36,437.75	25,000.00
Erosion Materials	5,000.00	5,774.00	7,500.00
Road Materials:	34,500.00	49,323.72	41,500.00
Hauling/Handling Services	0.00	0.00	0.00
StaMatt	0.00	0.00	0.00
StaMatt:	0.00	0.00	0.00
Storage Rental	1,250.00	1,250.00	1,250.00
Hauling/Handling Services	13,500.00	0.00	5,830.00
Sand	14,000.00	9,338.50	15,750.00
Salt	5,824.00	2,051.05	5,824.00
Sand:	34,574.00	12,639.55	28,654.00
General Maint/Parts/Supplies	3,500.00	3,907.44	3,500.00
Storage Rental	500.00	500.00	500.00
Fuel-Diesel / Gas	45,000.00	41,320.89	39,500.00
Equip Maintenance-General:	49,000.00	45,728.33	43,500.00
Backhoe-2019 Caterpillar	2,000.00	10,512.93	2,000.00
Loader-2008 Volvo	5,000.00	503.79	5,000.00
Grader-2000 Caterpillar	10,000.00	3,647.25	15,000.00
Dump Truck-2013 Western Star	2,500.00	1,464.28	0.00
Dump Truck-2018 Western Star	5,000.00	3,472.52	8,000.00
Ton Truck-2018 Chevy	2,000.00	362.43	2,000.00
Dump Truck-2024 Western Star	0.00	8,041.52	3,000.00
Trailer Equipment	2,500.00	4,443.54	1,000.00
Attachments: Plows / Wings	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Chainsaws	100.00	102.75	100.00
Sand Screen	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chipper	2,500.00	101.36	1,000.00
Hydroseeder	250.00	58.90	250.00
Equip Maintenance-Detail:	32,850.00	32,711.27	38,350.00
TOTAL EXPENSES:	431,528.00	412,468.72	436,916.00

Total Actual Revenues:	\$	469,565.94
Total Actual Expenditures:	\$	(412,468.72)
Current Year Fund Balance:	\$	57,097.22
Prior Year Fund Balance:	\$	17,544.67
Transfer of Fund Balance out:	\$	-
Total Highway Fund Balance:	\$	74,641.89

Municipal Equipment Fund*2024 Appropriation*

Prior Year Balance:	2,328.55	
Appropriation-FY23	500.00	
Income: Interest	1.25	
Expenses:	0.00	
Fund Balance FY23	2,829.80	0.00

Restoration of Records

Prior Year Balance:	7,611.26	
Appropriation-FY23	500.00	
Income: Restoration Fees	1,656.00	
Income: Interest	4.10	
Expenses: Microfilming	-7.50	
Expenses: Supplies/Equipment	-771.37	
Fund Balance FY23	8,992.49	0.00

Municipal Building Fund

Prior Year Balance:	17,708.84	
Appropriation-FY23	1,000.00	
Income: Interest	3.47	
Exp: Building Expense	-12,118.00	
Fund Balance FY23	6,594.31	0.00

Lister Reappraisal Fund

Prior Year Balance:	43,785.78	
Appropriation-FY23	5,000.00	
Income: State of VT-Reapp/Equal	6,754.50	
Income: Interest	23.32	
Expenses:	0.00	
Fund Balance FY23	55,563.60	6,500.00

Cemetery Maintenance Fund

Prior Year Balance:	8,255.02	
Appropriation-FY23	1,000.00	
Income: Interest	4.15	
Income: Marker Fee/Sale of Lots	0.00	
Exp: Sexton Wages/FICA/Medi	-1,345.63	
Expenses: Flags/Markers/Supplies	-96.99	
Fund Balance FY23	7,816.55	1,400.00

Commemorative Fund

Prior Year Balance:	1,335.79	
Income: Sale of Books/Maps	70.00	
Income: Donations	0.00	
Income: Interest	0.64	
Expenses: Grounds Care	-157.43	
Expenses: Sales Tax	-3.60	
Fund Balance FY23	1,245.40	0.00

Highway Paving Fund*2024 Appropriation*

Prior Year Balance:	40,383.48	
Appropriation-FY23	10,000.00	
Income: State of VT	0.00	
Income: Interest	23.80	
Income: Proceeds from Loan	0.00	
Income: Rev State-HW Grant	0.00	
Exp: Loan Int & Payment	0.00	
Expenses: Paving	0.00	
Fund Balance FY23	50,407.28	15,000.00

