

Town of
MARSHFIELD
VERMONT

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE TOWN OFFICERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31
2022



Replacing the deck on the School St Bridge

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TOWN OFFICERS

Moderator Michael Caccavo

Town Clerk & Treasurer Bobbi Brimblecombe

Selectpersons

Term Expires 2023 Rich Baker

Term Expires 2024 Christopher Martin

Term Expires 2025 Michele Gonzales

School Directors

Term Expires 2023 Patrick Healy

Term Expires 2024 Erin Barry

Term Expires 2025 Mark Kaufmann

Auditors

Term Expires 2023 Thomas Maclay

Term Expires 2024 Audrey Huntington

Term Expires 2025 Doris Dufresne

Listers

Term Expires 2023 Kathleen Hayes

Term Expires 2024 Meg Eberhardt

Term Expires 2025 Vacant

Collector of Delinquent Taxes Bobbi Brimblecombe

Constable Shawn Codling

Budget Committee

Term Expires 2023 Deanna Martin

Term Expires 2024 Michael Caccavo

Term Expires 2025 Thomas Maclay

Term Expires 2026 Betsy Brigham

Term Expires 2027 Doris Dufresne

Library Trustees

Term Expires 2023 Christina Ducharme

Term Expires 2024 Kara Casey

Term Expires 2024 Cathy Chodorkoff

Term Expires 2025 Anne Reed

Term Expires 2025 Sonia Carrasco

Cemetery Trustees Board of Selectpersons

Justices of the Peace (Elected at General Election)

James Arisman, Meg Eberhardt, Ellen Halperin, Judy Henkin, Mary Leahy, Marie Maclay, Michael Sabourin

Appointed by Selectpersons

Planning Commission*

Term Expires 2023 Asher Barnum
Term Expires 2024vacant
Term Expires 2025vacant

* The Town Selectpersons and Village Trustees are Ex-officio members.

Development Review Board

Term Expires 2023 Gary Leach
Term Expires 2024 Dina Bookmyer-Baker
Term Expires 2024 Jenny Warshow
Term Expires 2025 Jon Groveman
Term Expires 2025Les Snow

Development Review Board Clerk Asher Barnum

Zoning Administrator (Term expires 1/26/2024)..... Kathleen Hayes

Central Vermont Fiber Board MemberJohn Morris
Alternates: Taber Allison, David Mannix

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission Member
Term expires May 2023..... vacant

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission
Transportation Advisory Committee Member vacant

Northeast Kingdom Waste Mgmt District Member Bobbi Brimblecombe

Conservation Commission

Term expires 2023 Anne Reed
Term expires 2023 Ed Jalbert
Term expires 2024 Sarah Norton
Term expires 2024 J. Bradley Materick
Term expires 2025 Luke Boushee
Term expires 2025 Steve Fiske
Term expires 2025Bob Popp
Term expires 2026 Anne Miller
Term expires 2026 Taber Allison

Energy and Climate Change Committee

Wes Cate, Ellen Keene, Anne Miller, Nick Seifert, Mike Xenakis

Stranahan Stewardship Committee

Term expires 2024 Brett Engstrom
Term expires 2024Michael Sabourin
Term expires 2024Jenny Warshow
Term expires 2025Douglas Glover

Term expires 2025 Ellen Cooke
Term expires 2025 Nancy Everhart
Term expires 2025 Patrick Pfeifer

Recreation Committee

Margaret Campbell, Drew McNaughton, Pam Quinn, Brad Washburn

Fire Chief Will Schwarz

Fire Warden (Term expires 6/30/2025)..... Thomas Maclay

Health Officer (Term expires 06/30/2022)..... Kathleen Hayes

Cemetery Sexton Joe Mangan

Pound Keeper Four Paws Inn

Dog Officer Heather Bent, Alana Vaillancourt

Fence Viewers

Chris Bellamy, Dennis Ducharme, Richard Phillips

Tree Warden vacant

Assistant Town Clerk Winnie Valenza
(Appointed by the Town Clerk)

Road Foreman Timothy Ksepka

Road Crew Scott Ciampi
Paul Stecker

Village Clerk Meg Eberhardt

Village Trustees

Ian Covey, Art Gilman, Tamara McKee, Marie Olson-Badeau

OFFICIAL RETURN OF VOTES
Marshfield Annual Town Meeting
March 1, 2022

Total registered voters on checklist	1180
Total number of voters checked off on the entrance checklist	327
Total number of absentee ballots returned	250
Total number of defective ballots (not counted but name checked off checklist)	1
Total ballots counted (number of voters checked off checklist minus defective ballots)	326

Article 1. To elect the following Town Officers:

Moderator	
Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>29</u>
Michael Caccavo	<u>294</u>
Write-In	<u>3</u>
Total	<u>326</u>
Town Clerk	
Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>22</u>
Bobbi Brimblecombe	<u>303</u>
Write-In	<u>1</u>
Total	<u>326</u>
Town Treasurer	
Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>27</u>
Bobbi Brimblecombe	<u>297</u>
Write-In	<u>2</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Selectperson 3 years	
Overvotes	0
Undervotes	56
Michele A. Gonzales	266
Write-In	4
Total	326
Auditor	
Overvotes	0
Undervotes	46
Doris Dufresne	279
Write-In	1
Total	326
Lister	
Overvotes	0
Undervotes	54
Laura Badeau	269
Write-In	3
Total	326
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	
Overvotes	0
Undervotes	32
Bobbi Brimblecombe	293
Write-In	1
Total	326
Constable	
Overvotes	0
Undervotes	64
Shawn S. Codling Sr.	260
Write-In	2
Total	326

Budget Committee Member

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>49</u>
Doris Dufresne	<u>276</u>
Write-In	<u>1</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Library Trustee

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>111</u>
Sonia Carrasco	<u>271</u>
M. Anne Reed	<u>268</u>
Write-In	<u>2</u>
Total	<u>652</u>

Article 2. To elect School Directors to serve on the Union District Board, as follows:

School Director

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>79</u>
Mark E. W. Kaufman	<u>243</u>
Write-In	<u>4</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 3. Shall the voters authorize general fund expenditures of \$1,228,797 for essential services (\$287,523 from non-tax revenue, \$138,525 from prior year surplus, and \$802,749 from property taxes)?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>13</u>
Yes	<u>279</u>
No	<u>34</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 4. Shall the voters authorize general fund expenditures of \$13,920 for a Natural Areas Inventory (expected to cost \$20,048, with \$6,128 to come from the Marshfield Conservation Fund and In Kind Contributions)?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>12</u>
Yes	<u>248</u>
No	<u>66</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 5. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$84,383 in support of the Jaquith Public Library?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>14</u>
Yes	<u>257</u>
No	<u>55</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 6. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$6,455 in support of the Marshfield Historical Society?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>21</u>
Yes	<u>264</u>
No	<u>41</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 7. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$10,500 for the support, improvement and repair of the cemeteries?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>20</u>
Yes	<u>282</u>
No	<u>24</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 8. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$8,333 as its share of the cost of commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into Montpelier. This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service, which will also be supported by appropriations from other towns, State and Federal funds, and rider fares?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>18</u>
Yes	<u>279</u>
No	<u>29</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 9. Shall town tax payments be delivered to the Treasurer on or before the close of business on Friday, August 12, 2022, and shall school tax payments be delivered to the Treasurer on or before the close of business on Friday, November 18, 2022, with interest of one percent per month or fraction thereof to be paid by delinquent taxpayers?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>23</u>
Yes	<u>277</u>
No	<u>26</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 10. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$575 to Central Vermont Adult Basic Education for free adult education and literacy, including high school credentialing?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>17</u>
Yes	<u>283</u>
No	<u>26</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 11. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,400 to Central VT Council on Aging for supporting elders and family caregivers?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>16</u>
Yes	<u>296</u>
No	<u>14</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 12. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$ 3,200 to Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice for visiting nurse services?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>16</u>
Yes	<u>295</u>
No	<u>15</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 13. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$ 350 to Circle fka Battered Women's Services for support of direct services to victims of domestic and sexual violence?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>15</u>
Yes	<u>279</u>
No	<u>32</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 14. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$ 300 to Family Center of Washington County for delivering a variety of services to families, many of whom may be particularly vulnerable?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>17</u>
Yes	<u>281</u>
No	<u>28</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 15. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$ 300 to the Friends of the Winooski for water quality monitoring, tree planting, and ecological restoration?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>16</u>
Yes	<u>265</u>
No	<u>45</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 16. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$ 300 to Good Beginnings for free access to support, respite, and connections to community resources during the transition to parenthood?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>20</u>
Yes	<u>254</u>
No	<u>52</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 17. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$ 882 to Green Mountain Transit for transit services for the elderly and disabled?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>14</u>
Yes	<u>298</u>
No	<u>14</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 18. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$ 100 to Green Up Vermont for supplies and promotional materials in support of Green Up Day?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>18</u>
Yes	<u>285</u>
No	<u>23</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 19. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$ 1,100 to Onion River Food Shelf for food for residents?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>14</u>
Yes	<u>297</u>
No	<u>15</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 20. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$ 100 to Our House for support and advocacy for child victims of physical and sexual abuse?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>18</u>
Yes	<u>284</u>
No	<u>24</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 21. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$ 300 to Peoples Health and Wellness for providing free medical, mental health and oral health care to uninsured Central Vermonters?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>17</u>
Yes	<u>280</u>
No	<u>29</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 22. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$ 3,000 to Twin Valley Senior Center for providing social, emotional and physical wellbeing to our senior population?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>17</u>
Yes	<u>289</u>
No	<u>20</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 23. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$ 250 to Twinfield Together Mentoring Program for providing youth in our community an opportunity for a one-on-one friendship with a responsible adult?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>17</u>
Yes	<u>267</u>
No	<u>42</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 24. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$ 150 to VT Assoc. for Blind & Visually Impaired for vision rehabilitation services for blind and visually impaired Marshfield residents?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>19</u>
Yes	<u>287</u>
No	<u>20</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 25. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$ 150 to VT Center for Independent Living for programs and services to enhance the lives of people with disabilities?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>18</u>
Yes	<u>286</u>
No	<u>22</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 26. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$ 100 to VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force for helping to develop water supplies for fire protection?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>17</u>
Yes	<u>292</u>
No	<u>17</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

