

Annual Report



Town of Chester, Vermont
Calendar Year 2022

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTIETH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE TOWN OF
CHESTER, VERMONT

FOR YEAR ENDING
DECEMBER 31, 2022

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BREAKDOWN OF GRAND LIST

2022

Total Education Listed Value	419,797,300
Total Listed Value for Taxation	420,649,351
Total Non-residential Education Value	231,465,800
Total Homestead Education Value	188,331,500
Cable Company	852,051
Veterans Exemptions	920,000
Current Use Exempt Amount (180 properties)	17,980,800

ANNUAL GRAND LIST TAXABLE VALUE

2020	3,949,098
2021	3,977,771
2022	3,979,291

COMPARATIVE TAX RATE TABLE

2022	2021	2020
STATE HOMESTEAD TAX RATE		
1.4592	1.5041	1.3728
NON-RESIDENTIAL TAX RATE		
1.5174	1.5986	1.5005
MUNICIPAL+LOCAL AGREEMENT RATE		
0.8671	0.8554	0.8531

ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS

	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>		<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
MODERATOR		GREEN MOUNTAIN UNIFIED	
William E. Dakin, Jr.	2023	SCHOOL DISTRICT	
		Rick Alexander	2023
TOWN CLERK		Jeff Hance	2023
Deborah J. Aldrich	2023	Katherine Murphy	2025
		Lois Perlah	2025
SELECTBOARD		Deb Brown	2024
Arunas "Arne" Jonynas, Chair	2023	Josh Schroeder	2024
A. Lee Gustafson	2025		
Heather Chase	2024		
Leigh Dakin	2023	JUSTICES OF THE PEACE	
Ben Whalen	2023	Kenneth D. Barrett	
		Patricia Budnick	
TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS		Heather Chase	
Kathy Pellett (resigned)	2023	Robert Crawford	
Erron J. Carey	2025	Gerald Gleason	
Shirley Barrett	2024	Susan Kibbe	
		Jessica Krust	
TOWN TREASURER		Cheryl LeClair	
Deborah J. Aldrich	2023	Marilyn Mahusky	
		Russell Monier	
TRUSTEES OF WHITING LIBRARY		Philip Perlah	
Ed Grossman (resigned)	2025	Tuckerman Wunderle	
Donna McNeill-Hudkins	2025		
Lyza Gardner (resigned)	2024		
Robert Nied (resigned)	2024		
Kathryn Poston (resigned)	2023		
Rosamund Conroy (resigned)	2024		
Carolyn Frisa (resigned)	2025		
Jesse Bailey (appointed)			
Lora Cokolat (appointed)			
Sam Comstock (appointed)			
William E. Dakin, Jr. (appointed)			
Jim Garison (appointed)			
Matthew Gorsky (appointed)			

OFFICERS APPOINTED

	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>		<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER		PLANNING COMMISSION:	
Chief of Police	March, 2023	Cathy Hasbrouck, Chair	March, 2024
		Hugh Quinn	March, 2024
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD		Peter Hudkins	March, 2025
Robert Greenfield, Chair	March, 2023	Barre Pinske	March, 2023
Gary Coger	March, 2024	Tim Roper	March, 2023
Harry Goodell	March, 2025		
Philip Perlah	March, 2025	POUND KEEPER:	
Scott McDonald	March, 2024	Chief of Police	March, 2023
Larry Semones, Alternate	March, 2024		
		REGIONAL PLANNING REP:	
CEMETERY SEXTON		Thomas Bock	Resigned
Jeffrey Sheldon	March, 2023	Julie Hance	March, 2023
		Derek Suursoo alternate	March, 2023
CLERK TO SELECTMEN		ROAD COMMISSIONER:	
A. Lee Gustafson	March, 2023	Town Manager, Julie Hance	March, 2023
SEVCA		SECRETARY TO SELECTMEN:	
Kathy Poston	October, 2023	Susan Bailey	March, 2023
SENIOR SOLUTIONS - COUNCIL		BOARD OF WASTEWATER DISPOSAL	
ON AGING		Board of Selectmen	
Linda Stowell	March, 2023		
		SOLID WASTE DISTRICT REP:	
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT		Derek Suursoo	March, 2023
Town Manager, Julie Hance	March, 2023		
		TOWN MANAGER:	
FENCE VIEWERS:		Julie Hance	March, 2024
Frank E. Balch	March, 2023		
Tony Weinberger	March, 2023	TOWN SERVICE OFFICER:	
Jack Cable	March, 2023	Julie Hance	March, 2023
FIRE WARDEN:		TRANSPORT. ADVISORY COUNCIL REP.	
Jeffery Holden	June, 2024	Kirby Putnam	March, 2023
Ben Whalen, Asst. Fire Warden	June, 2024		
		TREE WARDEN:	
FIRST CONSTABLE:		Joseph Epler - Resigned	March, 2023
Jeffrey Holden	March, 2023		
		WATER COMMISSIONERS:	
GREEN UP DAY CHAIRMAN		Board of Selectmen	
Frank Kelley	March, 2023		
		WEIGHER OF COAL	
INSPECTOR OF LUMBER, SHINGLES AND WOOD		Tony Weinberger	March, 2023
Tony Weinberger	March, 2023		
		ZONING ADMINISTRATOR	
		Preston Bristow	January, 2024

APPOINTED BY TOWN MANAGER

Police Chief - Richard H. Cloud (Retired)
Police Chief – Thomas E. Williams
Fire Chief - Matthew S. Wilson
Ambulance Chief – Amanda Silva
Public Works Director – Kirby Putnam
Water/Sewer Superintendent - Jeffery C. Holden
Recreation Director - Matthew McCarthy

APPOINTED BY STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Health Officer – Amanda Silva
Deputy Health Officer – Noah Glover

ELECTED BY DIRECTORS OF TWO RIVERS SUPERVISORY UNION

Superintendent of Schools – Lauren Fierman

OFFICERS' SALARIES

	2021	2022
TOWN MANAGER		
Julie Hance	\$ 78,835.15	\$ 82,237.80
TOWN CLERK/TREASURER		
Deborah J. Aldrich	\$ 63,613.49	\$ 65,522.52
SELECTMEN		
Heather Chase	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Arunas "Arne" Jonynas	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Jeff Holden	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 0.00
A. Lee Gustafson	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Leigh Dakin	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Ben Whalen	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,500.00
LISTERS		
Valerie Pantorno	\$ 11,615.13	\$ 10,806.39
Cathy Hasbrouck	\$ 913.00	\$ 16,504.55
HEALTH OFFICER		
Amanda Silva	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 2,600.00

TOWN OF CHESTER LAND AND BUILDING ASSETS

<i>DESCRIPTION</i>	<i>ACRES</i>	<i>VALUE</i>	<i>PARCEL #</i>
ACADEMY BLDG - 230 MAIN ST	3.86	\$551,200.00	575031
CEMETERY - 4446 POPPLE DUNGEON RD	0.42	\$1,300.00	130158
CEMETERY - PLEASANT VIEW - 468 HIGH ST	8.9	\$71,600.00	595001
CEMETERY - 176 ADAMS RD	1	\$10,500.00	362000
CEMETERY - 4273 TREBO RD	0.28	\$900.00	272011
CEMETERY - 458 NORTH ST	5.74	\$17,900.00	555007
CEMETERY - BROOKSIDE- 194 MAIN ST	3.8	\$53,800.00	605104
CEMETERY - SMOKESHIRE - 182 CEMETERY RD	0.49	\$800.00	20146
DAN DAVIS LAND & PUMP HOUSE - 80 CANAL S	3	\$106,300.00	605031
EMERGENCY SERVICES - 130 PLEASANT ST	4.04	\$84,700.00	615093.2
HAMMOND PARK - COACH RD	0.55	\$30,500.00	605127
JEFFREY WELL & BARN - 259 & 391 VT RT 103 N	17	\$778,600.00	555042
LAND ONLY (GMUHS TANK SITE)	1	\$3,100.00	432009
LAND ONLY (DODGE LAND) WATER FARM ROAD	9.08	\$50,500.00	100105
LAND ONLY (HADLEY LAND) MAIN ST	14.1	\$40,300.00	575030
LAND ONLY (PECK LAND) WATER FARM ROAD	4	\$39,400.00	100106
LAND ONLY - 1635 VT RT 11 WEST	1.3	\$4,100.00	372010
LAND ONLY - 84 WATER FARM ROAD	40	\$105,000.00	100108
LAND ONLY - 895 VT RT 11 WEST	2	\$6,300.00	382025.4
LAND ONLY - 93 KINGSBURY ROAD	0.25	\$800.00	362041
LAND ONLY - 96 KINGSBURY ROAD	3	\$9,400.00	362043
LAND ONLY - RESERVOIR ROAD	0.2	\$300.00	372001
LAND ONLY (BOUCHARD) SMOKESHIRE RD	0.12	\$400.00	10100
LAND ONLY (COLBETH) GRAFTON RD	0.12	\$15,700.00	605054
LAND ONLY (HALF LOT) MARSHALL RD	0.11	\$10,400.00	625027
LAND ONLY (NORTH ST BRIDGE FIELD)	0.5	\$1,600.00	585069
LAND ONLY (QUIMBY LAND) SCHOOL ST	1.1	\$1,700.00	605072
LAND ONLY (WILEY LOT) 93 COBLEIGH ST	3	\$70,300.00	605007
LAND ONLY-ADAMS AQUIFER - COLBURN RD	30.53	\$88,400.00	525009.2
LIBRARY BUILDING - 117 MAIN ST	0.46	\$753,500.00	605039
RAINBOW ROCK - GREEN MTN TNPKE	1.84	\$19,000.00	392045.2
RECREATION AREA - 153 LOVERS LANE RD	37.28	\$738,800.00	565056
RESERVOIR - 83 WATER FARM RD	501.35	\$796,400.00	100102
RIVER BANK - VT RT 103 SOUTH	3.47	\$10,800.00	605196
SEWER PLANT - 130 LEGION DRIVE	13.45	\$2,620,700.00	442001
SHEDS - ELM ST	0.63	\$24,800.00	615029
THE GREEN - MAIN ST	1.5	\$4,700.00	605101
TOWN GARAGE - 144 TOWN GARAGE RD	6.12	\$708,000.00	585050
TOWN HALL - 556 ELM STREET	0.41	\$1,046,100.00	585029
WATERTANK - 878 VT RT 103 SOUTH	139.57	\$1,335,200.00	432022
YOSEMITE FIRE HOUSE - 716 DEPOT ST	0.11	\$54,500.00	585024
TOTALS	865.68	\$10,268,300.00	

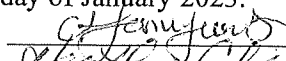
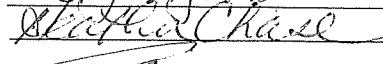

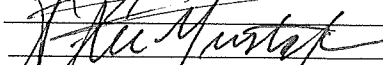
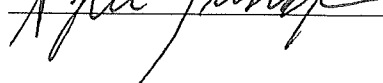
**TOWN OF CHESTER
WARNING
NOTICE OF TOWN MEETING**

The Legal Voters of the TOWN OF CHESTER are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Chester Town Hall, Second Floor in said Town of Chester on Monday, March 6, 2023, at 6:00 pm., to act on the following Articles. Voting on Article 1, 2, and 3 will be by Australian ballot on March 7, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall Second Floor.

- ARTICLE 1:** To elect Town Officials for the ensuing year as provided by the Public Laws of Vermont.
- ARTICLE 2:** Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Four Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$420,000), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of providing grant match to complete construction on Route 35, grant match for culvert replacement on Green Mountain Turnpike, and paving the Andover Road? Said projects and paving to be financed for a term of 7 years.
- ARTICLE 3:** Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Four Hundred Fifty Seven Thousand Dollars (\$457,000), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of purchasing a dump truck for highway in the amount of \$155,000 to be financed for a term of 5 years; and to purchase an Ambulance in the amount of \$302,000 to be financed for a term of 10 years?
- ARTICLE 4:** Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to appoint a town clerk as provided in 17 V.S.A. § 2651e?
- ARTICLE 5:** Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to appoint a town treasurer as provided in 17 V.S.A. § 2651f?
- ARTICLE 6:** To see if the Town will vote to raise \$3,700,034.80 to be paid to the Chester Town Treasurer on September 15, 2023, to pay current expenses and any part of the Town's indebtedness.
- ARTICLE 7:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$2500 (two thousand five hundred dollars) to support the Chester Fireworks for Independence Day, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2691?
- ARTICLE 8:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THIRTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVEN DOLLARS (\$13,807) to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by the Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of VT and NH, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
- ARTICLE 9:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND AND FORTY FOUR DOLLARS (\$3,044) to help support outpatient, mental health and substance abuse services by the staff of Health Care and Rehabilitation Services, Inc, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?

- ARTICLE 10:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND FORTY DOLLARS (\$3,040) to Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) to assist Chester in responding to the emergency needs of the community and providing all available and applicable services to families and individuals in need, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
- ARTICLE 11:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$900) 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, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
- ARTICLE 12:** Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,200.00) 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, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
- ARTICLE 13:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$2,250 (two thousand two hundred fifty dollars) for the support of the MOOver Rockingham to provide transit services to the residents of the Town of Chester, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
- ARTICLE 14:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$800 (eight hundred dollars) to support Windsor County Mentors, for youth mentoring services provided to children in Windsor County, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
- ARTICLE 15:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$400 (four hundred dollars) 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 Chester through volunteer service, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
- ARTICLE 16:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,800.00) toward the support of the Community Cares Network of Chester and Andover, Inc. a non-profit organization which provides services to senior citizens, helping them to stay in their homes longer safely, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
- ARTICLE 17:** To see if the Town of Chester will appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000) to assist in the services of the Chester-Andover Family Center for individuals and families in need, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
- ARTICLE 18:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000) to Neighborhood Connections, Inc. to cover the cost of providing services in Chester in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?

Dated at Chester, Vermont on this 20th day of January 2023.

 /s/ Arne Jonynas, Chairman
 /s/ Heather Chase
 /s/ Leigh Dakin
 /s/ Ben Whalen
 /s/ Lee Gustafson



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR REPORT

Selectboard
Town of Chester
Chester, Vermont

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, business-type activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Chester, Vermont, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2021 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, business-type activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Chester, Vermont as of December 31, 2021 and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof 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 Chester, 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 the 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 of Chester, Vermont'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.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of 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 misstatements 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 controls relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Chester, Vermont's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.

- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise doubt about the Town of Chester, Vermont's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information and pension information on pages 5 through 12 and 57 through 61 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.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Chester, Vermont's basic financial statements. The Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Budgetary Basis - Budget and Actual - General Fund Revenues, Schedule of Departmental Operations - General Fund, combining and individual nonmajor funds and fiduciary fund financial statements and capital asset schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Budgetary Basis - Budget and Actual - General Fund Revenues, Schedule of Departmental Operations - General Fund, combining and individual nonmajor fund and fiduciary financial statements and capital asset schedules are 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 September 13, 2022, on our consideration of the Town of Chester, Vermont's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Chester, Vermont's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Town of Chester, Vermont's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

RHR Smith & Company

Buxton, Maine
Vermont Registration No. 092.0000697
September 13, 2022

Selectboard Report

This past year has been a challenging one for our town as all have seen inflation rise to heights that are stressing everyone's budgets, and the same is true for town finances. Trying to stay within a budget created before inflation has been difficult. Our department heads and town manager have navigated this difficult time with little effect on the services our townspeople expect and without overspending and creating a huge deficit. Some relief came from the federal government in the form of ARPA money. These funds came with narrow restrictions on its use in the beginning, but were later relaxed, and we were allowed more creative uses to ease the burden on our taxpayers. A large part of the money was used for this purpose and the remaining is being saved to see what financial challenges might be encountered in the future. Originally the selectboard had asked the public for ideas on how to spend the nearly \$900,000. People responded with some great ideas, but the selectboard and the town manager took a very conservative approach and basically used the money to help with budget relief now and in the future. It was exciting to dream of new, worthy projects but reality set in and paying our current and future bills took precedent.

A milestone on the town's solar project has arrived. In our original contract with Green Lantern, the town was offered a buy-out of the field at year seven and fourteen. The town is currently having the solar field appraised and doing all of the necessary due diligence to see if it is feasible to purchase the field outright. If the numbers and information come back favorably and an amicable contract obtained, it would be a huge positive outcome for the town. It would help immensely with our electricity utility bills and help us do our part in the climate change reality which is wreaking havoc worldwide and is only going to get worse.

The major sidewalk renewal project that stretches from the Town Hall to Bargfrede Road is again postponed for bidding until the end of this year. It is hopeful that construction would happen in 2024 if the bidding is favorable this fall. The major stumbling block for this project has been dealing with the railroad entities and red tape associated with them. Hopefully someday interactions with these agencies will become more streamlined and easier. What started out as a one million dollar project with the town match of two hundred thousand has had trouble getting off the ground. With inflation, it will be interesting to see where the bids will land.

The selectboard, this year, has adopted a Declaration of Inclusion. It is modeled after many that have been adopted at other local towns in Vermont and at the state level. The Declaration reads as follows:

Recognizing that diversity strengthens and enriches a community, the Town of Chester condemns all forms of discrimination and bigotry. We strongly commit ourselves and our institutions to the fair and equal treatment of everyone, including members of traditionally marginalized groups, who live or work in or pass through our community.

We strive to ensure that all of our plans, policies, programs, procedures, statements and actions reflect these commitments and support a community in which all persons feel welcome and safe to express their opinions and engage in the community.

It is a simple document that states our core beliefs in who we are as a town. It is important to declare and reaffirm these beliefs in light of all that is happening in our country.

A new in-town hiking trail is now available and getting extensive use. The Brookside Trail, behind the Academy building, is an approximate one-mile loop that circles up the hill behind our village center. It starts with a long, elevated bridge and boardwalk which allows people with physical challenges to access at least the beginning of the trail, and hopefully more in future plans. There are some beautiful views of our village at places on the trail.

The trail was constructed with the coordinated efforts of the Chester Conservation Committee, our town highway bridge builders, and town manager Julie Hance. Subcontractor John Wright also did an excellent job constructing the boardwalk. When we work together as a town, we get a lot accomplished. Please remember to stay on the trail and respect abutting private property.

A group of citizens and friends of Chester have been hard at work trying to establish community gardens in our village center. The selectboard, after hearing of the project and viewing a presentation made by the group, issued a strong letter of support for its goals. We continue to work with the group to make it a reality. The group has requested use of town land off of Canal Street for the project. The selectboard has agreed and is working towards this goal. In doing so, it is taking the input of abutting neighbors to ensure that their concerns are addressed. There are still some hurdles and issues that need to be resolved, but hopefully by spring planting will begin. The idea of a community garden is to offer citizens who might not have the land available for a garden or who just want to be part of a group that shares in the joy of growing their own food in a warm, safe, accessible place.

I would like to thank two members of the selectboard who are not seeking reelection this year for their work and dedication to our town. Leigh Dakin has been involved in town and state government and many other organizations for many years. She has a history of service and caring for the people of Chester. She will be missed. Ben Whalen has served on the selectboard on two different terms. He is also our Assistant Fire Chief. During his time on the board he has shown compassion and understanding on the issues at hand. Sacrificing time for the community is a big obligation, and we thank both for serving our community. I would also like to thank all of the community members who volunteer and serve on all of the town boards and commissions. They help make our community what it is. Without these volunteers and organizations, there would be no heart and soul to our town.

Lastly, I would like to thank the town employees, police, fire, ambulance, highway, water, sewer, and town hall employees for their dedication and hard work. The backbone of a healthy community are the needed services these people provide. Chester is lucky to have such quality employees.

Respectfully submitted,
Arne S. Jonynas

Town Manager's Report And Budget Summary

Well.... now 2022 is officially behind us and 2023 is ahead of us. With it will undoubtedly come new challenges but also new opportunities. We will continue to do our best to work through those challenges in a way that benefits Chester and to seek out those opportunities that will improve our town.

I would like to thank the Town of Chester Department Managers and all town staff. We really do have an amazing group of employees. Their dedication and devotion to this town and to their jobs is tremendous and much appreciated. I encourage you to read through their individual reports to learn about all that has happened in town this year.

2022 brought the retirement of two of Chester's long term employees, Dan Cook and Richard Cloud. Dan Cook served in the Chester Highway Department for 30 years as well as the Ambulance Coordinator. He was a great asset to Chester and will surely be missed, but we wish him the best in his well deserved retirement years. Chief Richard Cloud served as Chester's Chief of Police for 20 years, with a total of 30 years in law enforcement. We thank you for your service and protection of our community for all those years and wish Rick the absolutely best in his retirement years as well.

2022 also brought some additions to the Chester staff. Steve Vertefeulle was hired in the spring as the town's first Facilities Director. Steve brings an extensive amount of knowledge on all things construction and has proven to be an incredible asset to our team. We have been able to accomplish so much in a short period of time with maintenance on the buildings and setting up plans for the future. This allows the town to be more proactive which equals dollars saved in the future.

The town also hired its new Chief of Police, Thomas Williams. Tom had served as our Lieutenant since April 2022 and was found to be the perfect candidate for Chester by a Police Chief Search Committee put in place this past November. Tom comes to Chester with 30+ years at the State Police. He brings a tremendous skill set, extensive local knowledge and a drive to create a true community policing model in Chester. We are very fortunate to have him!

While technically not hired in 2022, Wayne Wickens was added to our Water/Wastewater staff in 2021. Another amazing addition to our team. Wayne brings with him a strong work ethic, attention to detail and a desire to do the job well. In addition to being part of the water/wastewater crew, Wayne is also a master electrician. You can imagine the work we are getting done around town with his expertise. Wayne and Steve together make a dynamic duo that we are very fortunate to have.

In terms of budgets and numbers, 2022 was a tough year for the municipal budget, as it has been for all of us. With the cost of fuel jumping to close to \$5 per gallon shortly after the budget passed, our fuel budgets were fully spent by July. With the rise in petroleum, this trickled down into many other categories as well. However, as has been the case many times before, the town

staff worked hard to keep expenses down as much as possible and only do the absolute must haves. This, along with the assistance of some ARPA funds to help offset cost overruns on the Public Safety Building, the town was able to end 2022 with a small surplus of \$5,434.

The 2023 Proposed General Fund Budget has several increases distributed throughout. With the rate of inflation at over 6.5% and national cost of living at 8.75%, it is expected that the town's budget will need to increase as well. Primary increases are attributed to fuel, a modest 4% cost of living increases for employees, improved cyber security measures which are required by our insurance company, dispatching for the police department, as well as general cost increases across all departments for general purchases. In further efforts to keep the tax increase down, this budget is proposing the use of some Capital Fund Balance to make the final 2016 bond payments in 2023. This will alleviate the amount of transfer from the General Fund to the Capital Plan. We have tried hard to find the balance between not budgeting too tightly (as we do not want to end 2023 in a deficit) and not excessive budgeting. The staff and I feel that this proposed budget strikes that balance.

In an effort to keep capital expenses down for the next few years, additional expenditures from the Capital Plan have been kept to a minimum. Since the Highway Department opted to skip a truck rotation in 2022, a truck will need to be purchased in 2023. In addition, a new Ambulance is needed. The existing ambulance is over 12 years old and beginning to experience extensive mechanical issues. You will see that these two items are included on the Town Warning as a Bond. This is because the Vermont Bond Bank interest rates are significantly less than typical commercial lending.

The Bond Plan will include the addition of one bond in the amount of \$420,000 to be financed over 7 years as has been common practice. This bond will include paving Andover Road, a grant match for Route 35 and the grant match for a culvert on Green Mountain Turnpike. It is important to note that the Capital Plan and Bond Plan expenses are contained within the General Fund Budget, this is NOT in addition to.

All these efforts have resulted in a 2023 General Fund Budget of \$3,700,034.80. This is an increase of \$211,084.96 over 2022, approximately \$.05 on the tax rate. As a taxpayer myself, I realize that this increase feels like a lot. Unfortunately, with the cost of inflation affecting so much, the town's costs are increasing as well. The Auditors have warned that falsely suppressing any tax increase would potentially create further issues in 2024 and 2025. I can assure that we are looking at the town's budget in the most conservative way possible while still allowing the town to operate without the need to cut services.

I, along with the Selectboard feel that this is a fiscally responsible budget for Chester and encourage the taxpayers to support it with their votes. I encourage you to reach out to me with any questions or concerns you may.

Julie S. Hance
Town Manager

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
DECEMBER 31, 2022

GENERAL FUND

REVENUES:	ACTUAL
Property Taxes	\$ 8,789,579.08
Licenses/Fees	\$ 9,365.50
General Government	\$ 204,020.72
Public Safety	\$ 382,180.42
Public Works	\$ 288,797.85
Culture & Recreation	\$ 28,424.66
Other Income	\$ 2,301.81
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 9,704,670.04
 EXPENDITURES	
Selectboard/Manager	\$ 125,917.36
Administration	\$ 381,590.41
Listers	\$ 53,113.93
Taxes	\$ 191.58
Planning	\$ 91,097.75
Insurance	\$ 317,471.76
Police	\$ 841,708.35
Fire	\$ 248,921.17
Ambulance	\$ 253,066.40
Communications	\$ 43,023.94
Highway	\$ 1,684,683.64
Solid Waste	\$ 35,842.07
Health & Welfare	\$ 2,993.08
Recreation Programs	\$ 118,335.59
Parks & Cemeteries	\$ 97,315.00
Library	\$ 120,913.74
Town Hall	\$ 54,371.11
Revitalization	\$ 23,138.46
Recreation Facilities	\$ 40,651.70
Emergency Services Building	\$ 53,646.05
Facilities Director	\$ 56,897.00
Capital Expenditures	\$ 242,775.25
County Tax	\$ 27,284.46
Grant Fund	\$ 40,000.00
Voted Articles	\$ 35,741.00
CTSD Assessment	\$ 4,708,544.48
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 9,699,235.28
 Excess of Revenues over Expenses - General Fund Surplus	 \$ 5,434.76

Town of Chester, Vermont
2023 General Fund Budget
Approved 1.20.23

Account	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Budget Notes
01-01-1 Taxes					
01-01-17-00.00 Current Taxes	8,699,375.61	8,533,812.21	8,700,000.00	8,530,000.00	
01-01-17-00.10 Delinquent Tax		(389.03)			
01-01-17-00.20 Penalty & Interest	74,836.45	83,050.45	75,000.00	83,000.00	
01-01-17-01.00 Railroad Tax	1,034.77	-	1,034.77	1,000.00	
01-01-17-01.03 Land Use	158,652.50	160,855.00	160,000.00	160,000.00	
01-01-17-01.06 Pilot Program	11,460.00	12,250.45	10,000.00	12,000.00	
01-01-1 Taxes Total	8,945,359.33	8,789,579.08	8,946,034.77	8,786,000.00	
01-02 Licenses, Permits & Fees					
01-02-15-00.01 Liquor License	1,040.00	1,110.00	1,100.00	1,100.00	
01-02-15-00.02 Fish & Game	48.00	25.50	50.00	50.00	
01-02-15-00.03 Dog Licenses	1,092.00	984.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	
01-02-15-00.04 Other Licenses	495.00	475.00	500.00	500.00	
01-02-15-00.06 Motor Vehicle Reg.	228.00	277.00	200.00	200.00	
01-02-18-00.01 Planning/Zoning	6,588.59	6,494.00	6,000.00	8,000.00	Increasing rates due to cost increases
01-02 Licenses, Permits & Fees Total	9,491.59	9,365.50	9,050.00	11,050.00	
01-03 General Govt.					
01-03-15-00.11 Recording Reserve Revenue	47,671.00	38,636.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	
01-03-15-00.17 911 House Numbers		402.66	50.00	50.00	
01-03-15-00.18 Clerk Fees	6,712.00	6,145.00	6,500.00	6,500.00	
01-03-15-00.19 Miscellaneous	13,813.88	3,566.13	200.00	2,500.00	
01-03-15-00.41 Tax Sale Admin.	1,190.00	-	2,000.00	2,000.00	
01-03-15-00.70 Solar Field Rent	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	
01-03-15-00.71 Insurance Refund	2,074.00		-		
01-03-15-00.90 American Rescue Act	34,491.00	148,664.37			
01-03-15-01.53 Income - Interest	2,371.89	606.56	2,000.00	1,000.00	
01-03 General Govt Total	114,323.77	204,020.72	56,750.00	58,050.00	
01-04-2 Public Safety - Income					
01-04-21 Police Dept.					
01-04-21-01.00 Court Fees	12,577.12	2,711.50	30,000.00	30,000.00	traffic stop restrictions lifted - should see increases
01-04-21-03.00 Other Income-Police	1,512.62	1,125.00	1,000.00	3,000.00	new fees for trucks & alarms
01-04-21-05.01 PD Services - OKEMO	21,280.00	22,120.00	21,500.00	25,000.00	
01-04-21-05.02 PD Services - Other	120,337.50	81,416.25	30,000.00	40,000.00	
01-04-21 Police Dept Total	155,707.24	107,372.75	82,500.00	98,000.00	
01-04-22 Fire Dept.					
01-04-22-03.00 Other Income-Fire	65.00	8,667.98		-	
01-04-22-05.00 Andover-Fire	24,000.00	-		-	
01-04-22 Fire Dept Total	24,065.00	8,667.98	-	-	
01-04-23 Ambulance Service					
01-04-23-01.00 Revenues-Ambulance	116,550.50	140,908.01	110,000.00	135,000.00	
01-04-23-05.00 Ambulance-Andover	6,000.00	-	-		
01-04-23 Ambulance Service Total	122,550.50	140,908.01	110,000.00	135,000.00	
01-04-26 Communication					
01-04-26-01.00 Tower Rent	40,880.59	69,452.01	68,000.00	69,000.00	
01-04-26-02.00 Tower Electric	9,076.57	25.00			
01-04-26-05.00 Andover Dispatch Fee	3,000.00	-			
01-04-26 Communication Total	52,957.16	69,477.01	68,000.00	69,000.00	

Town of Chester, Vermont
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Account	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Budget Notes
Andover Assessment		55,754.67	55,754.67	75,599.18	
Total Public Safety Income	355,279.90	382,180.42	316,254.67	377,599.18	
01-05-3 Public Works Income					
01-05-31 Highway					
01-05-31-11.01 Diesel/Gasoline - Ambulan	1,914.78	3,302.04	1,500.00	2,450.00	
01-05-31-11.02 Diesel/Gasoline - Fire	2,046.88	3,600.39	2,000.00	3,000.00	
01-05-31-11.03 Diesel/Gasoline - Police	13,122.82	20,233.19	10,000.00	17,000.00	
01-05-31-11.04 Diesel/Gasoline Sale:Scho	27,237.55	39,969.14	25,000.00	36,000.00	
01-05-31-11.05 Diesel/Gasoline - Sewer	1,495.34	2,330.35	1,200.00	2,100.00	
01-05-31-11.06 Diesel/Gasoline - Water	1,457.80	2,254.68	1,500.00	2,100.00	
01-05-31-12.00 Sale/Material		724.75		500.00	
01-05-31-13.00 State Aid	213,188.86	215,803.31	210,000.00	216,000.00	
01-05-31-14.00 Other Income-Highway	1,859.40	580.00			
01-05-31-16.00 Prior Year HW Surplus			56,055.08	(53,441.65)	
01-05-31 Highway Total	262,323.43	288,797.85	307,255.08	225,708.35	
Total Public Works Income	262,323.43	288,797.85	307,255.08	225,708.35	
01-07-51 Recreation					
01-07-51-00.09 Andover	3,800.00	3,800.00	3,800.00	4,500.00	
01-07-51-00.23 Pool Income	2,334.00	2,296.50	3,000.00	3,000.00	
01-07-51-00.27 Sponsors/Donations			100.00		
01-07-51-00.28 Food Sales	62.00	131.00	200.00	200.00	
01-07-51-00.29 Pavillion Rental	175.00	350.00	300.00	300.00	
01-07-51-00.33 Other Income		160.00			
01-07-51-00.36 League Fees	100.00	320.00	500.00	500.00	
01-07-51-00 Recreation Total	6,471.00	7,057.50	7,900.00	8,500.00	
01-07-51-10 Seasonal Sports & Camps					
01-07-51-10.03 Start Smart Camp	25.00	30.00			
01-07-51-10.11 Sports for Squirts		90.00	150.00	150.00	
01-07-51-10.12 Baseball	3,415.00	2,337.50	2,500.00	2,500.00	
01-07-51-10.13 Black Fly Camp	1,785.00	1,420.00	1,000.00	1,300.00	
01-07-51-10.16 Fall Soccer	2,485.00	2,847.50	2,200.00	2,500.00	
01-07-51-10.18 Soccer Camps	1,358.00	1,640.00	1,000.00	1,500.00	
01-07-51-10.19 GM Sports Camp	645.00	440.00	500.00	500.00	
01-07-51-10.20 Basketball	2,930.00	1,730.00	1,300.00	1,500.00	
01-07-51-10.21 Girl Basketball Camp		550.00	100.00		
01-07-51-10.22 Boy Basketball Camp			100.00		
01-07-51-10.25 Gymnastics/Dance	880.00	640.00	600.00	600.00	
01-07-51-10.27 Volleyball	360.00		300.00	300.00	
01-07-51-30-31 Track & Field		81.00			
01-07-51-10.41 Baseball Camp					
01-07-51-10.43 Tennis Camp			100.00	100.00	
01-07-51-10-52 Wrestling	100.00	900.00		800.00	
01-07-51-10.53 Climbing Team	30.00				
01-07-51-10-54 Wall Climbing		180.00	500.00	200.00	
01-07-51-10 Sports & Camps Total	14,013.00	12,886.00	10,350.00	11,950.00	
01-07-51 Recreation Total	20,484.00	19,943.50	18,250.00	20,450.00	
01-07-52 Parks & Cemeteries					
01-07-52-00.21 Sale - Lots	3,011.00	1,800.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	