Highway Equipment Fund

Prior Year Balance:	317,364.47	
Appropriation-FY23	111,390.06	
Transferred from General Fund	0.00	
Income: Interest	119.96	
Income: Bank Loans	0.00	
Exp: Grader Repairs	0.00	
Exp: 2018 WS DumpTrk Princ/Int	-22,472.06	
Exp: 2024 Western Star Purchase	-183,322.00	
Fund Balance FY23	223,080.43	61,390.04

Highway Building Fund

Prior Year Balance:	120,786.09	
Appropriation-FY23	25,000.00	
Transferred from General Fund	0.00	
Income: Interest	60.13	
Expenses: Contracted Services	-11,809.09	
Expenses: Advertising	0.00	
Fund Balance FY23	134,037.13	25,000.00

Highway Gravel Fund

Prior Year Balance:	5,398.61	
Appropriation-FY23	55,241.00	
Income: Interest	4.71	
Expenses: Gravel	-33,995.00	
Expenses: Handle/Haul/Process	-11,130.00	
Fund Balance FY23	15,519.32	53,621.34

Reserves Fund Summary:

Prior Year Balances:	564,957.89
Total Appropriations FY23	209,631.06
Total Income	8,726.03
Total Expenses	-277,228.67
Fund Balances FY23	506,086.31

Reserves Fund Appropriations FY24:	\$162,911.38
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COMMUNITY APPROPRIATIONS	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 PROPOSED BUDGET
<u>Article 9:</u>			
Newark Volunteer Fire Dept.	39,243.00	39,243.00	39,215.00
<u>Article 10:</u>			
Lyndon Rescue Squad	26,849.56	26,849.56	27,918.29
<u>Article 11:</u>			
Caledonia Home Health	500.00	500.00	500.00
VT Ctr for Independent Living	300.00	300.00	300.00
Council on Aging	300.00	300.00	300.00
Rural Community Transport	200.00	200.00	200.00
NEK Human Services	1,162.00	1,162.00	1,162.00
Burke Senior Meal Site	300.00	300.00	300.00
Darling Inn Sr Meal Site	400.00	400.00	400.00
Cobleigh Library	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
Fairbanks Museum	581.00	581.00	581.00
Catamount Arts	500.00	500.00	500.00
NVDA	565.00	565.00	565.00
Northwoods Stewardship	500.00	500.00	500.00
Amercian Red Cross	250.00	250.00	250.00
Rural Fire Protection	100.00	100.00	100.00
Umbrella	300.00	300.00	300.00
NEK Learning Services	100.00	100.00	100.00
NEK Youth Services	100.00	100.00	100.00
L'ville Youth Baseball/Softball	200.00	200.00	200.00
Powers Park/VIS	200.00	200.00	200.00
Green Up Vermont	50.00	50.00	50.00
H.O.P.E.	500.00	500.00	500.00
Comm. Restorative Justice Ctr	250.00	250.00	250.00
SymphonyKids	100.00	100.00	100.00
Vermont Family Network	250.00	250.00	250.00
	8,908.00	8,908.00	8,908.00
TOTAL Community Appropriations:	75,000.56	75,000.56	76,041.29

NEWARK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET



	2023 Budget	Spent	2024 BUDGET
Tanker (51)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Engine (52)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Fuel	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 947.17	\$ 1,000.00
Building Maintenance	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 766.75	\$ 1,000.00
Truck Insurance	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,456.00	\$ 7,500.00
Workers Comp Insurance	\$ 1,293.00	\$ 1,293.00	\$ 1,293.00
Equipment Repair	\$ 350.00	\$ 23.26	\$ 350.00
New Equipment	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 17,139.76	\$ 10,000.00
Radio Repairs	\$ 100.00	\$ 4,119.71	\$ 100.00
Training	\$ 800.00	\$ 895.00	\$ 800.00
Dispatching	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 4,888.00	\$ 5,672.00
EMS Training	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 440.00	\$ 2,500.00
EMS Supplies	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,119.71	\$ 5,000.00
Vehicle Maintenance	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,670.41	\$ 4,000.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 39,243.00	\$ 44,758.77	\$ 39,215.00

Town of Newark
FINAL 2023 BUDGET & TAX CALCULATION

	Final Approved Budget	Less Estimated Income	Less Used GenFund Balance	Less Used Prior Year Balances	Amount Needed from Taxes	Tax Rate by Fund
General Fund \$	214,686.96	\$ (98,134.54)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 116,552.42	\$ 0.1235
Highway Fund \$	431,528.00	\$ (80,000.00)	\$ -	\$ (17,544.67)	\$ 333,983.33	\$ 0.3538
Reserves Fund \$	774,588.95	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (564,957.89)	\$ 209,631.06	\$ 0.2220
Comm. Approp. \$	75,000.56	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,000.56	\$ 0.0794
\$ 1,495,804.47	\$ (178,134.54)	\$ -	\$ (582,502.56)	\$ 735,167.37	\$ 944,156.00	0.7787