Article 27. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$ 250 Washington County Youth Services Bureau for prevention, intervention, and support for youth and families in Washington County?

Overvotes	<u>0</u>
Undervotes	<u>18</u>
Yes	<u>272</u>
No	<u>36</u>
Total	<u>326</u>

I hereby certify, under the pains and penalties of perjury, that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk
Edwina Valenza, Assistant Town Clerk

SELECTBOARD REPORT

The year 2022 in review:

Early in January 2022 the Selectboard made the decision to change town meeting to Australian ballot due to the pandemic. We felt it would be proactive not knowing what kind of outbreak numbers there would be in March. By March the board felt it was safe enough to lift the mask mandate at the Old Schoolhouse Common.

In March the Selectboard decided to use the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for expenditures on new road equipment and a sand screen after the federal government updated their regulations on what was considered eligible for the funding.

In the early spring the board accepted a bid to replace the deck on the School Street bridge. The work was performed before winter with minimal disruption to motorists. The town was not expecting to have to replace the deck at this time, but it was a more cost-effective and long-lasting option than the repairs that were originally planned. With the town's bridge fund, help of a state infrastructure grant, and ARPA funds to fill the gap, we were able to complete the project. During the year the board was informed of another smaller repair needed to be done in the near future on the Upper Depot bridge. The board also approved paving the aprons to five town roads that intersected with US Route 2.

The Selectboard worked with the Agency of Transportation (AOT) and a property owner at the intersection of the US Route 2 and the Cabot Road to improve this intersection by changing the configuration in order to eliminate the Y; it will be changed to a T intersection to improve safety. AOT is planning to repave US Route 2 in the near future and agreed to improve this intersection when they do the work in the village. The Selectboard needed to take care of easement questions for the state to do the work.

The Selectboard worked throughout the year planning for two potential projects at the Old School House Common. One is a porch off the side of the library that would allow for an extra entry and exit point. And the second, an open picnic pavilion to be used by the

public. These projects will be dependent on available funding.

During the year the board approved an expansion at the Eaton Cemetery to develop a green burial section. The town should be able to sell burial plots in 2023.

Rich Baker applied for a grant for recreational economy for rural communities. This was a competitive, nationwide grant. The town was notified in June that we were awarded the grant. Rich is spear heading a group of people interested in enhancing recreational opportunities in town.

Throughout the year the Selectboard continued to deal with dog and animal complaints that always arise.

It was a challenging end to the year trying to put a budget together for 2023. Inflation rates hit the town budget as hard as personal budgets.

NET BUDGET AND ESTIMATED TAX RATE

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Administration	144,461	150,085	165,755	155,138	150,916	163,259	201,572	215,949
Highways	516,663	502,374	537,019	552,526	599,711	620,638	611,307	690,599
Fire Department	63,548	63,647	67,832	69,082	72,119	73,219	76,024	78,623
EMS	20,500	20,500	43,500	46,100	47,318	48,572	49,865	51,194
Planning & Zoning	19,445	19,642	15,336	12,735	7,738	10,388	1,715	15,538
Recreation	2,250	2,250	1,900	1,900	2,400	2,925	2,925	1,800
Buildings & Grounds	5,209	-4,472	-16,797	-20,402	-11,087	-7,404	-2,134	10,749
Total Essential Services	772,076	754,026	814,545	817,079	869,115	911,597	941,274	1,064,453
Less Surplus/Plus Deficit	-107,861	-109,847	-122,967	-81,621	-71,097	-107,592	-138,525	-162,552
Taxes for Essential Services	664,215	644,179	691,578	735,458	798,018	804,005	802,749	901,901
Jaquith Library	76,822	79,850	80,713	78,954	82,727	82,727	84,383	101,763
Historical Society	6,455	6,455	6,455	6,455	6,455	6,455	6,455	6,907
Cemeteries	8,500	8,600	8,600	14,000	10,500	10,500	10,500	15,000
Special Appropriations	0	0	0	0	8,000	0	13,920	0
Outside Organizations	20,415	21,165	21,615	21,540	21,740	21,540	21,140	21,158
Total Taxes to be Raised	776,407	760,249	808,961	856,407	927,440	925,227	939,147	1,046,729
Tax Rate	0.6508	0.6341	0.6710	0.7089	0.7662	0.7599	0.6008	0.6669 *

*estimate for comparison only, if all articles are approved.

TAXES NEEDED FOR INDIVIDUAL WARNING ARTICLES

	Taxes Needed	Effect on Tax Rate	Taxes for \$100,000 Property	Taxes for \$200,000 Property	Taxes for \$300,000 Property
Article 7	\$ 901,901.00	0.5774	\$ 577.38	\$ 1,154.77	\$ 1,732.15
Article 8	\$ 101,763.00	0.0651	\$ 65.15	\$ 130.29	\$ 195.44
Article 9	\$ 6,907.00	0.0044	\$ 4.42	\$ 8.84	\$ 13.27
Article 10	\$ 15,000.00	0.0096	\$ 9.60	\$ 19.21	\$ 28.81
Article 11	\$ 8,333.00	0.0053	\$ 5.33	\$ 10.67	\$ 16.00
Article 12	\$ 12,825.00	0.0082	\$ 8.21	\$ 16.42	\$ 24.63
Total	\$ 1,046,729.00	0.6701	\$ 670.09	\$ 1,340.20	\$ 2,010.30
Every \$10,000 in the budget	\$ 10,000.00	0.0064	\$ 6.40	\$ 12.80	\$ 19.21
For a penny on the tax rate	\$ 15,620.51	0.0100	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00

* Essential Services includes Highways, General Government, the Town Office, the Fire Department, Emergency Services, the Old Schoolhouse Common, Employment Taxes and Benefits, and Zoning and Planning. This chart assumes no increase in the grand list

TOWN ASSETS

Property:		Cost
Mears property	37 acres	7,500
Old Town forest	50 acres	195
Gravel pit	4 acres	1,000
Railroad depot	8.1 acres	2,000
Thorndike property/Martin Covered Bridge Park	70 acres & bridge	1,321
Anderson lot	1.05 acres	1,455
Virginia Stranahan Town Forest	619.6 acres	0
Town garage		41,000
Salt Shed		51,722
Old village school lot & bldg	3 acres	1
Fire station and land	2.20 acres	81,000
Total Property		<u>187,195</u>

Equipment - Highway:

2020 Pickup	48,632
2022 International dumptruck	131,027
2021 International dumptruck	124,773
2018 International dumptruck	101,730
2018 Komatsu loader	140,238
2013 John Deere grader	188,000
2004 John Deere excavator	66,977
2007 Challenger tractor & mower	70,000
2021 Hydroseeder	16,314
2011 chipper	17,900
Trailer for excavator	8,170
Trailer for hydroseeder	3,975
Turbine blower	9,506
Storage container	5,800
Pressure washer & trailer	7,745
Portable generator	1,299
Screen for sand	14,600
Generator at Town Garage	11,041
Sander	4,045
York rake (2009)	5,195
Plasma cutter	2,100
Tools	9,979
Total Highway Equipment	<u>989,046</u>

TOWN ASSETS

Other Town Assets

Solar Panels at Old Schoolhouse	63,448
Generator at Old Schoolhouse Common	10,052
Roller shelves (6)	3,100
Computers and printers	15,638
Office equipment	15,615
Office furniture	840
Air conditioners (2)	987
Total Other Assets	<u>109,680</u>

Fire Station Improvements

	<u>Cost</u>
Security system	9,377
Air vacuum system	15,912
Sprinkler System	15,577
Total Fire Station Improvements	<u>40,866</u>

Fire Station Equipment

Standby generator	14,369
Communications equipment	25,010
Computers	4,162
Uniform washer	3,795
2011 Ford pickup	39,604
1937 Chev. Amer. LaFrance pumper	4,353
1991 Ford L-8000 pumper	99,168
1996 Ford LN 8000 tanker	83,531
Total Fire Station Equipment	<u>273,992</u>

TOTAL **1,600,778**

Assets are listed at their cost at the time of purchase

2022 AUDITORS' REPORT

As directed by 24 VSA §1681, the Auditors have examined the financial records of the Town and the supporting data. We believe that all records and accounts contained herein are a true and accurate account of the Town's financial affairs.