Town of Chester, Vermont
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Account	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Budget Notes
01-07-52-00.22 Grave Preparation	7,650.00	4,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	
01-07-52-00.23 Cemetery Funds	1,591.98	1,106.16	2,500.00	2,000.00	
01-07-52-00.25 Perpetual Care	4,100.00	1,500.00	3,000.00	2,500.00	
01-07-52-00.26 Other Income					
01-07-52-00.40 Town Hall Rental	140.00	75.00	300.00	50.00	
01-07-52 Parks & Cemeteries Total	16,492.98	8,481.16	13,800.00	12,550.00	
01-08-15 Other Income					
01-08-15-11.00 Poor Funds	1,307.31	908.35	1,000.00	1,000.00	
01-08-15-12.00 Cyprus Minerals	1,225.50	851.50	2,000.00	1,000.00	
01-08-15-13.00 School Refund Income	97,659.48	541.96	70,000.00	60,000.00	
01-08-15-15.00 Other Income					
01-08-15 Other Income	100,192.29	2,301.81	73,000.00	62,000.00	
Total Revenues	9,823,947.29	9,704,670.04	9,740,394.52	9,553,407.53	
EXPENSES:					
01-10-11 Selectboard					
01-10-11-10.00 Selectboard Salaries	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	
01-10-11-11.00 Social Security	573.75	573.75		573.75	
01-10-11-16.00 Management Consultant					
01-10-11-21.00 Expenses	48.00	108.49	1,500.00	1,500.00	
01-10-11 Selectboard	8,121.75	8,182.24	9,000.00	9,573.75	
01-10-12 Town Manager					
01-10-12-10.00 Manager Salary	77,758.03	83,798.56	76,000.00	82,000.00	
01-10-12-11.00 Social Security	6,248.87	6,624.04	5,814.00	6,273.00	
01-10-12-14.00 Medical Insurance	16,957.80	17,379.08	17,360.00	19,770.00	
01-10-12-15.00 Life & Disability	98.40	98.40	98.40	358.00	
01-10-12-16.00 Retirement	6,176.16	6,954.69	4,800.00	5,432.50	
01-10-12-21.00 Expenses	337.75	1,209.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	
01-10-12-22.00 Education/Training	1,378.84	1,671.35	1,000.00	3,000.00	
01-10-12 Town Manager	108,955.85	117,735.12	106,572.40	118,333.50	
01-10-15 Administration					
01-10-15-10.00 Elections Payroll	183.26	1,022.43	1,200.00	500.00	
01-10-15-10.01 Payroll	160,253.82	170,152.39	162,000.00	182,000.00	
01-10-15-10.11 Treasurer	3,579.03	3,690.48	3,700.00	4,000.00	
01-10-15-11.00 Social Security	15,145.64	15,973.09	12,393.00	14,229.00	
01-10-15-13.00 Workers' Comp					
01-10-15-14.00 Medical Insurance	41,097.00	42,069.48	42,820.00	40,827.00	split with water on one employee
01-10-15-15.00 Life & Disability	303.40	303.40	295.20	1,074.00	
01-10-15-16.00 Retirement	8,663.44	9,571.06	7,000.00	12,057.50	
01-10-15-20.00 Transfer Out Recording	26,377.01				
01-10-15-21.00 General Supplies	5,886.79	6,391.94	7,000.00	7,000.00	
01-10-15-21.01 911 House Numbers		350.95	50.00	50.00	
01-10-15-21.02 Elections Expense	2,539.62	2,067.50	3,000.00	3,000.00	
01-10-15-22.00 Training	1,738.84	1,657.43	1,500.00	2,000.00	
01-10-15-23.00 Equipment	22,237.44	26,656.92	22,500.00	24,000.00	copies & printer leases & service plans, land records system, postage machine lease
01-10-15-25.00 VT State Treasurer			2,500.00	2,500.00	
01-10-15-26.00 Postage	5,056.82	9,150.90	7,500.00	7,500.00	
01-10-15-27.00 Notices	3,234.70	2,641.12	4,000.00	4,000.00	
01-10-15-27.01 Town Report	2,412.00	2,308.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	

Town of Chester, Vermont
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Account	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Budget Notes
01-10-15-34.00 Telephone	11,403.08	12,700.92	10,800.00	10,800.00	
01-10-15-37.00 Computer Service	10,874.15	27,762.08	9,100.00	16,000.00	inc. steve computer & cyber security requirements
01-10-15-37.01 Record Restoration	2,698.30	3,892.73	5,000.00	1,000.00	will use recording reserve fund for major restoration
01-10-15-37.02 Website	400.00	500.00		500.00	
01-10-15-37.03 NEMRC Software	5,346.06	356.44	4,500.00	500.00	
01-10-15-37.05 SAPA			500.00	500.00	
01-10-15-37.06 Municipal Music License	483.00	513.00	460.00	500.00	
01-10-15-37.07 Contracted Services	1,944.10	8,968.20	6,200.00	-	Not needed this year
01-10-15-40.00 VLCT	5,003.00	4,886.00	5,003.00	5,000.00	
01-10-15-55.00 Chamber of Commerce	149.00	149.00	150.00	150.00	
01-10-15-56.00 Legal	9,354.61	4,444.13	10,000.00	10,000.00	
01-10-15-57.01 Annual Audit	19,500.00	16,800.00	17,500.00	15,000.00	
01-10-15-82.00 TAN Interest	408.33	2,562.50	1,000.00	2,500.00	
01-10-15-83.00 Service Charge	2,932.45	1,884.85	2,000.00	2,000.00	
01-10-15-99.00 Unclassified	970.93	2,163.47	500.00	500.00	
01-10-15 Administration Total	370,175.82	381,590.41	352,671.20	372,187.50	
01-10-16 Listers					
01-10-16-10.00 Salaries	12,358.52	27,310.94	23,000.00	28,000.00	
01-10-16-11.00 Social Security	958.41	2,089.27	1,759.00	2,142.00	
01-10-16-21.00 General Expense	8,809.15	6,894.82	6,000.00	6,000.00	
01-10-16-22.00 Training	48.00	167.00	500.00	500.00	
01-10-16-22.01 Travel			500.00	500.00	
01-10-16-23.00 Equipment		1,204.00	1,000.00	1,500.00	
01-10-16-37.00 Computer Service	2,716.04	6,960.65	4,000.00	5,000.00	inc. CAI and cyber, - lease now paid off
01-10-16-37.01 NEMRC Contract Services	10,712.10	8,487.25	2,000.00	5,000.00	
01-10-16-56.00 Legal			500.00	500.00	
01-10-16 Listers Total	35,602.22	53,113.93	39,259.00	49,142.00	
01-10-17 Taxes					
01-10-17-21.00 Tax Billing		78.44		-	
01-10-17-27.00 Advertising	4,350.00		4,000.00	2,500.00	
01-10-17-37.02 State Appeals Decisions				0	
01-10-17-56.01 Tax Sale Service	263.00	100.00	500.00	500.00	
01-10-17-63.00 Abatement/Purchase	928.77	13.14		-	
01-10-17 Taxes Total	5,541.77	191.58	4,500.00	3,000.00	
01-10-18 Planning and Zoning					
01-10-18-10.00 Salary	39,611.55	58,183.23	46,800.00	53,000.00	
01-10-18-10.11 DRB Salaries	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	
01-10-18-10.12 Planning Salaries	2,000.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	
01-10-18-11.00 Social Security	3,414.74	5,163.21	3,580.20	4,054.50	
01-10-18-14.00 Medical Insurance		4,468.32	4,900.00	4,900.00	
01-10-18-15.00 Life & Disability		65.60	-	358.00	
01-10-18-16.00 Retirement		1,790.11	2,900.00	3,511.25	
01-10-18-21.00 Enforcement	217.09	2,280.58	1,000.00	3,000.00	
01-10-18-21.01 Supplies	246.93	1,304.53		500.00	
01-10-18-21.02 Printing					
01-10-18-22.00 Travel/Training		389.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
01-10-18-23.00 Computer	2,750.64	2,873.90	2,900.00	2,500.00	
01-10-18-27.00 Notices	3,890.60	5,630.77	3,000.00	3,000.00	
01-10-18-27.01 PC Expenses			1,000.00	1,000.00	
01-10-18-40.01 Regional Planning Dues	3,942.50	3,906.50	4,257.90	4,000.00	
01-10-18-56.00 Legal	325.50	42.00	2,500.00	1,500.00	

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01-10-18 Planning and Zoning Total	58,899.55	91,097.75	78,838.10	87,323.75	
01-10-19 Insurance					
01-10-19-11.00 Social Security	93.09	77.42		-	
01-10-19-12.00 Unemployment	2,752.00	2,804.00	2,753.00	2,800.00	
01-10-19-13.00 Workman's Comp	80,240.60	62,931.32	69,209.00	74,000.00	
01-10-19-14.00 Medical Ins	304.85	11,451.26	9,030.00	10,000.00	
01-10-19-16.00 Retirement		(375.08)			
01-10-19-18.00 Coinsurance	(1,245.02)	132,466.80	115,000.00	112,000.00	
01-10-19-19.00 Wellness Program	-	450.00		500.00	
01-10-19-50.00 Property/Liab.	80,474.00	107,666.04	85,000.00	120,081.00	
01-10-19 Insurance Totals	162,619.52	317,471.76	280,992.00	319,381.00	
01-11-21 Police Expense					
01-11-21-10 Police Payroll					
01-11-21-10.00 Salary	373,166.38	428,854.30	360,000.00	458,000.00	
01-11-21-10.11 Police OT	19,797.67	39,336.77	20,000.00	20,000.00	hoping to be at full staff
01-11-21-10.21 PD Services - OKEMO	16,206.00	15,987.00	16,000.00	1,000.00	offset in revenue
01-11-21-10.22 PD Services - Other	60,444.11	62,520.07	5,000.00	1,000.00	offset in revenue
01-11-21-10.23 Payroll for other Services	35,102.92	2,316.19			
01-11-21-10.26 Core Payroll	3,197.83	356.43	5,000.00	1,000.00	
01-11-21-10 Total Police Payroll	507,914.91	549,370.76	406,000.00	481,000.00	
01-11-21-11.00 Social Security	38,532.64	42,518.90	29,070.00	36,567.00	
01-11-21-14.00 Medical Insurance	76,159.20	67,280.33	79,275.00	78,935.00	2022 not at full staff for 4 months
01-11-21-15.00 Life & Disability	705.20	631.40	590.40	2,148.00	
01-11-21-16.00 Retirement	26,109.84	35,384.12	26,100.00	36,012.50	First full year of Group C
01-11-21-17.00 Uniforms	4,798.22	4,323.96	4,000.00	5,200.00	
01-11-21-21.00 Supplies	7,960.24	10,856.95	7,000.00	7,000.00	
01-11-21-21.01 DARE		262.60		300.00	
01-11-21-22.00 Training	1,083.85	2,608.12	5,000.00	5,000.00	
01-11-21-22.01 Travel	2,561.78	587.02	2,500.00	1,000.00	
01-11-21-23.00 Equipment	17,017.68	14,176.74	15,000.00	16,000.00	
01-11-21-29.01 MDC	70.90			-	
01-11-21-29.02 Watch Guard	339.00	-		3,000.00	
01-11-21-34.00 Telephone	5,490.20	4,928.12	6,500.00	6,000.00	
01-11-21-37.00 Computer Services	13,681.06	18,672.99	10,000.00	14,000.00	2 new leases, cyber security
01-11-21-37-03 Contracted Services		175.00	10,000.00	-	
01-11-21-40.00 Police Association	780.00	390.00	900.00	900.00	
01-11-21-56.00 Attorney	21,655.44	19,219.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	
01-11-21-56-01 Consulting		18,644.65	-	-	
01-11-21-68.00 Vehicles-Rep. & Maint	22,500.87	20,317.87	15,000.00	15,000.00	
01-11-21-78.00 Gasoline	13,317.78	20,233.19	10,000.00	17,000.00	est. \$3.50 - favorable bids
01-11-21-90-00 Capital Plan Contribution	52,377.50	11,126.63	11,126.63		Using FB to make payment
01-11-21-90-00 Capital Plan Cont. fr. Surplus					
01-11-21 Police Expense	305,141.40	292,337.59	237,062.03	249,062.50	
01-11-21 Total Police Expense	813,056.31	841,708.35	643,062.03	730,062.50	
01-11-22 Fire Department					
01-11-22-10.00 Salaries	97,830.18	96,688.55	86,000.00	101,000.00	
01-11-22-10.01 Hazmat/Special Detail	938.41		2,000.00	2,000.00	
01-11-22-11.00 Social Security	8,219.29	7,537.40	6,579.00	7,726.50	
01-11-22-13.00 Workers Comp					
01-11-22-17.00 Uniforms	512.73	2,381.57	2,750.00	3,000.00	

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01-11-22-21.00 Supplies	1,278.78	2,382.71	2,000.00	1,750.00	
01-11-22-22.00 Training	903.11	4,171.36	7,150.00	8,500.00	
01-11-22-22.01 Physicals	2,700.00		3,300.00	3,800.00	
01-11-22-34.00 Phone/Ipad/Data Link			2,000.00	1,000.00	
01-11-22-37.00 Contract Service		220.00		-	
01-11-22-40.00 Association Dues	1,450.00	957.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	
01-11-22-66.00 Equipment	28,882.90	24,830.65	33,000.00	36,600.00	
01-11-22-66.01 Foam Expense			3,000.00	2,000.00	
01-11-22-67.00 Radio Maintenance	4,027.01	3,668.86	2,000.00	6,500.00	incl. radio for new truck
01-11-22-67-01 Building Maintenance	149.07	356.62	-	-	
01-11-22-67.02 Equipment Maintenance	5,790.79	6,656.38	6,800.00	8,000.00	
01-11-22-68.00 Vehicle Maintenance	8,720.86	20,631.07	8,700.00	10,000.00	
01-11-22-76-00 Capital Transfer	18,750.00	74,818.44	74,818.44	56,049.72	using FB to pay final 2016 bond pmt
01-11-22-90-00 Bond Transfer	76,085.18				
01-11-22-79.00 Gasoline/Diesel	2,346.88	3,620.56	2,000.00	3,000.00	est. \$3.50 - fovorable bids
01-11-22 Fire Department Totals	258,585.19	248,921.17	244,597.44	253,426.22	
01-11-23 Ambulance					
01-11-23-10.00 Salaries	54,466.83	97,190.84	55,000.00	85,000.00	increase rates again ; also PT positions
01-11-23-10.01 Ambulance Chief	35,831.76	46,397.26	45,000.00	50,000.00	
01-11-23-10-02 Admin Assist Overtime	5,416.87			-	
01-11-23-11.00 Social Security	6,832.91	10,852.54	7,650.00	10,327.50	
01-11-23-13-00 Worker's Comp					
01-11-23-14.00 Medical Insurance	16,957.80	17,359.08	17,360.00	2,820.00	
01-11-23-15.00 Life & Disability	98.40	106.60	98.40	358.00	
01-11-23-16.00 Retirement	3,022.21	3,124.97	2,900.00	3,312.50	
01-11-23-17.00 Uniforms	2,534.67	1,957.52	2,000.00	2,500.00	
01-11-23-19.00 Bad Debt Expense	8,155.02	9,121.01		-	Should see limited amount due to new billing program
01-11-23-21.00 General Exp/Supplies	10,058.57	10,848.77	10,000.00	12,000.00	
01-11-23-21.01 Medical Expense					
01-11-23-22.00 Training	2,204.60	10,770.24	15,000.00	10,000.00	
01-11-23-23.00 Equipment/Computer	2,358.60	5,500.46	2,500.00	2,800.00	lease and cyber
01-11-23-34.00 Ambulance Telephone					
01-11-23-37.00 Billing/Office Expense	5,804.61	2,266.02	5,000.00	5,000.00	comstar
01-11-23-37.01 Intercept	17,650.00	12,875.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	
01-11-23-37.02 Medicaid Provider Tax	3,336.21	2,978.03	3,000.00	3,812.53	
01-11-23-37-03 Contract Services	3,500.00	6,481.53		-	
01-11-23-66.00 Equipment	1,188.83	9,947.63	12,000.00	12,000.00	
01-11-23-67.00 Building Maintenance		4.98			
01-11-23-68.00 Vehicle Maintenance	10,133.23	1,981.88	6,000.00	6,000.00	
01-11-23-78.00 Fuel	1,914.78	3,302.04	1,500.00	2,450.00	Favorable Bids - est. \$3.50
Capital Plan Transfer					
01-11-23 Ambulance Totals	191,465.90	253,066.40	190,008.40	213,380.53	
01-11-26 Communications					
01-11-26-10.00 Dispatching	22,057.49	23,883.04	22,039.00	35,000.00	Added portion for PD
01-11-26-34.01 Telephone	2,642.47	3,449.51	3,000.00	3,000.00	
01-11-26-34.02 Cellular Phones	12,616.40	15,691.39	10,000.00	10,980.00	
01-11-26-67.00 Radio Maintenance	17.95			-	
01-11-26 Communications Totals	37,334.31	43,023.94	35,039.00	48,980.00	
01-11-27 Town Constable					
01-11-27-22.00 Constable Training	-		20.00	20.00	
01-11-27 Town Constable Totals	-	-	20.00	20.00	

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01-12-3 Public Works					
01-12-31 Highway					
01-12-31-10.11 Salary & Hourly	454,206.01	483,275.49	459,000.00	516,000.00	
01-12-31-10.12 Highway Overtime	41,581.62	45,304.59	35,000.00	35,000.00	
01-12-31-11.00 Social Security	41,535.78	41,824.10	37,791.00	42,151.50	
01-12-31-13.00 Worker's Comp					
01-12-31-14.00 Medical Insurance	108,852.37	111,588.68	120,360.00	132,497.00	
01-12-31-15.00 Life & Disability	795.40	787.20	792.00	3,222.00	
01-12-31-16.00 Retirement	31,272.13	33,917.60	29,900.00	36,437.50	
01-12-31-17.00 Uniforms	9,567.23	8,241.80	9,000.00	8,000.00	
01-12-31-21.00 Supplies	6,951.94	9,691.22	8,000.00	10,000.00	
01-12-31-21.01 Road Sign Replacement	542.38	1,349.67	500.00	2,000.00	
01-12-31-22.00 Training/CDL Reimb.	1,012.00	1,084.00	1,500.00	1,000.00	
01-12-31-30.01 Garage Utilities	7,438.15	6,393.23	6,300.00	6,300.00	
01-12-31-30.02 Street Lights	25,298.50	26,184.05	25,000.00	25,000.00	
01-12-31-31.00 Garage Water-Sewer	1,337.67	1,550.01	1,500.00	1,500.00	
01-12-31-34.00 Telephone	1,540.44	2,171.94	1,500.00	2,000.00	
01-12-31-37.01 Contract Service	5,465.00	23,696.25	14,000.00	12,000.00	Oil Tank removal;
01-12-31-37.02 Mowing	2,380.72	3,350.42	3,500.00	3,500.00	
01-12-31-58.00 Gravel Pit Installation	15,818.28	160.00	5,000.00	-	
01-12-31-37-03 ComputerService	930.00	1,252.40	950.00	1,200.00	cyber
01-12-31-56-01 Act 250/Extraction Start	1,144.71			-	
01-12-31-60.00 Culverts	6,391.85	11,245.40	8,000.00	13,000.00	
01-12-31-66.01 Tools/Equipment	3,352.20	3,844.31	4,000.00	5,000.00	
01-12-31-66.02 Equipment	8,427.96	1,116.49	20,000.00	12,000.00	purchase storage container that is being used now
01-12-31-66.03 Chains & Blades	15,666.88	15,079.90	18,000.00	18,000.00	
01-12-31-67.00 Communications	992.00		1,000.00	1,000.00	
01-12-31-68.00 Vehicle Maintenance	60,272.01	69,302.66	70,000.00	75,000.00	Work needed on Excavator and Grader
01-12-31-69.00 Garage Maint.	12,685.13	7,256.21	5,000.00	5,000.00	
01-12-31-70.01 Gravel	54,280.00	50,402.73	50,000.00	60,000.00	Crusher to process what we have
01-12-31-70.03 Rip Rap	3,463.00	3,771.03	6,000.00	6,000.00	
01-12-31-71.00 Salt	41,021.90	59,281.74	50,000.00	65,000.00	
01-12-31-72.00 Sand	69,178.00	57,498.00	60,000.00	70,000.00	
01-12-31-73.00 Calcium Chloride	7,476.00	7,786.95	10,000.00	8,000.00	
01-12-31-74.01 Bond Plan Transfer-Paving	155,508.65	219,538.96	219,538.96	199,983.15	
01-12-31-74.02 Hot Mix	1,512.76	3,219.48	5,000.00	5,000.00	
01-12-31-75.00 General Road Permits	1,960.00	2,040.00	2,000.00	2,040.00	
01-12-31-76.00 Capital Plan Transfer Sid	135,233.30	159,924.77	159,924.77	175,329.50	
01-12-31-77.00 Bridge Material	32,294.72	31,740.68	40,000.00	40,000.00	
01-12-31-79.00 Diesel/Gas	126,174.24	179,811.68	100,000.00	120,000.00	Very favorable bid from a larger supplier out of MA
01-12-31-80.00 Truck Replacement	12,400.00			-	
01-31-31-81.00 Paving				-	
01-12-31 Highway Totals	1,505,960.93	1,684,683.64	1,588,056.73	1,718,160.65	
Highway Total Expenses	1,505,960.93	1,684,683.64	1,588,056.73	1,718,160.65	
Highway Total Revenues	262,323.43	288,797.85	307,255.08	225,708.35	
Net Highway Budget to be raised:	1,243,637.50	1,395,885.79	1,280,801.65	1,492,452.30	
01-12-32 Solid Waste					
01-12-32-37.02 Transfer Station	35,000.00	35,000.00	35,000.00	35,000.00	
01-12-32-95.00 Green Up Day	965.12	842.07	1,500.00	1,000.00	
01-12-32 Solid Waste Total	35,965.12	35,842.07	36,500.00	36,000.00	

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01-13-41 Health & Welfare					
01-13-41-10.00 Health Officer Salary	2,600.00	2,600.00	2,700.00	-	included with Ambulance personnel
01-13-41-11.00 Social Security	194.50	193.08	206.55	-	
01-13-41-22-00 Training			150.00	-	
01-13-41-55-00 Animal Care	778.89			-	
01-13-41-56-00 Legal		200.00		-	
01-13-41 Health & Welfare Totals	3,573.39	2,993.08	3,056.55	-	
01-14-51 Recreation					
01-14-51-10.00 Rec. Payroll	57,959.57	63,838.37	58,000.00	68,000.00	
01-14-51-10-01 Lifeguard Payroll	11,840.03	13,424.32	19,000.00	17,000.00	
01-14-51-11.00 Social Security	5,250.45	5,700.37	5,890.50	5,202.00	
01-14-51-13-00 Worker's Comp					
01-14-51-14.00 Medical Insurance	16,957.80	17,359.08	17,360.00	19,770.00	
01-14-51-15.00 Life & Disability	98.40	106.60	98.40	358.00	
01-14-51-16.00 Retirement	3,603.94	4,069.78	3,600.00	4,505.00	
01-14-51-21.00 Babe Ruth Baseball		17.58			
01-14-51-21.03 Sports for Squirts		60.00	100.00	100.00	
01-14-51-21.04 League Fee Expense		465.75	500.00	500.00	
01-14-51-21.06 GM Sports Camp	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	
01-14-51-21.09 Dance Camp	631.88	60.00	500.00	200.00	
01-14-51-21.12 Black Fly	1,040.00	850.00	800.00	800.00	
01-14-51-21.13 Baseball	2,097.40	2,983.34	2,000.00	2,000.00	
01-14-51-21.16 Fall Soccer	1,168.64	1,415.98	1,200.00	1,200.00	
01-14-51-21.18 Soccer Camps	1,025.00	1,019.95	800.00	800.00	
01-14-51-21.20 Basketball	1,270.64	1,892.08	1,000.00	1,000.00	
01-14-51-21.23 Wall Climbing Camp		120.00	400.00	400.00	
01-14-51-21.24 Winter Carnival	668.11	3,202.45	2,000.00	3,500.00	
01-14-51-21-26 Dance/Ballet		450.00			
01-14-51-21-27 Volleyball	117.92	267.34	200.00	200.00	
01-14-51-21-28 Wrestling		732.60		800.00	
01-14-51 Recreation Total	104,029.78	118,335.59	113,748.90	126,635.00	
01-14-52 Parks & Cemeteries					
01-14-52-10.00 Salary	44,874.63	37,921.81	45,000.00	43,000.00	
01-14-52-11.00 Social Security	223.93	1,806.77	3,442.50	3,289.50	
01-14-52-14.00 Medical Insurance	16,957.80	23,145.44	17,360.00	11,286.00	
01-14-52-15.00 Life Insurance	98.40	114.80	98.40	358.00	
01-14-52-16.00 Retirement	2,642.19	1,974.61	2,740.00	2,848.75	
01-14-52-17.00 Uniforms	916.89	998.36	700.00	700.00	
01-14-52-21.00 Supplies	2,087.62	2,002.97	2,000.00	1,500.00	
01-14-52-30.00 Power on the Green	478.60	436.58	450.00	450.00	
01-14-52-31.00 Water	480.00	480.00	600.00	600.00	
01-14-52-37.01 Contract Labor	206.25	200.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
01-14-52-37.02 Trees	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	-	Tree work from public Funds
01-14-52-37.03 Perpetual Care					
01-14-52-55.00 Survey					
01-14-52-66.00 Equipment	1,542.35	1,956.11	3,000.00	1,500.00	
01-14-52-69.00 Cemetery Shed		131.24			
01-14-52-95.01 Memorial Day	556.20	613.00	500.00	600.00	
01-14-52-90.00 Capital/Bond Plan	1,866.14	17,051.28	17,051.28	-	using FB for final 2016 bond pmt
01-14-52-99.00 Miscellaneous	456.50	482.03			
01-14-52 Parks & Cemeteries Total	81,387.50	97,315.00	101,942.18	67,132.25	

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01-14-55 Library					
01-14-55-21.00 Library Expenses	2,472.50	489.62	2,000.00	1,000.00	
01-14-55-30.00 Utilities	4,943.21	5,148.70	4,500.00	4,000.00	replaced lighting
01-14-55-31.00 Water/Sewer	687.52	696.75	1,000.00	1,000.00	
01-14-55-32.00 Fuel	4,970.18	5,914.09	5,000.00	4,500.00	
01-14-55-69.00 Repairs/Maint.	9,375.43	15,664.58	5,000.00	5,000.00	2022 - new lighting; work on heating system; sprinkler system
01-14-55-90.00 Library Fund	81,200.00	93,000.00	93,000.00	98,000.00	
01-14-55 Library Total	103,648.84	120,913.74	110,500.00	113,500.00	
01-14-56 Town Hall					
01-14-56-21.00 Supplies	2,005.70	2,513.12	2,000.00	2,000.00	
01-14-56-30.00 Utilities	8,320.72	5,858.17	8,500.00	6,000.00	
01-14-56-31.00 Water/Sewer	775.99	742.92	1,000.00	800.00	
01-14-56-32.00 Fuel	6,223.83	10,294.50	6,000.00	6,000.00	
01-14-56-37.01 Cleaning Service	7,110.00	8,430.00	7,320.00	7,950.00	
01-14-56-37.02 Rubbish	5,636.44	5,534.45	4,000.00	4,000.00	
01-14-56-69.00 Repairs/Maint.	5,553.12	9,134.46	5,000.00	5,000.00	
01-14-56-69-02 Renovations	13,678.84	11,863.49	10,000.00	2,000.00	conference room
01-14-56 Town Hall Total	49,304.64	54,371.11	43,820.00	33,750.00	
01-14-57 Revitalization					
01-14-57-69.01 Website Maintenance	144.00	488.16	1,000.00	500.00	
01-14-57-69.02 Historic Facility Mainten	18,820.77	20.58	60,000.00	20,000.00	Snow guards & dehumidifiers from ARPA
01-14-57-69-03 Misc Maintenance	1,075.25	1,620.53	8,000.00	5,000.00	
01-14-57-69-04 Landscaping			4,000.00	1,000.00	
01-14-57-69-05 Info Booth Expense	4,958.65	4,809.24	3,500.00	3,500.00	
01-14-57-69-06 Spring. Reg. Dev. Corp.	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	
Chester Events				4,000.00	fall festival and overture
01-14-57-69-07 Marketing Exp	3,768.00	6,199.95	5,000.00	5,000.00	
01-14-57 Revitalization Total	38,766.67	23,138.46	91,500.00	49,000.00	
01-14-58 Recreation Facilities					
01-14-58-21.01 Supplies	3,741.54	3,542.13	3,500.00	3,500.00	
01-14-58-21.02 Food Supplies		9.53	200.00	200.00	
01-14-58-22.00 Lifeguard Exp	297.82	856.86	500.00	500.00	
01-14-58-23.00 Equipment Purchase	7,827.40	150.88	1,500.00	500.00	
01-14-58-29.00 Computer	1,358.76	1,431.05	1,375.00	1,200.00	
01-14-58-30.00 Utilities	3,174.56	4,664.64	4,500.00	4,500.00	
01-14-58-31.00 Water/Sewer	941.98	1,646.75	1,000.00	1,000.00	
01-14-58-34.00 Telephone	1,187.04	1,376.31	1,000.00	1,000.00	
01-14-58-60.00 Pool Maintenance	6,980.09	4,654.78	3,500.00	6,000.00	anticipating plumbing repairs for pumps; roof repairs
01-14-58-68.01 Vehicle Expense	3,599.96	3,599.96	4,000.00	4,000.00	
01-14-58-69.00 Facility Repair	3,069.47	8,615.38	6,000.00	8,000.00	
01-14-58-69.01 Skating Rink Maintenance	238.65		300.00	300.00	
01-14-58-69.02 Disc Golf	600.00	613.15	600.00	600.00	
01-14-58-69-02 Capital/Bond Plan	9,246.14	9,490.28	9,490.28	-	From FB last pmt for 2016 bond
01-14-58-70-00 Batting Cage					
01-14-58 Recreation Facilities Total	42,263.41	40,651.70	37,465.28	31,300.00	
01-14-59 Emergency Services Bldg					
01-14-59-21-00 Supplies	4,462.54	2,674.95	2,000.00	2,000.00	
01-14-59-30-00 Utilities	6,225.07	18,303.36	4,000.00	12,000.00	Steve is working on controls that will allow different settings throughout building

Town of Chester, Vermont
2023 General Fund Budget
Approved 1.20.23

Account	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Budget Notes
01-14-59-31-00 Water/Sewer	1,864.64	727.68	3,000.00	1,000.00	
01-14-59-32-00 Fuel	7,095.00	12,559.29	6,000.00	10,000.00	
01-14-59-37-01 Cleaning Service	3,395.00	9,210.00	9,000.00	-	inhouse by PT ambulance staff
01-14-59-69-00 Repairs & Maintenance	377.90	5,424.58	1,000.00	2,500.00	
01-14-59-69-01 Grounds Maintenance		485.03	17,000.00	4,000.00	start landscaping; slope stabilization with riprap
01-14-59-69-02 Initial Start Up Expense	138,664.37	4,261.16		-	
01-14-59 Emergency Svc Services Bldg	162,084.52	53,646.05	42,000.00	31,500.00	
01-14-60 Facilities Director					
01-14-60-10-00 Salary		40,362.00	47,000.00	50,200.00	
01-14-60-11-00 Social Security		3,080.04	3,595.50	3,840.30	
01-14-60-14-00 Medical Insurance		9,266.40	12,730.00	14,065.00	
01-14-60-15-00 Life & Disability		114.80	98.40	358.00	
01-14-60-16-00 Retirement		2,935.19	2,996.00	3,325.75	
01-14-60-17-00 Uniforms		470.68	-	500.00	
01-14-60-68.00 Vehicle Maintenance		667.89			
01-14-60 Facilities Director Total	-	56,897.00	66,419.90	72,289.05	
01-16-75 Other Govt. Expenditures					
01-16-75-41.00 County Tax	26,159.00	27,284.46	27,000.00	27,000.00	
01-16-75 Other Govt. Expenditures Total	26,159.00	27,284.46	27,000.00	27,000.00	
01-17-80 Transfer Accounts					
01-17-80-40.00 GMUSD Assessment	5,369,390.41	4,708,544.48	5,020,000.00	4,800,000.00	
01-17-80-90.00 Transfer - Capital/Bond	400,304.09	242,775.25	242,775.25	172,364.63	use FB for last land pmt
01-17-80-90-01 Transfer Cap. From Surplus (sidewalks)				-	
01-17-80-90-01 Transfer - Grant Fund	30,000.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	
01-17-80-90-02 Transfer - Reserve Fund	20,000.00			-	
01-17-80 Transfer Accounts Total	5,819,694.50	4,991,319.73	5,302,775.25	5,012,364.63	
Total Expenditures	10,023,196.49	9,663,494.28	9,549,344.36	9,523,442.33	
Less L623 (GMUSD)	5,369,390.41	4,708,544.48	5,020,000.00	4,800,000.00	
Other Revenue (less taxes Line 7)	1,124,571.68	1,170,857.83	1,040,394.52	1,023,407.53	
Net Budget voted at Town Meeting			3,488,949.84	3,700,034.80	
				211,084.96	Budget Increase over 2022
01-18-81 Voted Articles					
01-18-81-95.21 Visiting Nurses	13,807.00	13,807.00	13,807.00	13,807.00	
01-18-81-95.22 Health Care & Rehab	3,044.00	3,044.00	3,044.00	3,044.00	
01-18-81-95.23 Council on Aging	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	
01-18-81-95.25 CT River Transit	2,250.00	2,250.00	2,250.00	2,250.00	
01-18-81-95.26 Meals & Wheels	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	-	
01-18-81-95.27 Family Center	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	
01-18-81-95.28 RSVP	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	
01-18-81-95.32 Windsor County Partner	800.00	800.00	800.00	800.00	
01-18-81-95.34 SEVCA	3,040.00	3,040.00	3,040.00	3,040.00	
01-18-81-95.36 Women's Freedom Center	900.00	900.00	900.00	900.00	
01-18-81-95.37 Chester Fireworks	2,500.00		2,500.00	2,500.00	
01-18-81-95.87 Community Cares	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00	
01-18-81-95. Neighborhood Connections	2,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	
01-18-81 Voted Articles Total	39,241.00	35,741.00	38,241.00	34,241.00	
Total Expenditures	10,062,437.49	9,699,235.28	9,587,585.36	9,557,683.33	
Net Fund Balance	(238,490.20)	5,434.76	152,809.16	(4,275.80)	

Revenue	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Ending Balance previous year	\$ 491,527.27	\$ 508,000.00	\$ 125,569.56	\$ 125,569.56	\$ 125,569.56	\$ 125,569.56	\$ 125,569.56	\$ 125,569.56	\$ 125,569.56	\$ 125,569.56
Highway (current expenses)	\$ 380,932.70	\$ 375,312.44	\$ 371,181.25	\$ 315,829.70	\$ 231,662.04	\$ 129,943.88	\$ 78,172.92	\$ 41,682.00	\$ 11,341.00	\$ -
Highway (proposed expenses)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 91,000.00	\$ 91,000.00	\$ 91,000.00	\$ 91,000.00	\$ 91,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ -
Highway (rev. sidewalks)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Fire Department (current exp)	\$ 74,818.44	\$ 56,050.20	\$ 56,665.14	\$ 55,369.03	\$ 57,860.00	\$ 56,400.00	\$ 54,875.00	\$ 53,300.00	\$ 51,670.00	\$ -
Fire Department (proposed expense)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 37,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Police Department (current exp)	\$ 11,126.63	\$ -	\$ 10,604.01	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Police Department (proposed if)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 12,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Recreation (Bond Items)	\$ 9,490.28	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Cemetery (Bond Items)	\$ 1,751.28	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Ambulance (Proposed expenses)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other (current expenses)	\$ 242,775.25	\$ 172,364.63	\$ 347,984.41	\$ 345,342.81	\$ 342,236.10	\$ 337,351.06	\$ 333,914.12	\$ 329,806.36	\$ 325,232.70	\$ 320,195.10
Water Contribution	\$ 6,556.42	\$ 6,431.53	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sewer Contribution	\$ 20,871.84	\$ 20,447.20	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Revenue	\$ 1,239,850.11	\$ 1,138,606.00	\$ 1,082,704.37	\$ 975,811.10	\$ 891,027.70	\$ 782,964.50	\$ 713,751.60	\$ 640,557.92	\$ 604,013.26	\$ 475,964.66