Municipal Grand List (original As Billed): \$ 944,156.00
Municipal Tax Rate (as shown on tax bills): **\$ 0.7787**

TAX RATE HISTORY

	Town		State Education		Municipal Grand List Final Billed
	Municipal Rate	Local Agreement	Homestead	Non-Homestead	
2023	\$0.7787	\$0.0023	\$1.4055	\$1.5487	\$944,156
2022	\$0.6851	\$0.0024	\$1.4339	\$1.5521	\$935,181
2021	\$0.6720	\$0.0028	\$1.4126	\$1.5976	\$917,428
2020	\$0.6792	\$0.0032	\$1.3613	\$1.5891	\$910,183
2019	\$0.6501	\$0.0031	\$1.3669	\$1.4842	\$947,101

STATEMENT OF TAXES - 2023

<u>Taxes Originally Calculated:</u>	<u>Tax Rate</u>	<u>Grand List</u>	<u>= Amount to Raise</u>
Municipal Tax Rate	\$0.7787	\$944,156.00	\$ 735,214.68
Veterans Exemption	\$0.0023	\$944,156.00	\$ 2,171.60
Education Taxes - Homestead	\$1.4055	\$358,033.00	\$ 503,637.03
Education Taxes - Non Residential	\$1.5487	\$586,123.00	\$ 907,264.13
Total Original Taxes Billed in Principal:			\$ 2,148,287.44

Net Adjustments to Original Billings:

Late HS Declarations, Assessments, Current Use..... \$ (4,178.67)

Late Homestead Declarations:

Town's Homestead Late Filing Fee..... \$ 527.63

Less State Payments:

Property Tax Adjustment Claims Paid by State of VT..... \$ (171,442.65)

FINAL TAXES DUE FROM TAXPAYERS IN CASH: \$ 1,973,193.75

RECEIVED in Cash from Taxpayers:

Current Year Cash Deposited..... \$ (1,924,891.34)

Total Credits/Adjustments for FY23 Taxes..... \$ -

TOTAL TAXPAYER REVENUE RECEIVED: \$ (1,924,891.34)

Total Abated Taxes: \$ -

TOTAL Remaining to Collect in Delinquent Taxes - FY23: \$ 48,302.41

Delinquent Principal Taxes of Prior Years:

Prior Yr Delinquent Principal..... \$ -

Abatements for Prior Year Taxes \$ -

TOTAL DELINQUENT TAXES in Principal - All Years: \$ 48,302.41

TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT
January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023

MUNICIPAL MAIN CHECKING ACCOUNT:

Treasurer's Beginning Balance on January 1, 2023: \$ 350,204.45

Property Taxes, Interest, Penalties, Late Fees, State municipal pymts:

Current Year	\$ 1,936,408.14
Prior Year Delinquent	\$ 75,246.35
Miscellaneous Receipts	\$ 245,487.31
Interfund Transfers from Reserves/Restricted	\$ 277,228.67
Grant Revenue	\$ 141,455.25
Line of Credit	\$ 103,000.00
Bank Interest Income	<u>\$ 1,123.07</u>

Total Receipts..... \$ 2,779,948.79

Accounts Payable	\$ (1,110,254.25)
Net Payroll	\$ (154,337.03)
School Taxes Paid to Kingdom East School Dist.	\$ (1,264,129.25)
Education Taxes paid to State Treasury	\$ -
Interfund Transfers to Reserves/Restricted	<u>\$ (218,111.56)</u>

Total Selectmens Orders..... \$ (2,746,832.09)

Treasurer's Ending Balance on December 31, 2023: \$ 383,321.15

Bank Reconciliation:

Bank Statement Balance 12/31/23:	\$ 436,711.71
Less Outstanding Checks:	\$ (53,490.56)
Plus Outstanding Deposits:	\$ 100.00
Reconciled Cash Balance:	<u>\$ 383,321.15</u>

Cash by Fund:

Cash held by General Fund:	\$ 178,331.35
Cash held by ARPA Fund:	\$ 126,347.91
Cash held by VT-MERP Grant Fund:	\$ 4,000.00
Cash held by Highway Fund:	\$ 74,641.89
Reconciled Cash Balance:	<u>\$ 383,321.15</u>

Education Tax Fund

*This fund represents Ed Tax Newark was invoiced during Newark's FY23

Paid to Kingdom East School District.....	\$	1,264,129.25
Paid to Vermont State Treasury.....	\$	-