State Law 24 VSA §1684 requires that the Auditors publish a statement showing the condition of the Town's indebtedness, trust funds, savings accounts, and certificates of deposit. A list of these follows:

- Assets -

	Interest Rate	Balance
Cash on Hand		1,199.95
General Fund - Sweep Account	1.90%	549,772.18
Union Bank Money Market	0.0%	3,129.26
Union Bank Insured Cash Sweep	0.75%	486,801.54
Credit Union of VT Savings	0.0%	25.00
Credit Union of VT Money Market	1.75%	252,302.96
Fire Dept. Investments	3.1 - 3.25%	12,635.23
A/R Delinquent Taxes	12.00%	78,175.16
Mortgage on Hollister Hill Apts	0.0%	326,500.00

- Indebtedness -

	Interest Rate	Balance
Truck Loan – 2021	2.00%	88,000.00
Truck Loan – 2020	2.00%	66,000.00
Loader Loan - 2018	2.00%	22,000.00

The investments of the Cemetery Fund and Jaquith Library appear with their reports.

BALANCE SHEET
December 31, 2022

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Designated Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>
- Assets -			
Cash on Hand	1,199.95		1,199.95
Bank Accounts	406,733.81	885,297.13	1,292,030.94
Fire Dept Invest Account		12,635.23	12,635.23
Prepayments	4,340.20		4,340.20
Delinquent Taxes	78,175.16		78,175.16
Reserve for Del Taxes	(78,175.16)		(78,175.16)
Hollister Hill Apts Mortgage		326,500.00	326,500.00
Total Assets	<u>412,273.96</u>	<u>1,224,432.36</u>	<u>1,636,706.32</u>
- Liabilities -			
Damage Deposit	1,695.54		1,695.54
Performance Bond	500.00		500.00
Prepayments	33,009.59		33,009.59
Taxes Owed	127,023.62		127,023.62
Cemetery Funds in Bank Acct	35,054.97		35,054.97
Payroll Liabilities	694.64		694.64
Loader Loan		22,000.00	22,000.00
2021 Truck Loan		88,000.00	88,000.00
2020 Truck Loan		66,000.00	66,000.00
Total Liabilities	<u>197,978.36</u>	<u>176,000.00</u>	<u>373,978.36</u>
- Fund Balances -			
Fund Balances, 12/31/21	190,269.21	1,028,014.05	1,218,283.26
2021 Surplus Applied to Taxes	(138,525.25)		(138,525.25)
2022 Surplus/(Deficit)	162,551.64	20,418.31	182,969.95
Fund Balances, 12/31/22	<u>214,295.60</u>	<u>1,048,432.36</u>	<u>1,262,727.96</u>
Liabilities + Fund Balance	412,273.96	1,224,432.36	1,636,706.32

SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

General Fund

	<u>Actual 2021</u>	<u>Budget 2022</u>	<u>Actual 2022</u>	<u>Budget 2023</u>
Previous Year Surplus				
Surplus Non Highway	42,286	43,925	43,925	75,961
Surplus Highway	65,306	94,600	94,600	86,591
Total Surplus Applied	<u>107,592</u>	<u>138,525</u> *	<u>138,525</u>	<u>162,552</u>
Selectboard Managed Income				
Property Taxes	982,786	945,147	932,797	1,052,729
Natural Disasters	5,249			
Town Office	15,625	13,410	15,523	13,935
General Government	117,588	111,500	122,886	135,200
Highway Department	118,500	99,497	109,675	114,397
Buildings & Grounds	57,503	54,261	56,616	53,929
Fire Department	0	0	1,453	0
Zoning / Planning	1,990	2,855	3,190	3,080
Total General Fund Income	<u>1,299,240</u>	<u>1,226,670</u>	<u>1,242,139</u>	<u>1,373,270</u>
Essential Services				
Town Office	116,115	165,316	125,114	143,395
General Government	38,110	53,544	39,427	99,667
Highway Department	644,538	710,804	635,404	804,996
Buildings & Grounds	68,834	52,127	48,303	64,678
Fire Department	82,262	76,024	71,307	78,623
Emergency Services	48,572	49,865	49,865	51,194
Zoning / Planning	18,842	4,570	4,050	18,618
Recreation	2,925	2,925	3,633	1,800
Employee Expenses	101,031	113,622	106,112	128,022
Total Essential Services	<u>1,121,230</u>	<u>1,228,797</u>	<u>1,083,215</u>	<u>1,390,994</u>
Other Appropriations	99,682	115,258	115,258	123,670
Outside Agencies	<u>21,540</u>	<u>21,140</u>	<u>19,640</u>	<u>21,158</u>
Total General Fund Expenses	1,242,452	1,365,195	1,218,113	1,535,822
Surplus	164,380		162,552	

* 25,855 2021 surplus used to increase the fund balance

PROPERTY TAXES

	<u>Actual 2021</u>	<u>Budget 2022</u>	<u>Actual 2022</u>	<u>Budget 2023</u>
Town Taxes				
Town Taxes Collected	838,456	939,147	847,277	1,046,729
State Adjustments - Town Tax	33,716		37,385	
Total Town Taxes	<u>872,172</u>	<u>939,147</u>	<u>884,662</u>	<u>1,046,729</u>
Education Taxes				
Education Tax Collected	1,665,242		1,632,355	
State Adjustments - School Tax	0		(1,485)	
Annual Adjust - Prev Yr Ed Tax	119		(392)	
School Tax Administration Fee	4,059		3,968	
Revised Homestead Bill Fees	420		255	
Education Tax Liability	<u>(1,804,883)</u>		<u>(1,763,602)</u>	
Total Education Taxes	<u>(135,042)</u>		<u>(128,900)</u>	
Land Use Change Tax	5,859		0	
Delinquent Tax Income	232,619		172,881	
Interest on Delinquent Taxes	<u>7,179</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>4,154</u>	<u>6,000</u>
Total Property Taxes	982,786	945,147	932,797	1,052,729

TAXES ASSESSED – 2022

Taxable Grand List as of the Date of Town Tax Rate Setting: \$156,341,900

Setting the Town Tax Rate:

Amount of Taxes Needed 939,146.78
 Divided by Grand List (in 100ths) 1,563419.00
 Equals Town Tax Rate 0.6008

Setting the Local Agreement Rate:

Value of Exempt Property@30,000 per veteran 450,000
 Multiplied by Homestead Education Rate 1.3786
 Value of Exempt Property@30,000 per veteran 90,000
 Multiplied by Non-Residential Education Rate 1.4205
 Equals Amount of School Tax to Make Up 7,482.15
 Divided by Grand List Equals Local Rate 0.0048

Total Tax Rate, Homestead Property
 Town 0.6008
 Local Agreement 0.0048
 School 1.3786
 Total 1.9842

Total Tax Rate, Non-Residential Property
 Town 0.6008
 Local Agreement 0.0048
 School 1.4205
 Total 2.0261

	Town Tax	Homestead Education	Non Residential Education	Late Homestead Filing Penalty	Total School Taxes	Total Taxes
Taxes Billed ¹	945,978.04	1,417,161.34	758,173.62	1,270.24	2,176,605.20	3,122,583.24
Taxes Paid To Treasurer	-847,277.27				-1,632,355.39	-2,479,632.66
State Adjustments	-39,162.94				-415,385.17	-454,548.11
Unpaid as of due date	59,537.83				128,864.64	188,402.47

¹ Reflects changes to the Grand List after the tax rate was set

DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Collected</u>	<u>Balance Due</u>
2019	2,963.31	0	2,963.31
2020	2,237.84	0	2,237.84
2021	57,452.24	54,911.64	2,540.60
2022	<u>188,402.47</u>	<u>117,969.06</u>	<u>70,433.41</u>
Balance due	251,055.86	172,880.70	78,175.16