Current Expenses - Capital Plan:

2019 Loader - 129500/4 yrs/3%	\$ 34,524.96	\$ 33,618.21								
2020 Palmer Bridge - 96000/4 yrs,	\$ 25,706.78	\$ 25,194.04	\$ 24,669.50							
2020 Dump Truck - 140,000/5 yrs,	\$ 30,968.00	\$ 30,226.00	\$ 29,484.00	\$ 28,742.00						
2020 Backhoe - 110,000/10 yrs/ 3	\$ 14,069.00	\$ 13,728.00	\$ 13,387.00	\$ 13,046.00	\$ 12,705.00	\$ 12,364.00	\$ 12,023.00	\$ 11,682.00	\$ 11,341.00	
2020 Paving - 100,000/4 yrs/2.5%	\$ 26,875.00	\$ 26,250.00	\$ 25,625.00							
2020 Cruiser - 41,000/4 yrs/2.75%	\$ 11,126.63	\$ 10,868.86	\$ 10,604.01							
2021 Dump Truck - 130,000/5 yrs	\$ 29,250.00	\$ 28,681.25	\$ 28,098.28	\$ 27,500.74	\$ 26,888.26					
2021 Depot Street Sidewalk 200,c	\$ -	\$ 200,000.00								
2022 Pickup Trucks - 85000/4yrs	\$ -	\$ 21,250.00	\$ 21,250.00	\$ 21,250.00	\$ 21,250.00					
2022 Paving & Popple Dungeon - 210000/7 yrs	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	
2022 Cruiser - 50,000/4 years	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 12,500.00				

Proposed Expenses - Capital Plan - purchased in 2023

Highway Dump Truck 155,000/5 y	\$ -	\$ 31,000.00	\$ 31,000.00	\$ 31,000.00	\$ 31,000.00	\$ 31,000.00	\$ 31,000.00	\$ 31,000.00	\$ 31,000.00	\$ 31,000.00
Ambulance - 302,000/10 years	\$ -	\$ 30,200.00	\$ 30,200.00	\$ 30,200.00	\$ 30,200.00	\$ 30,200.00	\$ 30,200.00	\$ 30,200.00	\$ 30,200.00	\$ 30,200.00
Fire Truck - Tanker -	\$ -	\$ 37,000.00								

Current Expenses - Bond Plan:

2016 (823,065) Other - Land	\$ 69,453.65	\$ 68,079.81								
paving - highway	\$ -	\$ 9,490.28	\$ 9,290.44							
Recreation	\$ 17,617.98	\$ 17,268.28								
Fire	\$ 20,871.84	\$ 20,447.20								
Sewer	\$ 6,556.42	\$ 6,431.53								
Water	\$ 1,751.28	\$ 1,726.31								
Cemetery	\$ 57,200.46	\$ 56,050.20	\$ 56,665.14	\$ 55,369.03	\$ 57,860.00	\$ 56,400.00	\$ 54,875.00	\$ 53,300.00	\$ 51,670.00	
2017 (920,000) Fire	\$ 42,449.00	\$ 41,578.53								
Highway - equipment	\$ 53,811.25	\$ 52,723.17	\$ 53,403.76	\$ 52,158.48						
Highway - Const. projects	\$ 56,474.71	\$ 55,478.68	\$ 54,420.99	\$ 53,296.90	\$ 52,073.20					
2018 (669,000) Highway - Equipr	\$ 5,909.29	\$ 5,811.64	\$ 5,707.94	\$ 5,597.74	\$ 5,477.77					
Other - Parklet	\$ 48,801.71	\$ 47,942.39	\$ 47,029.87	\$ 46,060.07	\$ 45,001.33	\$ 47,593.20	\$ 46,279.44	\$ 44,884.08	\$ 43,537.68	\$ 42,174.96
Other - Town Hall	\$ 54,817.00	\$ 54,117.00	\$ 53,407.00	\$ 52,657.00	\$ 51,867.00	\$ 51,037.00				
2019 (300,000) Highway - Paving	\$ 118,610.60	\$ 118,610.60	\$ 295,246.60	\$ 293,685.00	\$ 291,757.00	\$ 289,757.86	\$ 287,634.68	\$ 284,922.28	\$ 281,695.02	\$ 278,020.14
2020 (4,777,194) EMS Building - c	\$ 11,987.00	\$ 37,664.30	\$ 37,435.72	\$ 37,178.58	\$ 36,878.58	\$ 36,542.88	\$ 36,149.92			
2021 (250,000) Highway - Paving	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	

Proposed Expense - Bond Plan - paving in 2023 (\$420,000 - \$300k paving, \$80k Route 35, \$40k GMT)

2023 Paving Bond, Rt. 35 & GMT Bridge	\$ -	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
Total Expenses:	\$ 748,322.84	\$ 1,013,036.44	\$ 957,134.81	\$ 850,241.54	\$ 765,458.14	\$ 657,394.94	\$ 588,162.04	\$ 514,988.36	\$ 478,443.70	\$ 350,395.10
Carry Forward/Fund Balance	\$ 491,527.27	\$ 125,569.56	\$ 125,569.56	\$ 125,569.56	\$ 125,569.56	\$ 125,569.56	\$ 125,569.56	\$ 125,569.56	\$ 125,569.56	\$ 125,569.56

Town of Chester
Summary of Small Funds
2022

ACADEMY FUND		
Balance January 1, 2022	\$	3,512.25
Interest	\$	-
Income	\$	-
Expenditure	\$	-
Balance December 31, 2022	\$	3,512.25

CHESTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND		
Loan Interest Income	\$	152.42
Mini Grant	\$	1,000.00
Total Revenue	\$	1,152.42
Marketing	\$	309.33
Cobleigh Charging Station	\$	3,461.06
Labor	\$	117.43
CDF - Grant/Loan Expense	\$	500.00
Wayfinding Signage Expense	\$	580.00
Canopy Projects		
Total Expenses	\$	4,967.82
Interest Income - Investment	\$	(4,595.83)
Bank Charges - Investment	\$	4,616.11
Gain/Loss	\$	77,263.14
Other Income Expense	\$	77,283.42
Balance December 31, 2022	\$	(81,098.82)
People's Investment Balance 01/01/2022	\$	485,254.05
Investment Interest Income	\$	3,953.89
Bank Charges - Investment	\$	4,616.11
Gain/Loss	\$	(86,495.36)
People's Investment Balance 12/31/22	\$	407,328.69

EMS BUILDING FUND		
Balance January 1, 2022	\$	(4,693.45)
Interest	\$	-
Feasibility Study		
Balance December 31, 2022	\$	(4,693.45)

FORFEITURE FUND		
Balance January 1, 2022	\$	9,161.75
Interest	\$	-
Income	\$	450.00
Expenditure	\$	548.16
Balance December 31, 2022	\$	9,063.59

HURRICANE IRENE FUND		
Balance January 1, 2022	\$	(92,776.10)
Income	\$	-
Act 250 Expense	\$	(236.00)
Balance December 31, 2022	\$	(93,012.10)
account will be made whole at the end of Act 250 permitting		

POLICE COMMUNITY RESOURCE		
Balance January 1, 2022	\$	1,380.88
Interest	\$	0.40
Donations	\$	300.00
Fund Transfer	\$	-
Expenditure	\$	552.26
Balance December 31, 2022	\$	1,129.02

LISTER TRAINING FUND		
Balance January 1, 2022	\$	2,686.34
State Payment	\$	-
Expense	\$	-
Balance December 31, 2022	\$	2,686.34

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING FUND		
Balance January 1, 2022	\$	5,684.00
Donations	\$	-
Expense	\$	-
Balance December 31, 2022	\$	5,684.00

REAPPRAISAL FUND		
Balance January 1, 2022	\$	128,779.65
2022 State of Vermont Payment	\$	15,844.00
Expense	\$	-
Balance December 31, 2022	\$	144,623.65

RECREATION DONATION FUND		
Balance January 1, 2022	\$	8,033.49
Interest	\$	-
Donations	\$	7,117.02
Fund Transfer	\$	-
Expenditure	\$	5,480.40
Balance December 31, 2022	\$	9,670.11

SAM ADAMS POOR FUND		
Balance January 1, 2022	\$	3,768.37
Interest	\$	-
Income	\$	-
Fund Transfer	\$	-
Expenditure	\$	-
Balance December 31, 2022	\$	3,768.37

250th Celebration		
Balance January 1, 2022	\$	56.50
Donations	\$	-
Expenditure	\$	-
Balance December 31, 2022	\$	56.50

RECORDING RESERVE FUND		
Balance January 1, 2022	\$	35,101.00
Recording Reserve	\$	3,564.00
Recording Income	\$	10,192.00
Balance December 31, 2022	\$	48,857.00

ARPA - AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND		
Balance January 1, 2022	\$	417,485.15
ARPA Income	\$	451,976.16
ARPA Expense	\$	363,733.39
Balance December 31, 2022	\$	505,727.92

TOWN CLERK/TREASURER'S OFFICE REPORT

In 2019, Assistant Town Clerk Amie O'Brien started a three-year weeklong course to become a Certified Municipal Clerk. New England Municipal Clerks Institute (NEMCI) is a weeklong course every year in July at Plymouth State College. The course was cancelled in 2020 and 2021 due to Covid. In 2022 Amie got to continue her education, was elected President of her class and has worked very hard to complete this intense course. In July 2023 Amie will graduate from NEMCI.

Our land records are now available online at, <https://www.chestervt.gov>, <https://countyfusion12.kofiletech.us/countyweb/loginDisplay.action?town=ChesterVT&countyname=TownFu> sion, back to 1982. In 2022 we will be using ARPA money or applying for a grant to digitize the remainder of the land records back to the 1800's.

The Elections for 2023 are as follows:

- Town Meeting Informational Meeting is March 6th at 6:00 p.m.
- Town and School Voting is March 7th from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., at the Town Hall, Second Floor.

An absentee ballot can be requested by calling the Town Clerk's Office, (875-2173) Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., emailing deborah.aldrich@chestervt.gov or amie.obrien@chestervt.gov, or on the My Voter Page. We encourage voters to log into their My Voter Page to learn more. Registered Voters can log in at mvp.vermont.gov and online registration can be found at olvr.vermont.gov.

On Vermont's Elections Management System/My Voter Page, a registered voter can check registration status, view information on upcoming elections, access voter specific elections information including directions to a polling place and polling hours, view a sample ballot, request, and track an absentee ballot, and much more.

All dogs must be registered by April 1, 2022. The costs are as follows: Neutered/Spayed = \$9.00, Non-Neutered/Spayed = \$13.00. After April 1: Neutered/Spayed = \$11.00, Non-Neutered/Spayed = \$17.00. There will be a Rabies Clinic on Saturday, March 12, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., at the Chester Emergency Services Building, 130 Pleasant Street. Rabies shots are \$15.00 per dog. Dog licenses will be available at the Rabies Clinic.

Some of the things that are available at the Town Clerk's Office are: Dog Licenses, which are due by April 1st, Motor Vehicle Renewals, accompanied by the renewal form that you receive from the State along with a check made out to the VT DMV; we can do the current month and two previous months, Fish & Game Licenses, which are now computerized, Springfield Recycling Center stickers and punch cards, Civil Marriage Licenses, and Voter Registration. Our office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. However, staff is available outside of these hours if prior arrangements are made. Property taxes will be due September 15, 2022, and Water/Sewer billing is done quarterly.

I would like to thank our Office Staff, Amie O'Brien, Assistant Town Clerk; Cil Mathews, Bookkeeper and Julie Hance, Town Manager, Highway and Water/Sewer Departments, Police Department and Fire and Ambulance Services and the citizens of Chester for your dedication and hard work to the Town of Chester. If you have any questions, please give us a call at the Town Office (802) 875-2173.

Deborah J. Aldrich, Town Clerk/Treasurer
Amie O'Brien, Assistant Town Clerk

2023 DOG AND CAT RABIES CLINIC CHESTER, VERMONT

**Saturday, March 11, 2023, 10:30 a.m. to Noon
at the Chester Public Safety Building**

Rabies shot cost \$15 per animal

Dog Licenses are available for Chester residents

**Reminder to renew dog licenses by April 1:
Neutered: \$9; Non-Neutered: \$13**

**After April 1:
Neutered: \$11; Non-Neutered: \$17**



INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLYING FOR THE Vermont Spay Neuter Incentive Program (VSNIP)

What help is available?

Eligible Vermonters can get vouchers that allow them to have their dogs and cats spayed or neutered for a copay of \$27 per animal.

The program is funded by a surcharge added to the registration fees for dogs.

Who is eligible?

To be eligible, you must:

- ⇒ Live in Vermont
- ⇒ Have gotten your pet for free or a small fee
- ⇒ Qualify based on your public benefits or household income

What does the copay cover?

The copay covers a pre-surgical exam, pain management before and during surgery, the surgery, an overnight stay if needed, a distemper vaccine series, one rabies vaccination and suture removal after surgery.

It does not cover:

- ⇒ Pain management after surgery
- ⇒ Optional procedures such as a blood panel
- ⇒ Procedures associated with complications that arise during or after surgery (e.g., animal in heat or pregnant, fleas & ticks, parasites, infection and incision repair)

Ask about all possible charges that are not covered by VSNIP — BEFORE THE SURGERY. You may decline any recommended optional procedures and go to another office.

How do I apply?

1. Fully complete the application.
IF IT IS NOT FULLY COMPLETE, YOUR APPLICATION MAY BE DENIED OR DELAYED.
2. Answer the questions completely & honestly.
We'll verify the information you provide.
3. Send the following to the address at the bottom of this page:
 - ⇒ Your completed application.
 - ⇒ Copies of any supporting documents.
 - ⇒ A self-addressed, stamped envelope with enough postage on it.
4. If it's complete, your application will be processed within five (5) business days.

What happens next?

1. If approved, we'll mail your voucher(s) to you. *They must be used within 60 days.*
2. Once you receive them, schedule the surgery with a participating vet right away.
3. Present the voucher(s) and \$27 copay per animal on or before the day of the surgery.

Where can I get more info?

- ⇒ Visit vsnip.vt.gov
- ⇒ Call 1-844-448-7647.

❖IMPORTANT❖

At this time, apply for all your pets that have not been spayed/neutered. Spaying or neutering them early on may increase their chance for a longer, healthier life.

2022 VITAL STATISTICS

Federal regulations (Intelligence Reform Law and the Real ID Act) have been issued and one of the areas affected is accessibility to vital records. These regulations have resulted in a more stringent protocol for obtaining certified copies and a tracking system for those who request certified copies. States have been required to implement new security standards regarding accessibility to birth and death certificates.

With fraud and identity theft on the increase and for the protection of the public, statistical information only will be printed.

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please feel free to give us a call or stop by the office.

Deborah J. Aldrich
Town Clerk

Statistical information for 2022:

Civil Marriages - 28

Births - 9

Deaths – 23

Burials – 13

The New Vital Records Law (Act 46) and What It Means for You

The Vermont Legislature passed Act 46 and the changes went into effect July 1, 2019, which significantly changes the state laws that govern vital records –namely, birth and death certificates. The new law and rules will enhance the safety and security of birth and death certificates, provide better protection against misuse of these legal documents, and reduce the potential for identity theft. Additionally, the changes streamline the entire statewide system for creation, storage and tracking of birth and death certificates. Act 46 will impact anyone who seeks a copy of a Vermont birth or death certificate.

The most notable changes are:

- Only family members (as defined in Act 46), legal guardians, certain court-appointed parties, or legal representatives of any of these parties can apply to obtain a certified copy of a birth or death certificate. In the case of a death certificate only, the funeral home or crematorium handling disposition may apply for a certified copy.
- An individual must complete an application and show valid identification when applying for a certified copy of a birth or death certificate.
- An individual who refuses to complete the application or cannot provide valid identification will be ineligible and referred to the Vital Records Office.
- Certified copies of birth and death certificates can be ordered from any town, not just where the birth or death occurred or where the person was a resident.
- Certified copies will be issued on anti-fraud paper.
- Access to noncertified copies (previously called “informational” copies) is not significantly changed by the new law or rules.
- Marriage, civil union, divorce or dissolution certificate copies and processes are not affected by the new law or rules.

2022 LISTERS REPORT

For this past year we have been busy keeping up with all the additional property sales since COVID. We were not the only town to see such a flurry of sales activity. It happened all over the state and has had consequences for many towns. We received the following in a letter from the state Tax Department:

"The preliminary results of the 2022 Equalization Study indicate that 165 of the 254 municipalities analyzed have a Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) or Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) that fall outside of the statutory bounds and will be subject to a reappraisal order (CLA <85%, CLA>115% or COD>20%)."

The good news for Chester is that we are not one of the towns required to be reappraised.

Tax maps and lister property cards can be accessed through a link on the Lister page on the Town of Chester web site. Commercial Lister Card links are at the bottom of the Lister page.

Office hours for the Listers are:

Tuesday and Thursday 10am to 2pm

Phone: 802 875-2173

e-mail: listers@chestervt.gov

Town Planner and Zoning Administrator

It is my pleasure to serve as Chester's Town Planner and Zoning Administrator, having been hired in May of 2021. I live in Woodstock and my career spans 24 years with the Vermont Land Trust and 17 years in planning and zoning, most recently as Town Planner and Zoning Administrator for Killington.

As Zoning Administrator, I issue zoning permits and oversee their compliance, and provide staff support to the Development Review Board. Signs, home occupations, home businesses, changes in use, subdivisions, boundary line adjustments, new construction, and additions all require a zoning permit. The Town of Chester webpage (www.chestervt.gov) contains a lot of good information including the Unified Development Bylaws and permit application forms.

Like many Vermont towns, Chester saw a 2020 jump in zoning permits due to the pandemic, urban unrest, and a shift to remote work. This trend has continued through 2021 and 2022.



As Town Planner, I provide staff support to the Planning Commission in all facets of its work including updates of the Town Plan and amendments to the Unified Development Bylaws. I also work with the Planning Commission, Town Manager, and Select Board to identify and resolve obstacles to providing affordable housing, essential businesses, and employment opportunities within the Town. I am pleased to have been able to assist Sugar Bob's Finest Kind in purchasing the former Baba À Louis building this year.

I am grateful for the assistance of Cathy Hasbrouck in the paper chase of implementing updates to the development bylaws, issuing DRB decisions, and providing meeting packages for the Planning Commission, and for her helpful advice on all things Chester.

Preston Bristow

Town Planner and Zoning Administrator

(802) 875-2173

zoning@chestervt.gov

Town Hall office hours: Monday-Thursday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM and by appointment

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission had a very busy and productive 2022. Under a state Municipal Planning Grant, we enlisted the services of the Mount Ascutney Regional Commission to partner with the Planning Commission and Town Planner to continue to evolve the Unified Development Zoning Bylaws (UDB) to support the needs of the Chester community, better align with the Town Plan and reduce barriers to creating opportunities for more housing. These are the key activities and accomplishments for 2022:

- Defined and established a new **Village Green zoning district** that recognizes and supports the unique character and requirements along the Chester Green
- Conducted four **community workshops** to help inform the upcoming work of re-writing the Zoning bylaws
- Developed and conducted a **community-wide survey** to solicit input from residents and business owners in both village and rural areas to further inform the Planning Commission's work
- Introduced changes to support the reinstatement of benign **legacy uses** as well as the **adaptive reuse** of older, special-use buildings that may have outlived their original function
- Conducted a **parking study** to support the new Village Green district and proposed additional municipal parking by improving the Cobleigh Field parking lot
- Sought and gained Select Board approval to temporarily waive permit fees for Home Occupation applications
- Proposed and gained Select Board approval for a **Short-Term Rental Ordinance** to promote and protect the public health, safety, welfare of the town and to ensure the safety of occupants of short-term rentals

Looking ahead into 2023 we will continue to partner with the community as we strive to complete our work of re-writing the UDB's, seek and pursue creative options for the creation of more housing and look for new opportunities to help keep Chester a thriving and healthy community. We welcome and encourage input from all members of the Chester community.

Hugh Quinn, Planning Commission Chair PCChair@chestervt.gov

Development Review Board

The DRB is a 5-member quasi-judicial board that makes decisions on conditional uses, development in floodplain, subdivisions, appeals, dimensional waivers, and variances. The DRB held public hearings on 12 applications in 2022: 3 for subdivisions, 2 for boundary line adjustments, 5 for retail-commercial uses, and 2 for community uses. All were approved with conditions.

Robert Greenfield, DRB Chair

General Government Budget
2023

Account	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Budget Notes
General Government Revenue					
01-01-1 Taxes					
01-01-17-00.00 Current Taxes	8,699,375.61	8,533,812.21	8,700,000.00	8,530,000.00	
01-01-17-00.10 Delinquent Tax		(389.03)			
01-01-17-00.20 Penalty & Interest	74,836.45	83,050.45	75,000.00	83,000.00	
01-01-17-01.00 Railroad Tax	1,034.77	-	1,034.77	1,000.00	
01-01-17-01.03 Land Use	158,652.50	160,855.00	160,000.00	160,000.00	
01-01-17-01.06 Pilot Program	11,460.00	12,250.45	10,000.00	12,000.00	
01-01-1 Taxes Total	8,945,359.33	8,789,579.08	8,946,034.77	8,786,000.00	
01-02 Licenses, Permits & Fees					
01-02-15-00.01 Liquor License	1,040.00	1,110.00	1,100.00	1,100.00	
01-02-15-00.02 Fish & Game	48.00	25.50	50.00	50.00	
01-02-15-00.03 Dog Licenses	1,092.00	984.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	
01-02-15-00.04 Other Licenses	495.00	475.00	500.00	500.00	
01-02-15-00.06 Motor Vehicle Reg.	228.00	277.00	200.00	200.00	
01-02-18-00.01 Planning/Zoning	6,588.59	6,494.00	6,000.00	8,000.00	Increasing rates due to cost increases
01-02 Licenses, Permits & Fees Total	9,491.59	9,365.50	9,050.00	11,050.00	
01-03 General Govt.					
01-03-15-00.11 Recording Reserve Re	47,671.00	38,636.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	
01-03-15-00.17 911 House Numbers		402.66	50.00	50.00	
01-03-15-00.18 Clerk Fees	6,712.00	6,145.00	6,500.00	6,500.00	
01-03-15-00.19 Miscellaneous	13,813.88	3,566.13	200.00	2,500.00	
01-03-15-00.41 Tax Sale Admin.	1,190.00	-	2,000.00	2,000.00	
01-03-15-00.70 Solar Field Rent	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	
01-03-15-00.71 Insurance Refund	2,074.00		-		
01-03-15-00.90 American Rescue Act	34,491.00	148,664.37			
01-03-15-01.53 Income - Interest	2,371.89	606.56	2,000.00	1,000.00	
01-03 General Govt Total	114,323.77	204,020.72	56,750.00	58,050.00	
Total General Government Revenue:	9,069,174.69	9,002,965.30	9,011,834.77	8,855,100.00	
General Government Expenses:					
01-10-11 Selectboard					
01-10-11-10.00 Selectboard Salaries	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	
01-10-11-11.00 Social Security	573.75	573.75		573.75	
01-10-11-16.00 Management Consultant					
01-10-11-21.00 Expenses	48.00	108.49	1,500.00	1,500.00	
01-10-11 Selectboard	8,121.75	8,182.24	9,000.00	9,573.75	
01-10-12 Town Manager					
01-10-12-10.00 Manager Salary	77,758.03	83,798.56	76,000.00	82,000.00	
01-10-12-11.00 Social Security	6,248.87	6,624.04	5,814.00	6,273.00	
01-10-12-14.00 Medical Insurance	16,957.80	17,379.08	17,360.00	19,770.00	
01-10-12-15.00 Life & Disability	98.40	98.40	98.40	358.00	
01-10-12-16.00 Retirement	6,176.16	6,954.69	4,800.00	5,432.50	
01-10-12-21.00 Expenses	337.75	1,209.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	
01-10-12-22.00 Education/Training	1,378.84	1,671.35	1,000.00	3,000.00	
01-10-12 Town Manager	108,955.85	117,735.12	106,572.40	118,333.50	
01-10-15 Administration					
01-10-15-10.00 Elections Payroll	183.26	1,022.43	1,200.00	500.00	
01-10-15-10.01 Payroll	160,253.82	170,152.39	162,000.00	182,000.00	
01-10-15-10.11 Treasurer	3,579.03	3,690.48	3,700.00	4,000.00	
01-10-15-11.00 Social Security	15,145.64	15,973.09	12,393.00	14,229.00	
01-10-15-13.00 Workers' Comp					
01-10-15-14.00 Medical Insurance	41,097.00	42,069.48	42,820.00	40,827.00	split with water on one employee

General Government Budget
2023

Account	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Budget Notes
01-10-15-15.00 Life & Disability	303.40	303.40	295.20	1,074.00	
01-10-15-16.00 Retirement	8,663.44	9,571.06	7,000.00	12,057.50	
01-10-55-20.00 Transfer Out Recording	26,377.01				
01-10-15-21.00 General Supplies	5,886.79	6,391.94	7,000.00	7,000.00	
01-10-15-21.01 911 House Numbers		350.95	50.00	50.00	
01-10-15-21.02 Elections Expense	2,539.62	2,067.50	3,000.00	3,000.00	
01-10-15-22.00 Training	1,738.84	1,657.43	1,500.00	2,000.00	
01-10-15-23.00 Equipment	22,237.44	26,656.92	22,500.00	24,000.00	copies & printer leases & service plans, land records system, postage machine lease
01-10-15-25.00 VT State Treasurer			2,500.00	2,500.00	
01-10-15-26.00 Postage	5,056.82	9,150.90	7,500.00	7,500.00	
01-10-15-27.00 Notices	3,234.70	2,641.12	4,000.00	4,000.00	
01-10-15-27.01 Town Report	2,412.00	2,308.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	
01-10-15-34.00 Telephone	11,403.08	12,700.92	10,800.00	10,800.00	
01-10-15-37.00 Computer Service	10,874.15	27,762.08	9,100.00	16,000.00	inc. steve computer & cyber security requirements
01-10-15-37.01 Record Restoration	2,698.30	3,892.73	5,000.00	1,000.00	will use recording reserve fund for major restoration
01-10-15-37.02 Website	400.00	500.00		500.00	
01-10-15-37.03 NEMRC Software	5,346.06	356.44	4,500.00	500.00	
01-10-15-37.05 SAPA			500.00	500.00	
01-10-15-37.06 Municipal Music Licer	483.00	513.00	460.00	500.00	
01-10-15-37.07 Contracted Services	1,944.10	8,968.20	6,200.00	-	Not needed this year
01-10-15-40.00 VLCT	5,003.00	4,886.00	5,003.00	5,000.00	
01-10-15-55.00 Chamber of Commerce	149.00	149.00	150.00	150.00	
01-10-15-56.00 Legal	9,354.61	4,444.13	10,000.00	10,000.00	
01-10-15-57.01 Annual Audit	19,500.00	16,800.00	17,500.00	15,000.00	
01-10-15-82.00 TAN Interest	408.33	2,562.50	1,000.00	2,500.00	
01-10-15-83.00 Service Charge	2,932.45	1,884.85	2,000.00	2,000.00	
01-10-15-99.00 Unclassified	970.93	2,163.47	500.00	500.00	
01-10-15 Administration Total	370,175.82	381,590.41	352,671.20	372,187.50	
01-10-16 Listers					
01-10-16-10.00 Salaries	12,358.52	27,310.94	23,000.00	28,000.00	
01-10-16-11.00 Social Security	958.41	2,089.27	1,759.00	2,142.00	
01-10-16-21.00 General Expense	8,809.15	6,894.82	6,000.00	6,000.00	
01-10-16-22.00 Training	48.00	167.00	500.00	500.00	
01-10-16-22.01 Travel			500.00	500.00	
01-10-16-23.00 Equipment		1,204.00	1,000.00	1,500.00	
01-10-16-37.00 Computer Service	2,716.04	6,960.65	4,000.00	5,000.00	inc. CAI and cyber, - lease now paid off
01-10-16-37.01 NEMRC Contract Serv	10,712.10	8,487.25	2,000.00	5,000.00	
01-10-16-56.00 Legal			500.00	500.00	
01-10-16 Listers Total	35,602.22	53,113.93	39,259.00	49,142.00	
01-10-17 Taxes					
01-10-17-21.00 Tax Billing		78.44		-	
01-10-17-27.00 Advertising	4,350.00		4,000.00	2,500.00	
01-10-17-37.02 State Appeals Decisions				0	
01-10-17-56.01 Tax Sale Service	263.00	100.00	500.00	500.00	
01-10-17-63.00 Abatement/Purchase	928.77	13.14		-	
01-10-17 Taxes Total	5,541.77	191.58	4,500.00	3,000.00	
01-10-18 Planning and Zoning					
01-10-18-10.00 Salary	39,611.55	58,183.23	46,800.00	53,000.00	
01-10-18-10.11 DRB Salaries	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	
01-10-18-10.12 Planning Salaries	2,000.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	
01-10-18-11.00 Social Security	3,414.74	5,163.21	3,580.20	4,054.50	
01-10-18-14.00 Medical Insurance		4,468.32	4,900.00	4,900.00	
01-10-18-15.00 Life & Disability		65.60	-	358.00	
01-10-18-16.00 Retirement		1,790.11	2,900.00	3,511.25	
01-10-18-21.00 Enforcement	217.09	2,280.58	1,000.00	3,000.00	

General Government Budget
2023

Account	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Budget Notes
01-10-18-21.01 Supplies	246.93	1,304.53		500.00	
01-10-18-21.02 Printing					
01-10-18-22.00 Travel/Training		389.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
01-10-18-23.00 Computer	2,750.64	2,873.90	2,900.00	2,500.00	
01-10-18-27.00 Notices	3,890.60	5,630.77	3,000.00	3,000.00	
01-10-18-27.01 PC Expenses			1,000.00	1,000.00	
01-10-18-40.01 Regional Planning Due	3,942.50	3,906.50	4,257.90	4,000.00	
01-10-18-56.00 Legal	325.50	42.00	2,500.00	1,500.00	
01-10-18 Planning and Zoning Total	58,899.55	91,097.75	78,838.10	87,323.75	
01-10-19 Insurance					
01-10-19-11.00 Social Security	93.09	77.42		-	
01-10-19-12.00 Unemployment	2,752.00	2,804.00	2,753.00	2,800.00	
01-10-19-13.00 Workman's Comp	80,240.60	62,931.32	69,209.00	74,000.00	
01-10-19-14.00 Medical Ins	304.85	11,451.26	9,030.00	10,000.00	
01-10-19-16.00 Retirement		(375.08)			
01-10-19-18.00 Coinsurance	(1,245.02)	132,466.80	115,000.00	112,000.00	
01-10-19-19.00 Wellness Program	-	450.00		500.00	
01-10-19-50.00 Property/Liab.	80,474.00	107,666.04	85,000.00	120,081.00	
01-10-19 Insurance Totals	162,619.52	317,471.76	280,992.00	319,381.00	
Total General Government:	749,916.48	969,382.79	871,832.70	958,941.50	

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE – 2022



The Chester Police Department would like to thank the Chester Community for its ongoing and continued support. Throughout the past year we have been building more relationships with the community and establishing more of a partnership with you. We are opening lines of communication which is helping to build community policing participation. It is our community and the community's police department.

We plan to continue with the community policing philosophy here at Chester Police Department. Another piece of this is to establish a Police Advisory Board to assist with gaining advice and input on a myriad of issues and topics. It may be used, for example, to conduct research, generate new ideas or solutions, or provide informed recommendations on public policies and practices and so on. Conversations between the Board and the community on different policing topics are conducted, and then the board works with the police department on possible solutions to these topics or issues. This conforms with the community policing philosophy for "community" involvement and gives some ownership and participation to the community on policing within our Town. A "Co-production" of policing within the community.

We will be looking to the Advisory Board to assist us in creating a Mission, Vision, and Values statement for the police department that aligns with the needs of the community.

The Chester police Department has undergone several changes in staffing during the 2022 calendar year. The two changes of significance were that of Sgt. William Frank as he retired from the Chester Police Department in September, and the retirement of Chief Richard Cloud in December of 2022. We would like to thank both men for their committed service to the Chester Police Department and to the community of Chester over the course of the past twenty years.



The Town of Chester conducted a hiring process for the Chief of Police and chose Thomas Williams as the new Chief of Police for the Chester Police Department on December 14th, 2022. A change of command ceremony and swearing in was held at the Chester Public Safety building.

With these retirements there has been a lot of movement in the scheduling of shifts to cover the two vacancies, and still provide quality police coverage for the Town. Although a challenge, it was accomplished successfully by the remaining officer's willingness to be flexible and professional, to make sure that the staffing and police coverage for the Town went without a fault. Thank you to the staff for your commitment to your community and police department.

With the staffing issues at hand, we are currently in the process of building the department up to full staffing. We have one full time certified officer looking to come to Chester as of this writing, and a second "Public Safety Officer" (PSO) role to be filled soon. We have one PSO up and running currently. The PSO is a position created to assist not one Town Department, but at least two. The PSO is a part-time certified police officer and a state certified Emergency Medical Technician on our ambulance. This officer performs a unique role. They primarily staff the ambulance when an emergency medical call comes in. Once the daily duties for the EMT side of the job are completed, that officer switches roles and goes out on the road to patrol and run some traffic enforcement. This PSO is also a second back up officer for the working shift officer if needed. When a medical call is dispatched, the PSO can go directly to the scene or responds back to the station to man the ambulance. Overall, this solves some staffing issues on both sides of the house and gives us better coverage. We are not having someone in house waiting for the emergency call. That PSO is out conducting patrol or traffic enforcement instead. From the police side of the house, it just makes sense. The community gets a two for one employee, solving issues from staffing, to improved response times, to cost savings, and an overall better service for our community. Sometimes it just takes a little outside of the box thinking and some trial-and-error time to work the bugs out.

All Chester Police officers are now certified as Vermont State First Responders. You may have noticed a police car showing up to medical calls before or with our Ambulance for some time now. The police department, when available, responds to all calls for service for fire and EMS related calls. 2022 brought Chester's three emergency services together, to which we are operating as more of Public Safety Department than individual departments. We are working on smoothing out this process each day, but 2022 was a good year for testing this out. We are currently looking at how merging different parts together of all three departments for the same reason. Cross trained responders to adjust to the need of the emergency at hand. It is a fluid process right now but we are making strides. It takes time and a lot of adjusting. All three departments and Town Manager Julie Hance are on board with this and working hard to accomplish this goal. This should provide our community with a much better performing version of Public Safety for the Town. We are here for you.