Total Education Tax paid in FY23..... **\$ 1,264,129.25**

ARPA Fund

Prior Year Balance.....	\$	146,925.76
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Expenses:

Highway Equipment	\$	(9,300.00)
Highway Dept. Sand Screen	\$	(3,867.24)
Pavillion Repair	\$	(3,811.62)
Town Office Equipment	\$	(2,667.19)
Town Office Maintenance	\$	(931.80)

FY23 Fund Balance..... **\$ 126,347.91**

Highway Structures Grant

Replaced bridge on Bald Hill Pond Road

Revenue	Actual
State Grant	\$ 105,294.02
Town Match	\$ 11,673.71
Proceeds from Loan	\$ 103,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 219,967.73

Expenditures

Wages-Grant	\$ 785.41
FICA/Medi	\$ 60.08
Contracted Services	\$ 114,900.00
Contingency	\$ 200.00
Loan Payment	\$ 103,000.00
Interest Line of Credit	\$ 1,022.24
	<hr/>
	\$ 219,967.73
Fund Balance	\$ -

Highway Vermont Better Roads Grant

Replaced Schoolhouse Road culvert

Revenue	Actual
State Grant	\$ 19,661.23
Town Match	\$ -
	<hr/>
	\$ 19,661.23

Expenditures

Wages-Highway	\$ 2,126.71
FICA/MEDI	\$ 162.70
Contract Services	\$ 5,272.69
Gravel/Sta-Mat	\$ 6,475.00
Erosion Control	\$ 1,095.20
Culverts & Materials	\$ 3,593.42
	<hr/>
	\$ 18,725.72
Transferred to HW Fund	\$ 935.51

MERP Grant

Received to assist in funding the facilitation of community meetings and communication about municipal energy resilience

Revenue	State Grant	\$ 4,000.00
	Fund Balance	\$ 4,000.00

Highway MRGP Grant

Received to offset HW Fund costs associated with maintaining hydrologically connected road segments to comply with state road standards

State Grant-Transferred to HW Fund	\$ 12,500.00
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NOTES PAYABLE ON EQUIPMENT

2018 Western Star Dump Truck:

Purchased 2/01/18, with Note Payable to Community National Bank for \$142,222
 with a 7-year note @ 2.75% interest, payable each November 15, matures 11/15/2024

	<u>Paid to Date</u>			<u>Remaining Balance to Pay</u>		
	Principal	Interest	TOTAL	Principal	Interest	TOTAL
2018	19,471.77	3,000.29	22,472.06	-	-	-
2019	19,106.70	3,365.36	22,472.06	-	-	-
2020	19,625.18	2,846.88	22,472.06	-	-	-
2021	20,169.74	2,302.32	22,472.06	-	-	-
2022	20,726.86	1,745.20	22,472.06	-	-	-
2023	21,298.70	1,173.36	22,472.06	-	-	-
2024	-	-	-	21,847.73	624.31	22,472.04
	\$ 120,398.95	\$ 14,433.41	\$ 134,832.36	\$ 21,847.73	\$ 624.31	\$ 22,472.04

INVENTORY OF TOWN PROPERTY

Buildings and Land:

Town Clerks office, Garage, Old Town Hall, and Transfer Station on 14.21 acres:	\$ 569,900
Center Pond: 117.36 acres	486,800
Center Pond: .06 acre	59,000
Pleasant View Cemetery	1,600
Packer Cemetery	1,600

Equipment, Tools, Furniture:

Backhoe- 2019 Caterpillar	100,000	Chainsaws	1,000
Grader-2000 Caterpillar	67,500	Digger	500
Loader-2008 Volvo	55,000	Pressure Washer	500
*Dump Truck-'13 Western Star	47,000	Radios	3,500
Dump Truck-'18 Western Star	135,000	Rake	4,000
1 Ton Truck-'18 Chevy	35,000	Road Signs	15,000
Trailer-'18	2,000	Sand Screen	12,000
Trailer-'21	4,700	Hydroseeder	5,000
Wings	6,000	Leafblower	9,300
Plows	12,000	Small Tools	12,000
Chains	5,000	Snow Fence	1,000
Chipper	7,500	Office Equip.	9,000
Dump Truck-'24 Western Star	228,300	Office Copier	500

Adjustments and Dispositions to Town Property Inventory:

1. *Dump Truck-'13 Western Star was traded in June 2023

Newark Annual Town Meeting
March 7, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 am by John Lewandowski.

Article 1. To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year.

John Lewandowski, Selectboard Chair, entertained nominations for moderator. Nancy McDermott nominated Ben Bangs, Nancy Fried seconded. Sue Winsor moved that nominations cease, Lila Leonard seconded, debate ended, assembly voted to end debate. On a voice vote the ayes had it. The clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for Ben Bangs for moderator.