COMPARISON OF DELINQUENT TAX ACCOUNTS IN PRIOR YEARS

<u>Year</u>	<u>Taxes Billed During Year</u>	<u>Amount of Taxes Turned Over to Collector</u>	<u>Balance of Delinquent Tax Account Dec. 31</u>
2022	3,122,582.66	188,402.47	78,175.16
2021	3,157,642.18	194,519.08	62,653.39
2020	3,188,371.99	224,924.00	100,752.90
2019	3,137,007.58	185,541.52	100,831.71
2018	3,006,347.87	199,854.59	95,901.68
2017	2,847,544.30	115,057.97	67,845.95
2016	2,801,942.12	148,741.17	81,977.61
2015	2,800,159.48	123,209.64	81,999.59
2014	2,830,897.81	112,371.00	71,213.79
2013	2,591,841.78	124,607.17	63,282.49
2012	2,440,175.38	130,583.26	50,186.68
2011	2,412,330.10	128,344.17	40,804.94
2010	2,416,810.10	128,555.83	52,669.60
2009	2,276,189.13	158,765.64	56,338.54
2008	2,135,705.29	121,715.21	43,113.12
2007	1,940,836.23	112,870.08	104,445.90
2006	1,780,415.91	111,521.09	74,050.39
2005	1,665,353.22	124,952.07	55,491.38
2004	1,621,502.81	111,298.79	48,333.68
2003	1,771,745.16	130,883.32	61,038.67
2002	1,542,907.66	100,234.17	62,778.52
2001	1,463,678.32	108,203.40	66,822.09
2000	1,275,939.37	122,526.25	65,963.94
1999	1,149,456.77	112,632.76	66,014.55
1998	1,166,789.54	93,957.85	68,078.83
1997	1,138,613.48	102,635.59	84,822.26
1996	1,205,525.84	109,367.50	84,162.17

FYI - The delinquent tax collector received \$ 13,914.22 in fees in 2022.

TOWN CLERK/TREASURER'S REPORT

Staffing

At this time last year, I reported that Winnie Valenza would be retiring as Assistant Town Clerk. Since that time, I have been looking for a Marshfield resident to take over her position. A few residents have expressed interest but have withdrawn. I have received a few applications from out of town but I am hopeful that I will be able to find someone in Marshfield. If the Assistant is a resident, I can train them to run for Town Clerk and Treasurer. Only a resident can be elected. If I am unable to find a Marshfield resident, I will have to hire someone from out of town and then the Town will either have to elect someone with no experience, or vote to make the positions appointed, removing voter control. I am perplexed because I feel like I have the best job in the world and I have always felt extremely lucky to be in this position. Thankfully Winnie has agreed to stay until we find someone.

Recognizing that some of what we do in the town office is neither the Clerk's or the Treasurer's or the Assistant's job, the Selectboard has created a separate position, Selectboard Administrator, and some of the office salary budget is allocated to that line item. This gives us flexibility to reorganize the office duties when a new person is hired.

Town Meeting – changes ahead?

We will be returning to a traditional Town Meeting this year, at Twinfield. The only absentee ballots available will be for the school budget. Because of the increase in participation during the Australian Ballot voting of the last two years, you will be asked whether you want to change the way we decide local issues in future years. We can continue with a floor meeting on Tuesday, we can vote to hold the meeting the traditional way but on Saturday, or we can adopt Australian Ballot in place of the floor meeting. In that case there would still be a public hearing before the Australian Ballot vote, but if the school meeting is any indication, there may be little participation in the discussion. A decision to change the way we vote can only be made at an open meeting, so if you want a voice in this issue, you will need to come to Town Meeting. These articles are first on the agenda after the moderator is elected, so they will be voted early in the day.

Voter Registration

You can register to vote online at <https://olvr.vermont.gov> or by mailing a registration form to the Town Clerk's Office. You can register to vote at Town Meeting, but I encourage you not to wait until that day because you may have to wait for a break in the action for someone to become available to approve your registration. Registering early will save you time.

My Voter Page

Every voter can access information about their polling hours and locations at <https://mvp.vermont.gov>. This is a great way to request an absentee ballot or notify us of a change of address. You can also track the progress of your ballot to see when it has been issued by us, when we receive it back, and whether it was accepted or whether you need to correct something about the ballot.

ARPA

The Town has received \$365,673 in American Rescue Plan Act funds. The town has used \$63,300 so far. We have purchased a turbine blower, storage container, plasma cutter, and new sand screen for the public works department, paid almost \$21,000 towards the new deck on the School Street bridge, and paid for a design for a porch off the Library side of the Old Schoolhouse Common. The Selectboard formed a building committee to study the maintenance needs at the Old Schoolhouse Common building and grounds.

Dogs

We continue to struggle getting people to license their dogs as required by statute. Please don't put this off. It's a great waste of time for us to send notice after notice and make repeated phone calls. Please license your dog as soon as possible; the deadline to register them is April 1st. You can register them via mail – just send us the fee and the rabies certificate, and we will mail the license. You may also leave the fee and certificate in the drop box. Call if you have any questions about licensing. We were not able to schedule a rabies clinic at the town garage this year but Tractor Supply and Hardwick Veterinary are both doing clinics.

Tax Payments

We are happy to accept prepayments for property taxes at any time; some taxpayers find it easier to make monthly payments ahead of when the bill comes. We can also debit your bank account on the due date – let us know if you would like to sign up for that program. Forms are available on the website.

Drop Box

We have a secure drop box that can be used for anything that needs to be dropped off at the office – tax payments, dog licenses, absentee ballots, etc. The box is secure and tamper-proof, and we check it every work day.

Vital Records

We are no longer printing the lists of births, deaths, and marriages, due to concerns about identity theft. We had 10 marriages, 7 babies were born, and we lost 9 residents in 2022.

Bobbi Brimblecombe clerk@marshfieldvt.gov 426-3305

TOWN OFFICE

	<u>Actual 2021</u>	<u>Budget 2022</u>	<u>Actual 2022</u>	<u>Budget 2023</u>
Town Office Income				
Office Fees	14,244	12,000	13,825	12,000
Dog Licenses	1,081	1,100	1,133	1,500
Marriage Licenses	90	100	100	100
Liquor/Tobacco Licenses	210	210	465	335
Total Town Office Income	<u>15,625</u>	<u>13,410</u>	<u>15,523</u>	<u>13,935</u>
Town Office Expense				
Town Office Staff Expenses				
Town Office Staff				74,376
Clerk/Treasurer	48,262	51,448	51,448	0
Assistant	29,919	44,411	32,230	0
Additional Office Wages	0	50	0	0
Social Security	4,483	5,943	4,792	4,611
Medicare	1,048	1,390	1,121	1,078
Retirement	6,161	4,350	3,648	3,924
Mileage	160	400	126	300
Total Staff Expenses	<u>90,033</u>	<u>107,992</u>	<u>93,363</u>	<u>84,289</u>
COVID Expenses	258	0	226	0
OSC Allocation	11,174	11,174	11,174	11,956
Cleaning Service	575	650	675	650
Postage	1,683	2,000	2,063	2,000
Supplies	2,288	2,200	2,385	2,400
Telephone	1,588	1,600	1,489	1,500
Computer Expense	4,864	10,000	5,535	11,000
Cybersecurity	0	25,000	0	25,000
Office Equipment	879	750	634	750
Town Report	2,153	2,300	2,398	2,500
Advertising	175	350	189	350
Elections	70	1,000	3,307	500
Alarm System	375	300	1,676	500
Total Town Office Expense	<u>116,115</u>	<u>165,316</u>	<u>125,114</u>	<u>143,395</u>
Net Cost	100,490	151,906	109,591	129,460

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

	<u>Actual 2021</u>	<u>Budget 2022</u>	<u>Actual 2022</u>	<u>Budget 2023</u>
General Government Income				
Interest Income	5,691	5,000	10,910	25,000
Current Use Hold Harmless Pmt	84,676	80,000	83,860	83,000
PILOT - Forests & Parks	25,262	25,000	25,588	25,000
Traffic fines	677	500	935	700
Stranahan Town Forest Income	2,276	2,000	2,385	1,800
Transfer to Stranahan Fund	(1,138)	(1,000)	(1,193)	(900)
Lister Training Grant	44	0	0	500
Miscellaneous Income	100	0	401	100
Total General Government Income	<u>117,588</u>	<u>111,500</u>	<u>122,886</u>	<u>135,200</u>
General Government Expenses				
Town Officer Expenses				
Delinquent Tax Collector	18,794	13,000	13,914	15,000
Delinquent Tax Penalty	(18,794)	(13,000)	(13,829)	(15,000)
Lister Wages	10,811	15,188	8,726	14,547
Selectboard Stipend	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Selectboard Admin	0	0	0	27,525
Health Officer	365	1,087	117	605
Constable	125	125	125	125
Fire Warden Stipend	25	25	25	25
Auditors Stipend	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800
BCA Stipend	162	500	402	500
Social Security	2,082	2,060	1,650	2,919
Medicare	487	482	386	683
Mileage	245	750	78	500
Retirement	1,486	173	124	0
Total Town Officer Expenses	<u>19,088</u>	<u>23,690</u>	<u>15,019</u>	<u>50,729</u>
Lister Services/Supplies	1,037	1,000	1,483	1,600
Health Officer expense	0	100	0	100
Energy Committee	0	500	0	500
Conservation Commission	300	300	201	300
County Tax	10,530	11,000	11,138	11,500
Town Officers' Liability Ins.	2,041	1,974	1,974	2,015
General Liability Insurance	(4,189)	(4,553)	(4,550)	(1,996)
Employment Practices Ins.	1,624	1,753	1,753	1,528
Interest-Tax Anticipation Note	1,866	3,000	2,432	13,578
Bank Service Charge	58	100	13	50
Legal Services	472	2,000	2,239	2,500
VLCT Dues	3,045	3,080	3,080	3,185
Solid Waste	1,493	1,350	1,330	1,678
Traffic Control/Law Enforcement	237	7,900	2,854	12,000
9-1-1 Signs/Expenses	65	100	93	100
Repeater Station	250	250	250	300
Miscellaneous/Unbudgeted	193	0	120	0
Total General Government Expenses	<u>38,110</u>	<u>53,544</u>	<u>39,427</u>	<u>99,667</u>
Net Income	79,478	57,956	83,460	35,533