Respectfully,
Chief Thomas Williams
Chester Police Department



Total Incidents for 2022	2059		ESO Response	8
911 Hang Up Call	21		Explosion	2
Abandoned Vehicle	1		Family Fight/Domestic	25
Alarms	31		Fingerprints	19
Agency Assist 's Breakdown Totals	277		Fireworks	1
Assist Chester Ambulance	121		Foot Patrol	7
Assist Chester Fire Department	40		Found Property	8
Assist Chester Water Dept	1		Fraud	14
Assist Chester Town Health Officer	2		Information Report (wide loads)	22
Assist CAES Crossing Detail	7		1st report of fall HCRS employee	1
Assist CAE w/911 call	1		Intoxicated Person	1
Assist preschool, ref: emergency exit	1		Juvenile Problem	14
Assist GMUHS	4		Litter/Pollution/Public Health	3
Assist Springfield PD/	44		Motor Vehicle Complaint	116
Assist Springfield PD/Fire	5		Noise Disturbance	16
Assist Andover Fire Dept	1		Overdose	3
Assist Bellowsfalls PD	1		Parking Problem	9
Assist LPD K9 Assist	1		Phone Problem /Harassment	3
Assist Ludlow PD	2		Property Damage, Non Vandalism	7
Assist P&P	3		Property/Home Watch	15
Assist Rutland Police Department	2		Public Speaking	24
Assist Dept of Children & Families	1		Restraining Order	6
Assist Family Court/ Service of RFA	10		Safety Hazard	1
Assist Fish & Game	6		Service Abuse Prevention Order	9
Assist HCRS	9		Sex Offender Registry	1
Agency Assist VSP	13		Sexual Assault	3
Assist VSP K9 Assist	1		Simple Assault	5
Assist Weatherfield PD/EMS	1		Social Media/Internet	3
Assist Windsor County Sheriff's Dept	2		Stalking	1
Assist Windsor County States Attorney	3		Suspicious Person/Circumstance	105
Animal Problem	33		Theft	21
ATV Accident/Incident	1		Theft of Automobile	3
Background Investigation	1		Traffic Accident w/ Damage	38
Burglary	13		Traffic Accident, w/ Injuries	19
Call Cancelled Error	6		Traffic Hazard	13
Child Abuse or Neglect	1		Traffic Stop	72
Citizen Assist	45		Training	8
Citizen Dispute	33		Trespassing	8
Citizen Dispute	32		Unknown	4
Condition of Release Violation	3		Unlawful Mischief	4
Cruiser Maintenance	18		Unsecure Premise	1
Custodial Dispute	3		Valcour	3
Custodial Interference	1		Vehicle Towed	3
Death Investigation	6		VIN Number Inspection	13
Death Message	1		VSP Dispatch Test	1
Directed Patrol	804		Wanted Person	4
Disorderly Conduct/Noise	2		Welfare/Suicide Check	59

STAFFING:

Chester Police Department staff five Full-Time officers and Three Part-Time Officers.
The Department's 2022 Roster:

Changes in Staff during 2022

Chief Richard Cloud & K9 Dutch / Retired
Lieutenant Williams / appointed to Chief
Sgt. William Frank / Retired
Officer Todd Mayer / Resigned
Officer Michael Randzio / hired part time
Officer Lee Herrington / hired part time

Chester Police Department current staff end of 2022,

Chief Thomas Williams
Lieutenant--Vacant
Detective Adam Woodell
Officer Noah Rheaume
Officer - Vacant
Secretary Julie Parsells
Part-time staff
Officer Timothy Worth
Officer Michael Randzio
Officer Lee Herrington

TRAINING:

Chester Police Officers continue to train and are required to complete a minimum of 30 hours of in-service training annually, to retain their certification with the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council.

Mandatory topics for in-service training includes:

First Aid / CPR
Firearms qualification – range and classroom
Conducted Electrical Weapons (Taser training)
Use of Force & Tactics
Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE)
Fair and Impartial Policing
Domestic Violence
Working and Training with the Mental Health Community

Officers may also take elective training in any relatable fields.

Additional trainings attended in 2022 were:

Policies and Procedures
Training on Person in Crisis, Mental Health,
New data base training for accurate record keeping connected statewide.

Officers of the Chester Police Department work diligently dealing with different issues within our community as well as assisting other agencies surrounding our community and states.

Warnings Issued

8DE - Operation With Defective Equipment	1
DEF - Condition Of Vehicle	2
DLT - Driving On Roadways Laned For Traffic	1
IX4 - Inspection Expired Within 14 Days	1
LBR - 11-20 MPH Over Speed Limit-Local	1
LBR - 31-Or More MPH Over Speed Limit-Local	1
LOP - Limitations On Passing	3
LP1 - Operation Of Oversize Vehicle In Violation Of Permit Limitation (Local)- 1st Offense	4
NL - Operating Without A License	1
NR - Persons Required To Register	2
POR - Passing On The Right	1
Speed Limit Violations	43
VO - Regulations of Municipalities Stop Sign	1
Written Warnings issued	65

VCVC Tickets Issued

LID - Throwing, Depositing, And Dumping Refuse - One Cubic Foot Or More (Uncompacted)	1
BDE - Equipment On Bicycle	1
DEF - Condition Of Vehicle	1
DLT - Driving On Roadways Laned For Traffic	5
DR - Failing To Driving To The Right	1
FYY - Stop Sign	2
INC - Operating without proof of financial responsibility	1
INS - Operating Without Liability Insurance	3
LOP - Limitations On Passing	2
LOP - Limitations On Passing	
LP1 - Operation Of Oversize Vehicle In Violation Of Permit Limitation (Local)- 1st Offense	3
NL - Operating Without A License	6
OSC - Operating After Suspension/Revocation/Refusal	3
Speed Violations	16
VO - Regulations In Municipalities	2
VCVC Tickets issued	46
Civil Violation	1
Total Tickets Issued	47

REPORT OF THE FIRE CHIEF

The Chester Fire Department responded to the following calls in 2022:

Structure Fires Chester	3
Structure Fires Andover	2
Structure Fires Mutual Aid	14
Rekindle Fires	0
Room/Contents Fires	0
Building Electrical Fires	0
Chimney Fires	2
Vehicle Fires	3
Appliance Fires	1
Oven Fires	0
Oil/Wood/LP Burner Fires	0
Trash/Rubbish Fires	0
Dumpster Fires	0
Gas Grill Fires	0
Illegal Fires	5
Forest/Brush/Grass Fires	2
Brush/Grass Fires Mutual Aid	2
Water Leak Hazards	2
Motor Vehicle Crashes	54
Motor Vehicle Crashes/Extrication	8
Low/High Angle Rescues	0
Swift Water/Flooding/Ice Rescues	2
Snow/ATV Woods Rescue/Recov	2
Structure Fires Chester	3

Landing Zones (DHART)	8
Missing/Lost Person	1
Public Services	14
Fireworks Detail	0
Fire Safety Education	1
Storm Crews	2
Road Hazards	0
Power Lines down	24
Power Transformer Fires	2
Electrical Hazard-Res/Comm	1
Assist CPD/VSP	1
Medical Assist	34
Cover Assignment/Mutual Aid	4
Smoke Alarms	4
Fire Alarms	33
Smoke Investigations	2
Odor Investigations	4
(LP) Propane Leaks	5
Carbon Monoxide Calls	7
Smoke in Building	4
Hazmat Incidents	2
Bomb Threat	0
Active Shooter	0
Total Calls	255

Chester Fire Department's call volume for fire related incidents greatly increased this year. In 2021, we ran 248 calls for service with 61 of them assisting Chester Ambulance. As Chester Ambulance has continued to rebuild, our assistance to them decreased to 34 in 2022 but our call volume still increased to 255 calls for service for an 18% increase in Fire incidents.

Our firefighters continue to train at a minimum of 3 times per month in addition to multiple weekend classes and for some of our firefighters, week-long classes. I am very grateful for our men and women that sign up for these weekend and week-long classes. These men and women already work full time jobs and have families, yet they still sign up for extra training and duty. This kind of dedication is essential in our continued effort to provide the Towns of Chester and Andover the best services we can.

We have now been in our new station for a full year and the improvements to the Department are more than we had hoped. On top of being way more efficient for calls and training, the department morale has greatly

increased, and we now work out of a building we can be proud of. We would like to thank the Town Highway Department and Richard Cloud who helped transform the field out back of the station into a large training area that also now serves as a safe place that we can land DHart Helicopter.

I would like to thank all mutual aid fire departments that respond to the towns of Chester and Andover as part of our mutual aid pact. Oftentimes, incidents are larger or more intense than the man-power of our department can sustain, and it is through this mutual aid agreement that each town has the necessary coverage when they need it the most. These responses can be anything from assisting on scene to sitting in our station for hours prepared to respond to additional calls within Chester and Andover, while our crews are already engaged in an intense call. Our mutual aid pact is made up of fire departments throughout the entire state, but I would particularly like to point out and thank Proctorsville and Springfield Fire Departments that we work and train with daily.

I would like to thank the Yosemite Engine Company which is our private non-profit organization made up of current and past members of the fire department. The Yosemite Engine Company raises money to buy and donate equipment to the Fire Department which helps keep the cost of business lower for tax payers. This past year Yosemite Engine Company donated over \$10,000.00 in training cost to send our firefighters away to specialized training. I would also like to thank the Chester Fire Department Auxiliary which is made up of the immediate family members and significant others of current firefighters. They provide any assistance needed when called upon such as responding to the station during large events making food and providing drinks to our mutual aid covering our station and our firefighters when we return to the station after a large event.

I would like to congratulate and thank Bruce Savery and Daniel Lamson for their many years of service to the Town of Chester and the Chester Fire Department. Bruce has retired with 23 years of service to the town and Danny with 25 years of service. We wish you both the best.

Most importantly I would like to thank all my firefighters and their families: Robert MacAllister, Ben Whalen, George Niesuchouski, Steve Vertefeuille, Andrew Sheere, Mark Verespy, James Ravlin, Eric Richardson, Nicholas Trask, Lucas Trask, Gary Langevin, Thomas Cutler, Amber Wilson, Matthew Goyette, Matthew Folts, Jessie Smith, Kimberly Hains, Madison Wilson, Chad Carey Jr, Delenne Moore and Taylor Wilson. These men, women and children give up so much to make all homes and lives safer in this town. You are all truly heroes.

I would like to end this year's annual report by thanking the citizens and taxpayers of Chester. Your support is always appreciated. Your support every year in our fundraising efforts and other community outreach programs is overwhelming.

Chester Fire Department Color Guard at 9/11 ceremony



Respectfully Submitted,
Matthew S. Wilson
Chester Fire Chief

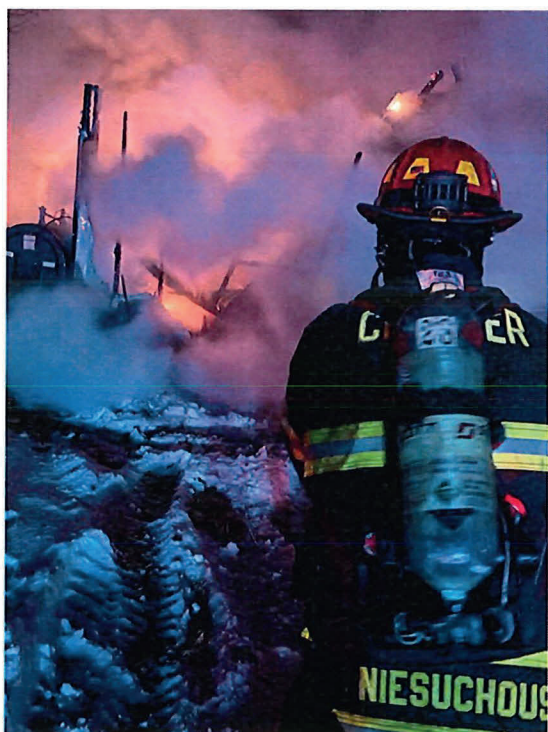
Chester Firefighters Training



Chester Firefighters Training



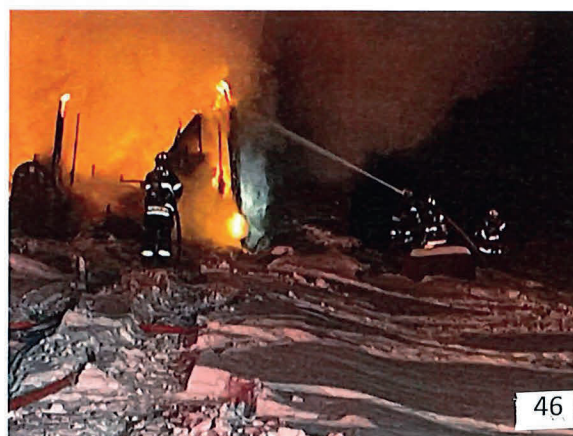
One of many fires this year



Fire Flow Training



Working a fire in subzero weather



Chester Ambulance Service

Chester Ambulance Service was requested to respond 506; 54 of these calls were for mutual aid to surrounding communities of Ludlow, Cavendish, Rockingham, Springfield, and Grafton. 5 calls were for standby with Chester Police or Chester Fire Departments.

This service continues to grow in staff and certified members. This year, Vermont Legislature approved a certification for a Vermont Emergency First Responder (VEFR). The primary focus of a VEFR is to initiate immediate lifesaving care to critical patients. This provider completed education to possess the basic knowledge and skills necessary to provide lifesaving interventions while awaiting additional EMS response and can assist higher level personnel at scene and during transport.

Chester Ambulance Service had 10 personnel complete their EMT training in two different classes 2022 with two more classes being held during 2023 with skills training being held in Chester.

June through September, the Fire, Ambulance and Police Departments held a monthly Community Breakfast. Each time we had a wonderful turnout from the community and surrounding communities. This building has given us more opportunities to host events for our citizens and build relationships. We are planning to host breakfasts again this summer.

In October, Chester Ambulance and Fire Services was awarded a \$30,078.00 grant for new lifesaving equipment from Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation! We are extremely grateful to the Foundation for identifying the critical need within our department and providing the resources necessary to purchase seven sets of EMS Gear (FireDex EMS Coats & Pants; Thermoplastic Helmets), 20 Envo Mask Kits with Filters & Mask Shields, 45 pairs of gloves; two Versaflow Air Filtration Systems; 12 Firefighting Helmets. As a result of generous donors and support from Firehouse Subs restaurant and Foundation, Chester and Andover are now safer for citizens and visitors.

Our service would like to thank the Chester Police and Fire Departments for their assistance on our Medical Calls this year. This has proven to be a supportive roll for not only the EMS personnel at the medical emergency, but for the patient and families.

Thank you to you citizens for your support throughout the year. Most of all, thank you to our personnel and their families for their endless dedication; Maryann Bonneville, Jeffrey Knisely, Michael Steuwe, Laurie Cloud, Michael Randzio, Noah Glover, Kate Martens, Meekah Hance, Gillian Guy, Annalise Lawrence, Jennifer Skrocki, Nicholas Skrocki, Montana Letourneau, Delen Moore, Brianna Dyer, Sean Goings, Steven Kniesly, Chad Carey Jr., Matthew Folts, Daniel Lamson, Gary Langevin, Taylor Wilson, Steven Vertefeuille, Robert MacAllister, Richard Cloud, Adam Woodell.

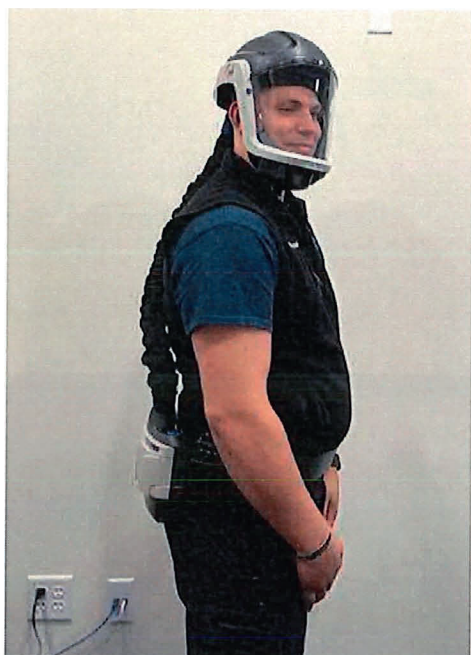
Amanda Silva
Ambulance Chief



Demonstration of equipment to Chester Head Start



Combined EMS and Fire Extrication Drill



Equipment funded by Firehouse Subs Grant



FD & EMS wilderness rescue training

Public Safety Budget
2023

Account	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Budget Notes
01-04-2 Public Safety - Income					
01-04-21 Police Dept.					
01-04-21-01.00 Court Fees	12,577.12	2,711.50	30,000.00	30,000.00	traffic stop restrictions lifted - should see increases
01-04-21-03.00 Other Income-Police	1,512.62	1,125.00	1,000.00	3,000.00	new fees for trucks & alarms
01-04-21-05.01 PD Services - OKEMO	21,280.00	22,120.00	21,500.00	25,000.00	
01-04-21-05.02 PD Services - Other	120,337.50	81,416.25	30,000.00	40,000.00	
01-04-21 Police Dept Total	155,707.24	107,372.75	82,500.00	98,000.00	
01-04-22 Fire Dept.					
01-04-22-03.00 Other Income-Fire	65.00	8,667.98		-	
01-04-22-05.00 Andover-Fire	24,000.00	-		-	
01-04-22 Fire Dept Total	24,065.00	8,667.98	-	-	
01-04-23 Ambulance Service					
01-04-23-01.00 Revenues-Ambulance	116,550.50	140,908.01	110,000.00	135,000.00	
01-04-23-05.00 Ambulance-Andover	6,000.00	-	-		
01-04-23 Ambulance Service Total	122,550.50	140,908.01	110,000.00	135,000.00	
01-04-26 Communication					
01-04-26-01.00 Tower Rent	40,880.59	69,452.01	68,000.00	69,000.00	
01-04-26-02.00 Tower Electric	9,076.57	25.00			
01-04-26-05.00 Andover Dispatch Fee	3,000.00	-			
01-04-26 Communication Total	52,957.16	69,477.01	68,000.00	69,000.00	
Andover Assessment		55,754.67	55,754.67	75,599.18	
Total Public Safety Income	355,279.90	382,180.42	316,254.67	377,599.18	

Public Safety Expenses:

01-11-21 Police Expense					
01-11-21-10 Police Payroll					
01-11-21-10.00 Salary	373,166.38	428,854.30	360,000.00	458,000.00	
01-11-21-10.11 Police OT	19,797.67	39,336.77	20,000.00	20,000.00	hoping to be at full staff
01-11-21-10.21 PD Services - OKEMO	16,206.00	15,987.00	16,000.00	1,000.00	offset in revenue
01-11-21-10.23 Payroll for other Services	35,102.92	2,316.19			
01-11-21-10.26 Core Payroll	3,197.83	356.43	5,000.00	1,000.00	
01-11-21-11.00 Social Security	38,532.64	42,518.90	29,070.00	36,567.00	
01-11-21-14.00 Medical Insurance	76,159.20	67,280.33	79,275.00	78,935.00	2022 not at full staff for 4 months
01-11-21-15.00 Life & Disability	705.20	631.40	590.40	2,148.00	
01-11-21-16.00 Retirement	26,109.84	35,384.12	26,100.00	36,012.50	First full year of Group C
01-11-21-17.00 Uniforms	4,798.22	4,323.96	4,000.00	5,200.00	
01-11-21-21.00 Supplies	7,960.24	10,856.95	7,000.00	7,000.00	
01-11-21-21.01 DARE		262.60		300.00	
01-11-21-22.00 Training	1,083.85	2,608.12	5,000.00	5,000.00	
01-11-21-22.01 Travel	2,561.78	587.02	2,500.00	1,000.00	
01-11-21-23.00 Equipment	17,017.68	14,176.74	15,000.00	16,000.00	
01-11-21-29.01 MDC	70.90			-	
01-11-21-29.02 Watch Guard	339.00	-		3,000.00	
01-11-21-34.00 Telephone	5,490.20	4,928.12	6,500.00	6,000.00	
01-11-21-37.00 Computer Services	13,681.06	18,672.99	10,000.00	14,000.00	2 new leases, cyber security
01-11-21-37.03 Contracted Services		175.00	10,000.00	-	
01-11-21-40.00 Police Association	780.00	390.00	900.00	900.00	
01-11-21-56.00 Attorney	21,655.44	19,219.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	
01-11-21-56.01 Consulting		18,644.65	-	-	
01-11-21-68.00 Vehicles-Rep. & Maint	22,500.87	20,317.87	15,000.00	15,000.00	
01-11-21-78.00 Gasoline	13,317.78	20,233.19	10,000.00	17,000.00	est. \$3.50 - favorable bids
01-11-21-90.00 Capital Plan Contribution	52,377.50	11,126.63	11,126.63		Using FB to make payment
01-11-21-90.00 Capital Plan Cont. fr. Surplus					
01-11-21 Total Police Expense	752,612.20	779,188.28	638,062.03	729,062.50	
01-11-22 Fire Department					
01-11-22-10.00 Salaries	97,830.18	96,688.55	86,000.00	101,000.00	
01-11-22-10.01 Hazmat/Special Detail	938.41		2,000.00	2,000.00	

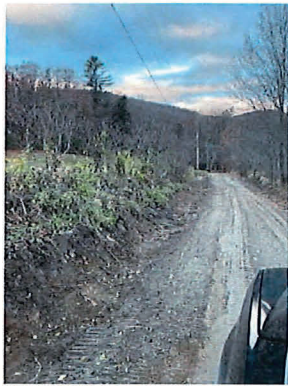
Public Safety Budget
2023

Account	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Budget Notes
01-11-22-11.00 Social Security	8,219.29	7,537.40	6,579.00	7,726.50	
01-11-22-13.00 Workers Comp					
01-11-22-17.00 Uniforms	512.73	2,381.57	2,750.00	3,000.00	
01-11-22-21.00 Supplies	1,278.78	2,382.71	2,000.00	1,750.00	
01-11-22-22.00 Training	903.11	4,171.36	7,150.00	8,500.00	
01-11-22-22.01 Physicals	2,700.00		3,300.00	3,800.00	
01-11-22-34.00 Phone/lpad/Data Link			2,000.00	1,000.00	
01-11-22-37.00 Contract Service		220.00		-	
01-11-22-40.00 Association Dues	1,450.00	957.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	
01-11-22-66.00 Equipment	28,882.90	24,830.65	33,000.00	36,600.00	
01-11-22-66.01 Foam Expense			3,000.00	2,000.00	
01-11-22-67.00 Radio Maintenance	4,027.01	3,668.86	2,000.00	6,500.00	incl. radio for new truck
01-11-22-67-01 Building Maintenance	149.07	356.62	-	-	
01-11-22-67-02 Equipment Maintenance	5,790.79	6,656.38	6,800.00	8,000.00	
01-11-22-68.00 Vehicle Maintenance	8,720.86	20,631.07	8,700.00	10,000.00	
01-11-22-76-00 Capital Transfer	18,750.00	74,818.44	74,818.44	56,049.72	using FB to pay final 2016 bond pmt
01-11-22-90-00 Bond Transfer	76,085.18				
01-11-22-79.00 Gasoline/Diesel	2,346.88	3,620.56	2,000.00	3,000.00	est. \$3.50 - favorable bids
01-11-22 Fire Department Totals	258,585.19	248,921.17	244,597.44	253,426.22	
01-11-23 Ambulance					
01-11-23-10.00 Salaries	54,466.83	97,190.84	55,000.00	85,000.00	increase rates again ; also PT positions
01-11-23-10.01 Ambulance Chief	35,831.76	46,397.26	45,000.00	50,000.00	
01-11-23-10-02 Admin Assist Overtime	5,416.87			-	
01-11-23-11.00 Social Security	6,832.91	10,852.54	7,650.00	10,327.50	
01-11-23-13.00 Worker's Comp					
01-11-23-14.00 Medical Insurance	16,957.80	17,359.08	17,360.00	2,820.00	
01-11-23-15.00 Life & Disability	98.40	106.60	98.40	358.00	
01-11-23-16.00 Retirement	3,022.21	3,124.97	2,900.00	3,312.50	
01-11-23-17.00 Uniforms	2,534.67	1,957.52	2,000.00	2,500.00	
01-11-23-19.00 Bad Debt Expense	8,155.02	9,121.01		-	Should see limited amount due to new billing program
01-11-23-21.00 General Exp/Supplies	10,058.57	10,848.77	10,000.00	12,000.00	
01-11-23-21.01 Medical Expense					
01-11-23-22.00 Training	2,204.60	10,770.24	15,000.00	10,000.00	
01-11-23-23.00 Equipment/Computer	2,358.60	5,500.46	2,500.00	2,800.00	lease and cyber
01-11-23-34.00 Ambulance Telephone					
01-11-23-37.00 Billing/Office Expense	5,804.61	2,266.02	5,000.00	5,000.00	comstar
01-11-23-37.01 Intercept	17,650.00	12,875.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	
01-11-23-37.02 Medicaid Provider Tax	3,336.21	2,978.03	3,000.00	3,812.53	
01-11-23-37-03 Contract Services	3,500.00	6,481.53		-	
01-11-23-66.00 Equipment	1,188.83	9,947.63	12,000.00	12,000.00	
01-11-23-67.00 Building Maintenance		4.98			
01-11-23-68.00 Vehicle Maintenance	10,133.23	1,981.88	6,000.00	6,000.00	
01-11-23-78.00 Fuel	1,914.78	3,302.04	1,500.00	2,450.00	Favorable Bids - est. \$3.50
Capital Plan Transfer					
01-11-23 Ambulance Totals	191,465.90	253,066.40	190,008.40	213,380.53	
01-11-26 Communications					
01-11-26-10.00 Dispatching	22,057.49	23,883.04	22,039.00	35,000.00	Added portion for PD
01-11-26-34.01 Telephone	2,642.47	3,449.51	3,000.00	3,000.00	
01-11-26-34.02 Cellular Phones	12,616.40	15,691.39	10,000.00	10,980.00	
01-11-26-67.00 Radio Maintenance	17.95			-	
01-11-26 Communications Totals	37,334.31	43,023.94	35,039.00	48,980.00	
01-11-27 Town Constable					
01-11-27-22.00 Constable Training	-		20.00	20.00	
01-11-27 Town Constable Totals	-	-	20.00	20.00	
Total Public Safety Expense:	1,239,997.60	1,324,199.79	1,107,726.87	1,244,869.25	
Total Public Safety Income:	355,279.90	382,180.42	316,254.67	377,599.18	
Total Public Safety Expense:	1,239,997.60	1,324,199.79	1,107,726.87	1,244,869.25	
Total Public Safety:	884,717.70	942,019.37	791,472.20	867,270.07	

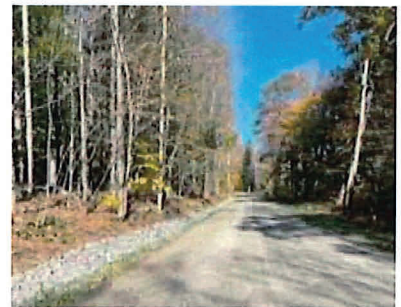
Highway Department Town Report 2022

I would like to give a shout out to the highway crew for their dedication and patience working with me to get projects completed this past year. I'd also like to thank the public for their patience and cooperation throughout the year.

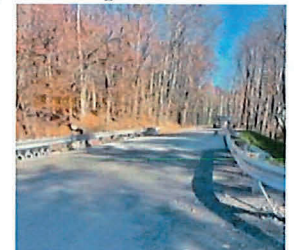
2022 kept the Chester highway department busy. We had a somewhat mild winter followed by an intense mud season. Mud season was tough as the nights were warmer than usual, preventing the roads from freezing and making it more difficult to get the equipment to the muddy areas without further damaging the roads.



After mud season, we kicked off the summer work season with ditching projects which included Flamstead Rd and Reservoir Rd. Reservoir Rd was a Grants in Aid project where we cleaned the ditches of debris, removed the berm along the edge of the road and replaced one culvert. The stone lining was approximately 1500 feet in length. High St also received stone lining to protect the road from erosion. Ditch work continued on Green Mountain Turnpike while the backhoe was out cleaning culverts throughout town. Moving forward, ditch work will continue in various locations including additional work on Reservoir Rd which be completed using Grants in Aid.



The highway crew was able to complete a superstructure replacement on bridge #43 located on Chase Brook Rd. We were able to complete it in three days with a temporary bridge in place along the upstream side of the bridge. Deck replacements were done on Dean Brook Rd and Mineral Springs Rd. The biggest bridge project completed this last summer was the addition of a new bridge on Popple Dungeon Rd, located after Zezza Rd. The highway crew was able to remove the temporary bridge quickly, allowing the outside contractor to begin the project. The bridge was completed in early October. The 2023 season will consist of additional deck replacements and curbing work. A membrane and asphalt layer will be applied to Blue Hill Rd bridge.



Paving proved to be challenging this year. Due to the increased price of asphalt, the town highway garage was the only paving done in 2022. The town will resume paving projects this coming year. Andover Rd is the next roadway to be paved. The road will get approximately 15 culvert replacements, a reclaim of the existing asphalt followed by a two-inch base layer and a one-inch overlay. The town will be applying for the Two for One Grant through the State of Vermont to help alleviate expenses for this project.

The town garage renovations were completed mid-summer, providing the highway crew with more space for equipment and additional workspace. The improvements to the garage were much needed and should make the building more efficient for years to come.

Kirby Putnam
Public Works Director

Public Works Budget
2023

Account	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Budget Notes
01-05-3 Public Works Income					
01-05-31 Highway					
01-05-31-11.01 Diesel/Gasoline - Amb	1,914.78	3,302.04	1,500.00	2,450.00	
01-05-31-11.02 Diesel/Gasoline - Fire	2,046.88	3,600.39	2,000.00	3,000.00	
01-05-31-11.03 Diesel/Gasoline - Polic	13,122.82	20,233.19	10,000.00	17,000.00	
01-05-31-11.04 Diesel/Gasoline Sale:S	27,237.55	39,969.14	25,000.00	36,000.00	
01-05-31-11.05 Diesel/Gasoline - Sew	1,495.34	2,330.35	1,200.00	2,100.00	
01-05-31-11.06 Diesel/Gasoline - Wat	1,457.80	2,254.68	1,500.00	2,100.00	
01-05-31-12.00 Sale/Material		724.75		500.00	
01-05-31-13.00 State Aid	213,188.86	215,803.31	210,000.00	216,000.00	
01-05-31-14.00 Other Income-Highwa	1,859.40	580.00			
01-05-31-16.00 Prior Year HW Surplus			56,055.08	(53,441.65)	
01-05-31 Highway Total	262,323.43	288,797.85	307,255.08	225,708.35	
01-07-52 Parks & Cemeteries					
01-07-52-00.21 Sale - Lots	3,011.00	1,800.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	
01-07-52-00.22 Grave Preparation	7,650.00	4,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	
01-07-52-00.23 Cemetery Funds	1,591.98	1,106.16	2,500.00	2,000.00	
01-07-52-00.25 Perpetual Care	4,100.00	1,500.00	3,000.00	2,500.00	
01-07-52-00.26 Other Income					
01-07-52-00.40 Town Hall Rental	140.00	75.00	300.00	50.00	
01-07-52 Parks & Cemeteries Total	16,492.98	8,481.16	13,800.00	12,550.00	
Total Public Works Income	278,816.41	297,279.01	321,055.08	238,258.35	

01-12-3 Public Works Expenses					
01-12-31 Highway					
01-12-31-10.11 Salary & Hourly	454,206.01	483,275.49	459,000.00	516,000.00	
01-12-31-10.12 Highway Overtime	41,581.62	45,304.59	35,000.00	35,000.00	
01-12-31-11.00 Social Security	41,535.78	41,824.10	37,791.00	42,151.50	
01-12-31-13.00 Worker's Comp					
01-12-31-14.00 Medical Insurance	108,852.37	111,588.68	120,360.00	132,497.00	
01-12-31-15.00 Life & Disability	795.40	787.20	792.00	3,222.00	
01-12-31-16.00 Retirement	31,272.13	33,917.60	29,900.00	36,437.50	
01-12-31-17.00 Uniforms	9,567.23	8,241.80	9,000.00	8,000.00	
01-12-31-21.00 Supplies	6,951.94	9,691.22	8,000.00	10,000.00	
01-12-31-21.01 Road Sign Replacemen	542.38	1,349.67	500.00	2,000.00	
01-12-31-22.00 Training/CDL Reimb.	1,012.00	1,084.00	1,500.00	1,000.00	
01-12-31-30.01 Garage Utilities	7,438.15	6,393.23	6,300.00	6,300.00	
01-12-31-30.02 Street Lights	25,298.50	26,184.05	25,000.00	25,000.00	
01-12-31-31.00 Garage Water-Sewer	1,337.67	1,550.01	1,500.00	1,500.00	
01-12-31-34.00 Telephone	1,540.44	2,171.94	1,500.00	2,000.00	
01-12-31-37.01 Contract Service	5,465.00	23,696.25	14,000.00	12,000.00	Oil Tank removal;
01-12-31-37.02 Mowing	2,380.72	3,350.42	3,500.00	3,500.00	
01-12-31-58.00 Gravel Pit Installation	15,818.28	160.00	5,000.00	-	
01-12-31-37-03 Computer Service	930.00	1,252.40	950.00	1,200.00	cyber
01-12-31-56.01 Act 250/Extraction Sta	1,144.71			-	
01-12-31-60.00 Culverts	6,391.85	11,245.40	8,000.00	13,000.00	
01-12-31-66.01 Tools/Equipment	3,352.20	3,844.31	4,000.00	5,000.00	
01-12-31-66.02 Equipment	8,427.96	1,116.49	20,000.00	12,000.00	purchase storage container that is being used now
01-12-31-66.03 Chains & Blades	15,666.88	15,079.90	18,000.00	18,000.00	
01-12-31-67.00 Communications	992.00		1,000.00	1,000.00	
01-12-31-68.00 Vehicle Maintenance	60,272.01	69,302.66	70,000.00	75,000.00	Work needed on Excavator and Grader
01-12-31-69.00 Garage Maint.	12,685.13	7,256.21	5,000.00	5,000.00	
01-12-31-70.01 Gravel	54,280.00	50,402.73	50,000.00	60,000.00	Crusher to process what we have
01-12-31-70.03 Rip Rap	3,463.00	3,771.03	6,000.00	6,000.00	
01-12-31-71.00 Salt	41,021.90	59,281.74	50,000.00	65,000.00	
01-12-31-72.00 Sand	69,178.00	57,498.00	60,000.00	70,000.00	