Ben Bangs thanked the assembly. He announced that the Selectboard has provided masks for anyone who might want one. He asked that anyone addressing the assembly state their name. Ben reviewed Roberts Rules of Order and State Law governing Town Meeting. Ben requested that if there is no objection that they make an adjustment to Roberts Rules and reduce the individual's speaking time to five minutes, there were no objections. All who were not registered voters of the town were instructed to please raise their hands; three non-registered individuals were present. Ben announced there is an Australian Ballot vote taking place from 10:00-7:00 for the Kingdom East Unified School District. He reminded everyone that there cannot be any candidate discussion or campaigning in the building today, given that it is the Polling Place. He announced that the meeting is being recorded.

Article 2. Election of the following Town Officers as required by law:

- a. The Moderator entertained nominations to elect a Town Clerk/Treasurer for the term of 2 years
Joan Bicknell nominated Amber Holden, Mark Whitworth seconded. Lisa Grout moved nominations cease, Lila Leonard seconded, nominations ended, assembly voted to end nominations. On a voice vote, the ayes had it. Under unanimous consent the clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for Amber Holden for Town Clerk/Treasurer.
Jan Clausing asked for clarification as to which position they were electing, he was instructed to review page 16 of the Town Report for the Warning, he thanked the assembly for clarification.
- b. The Moderator entertained nominations to elect a Tax Collector for the term of 2 years
Mark Ellingwood nominated Amber Holden, Kim Fried seconded. Lisa Grout moved nominations cease, Lila Leonard seconded, nominations ended, assembly voted to end nominations. On a

voice vote, the ayes had it. Under unanimous consent the clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for Amber Holden for Trustee of Public Funds.

- c. The moderator entertained nominations to elect a Trustee of Public Funds for the term of 1 year. Lila Leonard nominated Amber Holden, Mark Whitworth seconded. Lisa Grout moved nominations cease, Kasey Talbot seconded, nominations ended, assembly voted to end nominations. On a voice vote, the ayes had it. Under unanimous consent the clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for Amber Holden for Trustee of Public Funds.
- d. The moderator entertained nominations to elect a Selectboard member for a 3 year term. Mark Ellingwood nominated Nancy McDermott, Nancy Fried seconded. Lisa Grout moved nominations cease, Tom Girard seconded, nominations ended, assembly voted to end nominations. On a voice vote, the ayes had it. Under unanimous consent the clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for Nancy McDermott for Selectboard member.
- e. The moderator entertained nominations to elect an Auditor for the term of 3 years. Michele Coparanis nominated Shelly Cunningham, John Lewandowski seconded. No other nominations, nominations ceased. On a voice vote the ayes had it. Under unanimous consent the clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for Shelly Cunningham for Auditor.
- f. The moderator entertained nominations to elect a Constable #1 for the term of 1 year. Kasey Talbot nominated John Talbot, Sue Winsor seconded. Lila Leonard moved nominations cease, Tom Girard seconded, nominations ended, assembly voted to end nominations. On a voice vote, the ayes had it. Under unanimous consent the clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for John Talbot for Constable #1.
- g. The moderator entertained nominations to elect a Constable #2 for the term of 1 year. Norma Bromley nominated Kevin Aucoin, Janice Halpin seconded. No other nominations, nominations ceased. On a voice vote the ayes had it. Under unanimous consent the clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for Kevin Aucoin for Constable #2.

Article 3. To see if the voters will authorize all taxes to be paid to the Treasurer as provided by law, with such taxes to be due on or before October 15, 2023.

Nancy Fried moved to accept the article as written, Richard Bizon seconded. The article was read, no discussion. Lila Leonard moved to end debate, Sue Winsor seconded, debate ended, assembly voted to end debate. On a voice vote, the ayes had it, and Article 3 was approved.

Article 4. To see if the voters will approve the total proposed General Fund Operating Budget of \$214,686.96.

Lila Leonard moved to accept the article as written, Mark Whitworth seconded. The article was read, no discussion. Lisa Grout moved to end debate, Lila Leonard seconded, debate ended, assembly voted to end debate. On a voice vote, the ayes had it, and Article 4 was approved.

Article 5. To see if the voters will authorize the Selectboard to use up to \$50,000 of unspent General Fund surpluses, as needed, to help offset the Municipal Tax Rate.