BOARD OF LISTERS

The Marshfield listers began their quest to conduct a successful reappraisal in 2018. Two primary factors had contributed to that decision: first, Marshfield property values were increasingly out of line with both current fair-market values and between similar properties within the town; and second, Marshfield was well past the state-recommended 10-year interval between reappraisals, the last full one having occurred in 2003. The listers approached the selectboard with a request to begin the reappraisal process as soon as possible. This was approved, and Marshfield's reappraisal was underway.

The State requires towns to hire state-certified appraisers to conduct these reappraisals. To meet that requirement, the listers, with input from the selectboard and the town attorney, outlined the town's needs and developed a Request for Proposal (RFP). Copies of this RFP went out to many firms and certified individual appraisers. In Vermont, as elsewhere, appraisers are in huge demand. Many have reappraisals already lined up for several years (which was another factor in the listers wanting to get the process started). It was, therefore, no surprise to receive only four responses to the RFPs. Of those four, one appraised only utilities; another specialized in Burlington-sized cities. Two left! The listers/selectboard read their proposals and met with the owners of each (assessing the assessors, if you will). In the end, the selectboard, with the listers' approval, chose New England Municipal Consultants (NEMC) for the task. Why was NEMC selected? Principal reasons include the following: 1.) Due to an opening in its schedule, NEMC was able to complete Marshfield's reappraisal by 2022. 2.) NEMC's valuation software program (AssessPro) appeared to be superior to what the listers were currently using. 3.) In addition to developing AssessPro, Bill Krajewski, NEMC's founder and CEO, has over 40 years' experience in the appraisal field and is therefore well-versed in Vermont dwelling idiosyncrasies and land variations. Both parties signed the contract in November of 2020. Now Marshfield's reappraisal was *really* underway.

NEMC took it from there. Beginning in April of 2021, they transferred the basic data on each parcel from the listers' assessment program to AssessPro's. NEMC sent out an informational letter to each owner, outlining the reappraisal process. Field work also began in April 2021, continuing through March of 2022. Three NEMC technicians obtained external data on over 650 dwellings and thousands of outbuildings in the Town of Marshfield. Due to Covid, many homeowners were not comfortable with in-person interior evaluations, but they willingly offered needed information by mail, phone, and email. The techs entered the new data into AssessPro, resulting in new values per current cost tables.

Finally, after field work was complete, Bill traveled to every parcel in town to review each piece of data the techs had gathered.

Preliminary valuations were set by early April of 2022. NEMC then sent out property valuation reports to each property owner and conducted informal grievance hearings in late May of 2022. The listers sent out over 800 Change of Appraisal Notices to property owners, and the Grand List was completed and lodged with the town clerk by the June 4th deadline. Grievance and BCA hearings were held soon after, and Marshfield's 2022 reappraisal was complete.

Do Marshfield's values reflect those of the current market? The state uses the common level of appraisal (CLA) formula to determine that. Briefly, a town's CLA reflects the degree to which its property values coincide with current market values. A CLA of 100% means that the town's property values are exactly in line with current selling prices. The greater the town's difference between its CLA and a perfect CLA of 100%, the greater the deviation between the town's property values and current selling prices. Acceptable CLA numbers range from 85% to 115%. As a result of the reappraisal, Marshfield's CLA is currently 100.71%. Of all 254 Vermont towns, only the town of Walden has a CLA closer to 100%. To compare further, the CLA of almost 80% of Vermont towns is under 90%.

Marshfield's property values increased overall by an average of a little over 27%. The January 1, 2023 Grand List value of all properties in Marshfield (\$170,675,348) increased by over \$36 million from the January 1, 2022 Grand List (\$134,019,518). It's important to understand that the increase in overall value of the Town's properties does not mean higher taxes. Taxes are determined by cost, both the Town's and the school's. The total amount that the Town needs to raise in taxes is divided up by property value. So, larger overall property values just means that the percentage that each unit of value (as in per \$100 of value) is taxed is lower. The point of the reappraisal is to make sure that each property owner is paying their fair share relative to the rest of the town and, in the case of school taxes, the state.

As of this writing, over 63% of Vermont towns need to reappraise, according to the state Property Valuation & Review department. Obtaining an appraiser at short notice (by "short", I mean within the next three years) is now well-nigh impossible. In those respects, Marshfield is indeed fortunate to have completed its reappraisal. The listers would like to thank the selectboard for their support, the Marshfield property owners for their cooperation, and Bill Krajewski and New England Municipal Consultants for their expert assistance.

The Marshfield Board of Listers

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

	<u>Actual 2021</u>	<u>Budget 2022</u>	<u>Actual 2022</u>	<u>Budget 2023</u>
Highway Department Income				
Highway/State Aid	93,615	85,000	94,813	90,000
Curb cut permits	105	100	70	100
Sanding Reimb. Twinfield	0	0	213	0
Plowing/Sanding Other Towns	2,297	2,297	2,297	2,297
Grants-In-Aid	20,020	12,100	12,100	22,000
Other Highway Income	2,463	0	182	0
Total Highway Department Income	<u>118,500</u>	<u>99,497</u>	<u>109,675</u>	<u>114,397</u>
Highway Department Expenses				
Highway Staff Expenses				
Wages	156,827	193,015	173,764	209,031
Temp Wages	8,626	14,533	2,480	15,550
Social Security	9,924	12,868	10,606	13,924
Medicare	2,321	3,009	2,481	3,256
Retirement	10,801	13,938	12,364	15,524
Mileage - Office Staff	756	1,500	983	1,000
Pagers	313	400	284	350
Uniforms	2,710	2,600	2,705	3,000
Other	96	0	(122)	0
Total Staff Expenses	<u>192,374</u>	<u>241,863</u>	<u>205,545</u>	<u>261,635</u>
Garage Expenses				
Electricity	1,598	1,600	1,751	1,700
Heating Oil	4,996	6,300	5,876	9,000
Building Maint.	525	4,000	1,489	4,000
Supplies	629	1,000	749	1,000
Telephone	1,170	1,600	1,191	1,200
Rubbish Removal	1,190	1,200	1,222	1,400
Fuel Tank Assessment	750	50	50	50
Safety Equipment	212	2,000	850	2,000
Garage Insurance	2,582	2,618	2,618	2,675
Generator	11,041	450	450	250
Generator Propane	192	500	94	250
Misc. Garage Expenses	791	2,000	755	2,000
Total Garage Expenses	<u>25,676</u>	<u>23,318</u>	<u>17,095</u>	<u>25,525</u>
Equipment/Maintenance				
2020 Pickup	1,579	1,600	1,582	1,600
2016 International	4,582	0	0	0
2018 International	3,568	4,000	3,180	4,000
2021 International	666	5,000	2,320	5,000
2022 International	2,383	5,000	2,957	5,000
2013 Grader	11,614	4,500	4,017	4,500
2018 Loader	0	1,000	60	1,000
2004 Excavator	4,641	2,000	3,787	2,000
Tractor/Mower	3,836	2,500	1,353	2,500
Trailers	0	1,000	18	1,000
Sanders	0	2,000	2,175	3,000
Plows	0	2,500	2,076	2,500