Public Works Budget
2023

Account	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Budget Notes
01-12-31-73.00 Calcium Chloride	7,476.00	7,786.95	10,000.00	8,000.00	
01-12-31-74.01 Bond Plan Transfer-Pa	155,508.65	219,538.96	219,538.96	199,983.15	
01-12-31-74.02 Hot Mix	1,512.76	3,219.48	5,000.00	5,000.00	
01-12-31-75.00 General Road Permits	1,960.00	2,040.00	2,000.00	2,040.00	
01-12-31-76.00 Capital Plan Transfer S	135,233.30	159,924.77	159,924.77	175,329.50	
01-12-31-77.00 Bridge Material	32,294.72	31,740.68	40,000.00	40,000.00	
01-12-31-79.00 Diesel/Gas	126,174.24	179,811.68	100,000.00	120,000.00	Very favorable bid from a larger supplier out of MA
01-12-31-80.00 Truck Replacement	12,400.00			-	
01-31-31-81.00 Paving				-	
01-12-31 Highway Totals	1,505,960.93	1,684,683.64	1,588,056.73	1,718,160.65	
01-12-32 Solid Waste					
01-12-32-37.02 Transfer Station	35,000.00	35,000.00	35,000.00	35,000.00	
01-12-32-95.00 Green Up Day	965.12	842.07	1,500.00	1,000.00	
01-12-32 Solid Waste Total	35,965.12	35,842.07	36,500.00	36,000.00	
01-14-52 Parks & Cemeteries					
01-14-52-10.00 Salary	44,874.63	37,921.81	45,000.00	43,000.00	
01-14-52-11.00 Social Security	223.93	1,806.77	3,442.50	3,289.50	
01-14-52-14.00 Medical Insurance	16,957.80	23,145.44	17,360.00	11,286.00	
01-14-52-15.00 Life Insurance	98.40	114.80	98.40	358.00	
01-14-52-16.00 Retirement	2,642.19	1,974.61	2,740.00	2,848.75	
01-14-52-17.00 Uniforms	916.89	998.36	700.00	700.00	
01-14-52-21.00 Supplies	2,087.62	2,002.97	2,000.00	1,500.00	
01-14-52-30.00 Power on the Green	478.60	436.58	450.00	450.00	
01-14-52-31.00 Water	480.00	480.00	600.00	600.00	
01-14-52-37.01 Contract Labor	206.25	200.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
01-14-52-37.02 Trees	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	-	Tree work from public Funds
01-14-52-37.03 Perpetual Care					
01-14-52-55.00 Survey					
01-14-52-66.00 Equipment	1,542.35	1,956.11	3,000.00	1,500.00	
01-14-52-69.00 Cemetery Shed		131.24			
01-14-52-95.01 Memorial Day	556.20	613.00	500.00	600.00	
01-14-52-90.00 Capital/Bond Plan	1,866.14	17,051.28	17,051.28	-	using FB for final 2016 bond pmt
01-14-52-99.00 Miscellaneous	456.50	482.03			
Parks & Cemeteries Total:	81,387.50	97,315.00	101,942.18	67,132.25	
Total Public Works Expenses:	1,623,313.55	1,817,840.71	1,726,498.91	1,821,292.90	
Total Public Works Income	278,816.41	297,279.01	321,055.08	238,258.35	
Total Public Works Expenses:	1,623,313.55	1,817,840.71	1,726,498.91	1,821,292.90	
Total Public Works Department	1,344,497.14	1,520,561.70	1,405,443.83	1,583,034.55	-

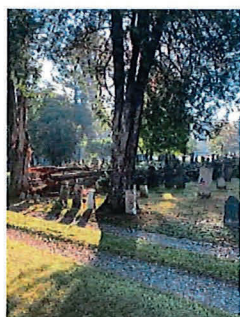
Cemetery Department

The Chester Cemetery Department consists of a two-person team responsible for mowing, trimming, and maintaining 7 cemeteries which include:

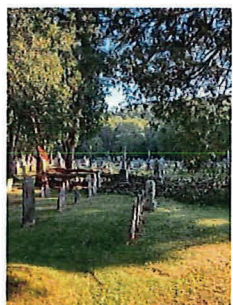
- Pleasant View off High Street
- North Street Cemetery in the Stone Village
- Brookside Cemetery on Main Street
- Simmsbury Cemetery off Adams Road
- Spoonerville Cemetery off Trebo Road
- Smokeshire Cemetery off Cemetery Road
- Popplar Grove off Popple Dungeon Road

The department also maintains the grounds around town owned property located at the following locations:

- The Pinnacle
- Cobliegh Field
- Academy Building
- The Green
- Whiting Library
- Pocket Park across from the Soapshed
- Town Garage
- Town Hall
- Flood property on Route 11 West
- A section of property on Reservoir Road
- Pocket Park on School Street
- Property off First Avenue with the old apple tree



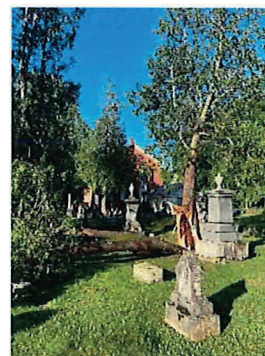
The Cemetery Department takes care of the trash receptacles placed at certain areas in Chester's Village. We are responsible for the selling of lots, placement of markers, and installation of cornerstones, which are mandatory per all new lots. All burials are prepped by the department, whether Full or Cremation. We maintain the old fallen or broken stones damaged due to age or the elements to the best of our ability. In the fall, we pick up the leaves from the areas we maintain in the summer.



During the summer of 2022, the department completed 14 burials, 2 of which were full burials and the rest cremations. There were 3 new monuments installed, 6 sets of corner markers, 1 military marker, and 5 new lots sold. Each year, we continue to bring in professional help to take down the older trees so we can preserve our historic landmarks that memorialize our ancestors.

I would like to thank the Highway Department for their help preparing for Memorial Day. We look forward to another busy summer maintaining and preserving the history of Chester!

As a reminder to the owners of lots in Chester cemeteries, please remove all summer seasonal arrangements from lots by October 31 and fall/winter arrangements by April 15th. Please note that flowerpots and plastic arrangements will be disposed of by the Cemetery Department on or around November 1st. Also, the planting of trees and shrubs is not allowed in the cemetery lots.



Respectfully submitted,
Edward Rushford, Cemetery Sexton

2022 GIFTS AND TRUST FUNDS FOR PERPETUAL CARE

The Town accepted gifts and trust funds for perpetual care of cemetery lots in accordance with conditions of said gifts and trusts as follows: Warren J. and Patricia Mackensen, \$500.00; Newton Friese and Linda Greenwald, \$250.00; Suzanne Leonard, \$500.00; Alan and Kimberly Farrar, \$250.00.

Springfield Transfer Station and Recycling Center

The first round of the covid pandemic spared the recycling Center for the most part. Some of the long-term employees had moved on leaving us shorthanded. The remaining workers pulled together and with a great deal of support from the Department of Public Works the wheels kept turning. The long history of the Recycle Center is full of examples of help being available when needed, not just for the basic operation and snow removal but also on any number of building projects over the years.

Our Office Manager knows that information technology has left me behind but support has always been granted to help with Quarterly Reports and anything requiring a computer or phone system to complete.

With all the help we just might make it another year.

Many thanks to the Cast & Crew, Friends & Volunteers

Dan Farrar, Recycling Coordinator

Recycle Center Phone: 802-885-5827

Website: www.springfieldvt.gov



GREEN UP VERMONT
www.greenupvermont.org

Green Up Day
May 6, 2023



Green Up Day on May 7, 2022 was a wonderful success thanks to 19,141 volunteers statewide who participated on Green Up Day. The infographic shows that all your hard work to beautify Vermont is crucial and that it makes where we get to live, work, and play, a truly special place. As one of Vermont's favorite unofficial holidays, it is imperative for today and future generations to build pride, awareness, and stewardship for a clean Vermont environment, as well as keep residents civically engaged.

Support from your municipality is essential to our program. Funds help pay for Green Up Day supplies, promotional outreach, and educational resources including activity books, contests for kids, and a \$1,000 scholarship. We are requesting level funding again for Green Up Day 2023.

Green Up Vermont initiatives are year-round for further our impact with waste reduction initiatives, additional clean-up efforts, and educational programs.

Green Up Vermont is a private nonprofit organization that relies on your town's support to execute the tradition of cleaning up our roads and waterways, while promoting civic pride, and community engagement. **Thank you for your support of this crucial program that takes care of all our cities and towns.**

Your donations make a huge impact and can be made on Line 23 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form or anytime online at www.greenupvermont.org.

Visit our website, like us on Facebook (@greenupvermont), and follow us on Instagram (greenupvermont). greenup@greenupvermont.org 802-522-7245

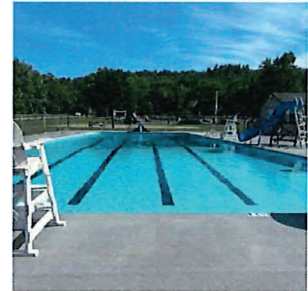
Chester Recreation



The winter of 2022 saw our youth basketball teams play a full and successful season. This was our first year of youth wrestling and we had a successful season with practices and some tournaments. We also offered our Rock Stars Wall Climbing program at Green Mountain Union High School. Our annual Winter Carnival was a huge success with many great activities; horse sleigh rides, youth snowmobile rides, ice carving, a wood sculpture fire, hiking at the Brookside Trail, & broomball.

In the spring our softball and baseball teams starting practicing and playing. The season runs from April through June with games and practices.

In the summer, the town pool was once again a popular area. We continue to have open swim and adult swim times from June to August. The Recreation Department offers some summer camps during the summer months. This past summer, Pickleball grew into a well-liked program.



The Recreation Department received a partial grant used to add two new pieces to the skate park with another ramp getting refurbished as well. The tennis courts also go repainted, and the cracks repaired.



In the fall, we will run our Pre-K through 6th grade soccer program. This goes from the end of August to the end of October.

The Chester Recreation Department would like to thank the workers at the town garage for assisting with many projects, and Chester Andover Elementary School and Green Mountain Union High School for the use of their facilities.

Matthew McCarthy
Recreation Director

Health Officer Report

Garbage was the number one Health Complaint during 2022. Please make sure that garbage is placed in proper containers and removed from property in a timely manner that will avoid attracting wild animals. Landlords must provide proper containers to their tenants for household garbage, recycling and compost unless otherwise documented in a lease agreement.

2022 is another year with increased complaints pertaining to dogs not being secured on the owner's property. Sections 2 & 3 of the ordinance states:

SECTION 2 - LICENSE REQUIRED It shall be the duty of every person owning, keeping, or harbouring in the Town any dog over four (4) months of age to procure a license therefore in accordance with Title 20, Sections 3581-3592, Vermont Statutes Annotated, as amended. All unlicensed dogs within limits of the Town found in violation of this ordinance shall be impounded.

SECTION 3 - DOGS RUNNING AT LARGE No person shall permit a dog owned or kept by him to run at large within the Town. A dog, while on any public way or place, shall be kept under restraint. A dog is under restraint within the meaning of this ordinance if it is controlled by a leash not more than eight (8) feet long or is at "heel" beside a competent person and obedient to that person's commands or is on or within 2 a vehicle. Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to require the leashing of any dog while on private property by permission of the property owner or his agent, or to restrict the use of dogs for lawful hunting.

Please register your dog 4 months of age and older at the town office prior to April 1st to avoid additional fees. Your dog will need to have a current rabies vaccination to register.

Please review the entire Town of Chester's dog ordinance:

<https://www.chestervt.gov/uploads/5/0/4/4/50449173/dog-ordinance.pdf>

Recreation, Health Welfare Budget
2023

Account	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Budget Notes
Recreation, Health & Welfare Income:					
01-07-51 Recreation					
01-07-51-00.09 Andover	3,800.00	3,800.00	3,800.00	4,500.00	
01-07-51-00.23 Pool Income	2,334.00	2,296.50	3,000.00	3,000.00	
01-07-51-00.27 Sponsors/Donations			100.00		
01-07-51-00.28 Food Sales	62.00	131.00	200.00	200.00	
01-07-51-00.29 Pavillion Rental	175.00	350.00	300.00	300.00	
01-07-51-00.33 Other Income		160.00			
01-07-51-00.36 League Fees	100.00	320.00	500.00	500.00	
Total Recreation	6,471.00	7,057.50	7,900.00	8,500.00	
01-07-51-10 Seasonal Sports & Camps					
01-07-51-10.03 Start Smart Camp	25.00	30.00			
01-07-51-10.11 Sports for Squirts		90.00	150.00	150.00	
01-07-51-10.12 Baseball	3,415.00	2,337.50	2,500.00	2,500.00	
01-07-51-10.13 Black Fly Camp	1,785.00	1,420.00	1,000.00	1,300.00	
01-07-51-10.16 Fall Soccer	2,485.00	2,847.50	2,200.00	2,500.00	
01-07-51-10.18 Soccer Camps	1,358.00	1,640.00	1,000.00	1,500.00	
01-07-51-10.19 GM Sports Camp	645.00	440.00	500.00	500.00	
01-07-51-10.20 Basketball	2,930.00	1,730.00	1,300.00	1,500.00	
01-07-51-10.21 Girl Basketball Camp		550.00	100.00		
01-07-51-10.22 Boy Basketball Camp			100.00		
01-07-51-10.25 Gymnastics/Dance	880.00	640.00	600.00	600.00	
01-07-51-10.27 Volleyball	360.00		300.00	300.00	
01-07-51-30-31 Track & Field		81.00			
01-07-51-10.41 Baseball Camp					
01-07-51-10.43 Tennis Camp			100.00	100.00	
01-07-51-10.52 Wrestling	100.00	900.00		800.00	
01-07-51-10.53 Climbing Team	30.00				
01-07-51-10.54 Wall Climbing		180.00	500.00	200.00	
01-07-51-10 Sports & Camps Total	14,013.00	12,886.00	10,350.00	11,950.00	
01-07-51 Recreation Income Total	20,484.00	19,943.50	18,250.00	20,450.00	

Recreation, Health & Welfare Expenses:

01-14-51 Recreation					
01-14-51-10.00 Rec. Payroll	57,959.57	63,838.37	58,000.00	68,000.00	
01-14-51-10.01 Lifeguard Payroll	11,840.03	13,424.32	19,000.00	17,000.00	
01-14-51-11.00 Social Security	5,250.45	5,700.37	5,890.50	5,202.00	
01-14-51-13.00 Worker's Comp					
01-14-51-14.00 Medical Insurance	16,957.80	17,359.08	17,360.00	19,770.00	
01-14-51-15.00 Life & Disability	98.40	106.60	98.40	358.00	
01-14-51-16.00 Retirement	3,603.94	4,069.78	3,600.00	4,505.00	
01-14-51-21.00 Babe Ruth Baseball		17.58			
01-14-51-21.03 Sports for Squirts		60.00	100.00	100.00	
01-14-51-21.04 League Fee Expense		465.75	500.00	500.00	
01-14-51-21.06 GM Sports Camp	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	
01-14-51-21.09 Dance Camp	631.88	60.00	500.00	200.00	
01-14-51-21.12 Black Fly	1,040.00	850.00	800.00	800.00	
01-14-51-21.13 Baseball	2,097.40	2,983.34	2,000.00	2,000.00	
01-14-51-21.16 Fall Soccer	1,168.64	1,415.98	1,200.00	1,200.00	
01-14-51-21.18 Soccer Camps	1,025.00	1,019.95	800.00	800.00	
01-14-51-21.20 Basketball	1,270.64	1,892.08	1,000.00	1,000.00	
01-14-51-21.23 Wall Climbing Camp		120.00	400.00	400.00	
01-14-51-21.24 Winter Carnival	668.11	3,202.45	2,000.00	3,500.00	

Recreation, Health Welfare Budget
2023

Account	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Budget Notes
01-14-51-21-26 Dance/Ballet		450.00			
01-14-51-21-27 Volleyball	117.92	267.34	200.00	200.00	
01-14-51-21-28 Wrestling		732.60		800.00	
01-14-51 Recreation Total:	104,029.78	118,335.59	113,748.90	126,635.00	
01-13-41 Health & Welfare					
01-13-41-10.00 Health Officer Salary	2,600.00	2,600.00	2,700.00	-	included with Ambulance personnel
01-13-41-11.00 Social Security	194.50	193.08	206.55	-	
01-13-41-22-00 Training			150.00	-	
01-13-41-55-00 Animal Care	778.89			-	
01-13-41-56-00 Legal		200.00		-	
01-13-41 Health & Welfare	3,573.39	2,993.08	3,056.55	-	
Total Recreation, H&W Expense:	107,603.17	121,328.67	116,805.45	126,635.00	
Total Recreation, H&W Income:	20,484.00	19,943.50	18,250.00	20,450.00	
Total Recreation, H&W Expense:	107,603.17	121,328.67	116,805.45	126,635.00	
Total Recreation H&W:	87,119.17	101,385.17	98,555.45	106,185.00	

Whiting Library 2022 Annual Report

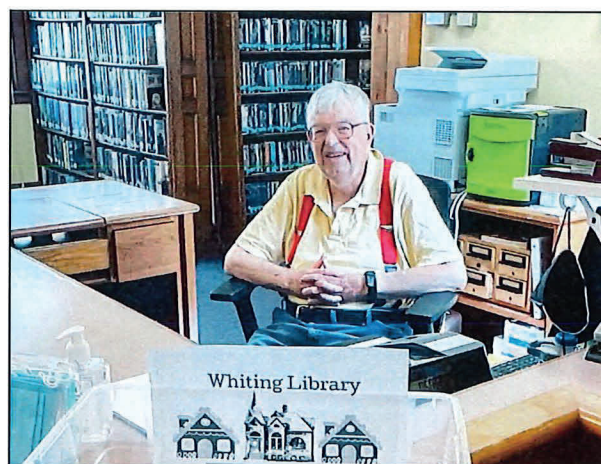
Our Youth Services librarian, Carrie Roy King, has often compared The Whiting Library as a jewel in the community. A small, precious gem in the heart of our town, adorning our Main Street with its beauty and awe. Much like the Hope Diamond at the Smithsonian, inside it lies mystery, adventure, history, scientific discovery, and fascinating tales. A gem so precious that many flock to it each year in their journey of self-discovery and life-long learning.



Similar to the Hope Diamond, Whiting Library has had its ups and downs, it has changed caretaker hands from time to time. This year was one of transition. Shortly after the new library trustee board was formed in March, it lost most of its board and its director due to resignation in a sad chapter in the library's history in May. Carrie and our assistant librarian, Will Wilcox, kept the spirit of the library going and the library remained open as a new board was appointed by the Chester Selectboard in June. The library persevered by offering amazing books, resources, and children's programming while the new board picked up the pieces and started the process of finding a new

director. Hundreds of children from Chester and Andover experienced wonder with Carrie's summer reading program in the annual theme of "Ocean of Possibilities", environmental education programs by the Nature Museum and her continued story hours at the library and in the local preschools.

Due to the sudden changes in board and director, the library trustees were unable to put out the Spring and Winter fundraising appeals. However, many of our dedicated library lovers still thought of us, especially when we all lost the diamond of Will with his passing this Autumn. As his obituary stated, "...his life working in Chester's Whiting Library surrounded by the books he treasured and the people who loved him. Always welcoming to all, Will greeted everyone he met with a smile and a genuine interest in what people had to say. We will miss Will, but know that he lived a life made meaningful by his passion for books and the love he gave and received from those that knew him."



After a wide search, the library trustees appointed local librarian, Pamela L. Johnson-Spurlock, as the new library director for Whiting Library's newest chapter. "We are so pleased that Pamela will lend her perspective, talents and leadership in moving our library to new beginnings. With over a decade of experience in libraries, museums and education, Pamela has a passionate commitment to the arts, education, information access, and diversity," said library Board of Trustee chair Donna McNeill-Hudkins. Johnson-Spurlock officially started December 13, 2022, right before the Winter holidays and the writing of this report.

This year's summer program library theme is "All Together Now" and an embodiment of the library as we all come together as a community to celebrate that we are stronger together. Starting in January, the library is again fully staffed and planning for a variety of programs, books, and resources to educate, entertain, and inform the community as it continues the commitment of the freedom to read, diversity and inclusion, and information access. We hope you will come visit and take part in what makes this library a true gem.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela L. Johnson-Spurlock, MLIS
Whiting Library Director

Donna McNeill-Hudkins
Chair of the Board of Trustees of Whiting Library

Thank you to all of our volunteers past and present, including:

Alice Martin, Ellen Laflamme, Gary King, Christine Copping, Christine Blodgett, Susan Goodfellow, Otis Herwig and Sebastian Greenholtz.

Thank you to all of our new trustees and their commitment to Whiting Library:

Jesse Bailey; Lora Cokolat- Treasurer; Sam Comstock- Secretary; Bill Dakin- Vice-chair; Jim Garison; Matthew Gorsky; Donna McNeill-Hudkins- Chair

Thank you from the Whiting Library Staff:

Pamela L. Johnson-Spurlock, Library Director; Carrie Roy King, Youth Services Librarian; Colleen Garvey, Assistant Librarian

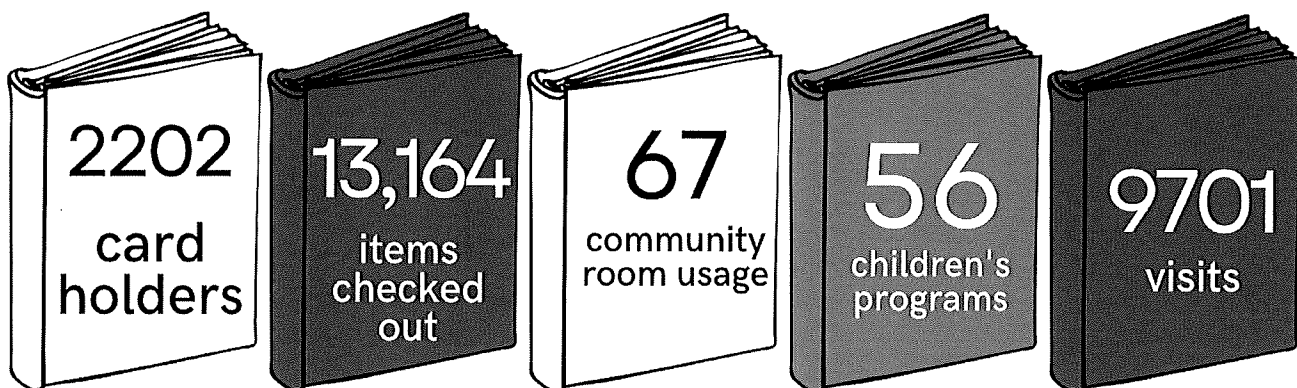


Whiting Library

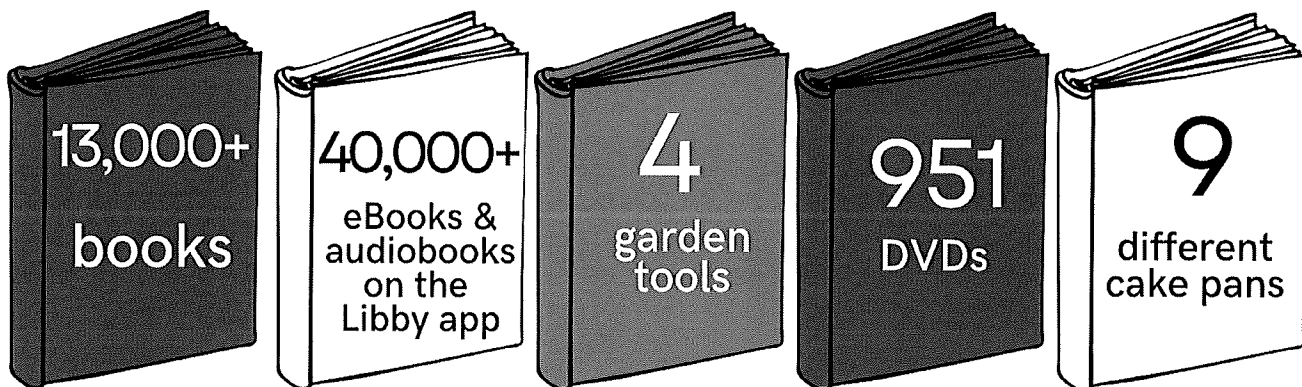
Located on Main Street | www.whitinglibrary.org | ph: 802-875-2277

Open: 10-6 Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 10-2 Saturday

2022 BY THE NUMBERS

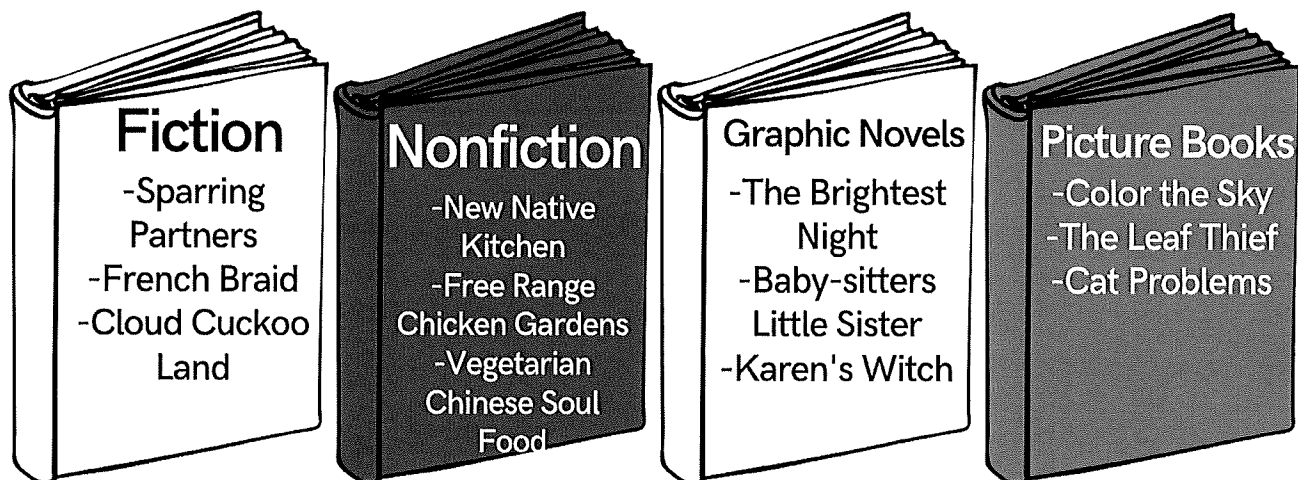


IN OUR COLLECTION



Plus: our seed library, park & museum passes, wood moisture meter, telescope and more!

TOP BOOKS OF THE YEAR



Whiting Library Operating Budget

			2021	2022	2022	2023
			Actual	Actual	Budget	Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense						
Income						
05-02-55-01-00	Grants/Programs		9,283.94	5,115.72	700.00	3,000.00
05-02-55-10-00	Town of Andover		2,600.00	2,704.00	2,704.00	2,704.00
05-04-55-01-00	Book Sales		6,655.71	4,457.06	4,100.00	4,500.00
05-04-55-02-00	Lost Items/Refund		34.28	187.93	200.00	200.00
05-04-55-04-00	Copier		186.05	199.50	800.00	300.00
05-04-55-05-00	Fines		1,825.72	1.60	-	-
05-04-55-06-00	Non Resident Fees		185.00	270.00	200.00	200.00
05-06-55-02-00	Dividends				-	-
05-06-55-03-00	Raffles		6.01	9.00	100.00	100.00
05-06-55-04-00	Donations		3,142.70	9,087.48	1,800.00	4,216.00
05-06-55-05-00	Fundraising		16,358.68	7,450.00	18,000.00	22,000.00
05-06-55-06-00	Silent Auction		669.00		1,000.00	1,000.00
05-06-55-99-00	Misc Income		-	3,120.00	4,538.00	3,000.00
	Checking Acct Draw					3,702.00
05-05-55-01-00	Town of Chester		81,200.00	93,000.00	92,570.00	98,000.00
Total Income			122,147.09	125,602.29	126,712.00	142,922.00
Expense						
05-14-55-10-00	Payroll		70,394.68	61,153.98	75,700.00	90,919.00
05-14-55-18-00	Social Security		5,860.12	5,482.07	5,986.00	6,955.00
05-14-55-13-00	Worker's Comp		495.04	516.04	-	-
05-14-55-14-00	Medical Insurance		-	9,525.43	19,028.00	13,240.00
05-14-55-21-00	Administration		458.68	654.22	800.00	508.00
05-14-55-21-01	Fundraising		2,537.23	1,718.50	1,500.00	1,000.00
05-14-55-21-02	Supplies		2,297.84	801.10	3,500.00	2,000.00
05-14-55-21-03	Books & Materials		11,525.57	9,191.92	11,500.00	10,000.00
05-14-55-22-01	Professional Development		103.00	124.00	200.00	200.00
05-14-55-22-02	Travel		-	-	200.00	200.00
05-14-55-26-00	Postage		1,225.53	1,208.74	1,000.00	1,200.00
05-14-55-27-00	Programs		1,360.49	2,041.80	2,500.00	2,000.00
05-14-55-27-01	Grant Expense		4,100.44	6,191.71	-	3,400.00
05-14-55-28-00	Copier		-	-	-	-
05-14-55-29-00	Equipment & Technology		3,803.17	1,722.42	3,000.00	3,500.00
05-14-55-34-00	Telephone		2,031.85	2,115.76	2,000.00	3,000.00
05-14-55-56-00	Legal			13,870.90		1,000.00
05-14-55-69-00	Repairs & Maintenance		3,036.79	3,855.61	3,500.00	3,800.00
Total Expense			109,230.43	120,174.20	130,414.00	142,922.00
Net Ordinary Income			12,916.66	5,428.09	-3,702.00	0.00
Other Income/Expense						
Other Income						
	Interest Income - Investment		14.62	19.95	-	-
05-14-55-84-00	Realized Gain/Loss		3,355.70	3,141.14	-	-
05-06-55-85-00	Unrealized Gain/Loss Investment		13,909.60	23,337.38	-	-
Total Other Income			17,279.92	26,458.57	-	-
Other Expense						
05-14-55-83-00	Bank Charges - Investment		5,146.68	1,862.99	-	-
Total Other Expense			5,146.68	1,862.99	0.00	0.00
Net Other Income			12,133.24	24,595.58	0.00	0.00
Net Income			25,049.90	-22,893.47	-3,702.00	0.00

**Whiting Library
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2022**

		12/31/2022	12/31/2021	\$ Change	% Change
ASSETS					
	Current Assets				
	Checking/Savings				
	Library - People's Bank	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
	Petty Cash Account	200.00	200.00	0.00	0.0%
	Due To/From Other Funds	132,203.14	130,432.53	1,770.61	1.4%
	People's Bank - Money Market	29,211.06	29,241.11	-30.05	100.0%
	Total Checking/Savings	161,614.20	159,873.64	1,740.56	1.1%
	Other Current Assets				
	People's Bank/Wealth Management	148,028.61	176,265.72	-28,237.11	-16.0%
	Vermont Community Loan Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
	Total Other Current Assets	148,028.61	176,265.72	-28,237.11	-16.0%
	Total Current Assets	309,642.81	336,139.36	-26,496.55	-7.9%
	TOTAL ASSETS	309,642.81	336,139.36	-26,496.55	-7.9%
LIABILITIES & EQUITY					
	LIABILITIES				
	Accounts Payable	2,100.50	1,702.16	398.34	
	Accrued Payroll	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
	Deferred Income	0.00	3,100.00	-3,100.00	0.0%
	Total Liabilities	2,100.50	4,802.16	-2,701.66	0.0%
	Equity				
	Fund Balance - Whiting Library				
	Opening Bal Equity	330,435.78	305,385.88	25,049.90	8.2%
	Retained Earnings-Fund Balance	-22,893.47	25,951.32	-48,844.79	-188.2%
	Total Equity	307,542.31	331,337.20	-23,794.89	-7.2%
	TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	309,642.81	336,139.36	-26,496.55	-7.9%

Facilities Budget
2023

Account	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Budget Notes
Facilities Expenses:					
01-14-55 Library					
01-14-55-21.00 Library Expenses	2,472.50	489.62	2,000.00	1,000.00	
01-14-55-30.00 Utilities	4,943.21	5,148.70	4,500.00	4,000.00	replaced lighting
01-14-55-31.00 Water/Sewer	687.52	696.75	1,000.00	1,000.00	
01-14-55-32.00 Fuel	4,970.18	5,914.09	5,000.00	4,500.00	
01-14-55-69.00 Repairs/Maint.	9,375.43	15,664.58	5,000.00	5,000.00	2022 - new lighting; work on heating system; sprinkler system
01-14-55-90.00 Library Fund	81,200.00	93,000.00	93,000.00	98,000.00	
01-14-55 Library Total	103,648.84	120,913.74	110,500.00	113,500.00	
01-14-56 Town Hall					
01-14-56-21.00 Supplies	2,005.70	2,513.12	2,000.00	2,000.00	
01-14-56-30.00 Utilities	8,320.72	5,858.17	8,500.00	6,000.00	
01-14-56-31.00 Water/Sewer	775.99	742.92	1,000.00	800.00	
01-14-56-32.00 Fuel	6,223.83	10,294.50	6,000.00	6,000.00	
01-14-56-37.01 Cleaning Service	7,110.00	8,430.00	7,320.00	7,950.00	
01-14-56-37.02 Rubbish	5,636.44	5,534.45	4,000.00	4,000.00	
01-14-56-69.00 Repairs/Maint.	5,553.12	9,134.46	5,000.00	5,000.00	
01-14-56-69-02 Renovations	13,678.84	11,863.49	10,000.00	2,000.00	conference room
01-14-56 Town Hall Total	49,304.64	54,371.11	43,820.00	33,750.00	
Facilities Director					
01-14-60-10-00 Salary		40,362.00	47,000.00	50,200.00	
01-14-60-11-00 Social Security		3,080.04	3,595.50	3,840.30	
01-14-60-14-00 Medical Insurance		9,266.40	12,730.00	14,065.00	
01-14-60-15-00 Life & Disability		114.80	98.40	358.00	
01-14-60-16-00 Retirement		2,935.19	2,996.00	3,325.75	
01-14-60-17-00 Uniforms		470.68	-	500.00	
01-14-60-68.00 Vehicle Maintenance		667.89			
01-14-60 Facilities Total	-	56,897.00	66,419.90	72,289.05	
01-14-57 Revitalization					
01-14-57-69.01 Website Maintenance	144.00	488.16	1,000.00	500.00	
01-14-57-69.02 Historic Facility Maint	18,820.77	20.58	60,000.00	20,000.00	Snow guards & dehumidifiers from ARPA
01-14-57-69-03 Misc Maintenance	1,075.25	1,620.53	8,000.00	5,000.00	
01-14-57-69-04 Landscaping			4,000.00	1,000.00	
01-14-57-69-05 Info Booth Expense	4,958.65	4,809.24	3,500.00	3,500.00	
01-14-57-69-06 Spring, Reg. Dev. Corp.	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	
Chester Events				4,000.00	fall festival and overture
01-14-57-69-07 Marketing Exp	3,768.00	6,199.95	5,000.00	5,000.00	
01-14-57 Revitalization Total	38,766.67	23,138.46	91,500.00	49,000.00	
01-14-58 Recreation Facilities					
01-14-58-21.01 Supplies	3,741.54	3,542.13	3,500.00	3,500.00	
01-14-58-21.02 Food Supplies		9.53	200.00	200.00	
01-14-58-22.00 Lifeguard Exp	297.82	856.86	500.00	500.00	
01-14-58-23.00 Equipment Purchase	7,827.40	150.88	1,500.00	500.00	
01-14-58-29.00 Computer	1,358.76	1,431.05	1,375.00	1,200.00	
01-14-58-30.00 Utilities	3,174.56	4,664.64	4,500.00	4,500.00	
01-14-58-31.00 Water/Sewer	941.98	1,646.75	1,000.00	1,000.00	
01-14-58-34.00 Telephone	1,187.04	1,376.31	1,000.00	1,000.00	
01-14-58-60.00 Pool Maintenance	6,980.09	4,654.78	3,500.00	6,000.00	anticipating plumbing repairs for pumps; roof repairs
01-14-58-68.01 Vehicle Expense	3,599.96	3,599.96	4,000.00	4,000.00	
01-14-58-69.00 Facility Repair	3,069.47	8,615.38	6,000.00	8,000.00	
01-14-58-69.01 Skating Rink Maintenance	238.65		300.00	300.00	
01-14-58-69.02 Disc Golf	600.00	613.15	600.00	600.00	
01-14-58-69-02 Capital/Bond Plan	9,246.14	9,490.28	9,490.28	-	From FB last pmt for 2016 bond
01-14-58-70-00 Batting Cage					
01-14-58 Recreation Facilities Total	42,263.41	40,651.70	37,465.28	31,300.00	
01-14-59 Emergency Services Bldg					
01-14-59-21-00 Supplies	4,462.54	2,674.95	2,000.00	2,000.00	
01-14-59-30-00 Utilities	6,225.07	18,303.36	4,000.00	12,000.00	Steve is working on controls that will allow diferent settings throughout building
01-14-59-31-00 Water/Sewer	1,864.64	727.68	3,000.00	1,000.00	
01-14-59-32-00 Fuel	7,095.00	12,559.29	6,000.00	10,000.00	
01-14-59-37-01 Cleaning Service	3,395.00	9,210.00	9,000.00	-	inhouse by PT ambulance staff
01-14-59-69-00 Repairs & Maintenance	377.90	5,424.58	1,000.00	2,500.00	

Facilities Budget
2023

01-14-59-69-01 Grounds Maintenance		485.03	17,000.00		4,000.00	start landscaping; slope stabilization with riprap
01-14-59-69-02 Initial Start Up Expense	138,664.37	4,261.16			-	
01-14-59 Emergency Svc Services Bldg	162,084.52	53,646.05	42,000.00		31,500.00	
Total Facilities Expenses:	396,068.08	349,618.06	391,705.18		331,339.05	

REPORT of WATER and WASTEWATER Departments

Well 2022 was interesting, very productive year. For most of the year we had 4 personnel and the extra manpower assisted with catching up with projects that were backing up in both departments. In November Chris Hughes moved on to Cavendish Water and Wastewater departments. Good luck Chris.