Mark Ellingwood moved to accept the article as written, Lila Leonard seconded. The article was read. Mark Whitworth asked for what “as needed” means. Mark Ellingwood & John Lewandowski, Selectboard members, responded, explaining that when they hold the Tax Rate meeting in the summer, this article allows for them to use some of the General Fund Surplus to offset the overall budget and lower the tax rate. Jan Clausen suggested if this surplus should go towards the Building Fund. John Lewandowski said that could be done, but without knowing what the Ed Tax is going to be until this summer, he feels this surplus is best used to lower the municipal tax rate if need, he shared that there is money being appropriated to the Building Fund specifically. Sue Winsor moved to end debate, Lila Leonard seconded, debate ended, assembly voted to end debate. On a voice vote, the ayes had it, and Article 5 was approved.

Article 6. To see if the voters will approve the proposed appropriation of \$209,631.06 to the Reserve Funds.

Lila Leonard moved to accept the article as written, Lisa Grout seconded. The article was read, Mark Ellingwood shared the pages of the Town Report where these appropriations were detailed. No further discussion. Lisa Grout moved to end debate, Meagan Durling seconded, debate ended, assembly voted to end debate. On a voice vote, the ayes had it, and Article 6 was approved

Article 7. To see if the voters will authorize closing the Fire Department Water Storage Fund with the balance of \$0.00.

Kasey Talbot moved to accept the article as written, Lila Leonard seconded. The article was read. Jan Clausen inquired as to what this fund was. John Lewandowski explained it had been established to supply water to the center of Town. This has been done by creating a dry hydrant on Schoolhouse Road and all funds spent. Nancy Fried moved to end debate,

Lila Leonard seconded, debate ended, assembly voted to end debate. On a voice vote, the ayes had it, and Article 7 was approved.

Article 8. To see if the voters will approve the total proposed Highway Fund Operating Budget of \$431,528.00.

Tom Girard moved to accept the article as written, Kasey Talbot seconded. No discussion, debate ended, assembly voted to end debate. On a voice vote, the ayes had it, and Articles 8 was approved.

Article 9. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$39,243.00 to the Newark Volunteer Fire Department.

Tom Girard moved to accept the article as written, Richard Bizon seconded. Jim Bicknell shared that he felt this was a large appropriation for a Town our size and shared details of what other local towns do for Fire protection and EMT services and appropriations. Jim Bicknell stated he is not in support of this appropriation. Gail "Ruggles" Wind inquired about the New Equipment budget line within the NVFD budget and asked if once this new equipment is purchased will this money will be necessary in the future. Aaron Leonard, Volunteer for the NVFD, addressed the assembly and shared how their department is unique in that they are a volunteer non-profit and not a municipal entity and they ask for this yearly appropriation to protect and respond to calls within Newark. He spoke to the increased costs that they are facing and the shelf line of their equipment that requires regular replacement and a need for new, safe equipment. He shared they do try to do some fund raisers to offset the amount they request in the appropriation, however COVID has impacted and limited their recent fundraising. Eric Davis inquired if they have any other funding sources planed for the future to help ease the burden on the taxpayers. Aaron Leonard responded that there is not a lot of other funding available for continued day to day functions of the NVFD. There is grant funding for specific equipment, Aaron shared this is how they paid for the new Tanker they have on order, in addition to some funds they had from donations. Aaron noted that currently other local fire departments do not send bills for when they support NVFD on Newark calls, however, if NVFD did not exist he expects Newark would be receiving bills for any calls responded to within Newark. Zeb Smith shared he feels there is a lot of value to having the NVFD in town because it allows for faster response time and he's also concerned about what it would do to resident's home owners insurance costs if we didn't have the Fire Department in town. Mark Whitworth spoke in support of the NVFD and feels it's a valuable asset to our town. Trish Turner spoke in support of the NVFD and shared personal experiences how they had helped her and neighbors in the past, and made a plea that if there are any skilled grant writers please offer your services to help. Lila Leonard, EMT-Firefighter spoke to a personal