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

	<u>Actual 2021</u>	<u>Budget 2022</u>	<u>Actual 2022</u>	<u>Budget 2023</u>
York Rake	0	1,000	1,000	1,000
Chain Saws	687	1,200	499	1,200
Chipper	195	1,000	0	1,000
Tire Chains	9,000	9,000	8,490	9,000
Sanders	204	400	0	400
Tools	1,093	2,000	1,577	2,000
To Equipment Fund	137,784	89,548	89,548	94,025
Grants to Equipment Fund	20,020	12,100	12,100	22,000
Vehicle Insurance	7,390	8,325	8,325	8,521
Equipment Rental	0	0	0	4,500
Misc. Equipment Expenses	2,065	2,000	3,095	4,400
Total Equipment/Maintenance	211,306	157,673	148,160	180,146
Materials				
Staymat	67,649	100,000	94,803	110,000
Stone	1,015	5,000	4,665	9,000
Winter Sand	70,140	70,000	68,754	80,000
Salt	11,155	19,000	14,657	21,000
Chloride	16,741	19,000	18,965	21,000
Equipment/Vehicle Fuel	29,093	36,000	40,849	45,000
Grease & Oil	1,811	2,000	598	2,000
Welding Supplies	453	600	373	700
Cold Patch	456	500	403	500
Erosion Control Measures	1,986	3,000	1,389	3,000
Mulch Hay	150	0	0	0
Misc. Materials	226	1,000	662	1,000
Total Materials	200,874	256,100	246,117	293,200
Highway Infrastructure				
Cabot Road Intersection	0	0	96	500
Municipal Roads Permit Fee	1,350	1,350	1,350	1,990
Culverts Purchased	2,700	14,000	4,487	14,000
Culvert Reimbursements	(1,079)	0	(552)	0
Road Signs	1,360	1,000	1,107	1,000
Guardrails	5,443	3,000	0	3,000
To Paving Account	5,000	5,000	5,000	10,000
To Bridge Account	3,500	3,500	3,500	10,000
Private Contracts	1,820	4,000	3,500	4,000
Other	(5,785)	0	0	0
Total Highway Infrastructure	14,308	31,850	18,487	44,490
Total Highway Department Expenses	644,538	710,804	635,404	804,996
Net Cost	526,038	611,307	525,729	690,599

HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT FUND PROJECTION

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Balance, January 1	53,849	113,547	129,729	31,208	59,690	94,570	67,528	24,823	35,348	36,295	57,878
Appropriation	85,284	89,548	94,025	98,726	103,662	108,845	114,287	120,001	126,001	129,781	134,323
Surplus Appropriation	45,000										
Grants-In-Aid	14,020	12,100	22,000								
Hydroseeder Grant	6,000										
Extra for Hydroseeder	7,500										
Sale of Mulcher and Plow	6,250										
Interest	81	410	649	156	298	473	338	124	177	181	289
Purchases:											
Pickup							(30,000)				
a. Purchase truck in 2020, 2026, 2032						(150,000)					
b. Purchase truck in 2021, 2027, 2033							(150,000)				
c. Purchase truck in 2023, 2029, 2035			(144,430)						(150,000)		
Purchase Grader						(225,600)					
Purchase/Overhaul 2004 Excavator			(91,544)								
Purchase Hydroseeder	(16,314)										
Purchase Trailer	(3,975)		(19,701)								
Loans:											
a. Borrow for truck in 2020, 2026, 2032						110,000	110,000		110,000		
b. Borrow for truck in 2021, 2027, 2033	110,000										
c. Borrow for truck in 2023, 2029, 2035			110,000			175,000					
Borrow for Grader											
Payments:											
a. Pmt on 2020/2026/2032 truck loan	(24,200)	(23,760)	(23,320)	(22,880)	(22,440)		(24,200)	(23,760)	(23,320)	(22,880)	(22,440)
b. Pmt on 2021/2027/2033 truck loan		(23,936)	(23,760)	(23,320)	(22,880)	(22,440)		(24,200)	(23,760)	(24,200)	(22,880)
c. Pmt on 2017/2023/2029 truck loan	(15,600)	(15,300)		(24,200)	(23,760)	(23,320)	(22,880)	(22,440)		(24,200)	(23,760)
Pmts on loader	(23,320)	(22,880)	(22,440)								
Pmts on Grader							(40,250)	(39,200)	(38,150)	(37,100)	(36,050)
Balance, December 31	113,547	129,729	31,208	59,690	94,570	67,528	24,823	35,348	36,295	57,878	87,360

WINTER OPERATIONS PLAN

The Winter Parking Ordinance is in effect from November 1st to April 30th. No vehicles are to be parked on town roads during these months. **VEHICLES WILL BE TOWED AT OWNER'S EXPENSE.**

Plow routes are set up to open the major traffic routes and school bus routes first. The road crew usually starts operations at 3:30 a.m. to have these roads clear by 7:00 a.m. In most cases there will be no maintenance between 8:00 p.m. and 3:00 a.m.

Each road crew member has a specific route that takes approximately 4½ hours to complete. After 16 hours on the job, they are required to stop operations and take off a minimum of 6 hours.

The Town does not plow Class IV and private roads and certain Class III roads, or sections thereof, as set forth by statute.

Salt will be applied to paved roads with a minimum amount of sand added as necessary. (Salt is not effective when the road temperature is below 20 degrees). Sand will be applied to gravel roads.

Please note: according to 23 VSA §1126, it is illegal to plow snow from private property on or across public highways.

The road crew makes every effort to avoid mailboxes. However, because of snow conditions or oncoming traffic, the plows occasionally hit them. The Town has permitted mailboxes to be located in the Town right-of-way. If the mailboxes are damaged as a result of snow or ice clearing operations, the Town will not repair them.

WINTER SAND POLICY

The Town of Marshfield makes sand available to Town residents to help them with icy sidewalks and driveways. Residents will find the sand pile outside the Town Garage gate on School Street. The sand is supplied only for Town residents and only for use at their home. Landlords and businesses should arrange for sand spreading from a number of local contractors.

Because the sand is intended for home use, residents are asked to limit themselves to collecting two buckets per trip. It is highly recommended residents pick up their sand now and before a storm so they do not need to drive on icy roads. During a storm, the Road Crew is busy maintaining the roads and might not be able to restock the pile. Sand is piled outside the Town Garage gate for 24/7 access. The public must not enter the Town Garage yard to find sand or salt.

On another note, please remember that it is illegal to plow snow across a town road. The snow that is left in the road will freeze, causing a dangerous situation for other drivers and for the snow plow. Under 19 VSA §1105, you could be fined \$1,000 plus damages and legal fees.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Old Schoolhouse Common

	Actual 2021	Budget 2022	Actual 2022	Budget 2023
Buildings & Grounds Income				
Allocations from Other Budgets				
Town Clerk's Office	11,174	11,174	11,174	11,956
Library	12,840	12,840	12,840	13,735
Historical Society	6,455	6,455	6,455	6,907
Total Allocations	30,469	30,469	30,469	32,598
Lease Income - Businesses				
Rebop	4,692	4,692	4,692	5,014
Food Shelf	5,016	5,016	5,016	5,339
Appraisers	3,990	4,788	4,788	0
Ducharme	4,548	4,548	4,548	4,864
Village Office	4,548	4,548	4,548	4,864
Total Business Leases	22,794	23,592	23,592	20,081
Gymnasium	185	200	1,152	750
Bandstand Rental	0	0	281	50
Meeting Room	0	0	398	200
Kitchen	25	0	390	150
Community Dinners	0	0	250	0
Tables and Chairs	0	0	60	100
Grants	4,000	0	0	0
Other Income	30	0	25	0
Total Income	57,503	54,261	56,616	53,929
Buildings & Grounds Expenses				
OSC Staff Expenses				
Wages	6,093	12,947	4,129	13,537
Social Security	387	803	256	839
Medicare	91	188	60	196
Mileage	268	500	1,388	0
Total Staff Expenses	6,838	14,438	5,833	14,572
Net Cost of Electricity at OSC				
Electricity used at OSC	4,598	4,200	5,662	5,700
Solar Meter Charge	251	260	260	260
Electricity Produced	(4,014)	(4,200)	(4,553)	(4,500)
Solar Incentive	(1,428)	(1,500)	(1,551)	0
Electricity Net Cost	(592)	(1,240)	(182)	1,460
Heating Oil	3,175	4,500	2,642	5,700
Pellet Fuel	3,387	4,000	6,535	7,350
Propane for Cooking	190	250	63	250
Propane for Generator	137	100	755	250
Building Maintenance	6,311	2,500	1,306	500

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS
Old Schoolhouse Common

Janitorial Supplies	495	600	968	1,000
Heating Repairs	5,663	1,000	3,285	1,000
Solar Panel Expenses	0	50	306	350
Contract Labor	2,000	3,000	2,445	5,000
Custodial Services OSC	3,030	3,500	4,413	4,500
Alarm System Expense	729	850	606	750
Insurance	6,911	6,954	6,954	7,321
Rubbish Removal	1,801	1,900	2,001	2,250
Water Expense	2,305	2,200	2,425	2,500
Sewer Expense	2,928	3,000	2,928	3,000
Portapotty Rental	0	0	0	2,400
Elevator Maintenance	525	1,000	1,195	1,000
To Building Fund	23,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Generator	0	450	450	450
Miscellaneous Expense	0	75	377	75
Total Expenses	68,834	52,127	48,303	64,678
Net Cost	11,331	(2,134)	(8,313)	10,749

OLD SCHOOLHOUSE COMMON BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Building Committee was formed in June of 2022 in response to some of the suggestions the Selectboard received regarding how the Town could spend the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) money. The members of this committee are Rich Baker, Bobbi Brimblecombe, Justin Campbell, Dick Corbett, Meg Eberhardt, Susan Green, Melissa Seifert, Michael Stark, Chris Whalen and Mike Xenakis.