The Water department, after a nine month process received our new water department truck to replace the 11 year old two wheel drive f250, which was transferred to our Facilities Manager for continued use within Town. This allowed for upgrades such as 4 wheel drive to assist with easier access to all water department facilities, such as the new water tank, and an extended cab to keep important tools that are required for the job and don't fare well in a pickup bed. It also has a smaller more fuel efficient motor that should reduce operating cost.

We also managed a complete rehab of the telemetry building that is located on Reservoir road near the large water tank. The concrete block base was starting to crumble and we were able to reinforce it in place. Replaced the rafters and ceiling, insulated, cleaned and painted, replaced the lighting with LED fixtures as well as heating and ventilation to the building. This building is old and the 12 inch cast iron main runs through it. This was the old chlorination building where the chlorine was added to the system when the town used the open reservoir for the water supply.

The water department also managed our regular maintenance, mowing, trimming, and painting of hydrants and bi-annual flushing of the system as well as exercising gate valves. With our Jetter trailer/pressure washer we cleaned both of the concrete water holding tanks and repaired a couple of chips in the exterior of the tank. We also had to replace a mixing motor in the reservoir road tank. This mixer is needed to agitate the water to keep it from stagnating within the tank. In the winter time we have the normal snow removal, cleanup of both plants, pump stations and hydrants. We had 11 water meter repairs, 8 service line leak repairs, added 2 new water services, 11 curb stop repairs and 3 hydrants repaired. As the approximate cost of repairing each hydrant runs about \$10,000 dollars we still have 3 that are out of service, however not in critical locations awaiting repairs.

We are still working with the state water supply division and Engineers for improvements to the system, such as a redundant water supply, a second well that will be able to produce the amount of water that the town requires for daily supplies. With onsite generator to operate them during emergency situations. This has proving to be a long complicated process and hopefully we will see results this year. We are looking to automate our PH controlling pump and chlorine when it is called for. We currently do not chlorinate on a daily basis but are required to have an emergency standby system. We currently add a soda ash mix to keep the PH of the water neutral for corrosion control and reduce scaling in the water lines.

Also this year we will be doing a lead pipe inventory for the entire water system. This is required by new Federal and State regulations for us to identify any lead and galvanized steel pipes that we may still have in the water system. The inventory phase of this must be completed by October of 2023. This is to locate and identify any Lead or Galvanized pipe that exist within

the Water System. Part of this process will require that we access residences and buildings that have water services to inspect the incoming water service.

We have already have received a grant to help us with the inventory cost. If we have monies left over when the inventory is complete we will be allowed to use remainder towards the next phase which is the action plan phase. In this phase we will need to document, formulate and submit a plan to remove all of the identified pipe, which will need to be completed October of 2024. However we already have plans to start the repairs and replacement in 2023.

I am confident that the Town of Chester is in pretty good shape for this project. Having worked in this Municipality on many water line improvement, replacement and upgrade projects over the last 33 years I can say that we have already addressed a lot of these concerns. By being proactive and trying to have on going improvements to the system. We have cleaned and lined Cast Iron pipe, replaced undersized pipe and removed most of our Asbestos Cement pipe. The A.C. pipe was often tapped and connected with lead goose neck sections for the service lines, which are mainly what needs to be replaced. I am aware of some galvanized steel service lines that will be on the list for replacement as well.

One of our major projects that was slated to start last year, the major sidewalk project from Main Street to the Town Hall was delayed due to not being able to obtain the proper easements from the Railroad. We are unsure if we will be moving forward this year or not. This will require assistance from both water and wastewater departments to insure that all effected services are intact and operable during and after the construction.

I would like to thank all of the residence that make an effort to keep the hydrants near their property clear of snow in the winter, as we generally can't get to them right away after a storm.

We continue to look to the future and having a stable water supply that can continue to provide the water utilities adequate to both residences and businesses.

In the **Wastewater** department this year we continued to work on rehabbing and updating pump stations. At our main pump station we replaced a motor, impeller and the second volute for the second pump. Also cleaned, scraped and applied rust inhibitor to the old steel that has been 20 feet in the ground since the early 1970's. We then sealed it and applied two coats of paint. We then replaced the dehumidifier and the built in ventilation system, which I believe was original. We also added a debris basket in the wet well to catch the major debris before it gets into the main pumps. Combining the work that has been done here in the last two years this station looks and is operating like new.

The pleasant brook pump station took some time to complete because of delays in receiving simple parts of almost three months. About two years ago we updated the control panel to a stainless steel cabinet outside, above ground pedestal system. Also installed was a basket with a rail system that allows us to remove a large quantity of the grease and rags that are **illegally** discharged into the system. This year we had to replace a new pump, only three years old and added a new float system for controlling the pump operations in the wet well.

At the First Avenue pump station we replace the number #2 pump motor, sump pump and the ventilation system. We also scraped and cleaned the old steel walls and floors, applied rust inhibitor, sealed it and two coats of paint. We raised and rehabbed two manholes for the station,



one on either side of the river, to help prevent infiltration and for ease of access. Also added a debris basket in the wet well to intercept grease rags and other illegal debris before it enters the pumps. **We still remove hundreds of pounds of solidified grease, mop heads and articles of clothing. These items plug up, damage, and hamper the operations of our equipment in the pump stations. This is why you should not put grease or animal fats down sinks or toilets. Put greases and oils in a jar and then in the regular trash.**

We are looking into rehabbing or more likely replacing the force main that all flows of the wastewater from North St. Depot St. First Ave. and Elm St. from the First Ave. pump station to the top of Depot St. where it gravity flows to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. This is due to age of the pipe, 1972 it was installed 4 inch Cast Iron unlined pipe and build up on the interior of it. This reduces the capacity of the pipe and the ability of the pump station to keep up during times of high flows. This problem has been occurring more and more frequently in recent years. This will be another expensive project that needs to be done in order for us to maintain the level of service that the users expect and for future growth that people are asking for.

We located and uncovered 10 manholes that were either paved over or have been buried up over time. All were either raised up or repaired for ease of access when needed. I can see a like number that need to be done this year.

Our purchase of a jetter trailer has been a great asset for us get to through during emergency plugs within our wastewater system. With it we have been able to maintain our smaller mains in the developments and side roads as well as cleaning our pump stations and main sewer lines. This has saved greatly in the operating cost that we used to have to hire out.

We also updated most of our lighting at the Plant to LED's in the Headworks, Shop, Lab, office and updated the electrical lines and GFI outlets. Updated the bathroom with a shower to meet VOSHA regulations for safety. And changed the D.O. Probe in the aeration tanks that help us monitor the processes within the Wastewater Plant. I would like to mention that most of the above work and upgrades, the labor portion was done in house which also contributed to huge savings.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Holden
Water/Wastewater Superintendent

CHESTER WATER DEPT - VT0005318

Consumer Confidence Report - 2021

This report is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided in 2021. Included are the details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. To learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings which are held:

May 17, 2022, 9:35 a.m. at Chester, Vermont

The person who can answer questions about this report is: Jeff Holden

Telephone: (802) 875-2173

Water Source Information

Your water comes from:

Source Name	Source Water Type
JEFFREY WELL	Groundwater

The State of Vermont Water Supply Rule requires Public Community Water Systems to develop a Source Protection Plan. This plan delineates a source protection area for our system and identifies potential and actual sources of contamination. Please contact us if you are interested in reviewing the plan.

Drinking Water Contaminants

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include surface water (streams, lakes) and ground water (wells, springs). As water travels over the land's surface or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals. It also picks up substances resulting from the presence of animals and human activity. Some "contaminants" may be harmful. Others, such as iron and sulfur, are not harmful. Public water systems treat water to remove contaminants, if any are present.

In order to ensure that your water is safe to drink, we test it regularly according to regulations established by the U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency and the State of Vermont. These regulations limit the amount of various contaminants:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, may come from a variety of sources such as storm water run-off, agriculture, and residential users.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of mining activity

Organic contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, and septic systems.

Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the past year. It also includes the date and results of any contaminants that we detected within the past five years if tested less than once a year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily show that the water poses a health risk.

Terms and abbreviations - In this table you may find terms you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we have provided the following definitions:

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 Assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 Assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during four consecutive calendar quarters.

Maximum Contamination Level (MCL): The "Maximum Allowed" MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contamination Level Goal (MCLG): The "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. Addition a disinfectant may help control microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of disinfectants in controlling microbial contaminants. **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU):** NTU is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l): (one penny in ten thousand dollars)

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l): (one penny in ten million dollars)

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (ng/l): (one penny in ten billion dollars)

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): a measure of radioactivity in water

Running Annual Average (RAA): The average of 4 consecutive quarters (when on quarterly monitoring); values in table represent the highest RAA for the year.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

90th Percentile: Ninety percent of the samples are below the action level. (Nine of ten sites sampled were at or below this level).

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS): a group of over 4,000 human-made chemicals (they do not occur naturally) that have been used in industry and consumer products worldwide and includes:

(PFNA): Perfluorononanoic Acid

(PFOA): Perfluorooctanoic Acid

(PFOS): Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid

(PFHpA): Perfluoroheptanoic Acid

(PFHxS): Perfluorohexane Sulfonic Acid

(11Cl-PFOuS): 11-Chloroicosafuoro-3-oxaundecane-1-sulfonic Acid

(9Cl-PFOuS): 9-Chlorohexadecafluoro-3-oxanonane-1-sulfonic Acid

(DONA): 4,8-Dioxa-3H-perfluorononanoic Acid

(HFPO-DA): Hexafluoropropylene Oxide Dimer Acid

(NtHFOSAA): N-ethyl perfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic Acid

(NMeFOSAA): N-methyl perfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic Acid

(PFBS): Perfluorobutane Sulfonic Acid

(PFDA): Perfluorodecanoic Acid

(PFDoA): Perfluorododecanoic Acid

(PFHxA): Perfluorohexanoic Acid

(PFTA): Perfluorotetradecanoic Acid

(PFTDA): Perfluorotridecanoic Acid

(PFUnA): Perfluoroundecanoic Acid

Detected Contaminants CHESTER WATER DEPT

Chemical Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Barium	06/19/2019	0.045	0.045 - 0.045	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	06/19/2019	8.8	8.8 - 8.8	ppb	100	100	
Nitrate	08/19/2021	0.24	0.2 - 0.24	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

Lead and Copper	Collection Year	90th Percentile	Range	Unit	AL*	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
Lead	2019	13.3	0 - 25.5	ppb	15	1	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper	2019	0.15	0.055 - 0.17	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

*The lead and copper AL (Action Level) exceedance is based on the 90th percentile concentration, not the highest detected result.

Violation(s) that occurred during the year

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. The below table lists any drinking water violations we incurred during 2021. A failure to perform required monitoring means we cannot be sure of the quality of our water during that time.

Type	Category	Analyte	Compliance Period
MONITORING, ROUTINE MAJOR	Failure to Monitor	Nitrate	04/01/2021 - 06/30/2021
MONITORING, ROUTINE, MAJOR (RTCR)	Failure to Monitor	E. COLI	10/01/2021 - 10/31/2021

To be Completed by the Water System. List any steps taken to correct the violations listed above:
Nitrate sample was miss placed, sample was retaken and passed.

Coliform sample was taken and sent, lost in transit not caught that it was not tested until later.

Health Information Regarding Drinking Water

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants, can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. CHESTER WATER DEPT is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/leadwater/lead>.

Distribution Information

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place and distributing copies by hand or mail.

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) are contaminants you may see reported in your Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) for the first time.

What are PFAS?

PFAS are a group of over 4,000 human-made chemicals (they do not occur naturally) that have been used in industry and consumer products worldwide since at least the 1950s. These chemicals are used to make household and commercial products that resist heat and chemical reactions and repel oil, stains, greases, and water. Some common products that may contain PFAS include non-stick cookware, water-resistant clothing and materials, cleaning products, cosmetics, food packaging materials, and some personal care products. Due to their resilient chemical nature, they don't readily degrade once they are released into the environment. In addition, the common use of these chemicals in industry and consumer products has led to their widespread impact on the environment. The impact of these chemicals on your drinking water continues to be studied.

Why are PFAS being tested in my drinking water?

In May 2019, Act 21 (S.49), an act relating to the regulation of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in drinking and surface waters, was signed by Governor Scott. This Act provides a comprehensive framework to identify PFAS contamination and to issue new rules to regulate PFAS levels in drinking water.

What if PFAS have been detected in my drinking water?

Act 21 set an interim standard for the detected concentration of five PFAS in drinking water, or the combined concentration of any of the 5 PFAS, which should not exceed 20 parts per trillion (ppt). The interim standard is based on the Health Advisory established by the Vermont Department of Health. The five PFAS are:

(PFNA): Perfluorononanoic Acid
(PFOA): Perfluorooctanoic Acid
(PFOS): Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid
(PFHpA): Perfluorheptanoic Acid
(PFHxS): Perfluorohexane Sulfonic Acid

If your water has been tested and the sum any of the five PFAS listed above is confirmed to exceed 20 ppt, a Do Not Drink notice will be issued informing you not to use your water for drinking or cooking, brushing teeth, making ice cubes, making baby formula, washing fruits and vegetables or any other consumptive use. You will be advised to use another source of water for consumption which may include bottled water.

An additional 13 PFAS were required to be tested for, per Act 21. These additional 13 PFAS, listed below, currently do not have an established health-based standard and are not counted toward the combined standard of 20 ppt.

(11CL-PF3OU8S): 11-Chlorotrisafluoro-3-oxundecane-1-sulfonic Acid
(9CL-PF3ONS): 9-Chlorohexadecafluoro-3-oxundecane-1-sulfonic Acid
(DONA): 4,8-Dioxo-3H-perfluorononanoic Acid
(HFFO-DA): Hexafluoropropylene Oxide Dimer Acid
(NEFOSA): N-ethyl perfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic Acid
(NMeFOSA): N-methyl perfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic Acid
(PFBS): Perfluorobutane Sulfonic Acid
(PFDA): Perfluorodecanoic Acid
(PFDDA): Perfluorododecanoic Acid
(PFHxA): Perfluorohexanoic Acid
(PFTA): Perfluorotetradecanoic Acid
(PFTDA): Perfluorotridecanoic Acid
(PFUnA): Perfluoroundecanoic Acid

Where can I learn more about PFAS in drinking water?

For information about the health effects of PFAS, please visit www.healthvermont.gov/water/pfas or call the Vermont Department of Health at 1-800-439-8350. If you have specific health concerns, contact your health care provider.

Water Department
2023 Budget

Account		2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Notes
03-04-33-01.00	Water Fees	236,686.00	265,000.00	265,000.00	Will be increasing rates for 2023
03-04-33-02.00	Delinquent Fees				
03-04-33-03.00	Penalty/Interest	6,786.09	4,000.00	5,500.00	
03-04-33-05.00	Water Connection	5,000.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	
03-04-33-07.00	Meter Install	128.00	-		
03-06-33-99.00	Other Income		-	11,500.00	Facilities purchased truck
Total Revenues		248,600.09	271,500.00	284,500.00	
03-12-33-10.00	Labor	106,554.28	95,400.00	91,000.00	Salary & Benefits are divided
03-12-33-11.00	Social Security	8,159.33	7,298.10	6,961.50	equally between water & sewer
03-12-33-13.00	Workers Comp	2,539.86	2,500.00	4,346.00	
03-12-33-14.00	Medical Insurance	17,575.08	8,800.00	20,429.50	
03-12-33-15.00	Life Insurance	205.00	149.00	225.00	
03-12-33-16.00	Retirement	8,374.60	6,100.00	3,014.00	
03-12-33-17.00	Uniforms	600.00	350.00	600.00	
03-12-33-18.00	Co Insurance	5,534.18	5,249.02	10,000.00	
03-12-33-21.00	Supplies	228.87	500.00	500.00	
03-12-33-22.00	Training	574.56	500.00	500.00	
03-12-33-28.00	Paving		2,000.00	2,000.00	
03-12-33-29.00	Computer	1,322.83	1,400.00	1,400.00	lease on laptop; service
03-12-33-30.00	Utilities	23,855.09	20,000.00	21,000.00	
03-12-33-33.00	Gas - Propane	138.45	500.00	500.00	
03-12-33-34.00	Telephone		400.00	400.00	
03-12-33-37.00	Contract Service	149.30	4,500.00	4,500.00	
03-12-33-37.02	Bid Phase		-		
03-12-33-38.00	Testing	2,420.00	2,000.00	2,500.00	
03-12-33-42.00	State Fees	4,610.75	3,500.00	5,000.00	
03-12-33-50.00	PACIF Insurance	3,264.00	2,500.00	3,436.00	
03-12-33-55.00	Tank Inspection		1,000.00	1,000.00	
03-12-33-56.00	Legal Services		-	500.00	
03-12-33-57.00	Audit		800.00	800.00	
03-12-33-60.00	System Maintenance	498.11	6,500.00	6,500.00	
03-12-33-60.01	Collection System	12,237.26	7,000.00	10,000.00	
03-12-33-60.02	Meters Installation	29.13	1,000.00	500.00	
03-12-33-60.03	Hydrants	31.05	-	3,500.00	
03-12-33-60.04	Well Repair	2,435.05	3,500.00	3,500.00	
03-12-33-61.00	Chemicals	14,742.02	13,000.00	17,000.00	
03-12-33-66.00	Tools	1,946.99	2,000.00	2,000.00	
03-12-33-68.00	Vehicle Maintenance	771.86	1,000.00	1,000.00	
03-12-33-68.03	Water Truck	41,634.28	25,000.00		
03-12-33-69.00	Repairs/Maintenance	253.63	-	500.00	
03-12-33-78.00	Gasoline	2,254.68	1,500.00	1,700.00	
03-12-33-82.03	Water Bond Reimbursement	94,589.54	94,589.94	94,589.94	
03-12-33-83.00	Service Charge		-		
03-12-33-90.00	Capital Bond Transfer	63,610.59	-	6,431.53	2016 Bond Payment
Total Expenditures		421,140.37	320,536.06	327,833.47	
Total Water Fund		(172,540.28)	(49,036.06)	(43,333.47)	

Water Department
Balance Sheet
December 31, 2022

ASSETS		2022	2021	% Change	\$ Change
03-00-00-00-00	Water Fund	-	-	0.00%	-
03-00-00-05-00	Accounts Receivable	-	-	0.00%	-
03-00-00-05-10	Fixed Assets	3,651,200.00	3,651,200.00	100.00%	-
03-00-00-05-15	Accumulated Depreciation	(93,420.00)	(93,420.00)	100.00%	-
03-00-00-09-00	Due to/From Other Funds	53,012.75	331,889.85	-84.03%	(278,877.10)
03-00-00-10-00	Water Reserve	-	-	0.00%	-
03-00-00-30-15	A/R Water Billing	37,864.14	32,385.89	16.92%	5,478.25
03-00-00-30-50	A/R Miscellaneous	128.00		0.00%	128.00
Total Assets		3,648,784.89	3,922,055.74	-6.97%	(273,270.85)

LIABILITY					
03-00-01-00-00	Accounts Payable	4,147.11	10,287.74	-59.69%	(6,140.63)
03-00-01-00-05	Accrued Payroll	-	-		-
03-00-01-00-10	Accrued Comp Balances	5,304.51	5,304.51	0.00%	-
03-00-01-30-15	Water Overpayments	(2,519.98)	(2,519.98)	0.00%	-
03-00-01-70-01	Water Bond	2,459,327.92	2,553,917.46	-3.70%	(94,589.54)
Total Liability		2,466,259.56	2,566,989.73	-3.92%	(100,730.17)

Fund Balance

03-00-03-00-00	Fund Balance - Unreserved	467,312.01	433,627.50	7.77%	33,684.51
03-00-03-00-05	Retained Earnings	-	-		-
03-00-03-00-10	Net Investment in Capital	887,754.00	887,754.00	0.00%	-
Total Prior Years Fund Balance		1,355,066.01	1,321,381.50	2.55%	33,684.51
Fund Balance Current Year		(172,540.68)	33,984.51	-607.70%	(206,525.19)
Total Fund Balance		1,182,525.33	1,355,366.01	-12.75%	(172,840.68)
Total Liability and Fund Balance		3,648,784.89	3,922,355.74	-6.97%	(273,570.85)

Sewer Department
2023 Budget

Account		2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Notes
04-04-34-01.00	Sewer Fees	439,203.38	460,000.00	460,000.00	Will be looking to increase 2023
04-04-34-03.00	Penalty/Interest	11,871.16	7,500.00	7,500.00	
04-04-34-05.00	Sewer Connection Fees	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	
04-06-34-01.00	Interest Income	-	-		
04-06-34-99.00	Other Income	-	-		
Total Revenues		454,574.54	471,000.00	471,000.00	

04-12-34-10.00	Payroll	110,767.93	108,000.00	91,000.00	Salary & Benefits are divided
04-12-34-11.00	Social Security	8,358.93	8,262.00	6,961.50	equally between water & sewer
04-12-34-12.00	Unemployment	-			
04-12-34-13.00	Workers Comp	3,809.78	3,500.00	4,346.00	
04-12-34-14.00	Medical Insurance	28,537.69	39,320.00	20,430.00	
04-12-34-15.00	Life Insurance	188.60	246.00	246.00	
04-12-34-16.00	Retirement	5,583.50	6,685.00	3,014.00	
04-12-34-17.00	Uniforms	2,552.38	2,000.00	600.00	
04-12-34-18.00	Co Insurance	7,408.79	-	10,000.00	
04-12-34-21.00	Supplies	216.10	500.00	500.00	
04-12-34-22.00	Training	361.00	1,200.00	750.00	
04-12-34-24.00	Lab Equipment	2,732.88	2,000.00	10,000.00	
04-12-34-29.00	Computer	1,130.18	1,000.00	1,000.00	
04-12-34-30.00	Utilities	38,741.47	36,000.00	37,000.00	
04-12-34-30.01	Pump Stations	18,682.35	14,000.00	18,000.00	Pleasantbrook & First ave.
04-12-34-30.02	Pumps	13,504.22	8,000.00	12,000.00	pump repairs
04-12-34-34.00	Telephone	1,858.62	1,500.00	1,700.00	
04-12-34-37.01	CLCTN System	8,201.37	8,000.00	6,000.00	
04-12-34-37.02	Contract Services	250.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	
04-12-34-38.00	Testing	4,625.00	4,500.00	4,500.00	
04-12-34-42.00	State Fees	525.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	
04-12-34-50.00	PACIF Insurance	9,019.00	6,000.00	9,855.00	
04-12-34-55.01	Sludge Disposal	14,673.90	22,000.00	22,000.00	
04-12-34-56.00	Legal	-	-	500.00	
04-12-34-57.00	Audit	-	1,600.00	1,600.00	
04-12-34-60.01	Sewer Line Repair	1,904.26	1,000.00	1,500.00	
04-12-34-60.02	Generator	334.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	
04-12-34-60.03	Pumps	5,593.50			
04-12-34-60.04	Line Flushing	-	4,500.00	4,500.00	
04-12-34-61.00	Chemicals	7,116.45	10,000.00	13,000.00	
04-12-34-61.02	UV Disinf.	-	1,000.00	1,400.00	
04-12-34-66.00	Tools	2,592.54	1,500.00	2,000.00	
04-12-34-67.00	Safety Equipment	446.70	500.00	500.00	
04-12-34-68.00	Vehicle Maintenance	992.09	1,200.00	1,200.00	
04-12-34-69.00	Plant Maintenance	23,943.42	10,000.00	12,000.00	
04-12-34-79.00	Vehicle Fuel	2,330.35	1,200.00	1,800.00	
04-12-34-82.02	Bond Interest	21,635.62	26,000.00	26,000.00	
04-12-34-82.03	Sewer Bond Reimburseme	110,000.00	110,000.00	110,000.00	
04-12-34-83.00	Service Charge	-		20,447.20	
04-12-35-90-00	Capital /Bond Transfer	20,134.55			
Total Expenditures		478,752.17	451,413.00	466,549.70	
Total Sewer Fund		(24,177.63)	19,587.00	4,450.30	

Sewer Department
Balance Sheet
December 31, 2021

ASSETS		2022	2021	% Change	\$ Change
04-00-00-00-00	Sewer Fund	-		#DIV/0!	-
04-00-00-00-01	Sewer Reserve	-	-		-
04-00-00-05-00	Accounts Receivable	-	-		-
04-00-00-05-10	Fixed Assets	1,904,551.00	1,904,551.00	0.00%	-
04-00-00-05-15	Accumulated Depreciation	(700,430.00)	(700,430.00)	0.00%	-
04-00-00-09-00	Due to/From Other Funds	19,773.31	171,666.84	-88.48%	(151,893.53)
04-00-00-30-15	A/R Sewer Billing	69,089.84	54,965.17	25.70%	14,124.67
Total Assets		1,292,984.15	1,430,753.01	-9.63%	(137,768.86)

LIABILITY

04-00-01-00-00	Accounts Payable	4,344.92	3,884.60	11.85%	460.32
04-00-01-00-05	Accrued Payroll	-	-	#DIV/0!	-
04-00-01-00-10	Accrued Comp Balances	2,490.05	2,490.05	0.00%	-
04-00-01-05-00	USDA Loan	436,167.59	550,523.07	-20.77%	(114,355.48)
04-00-01-30-15	Sewer Overpayments	3,548.41	3,244.48	9.37%	303.93
04-00-01-70-01	Sewer Fund	-	-	0.00%	-
Total Liability		446,550.97	560,142.20	-20.28%	(113,591.23)

Fund Balance

04-00-03-00-00	Fund Balance - Unreserved	382,772.81	278,150.15	37.61%	104,622.66
04-00-03-00-05	Retained Earnings	-	-	0.00%	-
04-00-03-00-10	Net Investment in Capital	487,838.00	487,838.00	0.00%	-
Total Prior Years Fund Balance		870,610.81	765,988.15	13.66%	104,622.66
Fund Balance Current Year		(24,177.63)	104,622.66	-123.11%	(128,800.29)
Total Fund Balance		846,433.18	870,610.81	-2.78%	(24,177.63)
Total Liability and Fund Balance		1,292,984.15	1,430,753.01	-9.63%	(137,768.86)

SEWER and WATER DEPARTMENT NOTES 2022

	original date	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Total Repaid
Bond Series 2 - \$1,151,360	May 2015	113,372	129,847	129,872	135,991	135,991	135,991	135,991	135,991	135,991	135,991	67,996					1,393,024
<i>Sewer Bond - refinanced</i>																	
Beginning Balance	\$1,151,360	\$1,070,528	\$979,785	\$885,477	\$787,461	\$685,594	\$579,723	\$469,692									
Principal Payment	\$80,832	\$90,743	\$94,309	\$98,015	\$101,867	\$105,871	\$110,031	\$114,355									
Ending Balance	\$1,070,528	\$979,785	\$885,477	\$787,461	\$685,594	\$579,723	\$469,692	\$333,701									
Interest Payment		\$42,021	\$35,538	\$31,857	\$34,124	\$30,121	\$25,960	\$21,696									
Water Project Loan \$25,800	2014 & 2015			5,160	5,160	5,160	5,160	5,160									25,800
<i>loan for water master planning</i>																	
Beginning Balance				25,800	20,640	15,480	10,320	5,160									
Principal Payment				5,160	5,160	5,160	5,160	5,160									
Ending Balance				20,640	15,480	10,320	5,160	-									
Interest Payment																	
Water Project Bond \$4,050,000	May 2015				97,420	97,420	97,420	97,420	97,420	97,420	97,420	97,420	97,420	97,420	97,420	97,420	4,050,000
Beginning Balance					3,725,763	3,572,457	3,421,450	3,326,860									
Principal Payment					97,420	94,590	94,590	94,590									
Ending Balance				3,725,763	3,628,343	3,477,867	3,326,860	3,232,270									
Interest Payment																	
Approved May 2015 vote; repayment begins 2 years from completion																	
Total Utilities Long Term Debt		113,372	129,847	135,032	238,571	238,571	238,571	238,571	233,411	233,411	233,411	165,416	97,420	97,420	97,420	97,420	5,468,824

GENERAL FUND:

TOWN NOTES
GENERAL FUND and CAPITAL FUND
2021

Line of Credit:
TAN Current Expense Note/Line of Credit
Dated 06/18/2021 People's United Bank
Borrowed/Paid:
TAN Current Expense Note/Line of Credit
Dated 06/18/2021 People's United Bank

\$200,000.00 Due 07/30/2021

\$ 200,000.00 Paid 07/30/2021

	original date	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Total to Repay
Bond Series 1 - \$823,065	March 2016	5,584	59,345	58,688	178,619	175,868	172,920	125,741	123,244									900,009
Capital Purchases Article 2 \$269,900																		
Paving Bond - Article 3 \$320,000																		
O'Neill Land Purchase \$333,165																		
Bond Series 3 - \$920,000	March 2017		7,875	23,824	60,824	60,114	156,355	153,461	150,352	110,069	107,528	57,860	56,400	54,875	53,300	51,670		1,104,506
People Dugout Culvert - Article 2 \$135,000																		
Route 35 Improvements - Article 4 \$100,000																		
Fire Pump - Article 3 - \$500,000																		
Capital Items - Article 4 - \$185,000																		
Bond Series 2 - \$669,000	March 2018			6,668	18,186	18,186	18,186	111,186	109,233	107,159	104,955	102,555	47,593	46,279	44,884	43,538	42,175	820,782
Compaction Roller - Article 2 \$110,000																		
Sidewalk Plow Article 2 \$115,000																		
Hazmat Trailer Article 2 \$ 11,000																		
Pocket St Park Article 4 \$ 25,000																		
Town Hall Reno Article 3 \$408,000																		
Bond Series 2 - \$300,000	March 2019				1,619	4,817	4,817	54,817	54,117	53,407	52,657	51,867	51,037					329,155
Paving																		
Bond Series 3 & 4 - \$250,000	Jul-21						733	37,879	37,664	37,436	37,179	36,879	36,543	36,150				260,462
Paving Lovers Lane Rd & Popple Dugout Rd																		
Total Bond Payments		5,584	67,220	89,181	259,248	258,984	353,011	483,083	474,610	308,070	302,318	249,161	191,573	137,304	98,184	95,208	42,175	3,414,913

* Repayments include Principal & Interest

CAPITAL FUND:	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Total
Capital Equipment Note \$136,500	June 2016		45,500	45,500													136,500
2016 John Deere Excavator																	
Highway Lease \$147,137.40	June 2015	49,046	49,046	49,046													147,138
2015 John Deere 544K Loader																	
Highway Ton Truck \$37,200	Sept 2018			12,400	12,400	12,400											37,200
Ton Truck Loan																	
Highway Loader \$129,500	June 2019				32,375	32,375	32,375	32,375									129,500
2019 John Deere Loader																	
Highway Palmer Bridge \$96,000	Oct 2020					96,000											96,000
Palmer Bridge Repair - refinanced																	
Police Cruiser \$41,000	May 2020					10,250	10,250	10,250	10,250								41,000
2016 Police Cruiser																	
Highway Truck \$140,000	July 2020					28,000	28,000	28,000	28,000	28,000							140,000
2021 Western Star																	
Highway Paving \$100,000	July 2020					25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000								100,000
Sylvan, Peck & Elm Street																	
Highway Loader/Backhoe \$110,000	July 2020					11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000		110,000
2020 JD410L Loader/Backhoe																	
Highway Palmer Bridge \$96,000	Oct 2020					24,000	24,000	24,000	24,000								96,000
Palmer Bridge Repair - refinanced																	
Highway Truck \$130,000	Aug 2021						26,000	26,000	26,000	26,000	26,000	26,000					
2022 Western Star																	
Total Loan Payments		49,046	94,546	94,546	57,900	44,775	239,025	156,625	124,250	65,000	37,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	0	1,033,338
Total Long Term Debt		54,630	161,765	183,727	317,148	303,759	592,036	639,708	432,320	367,318	286,161	202,573	148,304	109,184	106,208	42,175	4,448,251

Delinquent Water/Sewer Report
As of December 31, 2022

	CURRENT	OVER 30	OVER 60	OVER 90	OVER 120	TOTAL
SEWER	\$ 24,488.20	\$ 962.96	\$ -	\$ 6,978.55	\$ 36,660.13	\$ 69,089.84
WATER	\$ 13,979.69	\$ 518.59	\$ -	\$ 3,922.58	\$ 19,443.28	\$ 37,864.14
TOTAL	\$ 38,467.89	\$ 1,481.55	\$ -	\$ 10,901.13	\$ 56,103.41	\$ 106,953.98

The town has adopted a stricter delinquent water and sewer collection procedure. Once a billing is sent out, it is due in 30 days and becomes delinquent in 31 days. The account will be allowed to be delinquent for 30 days before the shut off process begins. At that time, the user has the opportunity to make a payment arrangement with the requirement that all future current billings remain current. Should this not occur, shutoff will occur with further charges being assessed. We are hopeful that this stricter collection policy will help reduce the delinquencies in these funds, thereby reducing the need for rate increases.