experience when she responded to a call near her house and it took 30 minutes for Lyndon Rescue to arrive. She spoke to the value of having the NVFD in town and feels it would be tragic for it not to exist. Janice Halpin thanked the NVFD, she feels it is an essential service. Kevin Aucoin asked Aaron Leonard what he felt the difference in response time would be if the NVFD was not here. The moderator stated if there was no objection he would suspend the rules to allow Aaron address the assembly again. No objections. Aaron stated that it varies depended on where in town your located, the far reached of town could be as much as 45 mins to an hour. Kim Bangs shared that appropriation divided per person in town is a small price to pay to save a person's home or more importantly a life. Tom Girard spoke in support of the NVFD budget being passed. Kathleen McMahon spoke in support on the NVFD and shared a personal experience in how quickly the NVFD had responded to her call. Jim Bicknell clarified that he is in support of the EMT part, it does not require all space in our garage for Fire equipment. Jan Clausing shared he has been very involved with Lyndon Rescue for years and he feels without a functioning Fire Department you're not going to have any EMTs, because there is no EMT department, they exist within the NVFD. He shared that Newark has some of the best first responders in the county, he feels the town is very fortunate to have them and is in full support of passing this budget. Colleen Geddis spoke to how much training and certifications the EMTs on the NVFD have and thanked them. Rubin Berkowitz asked how many members the NVFD currently has. The moderator stated if there was no objection he would suspend the rules to allow Aaron address the assembly again. No objections. Aaron shared currently he thinks they have 15 members. Norma Bromley asked if Jim Bicknell or any other volunteers would be willing to do some research into the options he suggested and possibly report back next year, she feels currently the budget needs to be passed. John Lewandowski shared a personal experience in regards to his home insurance rates because Newark has a fire department in town, he stated he would much rather give his money to the people that are coming to his house verses the people that are insuring it. Gail Wind shared a personal experience where the NVFD responded and is in support of the passing the budget. Jan Clausing clarified that this budget isn't just being paid for by town residents as indicated before, it's supported by every second home owner's taxes as well. Eric Davis moved to end debate, Kim Bangs seconded, debate ended, assembly voted to end debate. On a voice vote, the ayes had it, and Article 9 was approved.

Article 10. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$26,849.56 to the Lyndon Rescue, Inc.

Jan Clausing moved to accept the article as written, Nancy Fried seconded. The article was read. Jan Clausing, representative to Lyndon Rescue, shared that the budget is the same per capita for all the other towns they

represent. He shared that other rescue departments around the state struggle to get volunteers. Lyndon Rescue is able to retain EMT's and paramedics because they are paid. They request only the amount necessary to operate. He spoke to the high quality of coverage they provide. No further discussion. Debate ended, assembly voted to end debate. On a voice vote, the ayes had it, and Articles 10 was approved.

Article 11. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$8908.00 for the following requests:

\$ 500.00	Caledonia Home Health
\$ 300.00	VT Center for Independent Living
\$ 300.00	Council on Aging
\$ 200.00	Rural Community Transport
\$ 1,162.00	Northeast Kingdom Human Services
\$ 300.00	Burke Senior Meal Site
\$ 400.00	Darling Inn Meal Site
\$ 1,200.00	Cobleigh Library
\$ 581.00	Fairbanks Museum
\$ 500.00	Catamount Arts
\$ 565.00	NVDA
\$ 500.00	Northwoods Stewardship Center
\$ 250.00	American Red Cross
\$ 100.00	Rural Fire Protection
\$ 300.00	Umbrella
\$ 100.00	Northeast Kingdom Learning Services
\$ 100.00	Northeast Kingdom Youth Services
\$ 200.00	Lyndonville Youth Baseball/Softball
\$ 200.00	Powers Park/VIS
\$ 50.00	Green Up Vermont
\$ 500.00	H.O.P.E.
\$ 250.00	Community Restorative Justice Center
\$ 100.00	SymphonyKids
\$ 250.00	Vermont Family Network

Nancy Fried moved to accept the article as written, Mark Whitworth seconded. The article was read. No debate. Under unanimous debate ceased. On a voice vote, the ayes had it, and Articles 11 was approved.

The Moderator opened the floor for other business.

Norma Bromley asked if the Cemetery Fund appropriation included money to work on Packer Cemetery. Mark Ellingwood said yes it does. Norma thanked everyone who contributed donations for the new Newark Street Union Meeting House weather vane. Eric Davis shared that Newark Street Union Meeting House was recently reestablished and announced all are welcomed to this year's Easter Service.

Mark Whitworth shared information and where to receive updated information in regards to the Communications Union District-NEK Broadband and their work to bring high speed internet to Newark. Discussion ensued about speed, availability, timelines and costs. All were encouraged to sign up for NEK Broadband updates.

Elly Barksdale shared the lunch is being provided by donations and organized by the Friends of Newark Street School. D Steen shared a fundraiser was taking place to support a Newark Street School field trip.

Amber Holden shared that the VT Department of Health has supplied free Covid tests and Radon Test Kits.

Jan Clausing, representative to the NEKWMD, shared that they purchased through a grant a machine to recycle ridged foam.