The purpose of the Building Committee is to assess what repairs, upgrades and new projects the Old Schoolhouse Building (OSC) needs in order to be safe, functional and attractive to the community. The committee hopes to create a Capital Plan which will be used to guide the committee over the next several years in making sure the OSC is maintained and updated as it needs to be.

The committee members have walked around inside and outside the building to assess and make a list of the repairs that need to be made as well as desired changes or upgrades they would like to see. Some of the possible projects that were discussed include deferred maintenance (such as painting, replacing the flooring, replacing windows and updating the heating system), building a porch off the library, building a picnic shelter next to the garden, upgrading the playground, refurbishing the gym and upgrading the kitchen. The list of other possible ARPA projects can be viewed on the Town's website (marshfieldvt.gov). Committee members are researching the repair costs and possible contractors to do the deferred maintenance. The committee agrees that this work should be completed before other upgrades are made.

The total ARPA funds awarded was approximately \$365,000. To date \$37,778 was spent on Road Crew equipment and \$4,160 for the porch design. In addition, \$20,963 was used to supplement the bridge fund to pay for School St Bridge. At least another \$7,000 will be needed to cover a grant match for repairs to Upper Depot Bridge. The Selectboard has committed about \$8,500 for upgrades to the heating system in the building. This leaves about \$290,000 in ARPA funds available.

Marshfield has been awarded an \$18,000 Recreational Facilities grant and an additional \$3,000 from the Block Foundation to help with the costs of constructing a 20' x 36' shelter near the community gardens. The costs for a shelter with electricity, an outdoor water spigot, and picnic tables is estimated to cost at least \$50,000. Construction proposals are being sought this winter to determine the exact cost.

Potential funding sources for the building projects include ARPA funds, the designated Building Fund (\$56,740), future General Fund budgets, special appropriations for a particular project (voted on at town meeting) and grants.

In October, the committee created a survey that was posted on Front Porch Forum and paper copies were available at the Jaquith Library. The purpose of the survey was to gather information about what is most important to the community in regards to OSC upgrades. The results of this survey will help the Town create the Capital Plan. About 90 people took the survey. Some of the suggestions mentioned in the survey include adding more playground equipment, increasing the lighting in the parking lot, getting a new stove for the kitchen, making the OSC more ADA compliant and improving maintenance of the OSC building and grounds. There are many more great comments, suggestions and graphs so we recommend looking through the results yourself. A link to the survey results can be found on the Town's website (marshfieldvt.gov)

The next step for the Building Committee is to have an energy audit done. The next meeting will be after this is completed, which will help make decisions regarding upgrades that are needed such as the heating system, ventilation systems and windows.

Did you know that the kitchen and gym are available for daily rentals for a small fee? They are rented for birthday parties, meetings, workshops and other events. Contact Winnie in the Town Clerk's Office for more information.

Respectfully,

The Building Committee: Rich Baker, Bobbi Brimblecombe, Justin Campbell, Dick Corbett, Meg Eberhardt, Susan Green, Melissa Seifert, Michael Stark, Chris Whalen and Mike Xenakis.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

	<u>Actual 2021</u>	<u>Budget 2022</u>	<u>Actual 2022</u>	<u>Budget 2023</u>
Fire Department Income - Grant			1,453	
Fire Department Expenses				
Fire Dept Administration				
Worker's Compensation	94	1,250	1,216	1,250
Fireman's Disability	0	0	1,805	1,800
Office Supplies	32	200	0	100
Operating Supplies	0	50	0	50
Dues & Subscriptions	0	200	0	200
Liability and Vehicle Ins.	9,505	9,600	7,735	9,750
Total Fire Dept Administration	<u>9,631</u>	<u>11,300</u>	<u>10,756</u>	<u>13,150</u>
Firefighting				
Operating Supplies	0	800	119	800
Repairs & Maintenance	0	400	0	400
Small Tools & Equipment	260	175	0	250
Hose	80	600	0	1,000
Personnel Protective Gear	115	3,000	4,192	4,000
Contract Services	0	100	0	100
Breathing App. Main.	796	1,000	165	250
SCBA Equipment	160	1,000	50	100
Repairs	0	100	0	100
Hydrant Development	0	0	0	350
Hydrant Maintenance	0	0	0	250
Total Firefighting	<u>1,410</u>	<u>7,175</u>	<u>4,526</u>	<u>7,600</u>
Fire Prevention				
Operating Supplies	0	100	0	100
Books, Handouts	0	100	0	100
Total Fire Prevention	<u>0</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>200</u>
Fire Department Training				
Operating Supplies	0	200	0	200
Books, Training Aids	0	100	0	100
Contract Services	0	0	300	100
Total Fire Department Training	<u>0</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>400</u>
Fire Dept Communications				
Simulcast System	0	2,500	0	1,800
Operating Supplies	180	1,000	1,437	1,000
Repairs & Maintenance	0	100	320	100
Computers and Software	0	100	0	100
Capital West Dues	250	400	400	450
Capitol West Dispatching	18,879	19,772	19,713	20,565
Radio/Pager Repairs	750	700	572	500
Total Fire Dept Communications	<u>20,059</u>	<u>24,572</u>	<u>22,442</u>	<u>24,515</u>

FIRE DEPARTMENT

	<u>Actual 2021</u>	<u>Budget 2022</u>	<u>Actual 2022</u>	<u>Budget 2023</u>
Fire Station				
Fire Station Heating Oil	1,346	1,750	2,713	2,200
Operating Supplies	507	200	64	100
Repairs & Maintenance	2,884	1,000	686	1,000
Small Tools & Equipment	0	250	1,678	250
Telephone	1,838	1,750	1,875	1,750
Insurance	1,519	1,527	1,527	1,608
Contract Services	1,406	1,500	1,561	1,500
Electricity	1,778	1,500	2,103	1,600
To Building Fund	2,500	2,750	2,750	2,750
Other	0	200	1,525	200
Total Fire Station	<u>13,779</u>	<u>12,427</u>	<u>16,481</u>	<u>12,958</u>
Trucks/Fire Fighting/Rescue				
Operating Supplies	742	500	161	500
Repair & Maintenance	9,141	3,200	0	3,200
Tools & Equipment	0	100	0	100
Hose and Ladder Testing	0	1,250	1,642	1,000
Total Trucks/Fire Fighting/Rescue	<u>9,883</u>	<u>5,050</u>	<u>1,802</u>	<u>4,800</u>
Transfer to FD Equipment Fund	<u>27,500</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>
Total Fire Department Expenses	82,262	76,024	71,307	78,623
Net Cost	82,262	76,024	69,855	78,623

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Emergency Services				
East Montpelier Ambulance	43,072	44,365	44,365	45,694
Plainfield Fast Squad	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500
Total Emergency Services	<u>48,572</u>	<u>49,865</u>	<u>49,865</u>	<u>51,194</u>

MARSHFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT

2022 brought us to the 113th birthday of the Marshfield Volunteer Fire Department. We are still a 100% volunteer department. None of the personnel receive any financial compensation towards our service. We, as a department, are very proud of this and will continue to operate as a volunteer department for the foreseeable future.

Vehicle accidents once again lead the way both in the number of calls and severity of injuries. However, one of the structure fires in the Town of Marshfield tragically resulted in a fatality.

Marshfield Volunteer Fire Department Calls in 2022

MVA's/No injuries	11
MVA's/Injuries	6
Structure Fires	13
Vehicle Fires	1
Alarm Activations	23
Service calls	1
Grass fires/Illegal burns	4
Smoke/Hazardous Conditions	4
Wires/Trees on Lines/Pole Fires	5
Medical assists	3
Search and rescue	1
Other	<u>3</u>
TOTAL CALLS	75

As our community continues to navigate through the pandemic, please keep in mind that masks are available at the Fire Station. They can be found in the black mailbox on the right side of the station near the entryway. We also have an ample supply of hand sanitizer should anyone need it.

We have completed the rebuild project of the 2011 Ford pickup we purchased from the Marshfield Highway Dept. This smaller vehicle will be used as a brush fire/utility truck. Equipped with a portable skid unit for fighting brush fires, the truck will also be used for traffic control as well as other response tasks when the tanker is not

needed. We are also applying for a Federal Grant to replace our SCBA units (self-contained breathing apparatus). Ours are obsolete at this point as they are no longer supported by the Honeywell Corp. All our SCBA units are more than a decade old, and the new units will meet current NFPA standards. Our AFG (Assistance to Firefighters Grant) application was rejected for the 2022 cycle. We will be re-applying for this grant. We are also continuing the planning for an addition to the Fire Station. We are in the process of restoring the 1937 American LaFrance pumper, the first motorized piece of fire apparatus the Town of Marshfield owned. We would like this piece of the town's history to have its own bay at the station. This would also give us more room for training, and for the new brush truck.