Delinquent Tax Report
As of December 31, 2022

Tax Year	Principal	Interest	Penalty	Total Due
2013	\$ 46.63	\$ 65.06	\$ 3.73	\$ 115.42
2014	\$ 643.75	\$ 814.30	\$ 51.50	\$ 1,509.55
2015	\$ 2,729.39	\$ 3,029.63	\$ 218.35	\$ 5,977.37
2016	\$ 2,161.48	\$ 2,053.28	\$ 172.92	\$ 4,387.68
2017	\$ 2,460.58	\$ 2,041.82	\$ 196.86	\$ 4,699.26
2018	\$ 5,636.06	\$ 4,057.88	\$ 450.89	\$ 10,144.83
2019	\$ 12,638.72	\$ 7,583.41	\$ 1,011.12	\$ 21,233.25
2020	\$ 47,639.00	\$ 19,808.28	\$ 4,111.04	\$ 71,558.32
2021	\$ 67,798.77	\$ 15,937.47	\$ 5,461.51	\$ 89,197.75
2022	\$ 167,119.29	\$ 7,363.84	\$ 12,845.53	\$ 187,328.66
Total:	\$ 308,873.67	\$ 62,754.97	\$ 24,523.45	\$ 396,152.09

PROCEDURES FOR TAX SALE

Taxes are due on Sept. 15 of each year. If taxes are not paid, or a payment arrangement made by Oct. 15, tax sale process will begin. Typically, the town holds two tax sales per year. The first one in Mar. and the second one in November. The fall tax sale is usually for those individuals who have not kept up on their payment arrangement.

A tax sale is a remedy available to a municipality to ensure collection of its local property tax. The right to sell real estate to satisfy taxes is a wholly statutory right. The first step is to have the Tax Collector "extend" his Warrant on the property in question.

The next step is to advertise such property for sale at public auction, both publicly on the notice board and in a local newspaper. In addition, Notices of Tax Sale are sent directly to the property owner by registered mail. All mortgage and lien holders are sent the same notice.

After three successive weeks of advertising, and at least ten day from the last advertisement, the property is sold at public auction if the taxes remain unpaid. The owner of a property may redeem the property within one year by paying to the Tax Collector the tax due, together with 1% interest per month plus all associated charges. The Tax Collector then returns the funds to the purchaser and releases the property from the Tax Sale Lien.

When the time for redemption (i.e. one year) has passed, and the property has not been redeemed, the Tax Collector will execute and deliver to the purchaser a Quit Claim Deed.

**2023 PROPERTY TAXES DUE
September 15, 2023**

Interest will be assessed on September 18, 2023 at the rate of 1%. Penalty will be assessed at the rate of 3% on September 18, 2023. An additional 5% will be assessed on October 2, 2023.

Municipal Grants Managed
during 2022

Type of Grant	Purpose	Amount	Year Awarded	Current Status
FEMA	Route 35 Advance Assist.	\$ 74,500.00	2020	Grant Completed
Vtrans	Sidewalk upgrades	\$ 800,000.00	2018	Finalizing Right of way with Vermont Rail. Hoping to construct in 2024.
Historic Preservation	West Roof at Academy Bldg	\$ 20,000.00	2020	Project Completed
Vtrans	Construction of Route 35	\$ 175,000.00	2021	Construct in summer 2023
Vtrans	Popple Dungeon Culvert	\$ 900,000.00	2018	Project Completed
Bldgs & General Services	Brookside Trail	\$ 20,000.00	2019	Project Completed
Vtrans	Gr. Mtn. Tnpk Culvert	\$ 236,400.00	2022	Construction in 2023
Historic Preservation	Yosemite Windows & Doors	\$ 20,000.00	2022	Renovation 2023
Vtrans	Paving Cobleigh Parking	\$ 52,500.00	2022	Paving work in 2023
Downtown Fundings	Wayfinding Package	\$ 233,100.00	2022	Signs will bid in spring with installation in fall
Firehouse Subs	Fire/Ambulance Equip.	\$ 29,465.00	2022	Equipment purchased
Better Backroads	Culvert work - Lovers Lane	\$ 29,974.00	2022	Construction in 2023
FEMA	Tanker for Fire Dept.	\$ 475,000.00	2022	Truck has been ordered
Municipal Planning	Bylaw Modernization	\$ 20,000.00	2022	Planning Commission rewriting
TOTAL		\$ 3,085,939.00		

2023 Grant Budget

Grant Name	Total Project Cost	Grant Award Amount	Town Match Required	Other Dept.
Grants that have been awarded:				
Sidewalk Grant	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 800,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	Capital
Route 35	\$ 235,000.00	\$ 175,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	Capital
Green Mountain Turnpike Culvert	\$ 236,400.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 36,400.00	Capital
Wastewater Asset Management Plan	\$ 78,000.00	\$ 39,000.00	\$ 39,000.00	Water
Yosemite Fire House Windows	\$ 53,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 33,000.00	ARPA
Park & Ride for Cobleigh	\$ 52,500.00	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 10,500.00	
Wayfinding Sign Package	\$ 233,100.00	\$ 186,480.00	\$ 46,620.00	ARPA
Public Safety Building AEDs	\$ 9,530.00	\$ 4,765.00	\$ 4,765.00	
Fire/Ambulance Equipment - Firehouse Subs	\$ 29,465.94	\$ 29,465.94	\$ -	
Better BackRoads	\$ 29,974.08	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 9,974.08	
AFG - Fire Tanker Truck	\$ 475,000.00	\$ 452,380.95	\$ 22,619.05	Capital
Lead Line Inventory for Water Dept.	\$ 73,560.00	\$ 73,560.00	\$ -	
Bylaw Modernization Grant	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -	
Total Grants Received	\$ 2,525,530.02	\$ 2,062,651.89	\$ 462,878.13	
Grants applied for - awaiting award:				
Communications Equipment Public Safety	\$ 231,075.48	\$ 231,075.48	\$ -	
FEBA - Generator for Well Station	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	Water
Route 35 - Remainder	\$ 740,000.00	\$ 666,000.00	\$ 74,000.00	Capital
Total Grants Applied For	\$ 1,071,075.48	\$ 987,075.48	\$84,000.00	
Seed Money for Potential Grants:				
PACIF Grant - Ditch Box	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$0.00	
Assistance to Firefighters - Compressor	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 70,375.34	\$3,703.97	
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -	\$20,000.00	
Total Seed Money:	\$ -	\$ -	\$20,000.00	
Grand Totals	\$ 3,596,605.50	\$ 3,049,727.37	\$566,878.13	
Total Town Match		\$ 566,878.13		
Previous funding or funding from other source:		\$ 526,878.13		
Net to raise in Taxes in 2023		\$ 40,000.00		

Grant Fund
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2021

				12/31/2022	12/31/2021	\$ Change
ASSETS						
	Current Assets					
		Checking/Savings				
		Grant Fund		0.00	0.00	0
		Due to/from Other Accounts		179,178.66	-22,946.87	202,125.5
		Grant Receivable		0.00	0.00	0
	Total Current Assets			179,178.66	-22,946.87	202,125.5
TOTAL ASSETS				179,178.66	-22,946.87	202,125.5
LIABILITIES & EQUITY						
	Liabilities					
		Current Liabilities				
		Other Current Liabilities				
		Accounts Payable		0.00	0.00	0.00
		Total Other Current Liabilities		0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total Current Liabilities			0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total Liabilities			0.00	0.00	0.00
	Equity					
		Retained Earnings		0.00	0.00	0.00
		Fund Balance Unreserved		-22,946.87	-3,458.24	(19,488.6)
		Net Income		202,125.53	-19,488.63	221,614.16
	Total Equity			179,178.66	-22,946.87	202,125.53
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY				179,178.66	-22,946.87	202,125.53

The Yosemite Engine Company



Our Mission

"The purpose of the company is to promote goodwill, encourage public support, promote fire safety and prevention, and improve cooperation among members.

The purpose of the company shall also be to provide training opportunities for members of the Chester Fire Department and to conduct fund-raising activities for the benefit of said department and the community."



The Yosemite Engine Company had another great year of fundraising and continuing our mission of supporting the Town of Chester and our community. The Engine Company was able to donate almost \$14,000 which went towards a dispatch speaker system within the Emergency Service Building, food for long term events, and training opportunities for Chester Firefighters. Chester's Emergency

Services are privileged to have the support of our wonderful community, and the Yosemite Engine Company cannot thank you enough! It is an honor to help support our town and help keep our emergency personnel and citizens safe.



In 2022 we had major upgrades to our Christmas tree trailer and sales racks. It's hard to believe but with the help of several local business and townspeople our members were able to bring the little 1970's trailer back to life and give us something to be proud of. We would like to give special thanks to Bensonwood, Bibens, the

Trask's, the Ravlin's, Tom Cutler, and Jessie Smith for

their donations of material and labor on this project. It wouldn't have been possible without them.

Look for us in 2023 with our yearly donation drive, Chester Fall Festival on the Green, and Christmas trees!

Thank you for supporting us in supporting you.

Ben Whalen, President

Yosemite Engine Company



REPORT OF THE TOWN OF CHESTER FIRE WARDEN

This year of 2022 we had a significant increase in permits issued from last year of 235 verbal permits. I issued 306 this year and Ben Whelan, the Assistant Fire Warden issued 32 permits for a total of 338.

2022 we had 2 brush fires within Chester. Both were caused by power lines down.

There were 5 unpermitted burns. 3 burning hazardous materials that we were unable to determine the responsible subjects.

There were no tickets issued and 5 verbal warnings issued for burning without a permit.

I turned down 2 permits due to unfavorable conditions.

I would like to note that there were no problems caused by any of the permitted burns, which is why we issue permits.

I know that we have many new to the area residences that are unfamiliar with the process. I urge them to call and have the proper information before burning.

I would like to thank all of the citizens of Chester for calling for permits to burn. This is the main reason that we usually have no unnecessary Fire Department responses.

I would also request that people continue to call in the winter to burn legal materials so that I can keep track of where the fires are and continue to avoid unnecessary Fire Department responses. This will continue to be a cost savings to the taxpayers by avoiding unnecessary responses.

I would like to remind everyone that you may call for a permit any day of the week on my cell at 802-384-3001.

I would remind everybody that if I am unavailable that Ben Whalen is my Deputy Warden and is available at 802-289-1087.

Respectfully submitted
Jeff Holden
Town of Chester Fire Warden

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY AND BOARD OF TAX ABATEMENT

In the year 2022 the Board of Civil Authority and Board of Tax Abatement had little business before them. There was one tax abatement hearing on April 21st. There were no appeals in 2022 for lower property assessments beyond the level of Lister grievance. The Board of Civil Authority thanks the Listers for their hard work and expertise in setting assessments and handling grievances. Their dedication makes our work much easier.

The Board of Civil Authority met in April and gave an update on the Reapportioning of the Vermont Representative Districts. Chester is now a part of the newly designed Windsor-Windham district which represents Chester, Athens, Grafton, and Windham.

There were three elections in 2022. The Town Meeting was held Tuesday, March 1st, for voting on local office candidates and school budgets. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we held an in person and virtual informational meeting on Monday, February 28th. All budgets, positions and special articles were voted by Australian ballot at Town Hall on March 1st. We held the Primary Election on August 9th, and the General Election on November 8th.

There will be one election in 2023. Town Meeting will be held at the Town Hall upstairs on March 6th with voting taking place on March 7th. Please check www.chestervt.gov for the Zoom link to Town Meeting. Articles on the Warning will be voted from the floor at Town Meeting and open offices will be voted by Australian ballot on March 7th from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. There are several options for voting by Australian ballot besides coming to the polling place (Town Hall) on Election Day. A voter can request an absentee ballot from the Vermont Elections Management System/My Voter Page, come to the Town Office or call the Town Office at 875-2173.

We thank the Town Office Staff and Listers for all the time and energy they contribute to assisting the BCA in our work.

Respectfully Submitted,
Heather Chase, Chairman
Board of Civil Authority and Tax Abatement

TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS

The Trustees of Public Funds held their annual meeting with the trust officers of M & T bank. in January of 2033 for the year ending 2022. The trust department of M.& T Bank is titled Wilmington Trust. All accounts were transferred to them in 2022. Economic conditions were discussed as well are reports presented of our assets held in mutual, real estate, and equity funds. The economy for 2022 took a significant downward turn, however the trustees continued with a balanced portfolio which has kept losses at minimum. This investment strategy has kept our funds growing and we will hold this position until change is needed. The funds are all specific in nature and can only be used for the project intended by the donors.

There were no requests for funds for the year 2022 .

If you have a special interest or project and would like to donate funds to the Town of Chester, please send a letter with your gift with instructions for the disbursement for the life of the fund.

Respectfully Submitted

Shirley Barrett

Erron Carey

**STATEMENT OF TRUST FUNDS
HELD BY TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022**

<u>Investments</u>	<u>Market Value</u>
Net Income 2022*	\$ 8,726.32
Principal Money Market Fund	\$ 30,984.15
Mutual Funds: Fixed Income	\$ 347,310.14
Equity	\$ 378,707.63
Real Assets	<u>\$8,630.32</u>
Total Investments	\$ 774,358.56

*\$ to be disbursed January 2023	\$ 8,726.32
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**TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS
PAYABLES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022**

Due Town of Chester	\$ 7,338.59
Due Chester Town School District: Abbie Ingalls School Fund	\$ 17.80
Due Chester Schools: Williams School Fund	<u>\$ 1,369.93</u>
TOTAL	\$ 8,726.32

**TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS
SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS 2022**

	Receipts		Disbursements			Invested Principal
	Income	Principal	To Town	To Schools	To Cemetery	
Cemetery Fund	\$ 2,820.05		\$ 2,820.05			
Campbell for Poor	232.97		232.97			
Samuel Adams Cemetery	0.71		0.71			
Howe-Peabody	1,347.79		1,347.79			
Fullerton Cemetery	11.60		11.60			
Samuel Adams Poor	727.34		727.34			
Salter Poor Fund	17.80		17.80			
Cyprus Minerals	2,180.33		2,180.33			
Abbie Ingalls School	17.80			17.80		
Williams School Fund	1,369.93			1,369.93		
Capital Gains Distributions		23,048.23				
	\$ 8,726.32	\$ 23,048.23				
Inc MMkt Bal 12/31/22	\$ 8,726.32					
			\$ 7,338.59	\$ 1,387.73	\$ -	\$23,048.23
						\$23,048.23

12/31/2022 Year- End Market Value	Contribution Amount	Total	Old %	New %
\$774,358.56	\$ -	\$774,358.56		
Cemetery Fund	32.32%	\$250,246.78	32.32%	32.32%
Campbell for Poor	2.67%	\$20,673.42	2.67%	2.67%
Samuel Adams Cemetery	0.01%	\$62.86	0.01%	0.01%
Howe Peabody	15.45%	\$119,600.98	15.45%	15.45%
Fullerton Cemetery	0.13%	\$1,029.35	0.13%	0.13%
Samuel Adams Poor	8.33%	\$64,542.57	8.33%	8.33%
Salter Poor Fund	0.20%	\$1,579.39	0.20%	0.20%
Cyprus Minerals	24.99%	\$193,478.42	24.99%	24.99%
Abbie Ingalls School	0.20%	\$1,579.39	0.20%	0.20%
Williams School Fund	15.70%	\$121,565.40	15.70%	15.70%
	100.00%	\$774,358.56	100.00%	100.00%

Windsor County Happenings Fiscal Year 2022-2023

The calendar year 2022 has seen some significant changes in Windsor County; the most significant will have come to pass prior to your reading this; there will be two new Assistant Judges at the helm of the County Government, and a new Sheriff as well as of February 1, 2023. Judge Terie, who had served the County for eight years, decided to step down and pass the torch, and Judge Ricci, who served for over a year after Judge Anderson retired, is also stepping down. In their stead will be newly elected Assistant Judge Alison Johannensen of Taftsville, and former Assistant Judge David Singer of Hartland. Sheriff Ryan Palmer will be replacing Sheriff Michael Chamberlain who had served the County since 1998. Another change is that Windsor County will have a new Deputy Treasurer, as Dianne Bumps will also be stepping down. Pepper Tepperman who is the County Clerk, and Bruce Page who is the Superintendent of our two buildings (the Courthouse, and the County Building) are remaining in their posts. They are *all* to be thanked for their past, and continued years of dedicated service to the constituents of Windsor County.

Other happenings include a slow, cautious re-opening of the Courts to the public for in-person hearings. The Judiciary is aware that Covid is still amongst us, and thus, as of the writing of this report, in-person hearings are still intermittent- some of them are in person, and others are either remote, using Webex, or a hybrid combination. The HVAC system at the Windsor County Courthouse is still in the process of being upgraded to insure the safety of litigants and staff.

The Windsor County Assistant Judges held the preliminary county budget meeting on December 14, 2022, and the final budget meeting was held January 18th 2023. The County Budget for fiscal year 2023-24 had to be increased a bit due to the enormous spike in heating oil prices. I'm sure that doesn't come as a surprise to anyone who heats their residence with oil and/or propane. We are all hopeful that by the time a new budget needs to be crafted for the next fiscal year, heating prices will recede a bit so future budget increases can be kept at a minimum. There has also been some work at the County Building to adjust the heating system there. Additionally, the phone system and the Internet services at the County Building have been upgraded, at a *lower* cost! Increases in spending in all other areas have been kept to a minimum.

Another noteworthy occurrence that will take place in 2023 is that this will be the last year that Windsor County Towns will be making payments for the Courthouse Renovation Bond; the renovation to upgrade the Courthouse and make it handicap accessible was completed 2014. The Courthouse, located in the Shire town of Woodstock, serves the needs of the constituents of Windsor Count; it is a historic gem to be admired by all. Do drive by, or visit to see what your tax dollars have accomplished!

Springfield Local Health Office Report 2022

Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the Vermont Department of Health. The contact information for your district office is listed at the top of this page. We provide essential services and resources to your towns to protect and promote the health and well-being of people in Vermont. For example, in the past year, the Springfield Local Health Office:

Protected communities from COVID-19: Since the pandemic began three years ago, our doors have remained open, and we've been able to serve communities thanks to individuals, families, schools, businesses, first responders, and countless others that collaborated with us to meet the needs of local towns. We provided vaccine, testing, personnel, and information, along with other key public health services.

Worked to prevent and control the spread of disease: In collaboration with community partners, we hosted over 70 COVID-19 vaccination clinics and provided over 6,540 COVID-19 doses. Since August 2021, all local health offices have also documented and helped manage 8,125 COVID-19-related situations, including 1,271 COVID-19 outbreaks. <https://www.healthvermont.gov/disease-control/covid-19>

Ensured local preparedness for future emergencies: We worked with partners like schools, hospitals, and emergency personnel to ensure effective pandemic response and support preparedness to distribute medicine, supplies, and information during emergencies. This year, we responded to the emergence of human monkeypox virus by sharing information and providing vaccine to community members.

Stayed attentive to people and communities most underserved: We provided services and resources to people who are more likely to experience adverse health outcomes due to health inequities. For example, we provided vaccine at schools without access, shelters, meal, and food distribution sites, farms, and more.

Collaborated with Town Health Officers on environmental health: To help Vermonters better understand the relationship between their environment and their health, we collaborated with towns and other local partners. Find information about environmental health including lead, cyanobacteria (blue-green algae), food safety, drinking water, climate change, healthy homes, healthy schools, and more at www.healthvermont.gov/environment.

Provided Special Supplemental Nutrition to Women, Infant and Children (WIC) services and resources to families and children: Provided WIC nutrition education and support to 892 individuals between July 1, 2021 and June 31, 2022, while enabling them to save on groceries so they can have more income to spend on other pressing family needs. WIC also empowers families with breastfeeding/chestfeeding support and provides referrals to other health and nutrition services. Learn more at www.healthvermont.gov/wic.

Supported student health and youth empowerment: According to the Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 60% percent of students in Windsor County and 56% in Windham County agree or strongly agree that they "believe they matter to people in their community." The state average is 58%. Regionally, efforts like mentoring and after-school enrichment programs help to ensure youth feel valued and included.

Promoted health in all policies: Health is not just individual behaviors and access to care, it's also housing, transportation, food access, education, natural resources, and other social determinants of health. We worked with towns, schools, worksites, healthcare providers, and other community organizations to establish plans, policies, and programming that improve health and wellness. To achieve health, we must continue to work together to improve opportunities for health across all sectors and periods of our lives.

SNOWFALL

Snowfall is presently measured at Dian Circle, elevation 760 feet above sea level. Some areas of town exceed 1,800 feet in elevation; therefore, snow totals there may be higher. Steadman Mountain at 2,300 feet is the highest elevation in Town while the Missing Link Road, between Peck Road and Green Mountain Turnpike, at 530 feet above sea level is the lowest elevation in Town.

SEASON	Shown in Inches							TOTAL
	OCT.	NOV	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL	
1984-85	0	10	16.25	7	11	13	5	62.25
1985-86	0	11.5	14.5	27	18	8.5	8.5	88
1986-87	0	18	23	54.5	1	9	4	109.5
1987-88	4	11	15	19	36	7.5	1	93.5
1988-89	0	0	9.5	7.5	15.5	9	6	47.5
1989-90	0	5	15.5	38	27	6	0	91.5
1990-91	0	1	13.5	21	10.5	8.5	0	54.5
1991-92	0	2	20.5	5.5	8.5	5	7.5	49
1992-93	0	3	5.5	26.5	40	26	7	108
1993-94	0.5	0	13.5	46	13	22	0	95
1994-95	0	5	6	7	15	4	0	37
1995-96	0	8	29.5	32	9.5	22.5	11	112.5
1996-97	0.5	4	19.75	30	22.75	22	8	107
1997-98	0	19	13	25.5	7	15	0	79.5
1998-99	0	1.5	6	34	9.5	19	0	70
1999-00	0	0.5	2.5	20.25	26.5	15	1	65.75
2000-01	0.5	1	16	6	27.5	53	0	104
2001-02	0	0	8	30.5	5.5	20.5	2	66.5
2002-03	7	18.75	31.5	27.5	17.5	5	15.5	122.75
2003-04	0.5	5	30.75	10	14.5	12.25	0	73
2004-05	0	0	11	29.75	16.25	22	0	79
2005-06	1	4.5	17.5	21.5	13.5	0	0	58
2006-07	0	0	4	4.25	24.25	25.25	18.75	76.5
2007-08	0	2.5	40	17.5	38	12	1	111
2008-09	0	2	35	35	13.5	6.5	0	92
2009-10	0	0	22	13	31.25	0	0	66.25
2010-11	0	Trace	16	34.5	37.5	10	2.2	100.2
2011-12	8.75	10	2	15.25	3.5	15	0	54.5
2012-13	0	0	22	9.75	25	15.75	0	72.5
2013-14	0	0.75	24.75	12.5	34	12.5	0	84.5
2014-15	0	9.75	13	17.25	38.25	3.5	1	82.75
2015-16	0	0	5	4.5	8	0	2.5	20
2016-17	3.5	0	25.25	13	28.5	26.5	6	102.75
2017-18	0	trace	26.25	11.75	27.25	36.25	5.25	106.75
2018-19	Trace	20	3.5	26.5	15.25	11	0.5	76.75
2019-20	0	2	16	12.5	18.25	11.25	2	62
2020-2021	1.5	0.5	34	18.75	28.5	1	4	88.25
2021-2022	0	trace	11	14.75	15.25	10	0	51
2022-2023	0	3	23					26
AVERAGE	0.71	4.60	16.95	20.70	19.78	13.72	3.15	80.20

Masons of Olive Branch Lodge

Dear Chester Townspeople,

The Masons of Olive Branch Lodge #64, would like to take this opportunity to thank the Chester citizens for their continued support.

In the past year, Olive Branch Lodge has donated over 5,000.00 to many local charities which include:

3 GMUHS scholarships, The CARE Masonic Charities of Vt, The Chester Andover Family Center, Chester Police Dept, Chester Rescue Squad, Chester Townscape / Community Alliance, Community Cares Network, The Whiting Library, and Yosemite Engine Company.

With the continued support of our membership, and the Chester community, we anticipate the ability to continue the time honored tradition of Olive Branch Lodge #64 doing it's charitable work within the community.

Respectfully,

The Masons of Olive Branch Lodge

Tom Amsden Secretary

SPRINGFIELD REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
TOWN REPORT 2022
January 2023

On behalf of SRDC, our Board and our members, many thanks for the continued support and partnership from the Town of Chester this past year.

We continue to provide assistance to the Town and residents on a variety of matters, from meeting with prospects to assisting existing businesses with their needs. We served several clients in the community this past year including those looking to start a business as well as Chester's major employers. This includes our direct efforts as well as those of the Small Business Development Center and Procurement Technical Assistance Center, which are all part of our office.

SRDC continues to provide technical assistance to companies for a variety of needs, including access to COVID relief programs. This past year, this includes helping to facilitate a \$500,000 award to an area company as well as distributing \$450,000 in funding through the Springfield Area CARES Act RLF, which provided loans to several businesses in the region, including the Inn Victoria and Stone Hearth Inn & Eatery.

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 are a core partner on the Working Communities Challenge team, which is one of 8 regions 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.

SRDC is always grateful and appreciative of our relationship with the community. We appreciate our partnership with Julie Hance at Town Hall and Dale Williamson of Newsbank continues to serve as a member of the SRDC Board.

As always, we are ready and anxious to talk to any existing company or anyone looking to start a business venture. If you would like to know more about SRDC, please feel free to contact me at our offices at 14 Clinton Street, Springfield, 885-3061 or bobf@springfielddevelopment.org. You can also learn more about SRDC through our web site at www.springfielddevelopment.org or 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

Mount Ascutney Regional Commission

The Mount Ascutney Regional Commission (MARC) is an organization that serves the ten towns in the southern Windsor County Region, including Chester. 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 FY22, the dues from member towns contributed about 2% of the MARC's annual budget of \$1,554,720. The town dues assessment of \$3,943 was determined on a \$1.25 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 FY22, the MARC assisted the Town of Chester in preparing a Local Emergency Operations Plan; provided technical assistance with updating the Unified Development Bylaws; technical assistance with the Grants-in-Aid Program; and provided information and technical assistance related to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

We would like to thank town appointed representatives Tom Bock, Julie Hance, Derek Suursoo, Kent Gilman and Arne Jonynas 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

Inserts for Town Annual Reports – for July 2021 through June 2022

Andover

- LEMP
- Grants-in-Aid Technical Assistance

Baltimore

- LEMP
- Grant Writing Assistance (Better Roads)
- Grants-in-Aid Technical Assistance

Cavendish

- LEMP assistance

Chester

- Technical assistance with zoning
- LEMP
- Grants-in-Aid Technical Assistance

Ludlow

- Village Center Master Plan
- Zoning updates
- Transit/microtransit study assistance
- LEMP
- Grants-in-Aid Technical Assistance

Reading

- Hazard Mitigation Plan
- LEMP
- Grants-in-Aid Technical Assistance
- Grant writing assistance (Better Roads)

Springfield

- Zoning & subdivision updates
- J&L
- Toonerville Trail ext.
- Grant writing (Northern Gateway, Road Calming)
- LEMP
- Grant writing and project management assistance (Weathersfield reservoir & Lincoln Street slope failure)
- Town Plan Updates
- Grants-in-Aid technical assistance

Weathersfield

- Transfer station
- LEMP
- Hot weather emergency planning
- Grant writing assistance (Better Roads)
- Grants-in-Aid technical assistance

West Windsor

- Zoning updates
- LEMP
- Grant Writing Assistance (Better Roads)
- Grants-in-Aid Technical Assistance

Windsor

- LEMP
- Grant writing and project management assistance (MAHHC/Paradise Park stormwater)
- Grants-in-Aid technical assistance

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 fourteen Vermont towns. appoints a representative the Board of Supervisors. Derek Suursoo; Jay Blodgett is the alternate.



1981 and currently serves Each member municipality and an alternate to serve on Chester's representative is



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 and food scrap pails throughout the year. Find composting resources on our website.



The District constructed a permanent, seasonal household hazardous waste (HHW) depot in Springfield which opened on June 2, 2022. It was open, by appointment, for up to six hours a week for four months. The Depot will re-open in May 2023. We accept a long list of products, which can be read on our website.



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).



AA, AAA, C, D, 9v, hearing aid, coin cell, tool, and rechargeable batteries are accepted at the Springfield Transfer Station. Batteries are “special recycling” and do NOT go in with other recycling (fire hazard).



This is the “reuse” symbol - that is what we do with glass bottles and jars that are brought to the Springfield, Ludlow, and Weathersfield transfer stations. After collecting at least 500 tons, the glass is ground up and made available to contractors and residents for drainage projects.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Chester Conservation Committee 2022 Report

The Chester Conservation Committee (CCC) is an informal group of local volunteers dedicated to fostering awareness and stewardship of Chester's natural and recreational resources. The CCC's efforts are focused primarily on developing and maintaining outdoor recreational assets, implementing conservation projects and public education. The CCC also serves as a resource for the Town when hiking trails and similar types of projects are being contemplated and evaluated.

Hiking Trails

The CCC continues to manage and maintain the Lost Mine and Butternut Hill Trails in the Chester Town Forest on Reservoir Road. Work efforts focus mainly on removing blowdowns and assuring that the trails remain open and passable throughout the year. Both trails continue to offer year-round hiking opportunities. Trail maps can be downloaded at: www.chestervt.gov/recreation



In 2021, the CCC also developed Chester's newest hiking trail, the Brookside Forest Trail, located on Town property north of Brookside Cemetery and across Lovers Lane Brook. After considerable effort, the approximately one mile trail is now fully constructed and blazed. The pedestrian bridge, spanning the brook and connecting to the trailhead on the adjacent hillside, is also now complete and ready for hikers, bird watchers, snowshoers, and other outdoor enthusiasts.

Disc Golf Course

Since first opening in 2016, the Chester Disc Golf Course remains a popular outdoor recreational activity for Chester-area residents as well as disc golf enthusiasts who travel from afar. The challenging 18-hole course winds its way through hilly, wooded terrain at the Pinnacle Recreation Area.



A group of local players have formed the Chester Disc Golf League and play weekly rounds throughout the year. The season culminates with the League Championships held in late October.

The park-like setting of the course, complete with connecting trails and benches, has also become a popular destination for hikers and families who enjoy exercising and exploring the woods that surround the course.

Disc golf is a sport that anyone can play and enjoy. For more information about the course and how to play, please visit the course kiosk near the basketball courts.

Conservation Projects

The CCC remains actively involved in several on-going volunteer projects focused on monitoring, evaluating and improving environmental conditions in Chester.

Vermont Green-Up Day: The CCC leads the recruitment and coordination of volunteers and resources for the annual VT Green-Up Day activities in Chester, removing and properly disposing trash and other abandoned materials from roadways and neighborhoods to help beautify the Town.

Williams River Water Quality Monitoring project: In collaboration with the Connecticut River Conservancy, (CRC) the CCC recruits and coordinates volunteers to collect water samples from four different Chester locations throughout the summer. The samples are tested and results are uploaded to the CRC's "[Is it Clean?](#)" website.

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Mapping project: In coordination with the Town and State, the CCC took the lead in conducting an ash tree inventory in Chester to help facilitate the management of the emerald ash borer. 90 miles of road were hiked and inventoried by the CCC. An enormous contribution to the database to help our understanding of the spread of the EAB.

Public Outreach & Education

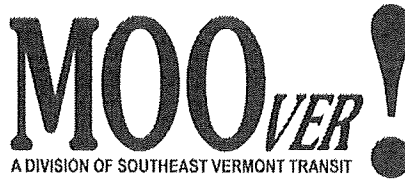
The CCC continues to be involved in a variety of public outreach and education programs benefiting the Chester community.

Green Mountain Conservation Camp Scholarship: Since 2012 the CCC has provided tuition-matching scholarships, with support from St. Luke's Episcopal Church, to students from Chester-Andover Elementary School and GMUHS to attend a weeklong session of the Vermont Fish & Wildlife's Green Mountain Conservation Camp.

Chester Fall Festival: The CCC participates annually in the Chester Fall Festival by setting up a booth and providing attendees with educational materials and information related to Chester's hiking trails and natural resources.

The Chester Conservation Committee currently meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 5:00pm. For more information about the CCC please email Gary King at garyk5136@gmail.com.

See you out on the trails...



The MOOver Rockingham Report FY23

Thank you again for Chester \$ 2250 donation last year. As a private non-profit 501c3 transportation company since 2003, The MOOver Rockingham 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. Chester has contributed to us for many years, and we thank you again for your support.

The MOOver Rockingham's mission is to provide a safe, reliable and efficient transportation system that supports economic opportunity and quality of life for 30 Windham and southern Windsor County towns. We operate bus routes and senior and disabled transportation services via our fleet of 23 buses and a network of volunteer drivers. We receive state and federal grants, contributions from towns and resorts, fares, and contributions from our human service partners.

The MOOver Rockingham's total operating expenses last year were \$3,126,525.85. We provided 124,706 bus, van, taxi, and volunteer rides. Our buses and vans traveled 482,303 miles over 29,326 hours.

Chester 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 \$ 2250 contribution from Chester this year. We hope you will support our funding request.

We are always seeking input to improve our services. Please contact me to let us know how The MOOver Rockingham may improve service in your community.

Thank you!

Christine Howe
General Manager



Town of Chester
Attn: Town Clerk/Select Board
556 Elm Street
PO Box 370
Chester, VT 05143

Re: Appropriation Request for 2023

Dear Select Board:

Neighborhood Connections, Inc. is a community-based nonprofit serving nine towns in southern Vermont, including Chester. Our mission is to promote the health and well-being of the people of Southern Vermont's mountain towns through advocacy, education, and social services.