The Moderator asked if there was any objection to suspending the rules to allow for Newark Street School Principal, non-resident, to speak. Lila Leonard made a motion to suspend the rules, Richard Bizon seconded, on a voice vote, the ayes had it. The rules were suspended. Tim Mulligan, Newark Street School principal, shared they will be hosting the Evan Weirich celebration soon and invited the community to attend. He announced that the school facility is open and available for public use. He reported that Newark School facility is in the best conditions out of any other school in the district. They are retaining their staff while other areas are struggling with this. He shared that many of their students are a result of school choice, only 30 students currently live in Newark, he feels this speaks to how good Newark is doing to have this many families choose Newark. He shared concern that the transition to joining Kingdom East and Covid has created some disconnect between the school and the community and would love to reconnect with the town. He gave updates on school programs and highlighted student successes. He thanked the Road Crew for their help installing new basketball hoops. Norma Bromley inquired about community members receiving the school newsletter. Jan Clausing asked what are we voting on today for Kingdom East. Tim shared that you are voting on the Kingdom East Budget & School Board Directors. The Clerk reminded the assembly that we can't speak about the specific candidates because this is the polling place, only general information as to what is on the ballot. Lila Leonard read the articles being voted on.

Newark Volunteer Fire Department contact information and dispatching information was shared.

The Building Committee members shared a presentation detailing the restraints associated with the current Highway Garage Building shared by the NVFD. They announced that Newark has been selected to be the location of a new transmitter site. Photos of the current Garage space were shared as well as possible draft site plans for new building or renovation options. Details of the functions of the current equipment were discussed and the challenges of managing this equipment in the current space. The current heating system is also very inefficient. They spoke to the benefit of a shared space with the Highway Department & NVFD to be able to share costs. Currently some of the Highway equipment has to be housed outside because it doesn't fit in the building and the plows have to be removed every time the trucks are parked. Also the sand is currently stored on a rented space off of municipal property because there is not a sand shed to house the sand on Town property. Ethan Hill asked if the current building would still be used if they went with a new building. John Lewandowski shared they are still looking into that. They shared the pros and cons of new verse renovation are still being reviewed. The Moderator asked if there were any other public questions or should the meeting adjourn. Kim Fried spoke in favor of moving forward with these plans, he commended the crews for working within the restraints they have. John Lewandowski shared they are looking to see what the community would like them to do. Ron Bromley spoke in favor of supporting whatever needs to be done for supporting the road crew. Mark Ellingwood shared that funding options are still being explored, they recognize that this is necessary in order to get community support and not drastically increase taxes. They will keep the town updated on any progress/plans and welcome attendance to the building committee meetings, they are posted at the Town Clerks Office. They also shared that all materials associated with the presentation will be available to review at the Newark Town Office.

The Moderator asked if there was any objection to suspending the rules to allow for Denis LaBounty, State Representative, to speak. No objection, Rules were suspended. Mr LaBounty shared the towns that are included in our new representative district. He shared his personal background, born and raised here in the Northeast Kingdom and is currently retired and was a labor lobbyist in Montpelier. He has taken on work currently as a school bus driver for Burke in addition to his work in Montpelier. He has been working on housing issues and affordable housing, there is currently a housing crisis in Vermont and they have received funding to address this. Recently he was contacted by the CEO of NVRH stating they have over 70 positions that need to be filled and applicants can't find housing. They are also looking to relax some of the ACT 250 permitting costs to encourage

building. They are also working on better paid medical leave, some details were discussed. He is on the surface opposed to S5 the affordable heat act, however it came out of senate as a study committee. The other concern people have expressed to him is ACT66, he also opposed that bill, it is currently in the senate. He announced to reach out with any questions.

The Clerk announced that there was a zoom link created today for audio purposes, she shared Vermont Election law does not allow for anyone to participate in voting via zoom, however we have just had a request from a zoom participant to ask the moderator to suspend the rules to allow them to speak. The Moderator asked if there was any objection to suspending the rules to allow for the resident listening via zoom to speak. No objections. Kate Larose read a letter from Vermont Coalition for Disability rights. The letter expressed that Town Meetings are not accessible to all people and encouraged Towns and Selectboards to make changes to allow for a more inclusive Town Meeting. Mrs. Larose was asked if she could provide a copy of this letter for people to review. The Clerk shared she would have the letter available at her office.

Kim Fried shared that the chairman of Planning Commission was not able to attend today, so he encourages everyone to read their report in the Town Report because they have a lot going on at the moment. They are currently working on a new Town Plan, they hope for a draft prepared come spring to get feedback on. Second he would like to recognize how quickly each article passed today. He feels that speaks to the fact that the people working for the Town do a good job and the voters have a high level of trust in the work they are doing.

Sue Winsor made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mark Whitworth seconded. On a voice vote the ayes had it, the meeting was adjourned @ 12:40pm

Signed by,
Amber Holden, Newark Town Clerk

Attested by,
Ben Bangs, Moderator & Mark Ellingwood, Selectboard Chair