We offer case management, social programming, transportation, and more in response to community needs. Our two full-time, clinically-trained social workers provide case management and counseling, free of charge, to anyone in our catchment area. With over 8000 services delivered, our case management has doubled this year; in response, we've added staff and programs to manage amplified demand. Our most-accessed services are food security, health-related services, and transportation.

We are requesting \$1500 in appropriations from the town of Chester for our general operating budget in 2023 to help us to continue to grow and serve. We greatly appreciate the financial support you have provided us in the past. We're committed to eliminating barriers so all community members – regardless of age, disability, or income level - can experience a better quality of life.

Board of Directors:

Dwight A. Johnson
Chairman

Ed Magee
Treasurer

Carolyn Partridge
Secretary

Charma Bonanno

Pat Cherry

Rusty Davis

Jim Linville

Skip Raymond

Mark Reffner

Bob Wells

Susie Wyman

Executive Director:

Nicole Wengerd

With sincerest gratitude,

Nicole Wengerd, PhD
Executive Director

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, 2021 and June 30, 2022, VNH made 2813 in-home visits to 113 residents. This included approximately \$27,233 in unreimbursed care to residents.

- **Home Health Care.** 1158 home visits to 77 residents with short-term medical or physical needs
- **Hospice Services.** 1180 home visits to 18 residents who were in the final stages of their lives.
- **Long-Term Care.** 437 home visits to 8 residents with chronic medical problems who need extended care in home to avoid admission to a nursing home.
- **Skilled Pediatric Care.** 38 home visits to 10 residents for well-baby, preventative and palliative medical care.

VNH serves many of Chester'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. Chester'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.

Sincerely,

Anthony Knox

Anthony Knox
Community Relations Manager

**Women's Freedom Center's
Statement of Services
And
Report to the Town of Chester**

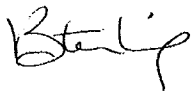
The mission of the Women's Freedom Center is to work to end physical, sexual and emotional violence against the women and children of Windham County. The Freedom Center works to fulfill its mission by educating the community regarding the root causes of violence against women, challenging the systems that help keep it in place and by providing support and services, including shelter and safe housing, to women and their children who have experienced domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence. Since our beginnings in 1977, 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 women and 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 the isolation inherent in many abusive relationships, we are committed to meeting with women wherever we may do so safely. Sometimes this means assisting her to get to us and other times it means us going to her, somewhere safe in her community.

During the fiscal year July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, the Women's Freedom Center responded to over 1,800 crisis telephone calls, sheltered 128 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 **936 people** (546 women, 3 non-binary individuals, 18 men, and 369 children) who had been abused. These figures include 16 survivors and their 4 children from Chester. In addition, we provided 38 community outreach activities including school presentations and workshops to over 600 people throughout Windham and southern Windsor County.

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.

Regards,



Vickie Sterling
Executive Director
Women's Freedom Center

Chester Historic Preservation Committee

The Chester Historic Preservation Committee (CHPC) entered its sixth year of advisory work to address the value, condition, and present and future uses of the seven historic buildings owned by the Town of Chester: Jeffrey Barn on Route 103, Hearse House, Public Tomb, Academy Building/Central School, Whiting Library, Town Hall, and District No. 2 Firehouse/Yosemite Firehouse. The committee views historic structures as assets and important landmarks of Chester's cultural, artistic, historic, and architectural heritage. Many of the buildings already house essential services in the life of the town and its residents. Others have potential that can be of future benefit to citizens, businesses, and visitors. All of them need regular maintenance and improvements to their appearance, function, and accessibility. By working with the Town to make improvements, CHPC acts to garner public support for those plans and the private and public funding that makes them possible. The Covid restrictions from 2020 that resulted in worker shortages, supply-chain constraints, and scheduling delays continued to negatively impact all projects and delay even work bids in 2022. This is an update of continuing problems and the progress that was made during the past year.

Jeffrey Barn on Route 103, northwest of the Stone Village. There has been no solution found by the Select Board for the decaying large dairy barn. The barn's size, sawn timbers, need for extensive repair, lack of accompanying land, and proximity to a Town well field continue to restrict solutions.

Hearse House Museum. Open to the public for self-guided tours during good weather from Memorial Day through Columbus Day, this seasonal museum also has text and photographs linked by QR codes on its displays to information on the Town's website under History – thereby making that information accessible year-round. Small repairs to the sliding doors may need to be made because of frost heaves. Hopefully progress on the repairs, the addition of weather stripping to discourage dirt and vermin, and installation of a gutter or other devices to prevent splashing either inside the entrance or onto the doors can be addressed in 2023. A fire extinguisher still needs to be installed inside.

Public Tomb. One dropped slate was repaired when roofers did work on the Academy roof.

Academy Building/Central School. The slate roof on the west side of the building was finally replaced in 2022, and snowguards will be installed in 2023 to help control the snow shed from the roof. Continued worker shortages have delayed repair of the fallen ceiling plaster over the main stairway to the second floor and the landing upstairs.

Whiting Library. The handicapped parking spot along Main Street still needs to be relocated toward the driveway for better curb access. Small repairs to the heater and sprinkler system were begun, but the sprinkler system may need a complete replacement.

Town Hall. Changes begun to the first floor of Town Hall to allow for re-arrangement of offices, more storage space, and a new conference room where the Lister's Office is presently located have not been completed. No quote for an upgrade to the upstairs sound system and a new wireless system have been received.

Fire District No. 2/Yosemite Firehouse. In December the Town was awarded a \$20,000 matching grant from the State of Vermont. Earmarked Town matching funds will come from the \$900,000 American Rescue Plan Act grant. Besides repair to the existing windows, the grant

will help cover new storm windows, renovation of the two sliding doors, and fabrication of doors behind the sliders on the south side of the building. The proposed new door on the north side of the building and painting of the exterior need to be done to fully protect the shell of the building and to allow better access, but repair of the windows and the sliding-door complex will go a long way toward protecting the shell and advancing the museum plans.

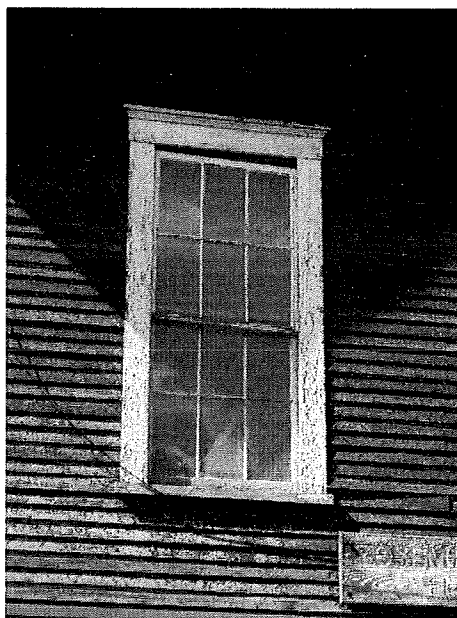
In Fall of 2022 a new nonprofit corporation – entitled Friends of Yosemite Firehouse Museum, Inc. – was formed to increase financial support and knowledge about the historic firehouse, its fire equipment, the history of firefighting, and the firefighters serving Chester. The new organization will create programs and raise funds to help move plans forward for the fire museum. First on the list of potential projects is fundraising to enable a new door to be cut into the north side of the building to provide the main public entrance for the future museum. Bids for that work have not been received yet. Donors to that effort may send a tax-deductible check to Friends of Yosemite Firehouse Museum, c/o PO Box 318, Chester, VT 05143.

Anyone with memorabilia and information to help tell the story of the Chester Fire Department in that historic structure is encouraged to contact CHPC Chair Lillian Willis at lbwillisct@comcast.net or at 802-875-1340.

Summary. Progress on the Town's historic buildings in 2022 continued very slowly, thanks to worker and supply shortages resulting from Covid, but the Town is annually allocating some funding in the budget for regular maintenance and renovation, and that indication of support should encourage additional contributions from other individuals and organizations.

Chester Historic Preservation Committee

Kelly Arrison, Ron Chute, John DesLauriers, Carolyn Frisa, Cynthia Prairie, Margie Straub, Lillian Willis; Advisor: Chris Curran.



One of many windows to be repaired on the historic Yosemite firehouse.

FIREWORKS REPORT

American Legion Post 67 would like to thank the Town of Chester for its support of our annual fireworks display last year. Chester's fireworks have been in existence for over 20 years.

The town looks forward to these fireworks each year and many of us plan our holiday picnics/parties around this event. The 2023 display is planned to be scheduled for Fourth of July weekend. Keep an eye out for the actual date.

The total cost for this fireworks display is \$5,500. We are asking the town to consider continuing their support by donating \$2,500 again this year.

For individual donations checks can be sent to American Legion Post 67, PO Box 75, Chester, VT.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.
American Legion Post 67



PO Box 101 • Windsor, VT 05089 • 802-674-5101 • info@wcmentors.org • www.wcmentors.org

Town Narrative - Chester For July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

For almost 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.

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.

Youth with mentors have:

- Increased high school graduation rates, including higher college enrollment rates and higher educational aspirations
- Enhanced self-esteem and 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 FY 2022, WCM served and supported school- and community-based mentorships with children from towns throughout Windsor County including one (1) in Chester. Collectively, our mentors volunteered thousands of hours to their communities.

Our surveys demonstrate the positive effects of mentoring:

- Mentors (96%) would recommend mentoring to a family member, friend, or colleague.
- Mentee parents (100%) said their child is hopeful about his/her future.
- Mentees (82%) reported having a mentor has made a difference in his/her life.

Finally, a recent study by the Washington State Institute for Public Policy found almost 30 dollars in benefits to children returned to the community for every dollar spent on mentoring!

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 Chester for their support for the children of Windsor County.

Matthew Garcia
Executive Director



Connecting Volunteers Age 55 and Older to Service Opportunities in
Bennington, Windham, and Windsor Counties
www.rsvpvt.org



Green Mountain RSVP - Chester Annual Town Report – FY 2022

Green Mountain RSVP (GMRSVP), an AmeriCorps Seniors program, is for people age 55 and older who volunteer in their community. GMRSVP helps local non-profit organizations by recruiting and matching volunteers engaging them in the service of others and helping community partners meet their mission.

Your town's funds help us to 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. GMRSVP serves Bennington, Windham, and Windsor Counties.

Fourteen GMRSVP Volunteers live in Chester. Chester Andover Family Center is a volunteer site for 8 GMRSVP volunteers who maintain the "storefront" and distribute food. CAFC is open 3 days per week and serves many people/families per month. Chester is served by the Springfield Meals on Wheels program. A Chester resident chairs the Board of Directors and GMRSVP Volunteers deliver meals to 25 Chester residents 5 days per week. In October of 2021, a new Bone Builder class began at the Universalist Church in Chester. They meet twice per week, including all summer, the class is led by a GMRSVP Certified instructor and has an average attendance of 5 people. Training and supplies are provided by GMRSVP.

78% of GMRSVP volunteers continued to serve during the pandemic. Programming pivoted to serve the community and focused on addressing social isolation, wellness, and food insecurity. GMRSVP's recruitment efforts broadened to fill new and existing needs.

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

Detailed Report to the Town of Chester
from
SENIOR SOLUTIONS

Senior Solutions, Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont, Inc. has served the residents of Chester 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.

Our mission and vision have guided us throughout the COVID crisis. All our programs except group wellness and group dining activities have remained operational subject to reasonable precautions. Throughout this public health emergency, we expanded our cohort of volunteers helping people with groceries, food distributions and other needs. We continue to collaborate closely with local aging-in-place, Cares and Mutual Aid groups to help assure needs are being met in local communities.

Supporting caregivers is an important part of our work. We partner with local and statewide organizations to promote and operate programs that provide financial resources, rest, and relief for those taking care of dementia patients and older adults with serious health conditions. We encourage counseling for caregivers and host memory cafes where caregivers and their loved ones can relax and socialize in a safe and supportive setting. This year, Senior Solutions obtained a Public Health AmeriCorps grant to train and support volunteers who will provide respite to families caring for individuals with conditions such as Parkinson's Disease and dementia.

As we all know, the population of older adults in Vermont is increasing, as are the costs of goods and services across the board. For Senior Solutions, this means that both the cost of each service and the total number of people requesting each service is going up. Although we continually seek funding from new sources, financial support from the towns we serve is critical to enabling us to do more for the older Vermonters we serve.

We work to develop programs to meet evolving interests and needs. Our Friendly Visitor program continues to provide older Vermonters with companionship and assistance with meal preparation, light housekeeping, errands, and more—all of which are often unmet needs of families caring for loved ones with serious health conditions. Our Vet-to-Vet program matches older veterans with volunteers who are also veterans.

This past year, we trained volunteer instructors in Tai Chi for falls prevention. We offered the HomeMeds program that screens older adults for medication problems such as drug interactions or harmful side effects. We provided financial support for training volunteers interested in teaching classes in their community or starting new evidence-based wellness programs. Wellness programs remain available to anyone 60 and over in Chester and throughout our service area of greater Windsor and Windham counties.

This is a summary of services provided to Chester residents in the last year (7/1/2021-6/30/2022).

Information and Assistance: 176 Calls or Office Visits. Our HelpLine (1-802-885-2669 or 866-673-8376 toll-free) offers information, referrals and assistance to older Vermonters, their families, and their caregivers to problem-solve, plan, locate resources, and obtain assistance with benefits. We also provide assistance completing applications. Callers were assisted with applying for benefits, health insurance

problems, housing needs, fuel assistance, and many other services. Extensive resources are also on our website at www.seniorsolutionsVT.org.

Medicare Assistance: 37 Chester 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 assistance in enrolling in Part D or choosing a drug plan.

In-Home Social Services: We provided 60 seniors with in-home case management or other home-based assistance (totaling 522.5 hours) to enable them to remain living safely in their homes. Often minimal services can prevent nursing home placement. A case manager works with adults in their home to create and monitor a plan of care, centered on the individual's personal values and preferences. Many people would not be able to remain in their homes if not for these services. Senior Solutions also investigates reports of self-neglect and assists those facing challenges of abuse, neglect, or exploitation using a community collaboration approach.

Nutrition services and programs: 22 residents received 5,484 meals provided by Meals and Wheels of Greater Springfield Inc. We financially supported these home-delivered meals. We have also supported community meals at Meals & Wheels of Greater Springfield Inc. and other meal sites in our region, but please note that most community senior meal sites have been closed since the advent of COVID-19.

Senior Solutions administers federal and state funds that we provide to local organizations to help them operate senior meals programs and provide food safety, quality monitoring and oversight. However, these funds do not cover the full cost of providing meals, so local meal sites must seek additional funding. Senior Solutions does not use town funding to support the senior meals program and does not benefit from any funds given by the town to support local Meals on Wheels. Senior Solutions provides the services of a registered dietician to older adults and meal sites. Assistance is also provided with applications for the 3SquaresVT (food stamp) program.

Volunteer Visitors: Senior Solutions provides volunteers who serve isolated older Vermonters through home visits, telephone reassurance, and help with shopping and other errands. Our Vet-to-Vet program matches Veteran volunteers with Veteran recipients. 4 residents received 548.25 hours of volunteer service.

Caregiver Respite: We provide respite assistance through grants for caregivers of those diagnosed with dementia or other chronic diseases.

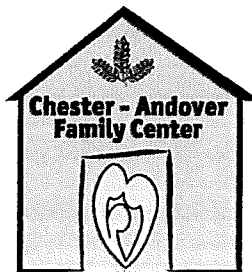
Transportation: Senior Solutions provides financial support and collaborates with local and regional transit providers to support transportation services for older Vermonters, that may include a van, a taxi, or a volunteer driver. Special arrangements can be made for individuals without Medicaid who require medical transportation.

Special Assistance: Senior Solutions provides flexible funds that can help people with one-time needs when no other program is available.

Other Services: Senior Solutions supports a variety of other services including health, 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 Chester.

Submitted by Mark Boutwell, Executive Director



Chester-Andover Family Center

Our Mission: *The Chester -Andover Family Center makes a difference in our community by providing resources for financial assistance, supplemental nutritional food, affordable clothing and household goods.*

P. O. Box 302
908 VT Route 103 South
Chester, VT 05143

Telephone: (802) 875-3236
Email: cafc302@gmail.com
Website: www.chester-andoverfamilycenter.org

The Chester-Andover Family Center

Board of Directors

2022

Kris Winnicki, President
Jean Farrell, Vice President
Suellen Slater, Treasurer
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David Carey
Ann DiBernardo
Nancy Dorney
Jean Farrell
Melissa Howe
Stephanie Mahoney
Nena Nanfeldt
Stephen Rubino
Mary Semones
Charmaine Wesley-
Hartman
Stephanie Whitney-Payne

- **History:** The Family Center has been providing relief from hunger and financial stress for the most vulnerable residents of Chester and Andover since 1985. The Center was incorporated as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in 1995 and is staffed entirely by volunteers.
- **Partners:** Neighborhood Connections offers our financial assistance recipients counseling, assistance with budgeting, and referral to other sources of assistance. We also partner with the Vermont Foodbank, Healthy Harvest Network, Hunger Council of the Windham Region, Senior Solutions, Chester Helping Hands and other hunger relief and service organizations.
- **Thrift Shop:** We provide affordable, quality clothing, small housewares and linens. Thrift Shop income supports the Food Shelf, our Financial Assistance Program and operating expenses.
- **Food Shelf:** Over one hundred fifteen households are enrolled to receive nutritious, supplemental food. Food is purchased from the Vermont Foodbank, area grocery stores, and local growers. Individuals and organizations donate money, shelf-stable food and fresh produce.
- **Financial Assistance Program:** The Family Center provides financial assistance for utilities, heating fuel, rent and auto repair.
- **Gratitude:** The Chester-Andover Board of Directors acknowledges and thanks our donors, the community and our many dedicated volunteers who donate resources and time in support of our mission.

"Making a difference in our community by providing resources for financial assistance, supplemental nutritional food, affordable clothing and household goods. "

Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA)

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, Thrift Stores, and a Community Solar program.

In the community of Chester, we provided the following services during FY2022:

Weatherization: 15 homes (25 people) received weatherization services.

Emergency Heating System Replacement: 12 homes (22 people) received emergency heating System repairs or replacements.

Head Start: 13 families (54 people) received comprehensive child development and family support services.

Micro-Business Development: 1 household (2 people) received counseling, technical assistance and support to start, sustain or expand a small business.

Tax Preparation: 13 households (16 people) received tax credits & refunds totaling \$25,200.

Family Services: 50 households (103 people) received 213 services (crisis resolution, financial counseling, nutrition education, forms assistance, referral to and assistance with accessing needed services)

Fuel & Utility Assistance: 35 households (76 people) received 49 assists.

Housing Assistance: 9 households (16 people) received 9 assists.

Thrift Store Vouchers: 5 households (25 people) received goods and services valued at \$1,270

Solar Energy Assistance: 2 households (5 people) received a total of \$814 in energy credits on their electric bill to reduce their energy burden.

Emergency Home Repair: 1 household (1 person) received emergency repairs to address immediate health or safety concerns in their home.

Thrift Store Vouchers: 2 households (12 people) received vouchers from the Good Buy Thrift Stores to obtain goods or clothing to meet basic household needs at no cost.

The combined value of services provided to residents in the Town of Chester exceeded \$141,557.00.

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 increase and improve service. We thank the residents of Chester for their support.

Kevin Brennan, Executive Director
Southeastern Vermont Community Action, Inc. (SEVCA)
91 Buck Drive
Westminster, VT 05158
(800) 464-9951 or (802) 722-4575
sevca@sevca.org
www.sevca.org

**COMMUNITY CARES NETWORK
OF
CHESTER/ANDOVER, INC.**

Community Cares Network of Chester/Andover, Inc. is a volunteer organization serving the senior citizens of Andover and Chester by helping them to stay in their own homes longer, safely.

This year we partnered with the Vermont Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, and Sue Pollard, RN, Director of the Adult Day in Springfield to present an informational meeting, "Dealing with Dementia." Our speakers were Jordan Cotto, VT Alzheimer's Assoc., and Jennifer Chambers, ICSW/LADAC, Springfield Hospital ED.

CCN held two fundraisers: a Spaghetti Dinner in July at the Andover Town Hall, which was a great time of bringing people together for an informal evening; and an Apple Pie Sale at the Chester Festival in September which brings clients and volunteers together as they make upwards of 100 apple pies for the sale.

Two of our board members participated in the Community Partners event to learn more about other organizations in the area and how we can work together.

We have served the senior citizens of Chester by providing rides to appointments, and helping them with errands. We were able to locate equipment they needed to help them at home.

In November we provided a luncheon for our volunteers in appreciation of their service to the seniors of Andover and Chester. We are grateful to our dedicated volunteers and other members of the community who help us to keep our senior citizens in their homes longer, safely.

Respectfully submitted by
The Community Cares Network of Chester/Andover, Inc. Board
Deborah Armstrong, Director
Mary Adams
David Armstrong
Erron Carey
Jacquelyn Griswold
Kathy Jo Martens

Health Care & Rehabilitation Services
Narrative Report from FY22 for Town of Chester

Health Care and Rehabilitation Services (HCRS) is a comprehensive community mental health provider serving residents of Windsor and Windham 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 alternatives and emergency services programs.

During FY22, HCRS provided 13,069 hours of services to 112 residents of the Town of Chester. The services provided included all of HCRS' programs resulting in a wide array of supports for the residents of Chester.

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



Windham & Windsor Housing Trust (WWHT) is a non-profit organization founded in 1987, serving the residents of Windham and southern Windsor County. We provide housing for residents of low and moderate incomes, preserve and revitalize neighborhoods, help residents acquire their own homes, and generally improve the social, economic, and cultural health of communities of Windham and southern Windsor County.

WWHT's mission is *to strengthen the communities of Southeast Vermont through the development and stewardship of permanently affordable housing and through ongoing support and advocacy for its residents.*

The organization applies mission to practice through three branches: Homeownership, Housing Development, and Property Management. The **Homeownership's** Home Repair Program assisted 42 homeowners by providing low-cost loans to make critical repairs. The one-to-one counseling assist 41 new homeowners in 2022 by navigating them through the purchase process to closing on their new home. The Shared Equity program has 140 homes currently and provides grants to income-eligible homebuyers to subsidize the purchase of single-family homes which lowers the cost to the homebuyer. The VHIP (Vermont Housing Improvement Program) works with private landowners to rehab and/or create new units. There are 40 Active projects spread across the whole of Windham and Windsor Counties with 45 potential projects and awaiting shovel-readiness. Our Housing Retention Program has assisted renters and homeowners impacted by Covid in stabilizing their housing with access to relief funding.

Housing Development: WWHT develops affordable rental housing opportunities which meets the diverse housing needs of a community. This takes the form of both rehabilitation of existing housing and the construction of new apartments. The Bellows Falls Garage, slated of open at the end of March '23, will introduce 27 new apartments to Downtown Bellows Falls, and contribute to the revitalization of this portion of the historic Vermont village. The Alice Holway Drive development in Putney is proposed to create 25 new homes within the village and awaits the end of the appeal process. This year, WWHT worked on deep retrofits and renovations on 26 apartments in Brattleboro and Windsor, comprising some of the oldest buildings in our portfolio. Breathing new life into these units will allow us to serve our residents into the coming decades. The Central & Main development in downtown Windsor is entering into the permitting phase at the beginning of 2023.

Property Management: WWHT owns 878 residential properties and 16 commercial properties with rental apartments with over 1500 tenants. We manage the rental properties in and near Brattleboro and contract with Stewart Property Management Services for the properties in northern Windham and Windsor Counties. WWHT takes pride in the appearance of our multi-family housing and is committed to providing the staff and financial resources necessary to ensure long-term health and safety for our residents as well as preservation of property values. This includes helping tenants access rent relief funding through the State's VERAP program before it closed in the Fall of '22. We've expanded our supportive services capacity through participating in the SASH For All program, connecting residents of all ages to critical resources to meet their self-driven health and well-being goals. Although WWHT is a non-profit, we pay local property taxes on our rental properties and our shared-equity homeowners pay property taxes to the Towns and Villages.

For more information, please visit us on the web at www.homemattershere.org



Chester Townscape
P.O. Box 561, Chester, VT 05143
www.chestervt.gov/chester-townscape
FOR 2022 TOWN OF CHESTER ANNUAL REPORT
CHESTER TOWNSCAPE

In 2022 Chester Townscape [CT] celebrated its 9th Anniversary. CT is an all-volunteer group of 21 highly motivated and active individuals dedicated to enhancing Chester's appearance and cultural vitality for its residents, businesses, and visitors. Each year CT provides seasonal landscaping and maintenance, as well as decorations for public buildings and properties throughout town. A new walking tour brochure of Stone Village – entitled "Take a Walk through Chester Depot to Historic Stone Village" – was created by CT members this year and compliments the very popular "Take a Walk along Main Street in Historic Chester Village" brochure, both promoting Chester's historic appeal. These brochures continue to be distributed free of charge. CT also continues to maintain the Information Booth and Gazebo gardens that were created in 2019.



New flower boxes created for Church Street were dedicated to Chester Townscape founder and chair emeritus Tory Spater, who moved from the area this year. We are very grateful for Tory's foresight in forming Chester Townscape and her leadership and support these last years. She will be missed.

River Valley Technical Center Horticulture and Natural Resources Program to the Rescue

Chester Townscape Summer Planting 2022. Chester Townscape found itself in a dilemma at the end of 2021. Sunshine Acres, owned by Chester Townscape member John McAveaney, was up for sale. That long-time provider of flowers, and his location from which all the planting and distribution were conducted, would not be available to support the 2022 CT summer planting program.

Following substantial research, CT committee members identified Allen Brothers Nursery in Westminster, VT, as its new flower supplier. The CT flower committee created the list of plants, totaling over 1,200, that are needed annually to plant the pots, window boxes, whiskey barrels, and bridge boxes in Chester. Identifying a secure, covered planting location was the next big step.

To the rescue came John Harmer, Program Instructor of Horticulture and Natural Resources at River Valley Technical Center in Springfield. A section of the greenhouse facility at RVTC was offered to CT, and students were provided an opportunity to work alongside CT volunteers to organize, design, and plant the bridge boxes and 40 flowerpots which are distributed in Chester. This is not the first time RVTC students assisted Chester. Several years ago, students from RVTC conducted tree pruning on the Village Green as part of the hands-on curriculum.

In early May, the 1,200 plants from Allen Brothers were delivered to the RVTC greenhouse and organized by CT volunteers. Plant care and watering during the month of May was done by the students along with their other greenhouse assignments. The bridge boxes were methodically planted by CT volunteers and students and then moved into the greenhouse where the students cared for them for 3 weeks, so plants would be established before transportation and delivery.

Next came the planting of the 40 large flowerpots which students and CT volunteers created. These were transported shortly after planting and placed in and around Chester.

Chester Townscape is grateful to RVTC for stepping in to ensure our 2022 Summer Planting program would be successful. Appreciation in the form of a bagel breakfast for morning students and a pizza lunch for afternoon students was held, and a donation was made to the Horticulture and Natural Sciences Program for the services provided.

More information on the Horticulture and Natural Resources Program at RVTC can be found at the following link <https://www.rvtc.org/horticulture-natural-resources>.



Chester Beautification. Funds necessary to purchase the flowers, as well as the Fall and Winter enhancements, are raised by Chester Townscape through a direct-mail campaign. Additionally, and new this year, a Spring Hanging Basket Sale was held. The return of our Fall Bulb Sale during the Chester Fall Festival included a spectacular Fall display featuring the new Storage Trailer built by CT member Stu Stocker. We are grateful to everyone who supported us in this challenging year.



In Summer, a consistent look is displayed by the bridge boxes, whiskey barrels, and pots seen in many prominent locations. These are planted and distributed by CT volunteers. Many thanks to our watering helpers who provided some welcome relief to the almost daily task this year.

The spectacular array of flowers, which cascaded from planters placed on various Chester bridges, was as stunning as in years past and delighted both residents and visitors. Along the Brookside Cemetery wall, the daffodils bulbs were sensational. Following the daffodil bloom along the Brookside Cemetery wall, CT volunteers planted, watered, and fertilized alternating begonias and sunpatiens that flourished and bloomed well into the Fall. The gardens and landscaped areas at the Chester-Andover Family Center continued to be

improved to create a colorful welcome for those entering Chester from the East. The School Street Pocket Park also continued to be improved each year with perennials and bulbs planted along the rock wall.

Summer plantings were followed in Fall by pumpkins and corn stalks at various locations. Winter saw green boughs placed in the whiskey barrels and window boxes with wreaths hung in public locations.



In Appreciation. CT is grateful for the support received from many individuals in our town: all our watering partners, the Town of Chester for its support and collaboration in our projects, Chester Historical Society for maintaining the perennial gardens at the Academy Building, and Green Mountain Union High School for the beautiful seasonal plantings at the school entrance. We want to thank Sarah Yake of Salon 2000 for the winter decorations to the Depot gazebo; Carol Neff, Michelle Bargfrede, and Bev Groshens for additional decorations at the Information Booth; and Chris Meyer and Eric Reed for the lights on the Green. We also thank all the homeowners and businesses that beautifully decorated their homes and establishments making Chester a “winter wonderland” this year.

For Information. The Chester contacts for the flowers and beautification programs may be found on the Town of Chester website at www.chestervt.gov/chester-townscape. Support for CT’s projects comes from private donations and grants. Contributions to Chester Townscape, a subcommittee of the tax-exempt 501(c)(3) Chester Community Alliance, Inc. [CCA], may be sent to CCA at PO Box 561, Chester, VT 05143, with the pertinent Chester Townscape project noted in the memo line.

Respectfully submitted,

2022 Chester Townscape Committee

Mary Bittner, David Carey, Nancy Chute, Nancy Dourney, Judy Hallberg, Cheryl LeClair, Barb LeMire, John McAveeney, Melanie McGuirk, Chris Meyer, Polly Montgomery, Evan Parks, Lynn Russell, Rosann Sexton, Stu Stocker, Margie Straub, Ann Summers, Barb Westine, Lillian Willis, Barbara Windham, and Judy Yogman

**TOWN OF CHESTER
2022 TOWN MEETING MINUTES**

Moderator William Dakin called the hybrid Informational Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and explained how the meeting would proceed. After reading each Article there will be an opportunity to ask questions and there will be no voting. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Moderator Dakin introduced the Board, Lee Gustafson, Jeff Holden, Leigh Dakin, Heather Chase and Arne Jonynas, Town Manager Julie Hance, and Town Clerk Deborah Aldrich. Moderator Dakin then read the Warning.

The Legal Voters of the TOWN OF CHESTER are hereby notified and warned to meet on Monday, February 28, 2022, at 6:00 pm., via Zoom and/or in person for a hybrid Informational Meeting on the following Articles. Voting on all Articles will be by Australian ballot on March 1, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall Second Floor.

ARTICLE 1: To elect Town Officials for the ensuing year as provided by the Public Laws of Vermont.

ARTICLE 2: Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$280,000), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of providing additional funds to complete Popple Dungeon bridge, grant match on the Route 35 Construction and paving the Town Garage, Flamstead Road and Wheeler Road? Said projects and paving to be financed for a term of 7 years. *Nancy Lindsay asked where Wheeler Road is? Arne Jonynas replied off from Lovers Lane Road.*

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise \$3,420,030.44 to be paid to the Chester Town Treasurer on September 15, 2022, to pay current expenses and any part of the Town's indebtedness. *Town Manager Julie Hance made a power point presentation. (Copy attached) Kathleen Giurtino asked if the skateboarder, who damaged the liner at the town pool, was ever identified. Julie Hance advised no. Tim Roper asked about the overruns on the Public Safety Building that were not included in the Bond. Julie Hance explained that early in 2021 she learned that during the planning phase that certain items would be out of contract and the town would pay for them from the budget. Tim Roper asked if it was from the contractors or someone in town administration. Julie Hance advised that it was previous administration. Steve Mancuso asked who put in a complaint about the gravel pit. Julie Hance advised that she did not know what he was talking about and to please let her know what complaint he is talking about. The Act 250 permit issues were with the State.*

Senator Alison Clarkson and Representative Tom Bock talked about work being done in the House and Senate in Montpelier.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to purchase the following equipment through the Capital Budget Reserve Fund: Pick-up truck for highway in the amount of \$40,000, less any trade in, to be financed for a term of 4 years beginning in 2023; A second Pick-up truck for highway in the amount of \$45,000, less any trade in, to be financed for a term of 4 years beginning in 2023; Cruiser for the police department in the amount of \$41,000, less any trade in, to be financed for a term of 4 years beginning in 2023; Mower for the Cemetery Department in the

amount of \$15,300, all as indicated on the Capital Budget Reserve Fund schedule and less any grant funds that may be received. *No discussion.*

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$4,000 (four thousand dollars) to Meals on Wheels of Greater Springfield, Inc. for continued support and services to the citizens of the Town of Chester in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2691? *Leigh Dakin advised that Meals on Wheels have been serving meals for 50 years.*

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$2500 (two thousand five hundred dollars) to support the Chester Fireworks for Independence Day, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2691? *No discussion.*

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THIRTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVEN DOLLARS (\$13,807) to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by the Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of VT and NH, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691? *No discussion.*

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND AND FORTY FOUR DOLLARS (\$3,044) to help support outpatient, mental health, and substance abuse services by the staff of Health Care and Rehabilitation Services, Inc, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691? *No discussion.*

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND FORTY DOLLARS (\$3,040) to Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) to assist Chester in responding to the emergency needs of the community and providing all available and applicable services to families and individuals in need, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691? *No discussion.*

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$900) 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, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691? *No discussion.*

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,200.00) 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, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691? *No discussion.*

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$2,250 (two thousand two hundred fifty dollars) for the support of the MOOver Rockingham to provide transit services to the residents of the Town of Chester, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691? *No discussion.*

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$800 (eight hundred dollars) to support Windsor County Mentors, for youth mentoring services provided to children in Windsor County, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691? *Carol Theodore asked how the amounts are determined? Julie Hance advised they are*

requested amounts.

- ARTICLE 14:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$400 (four hundred dollars) 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 Chester through volunteer service, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691? *No discussion.*
- ARTICLE 15:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,800.00) toward the support of the Community Cares Network of Chester and Andover, Inc. a non-profit organization which provides services to senior citizens, helping them to stay in their homes longer safely, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691? *No discussion.*
- ARTICLE 16:** To see if the Town of Chester will appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000) to assist in the services of the Chester-Andover Family Center for individuals and families in need, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691? *Kristine Winnicki, President of CAFS, thanked everyone for their support. 130 individuals and families were helped with food, and they had over thirty requests for financial assistance. Their workers are all 100% volunteer.*
- ARTICLE 17:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,500) to Neighborhood Connections, Inc. to cover the cost of providing services in Chester in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691? *No discussion.*

The Town Meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

A true copy.

Deborah J. Aldrich, Town Clerk

William E. Dakin, Jr, Moderator

Arunas Jonynas, Selectboard Chair

**TOWN OF CHESTER
P.O. BOX 370
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05143-0370**

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