Capital Fire Mutual Aid continues planning for a major upgrade on the Central Vermont Communications System. We use a system of radios throughout the area to "tone out" departments, but the upgrade would vastly improve our capabilities in the entire area.

We are very grateful to have several new members on our roster. The job description of a firefighter involves a very long list of knowledge and practical skills. It's not a job for the faint of heart, it can be downright exhausting, but it is a very rewarding job, helping your neighbors in time of need. It does require time and a willingness to attend trainings. We meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at the Fire house. As always, we have the people of Marshfield to thank for supporting us in our endeavors, we do so wholeheartedly.

Respectfully,
Will Schwarz Chief
Tim Morris Asst. Chief
Jacob Gouge Asst. Chief

FIRE WARDEN'S REPORT

I wish to commend the folks in the Town of Marshfield. For the third year we did not have any reported grass fires or wildland fires! This year Tim and I issued over 87 permits. I appreciate those folks who call in and ask for permits. Grass fires and brush fires require a lot of man power to extinguish. That is something we are short of in our department during the day time. It would be best to refrain from burning in the spring when wildland fire conditions are at their best. We would like to thank those folks who call for a permit.

Permits cover the burning of brush and natural wood only. Burning painted materials, furniture, tires and similar materials are prohibited by state law. These materials have to go to designated sites.

Fire wardens are given daily weather reports and fire danger reports. We know when it is not safe to burn and stop issuing permits. So please call before you burn. We will issue a permit if conditions are safe. If you have questions about brush burning and would like to have us inspect the site before you burn please call us, we will gladly visit the site and offer our suggestions.

Please call when you want to burn. It only takes a phone call. The permit system keeps the Fire Department alert to places where burning is taking place and may save the department a run.

I need to emphasize that the fire department has very few volunteers, especially during the day time. Please think about joining the department and becoming a volunteer.

Contact me at 426-3265 or Tim Maclay at 454-7853.

Tom Maclay, Fire Warden

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND INSURANCE

	<u>Actual 2021</u>	<u>Budget 2022</u>	<u>Actual 2022</u>	<u>Budget 2023</u>
Employee Expenses				
COVID Sick Time	86		0	
Workmen's Compensation	18,361	21,266	18,949	20,267
Unemployment Insurance	688	669	653	519
Disability Insurance	0	2,144	2,039	2,400
Health Insurance	81,533	86,643	83,768	102,436
Training	713	2,500	703	2,000
Employee Recognition	0	150	0	150
Benefits Administration	0	250	0	250
Reimbursements	(349)	0	0	0
Total Employee Expenses	<u>101,031</u>	<u>113,622</u>	<u>106,112</u>	<u>128,022</u>

ZONING AND PLANNING

	<u>Actual 2021</u>	<u>Budget 2022</u>	<u>Actual 2022</u>	<u>Budget 2023</u>
Zoning / Planning Income				
Building Permits	540	540	540	500
Accessory Use Permits	1,020	945	960	950
Site Plan Review	0	170	135	150
Conditional Use Permits	160	245	380	250
Subdivision Permits	0	600	1,040	700
Minimal Alteration	0	225	0	225
Certificate of Occupancy	0	130	0	130
Appeal to DRB	270	0	135	175
Total Income	<u>1,990</u>	<u>2,855</u>	<u>3,190</u>	<u>3,080</u>
Zoning / Planning Expenses				
 Zoning/Planning Staff Expense				
Zoning Administrator	3,873	6,785	3,995	8,471
Planning Comm Clerk	0	600	131	1,075
DRB Clerk	79	200	73	1,613
Social Security	245	470	260	692
Medicare	57	110	61	162
Mileage	7	50	0	0
Total Staff Expense	<u>4,262</u>	<u>8,215</u>	<u>4,521</u>	<u>12,013</u>
Advertising	128	300	318	300
Legal Fees	1,290	1,000	4,566	3,500
Regional Planning Dues	1,885	2,105	2,105	2,105
Postage	30	50	48	50
Maps	1,249	500	0	500
DRB Expense	0	0	105	150
Hazard Mitigation Planning	9,999	(7,600)	(7,613)	0
Total Expense	<u>18,842</u>	<u>4,570</u>	<u>4,050</u>	<u>18,618</u>
Net Cost	16,852	1,715	860	15,538

FEE SCHEDULE FOR ZONING AND SUBDIVISION APPLICATIONS

Building permits for one and two family dwellings and additions requiring additional sewage disposal	\$150.00
Accessory buildings, additions not requiring additional sewage disposal and signs	\$75.00
Reissuance of a previous valid permit that meets current regulations	\$25.00
Certificate of Occupancy	\$75.00
Minimal Alteration	\$100.00
Minor Subdivision	\$275.00
Major Subdivision	\$350.00 up to 4 lots, \$75.00 each additional lot
Planned Unit Development	\$400.00, plus \$75.00 per unit
Appeal to Development Review Board	\$150.00
Site plan approval	\$175.00
Conditional use permit	\$175.00
Site plan approval and conditional use, if applied for simultaneously	\$225.00
Filing land plats	
11" x 17"	\$25.00
18" x 24"	\$25.00
Curb Cut Permit	\$50.00

The proper fee must be paid before the application will be deemed complete and considered.

The fee should be paid with a check or money order payable to the Town of Marshfield.

ZONING 101

Marshfield has had some form of zoning in place since the 1970's, but it can be confusing. Here are a few basics.

If you own land and want to build a house, add a 'mother-in-law' apartment, or any sort of outbuilding, you probably need a permit. Permits for this sort of thing are pretty straightforward, and can generally be approved in a few weeks. If you want to build something of less than 100 ft² (10 x 10 ft.), you may not need a permit, but contact the zoning office to make sure.

Things get more complicated if you are in a flood zone. (Can you see the Winooski from your back yard? You probably are.) If you are doing *anything* more structural than just painting a wall, inside or outside, please check *first* with the zoning office. There are state regulations which we are required to comply with and they can be complicated. We can walk you through them.

Then there are Change of Use / Conditional Use permits. These are mostly for commercial or industrial situations, and they must be approved by the Development Review Board (DRB). These permits give neighbors a chance to weigh in on changes to their neighborhoods that may affect them. They can be short term or permanent. There are several legal requirements that must be met, so they require time, typically 2-3 months. Apply early!

A Change of Use is required if you wish to do something commercial on your land other than its customary approved use. For example, if you operate a farm, and want to cater a wedding or a concert, that's a change of use. Some farm activities are exempted from all the requirements, but only if they are directly related to the farm, such as selling vegetables or eggs produced on that farm. Likewise, some home businesses are exempt too. Check with the zoning office to find out if what you are thinking of requires a permit.

Another example would be if you have a general store and you want to start selling creemees. That's not a change of use. You already retail all sorts of food products. If you want to change it into a sit

down restaurant, though, that would be, and you'd need to get a Change of Use (CUP) permit.

A Conditional Use permit is related. If you apply to stage that rock concert in your back yard, or a restaurant in your old store, there probably will be conditions put on it. Hence these two types are lumped together.

Subdividing is another transaction that must go to the DRB, and takes considerable time to complete, especially as you will need a survey. Roughly, they are divided into major and minor subdivision, with minor being fewer than 4 lots created. This is another one that you should contact the zoning office early in the process.

If you need to put in a driveway off a Town road, get a Curb Cut permit from the Selectboard. Permits for a curb cut off a State highway are obtained from the Dept. of Transportation. Check with the State Permit Specialist for details of this and any other State permit that may be required.

Please be reminded that the Town of Marshfield is not responsible for maintenance of driveway culverts. They must be maintained by the property owner.

The Zoning Regulations are all on the Town's website. It's a good place to start if you are planning anything, but due to the complexity of some aspects, it may not explain everything you would like to know. The best way to get answers is to email zoning@marshfieldvt.gov. You can also leave phone messages at 426-3045.

Application forms and copies of the Marshfield Zoning and Subdivision regulations are available at the Town Clerk's Office.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

	<u>Actual 2021</u>	<u>Budget 2022</u>	<u>Actual 2022</u>	<u>Budget 2023</u>
Recreation/Programming Expenses				
Little League Field	0	0	300	0
Portapotty Rental	1,125	1,125	1,418	0
Recreational Programs	0	700	815	700
To Playground Fund	600	600	600	0
To Recreation Fund	1,200	500	500	1,100
Total Expenses	<u>2,925</u>	<u>2,925</u>	<u>3,633</u>	<u>1,800</u>

RECREATION

The recreation committee is pleased to have increased interest and support of recreational opportunities locally. The new paved basketball court at the Old Schoolhouse Common saw lots of activity, including an increase in pickleball players. This pickleball enthusiasm will continue this winter with open adult pickleball games at Twinfield on Sunday mornings. Unfortunately, we were unable to put the ice rink up because we need to invest and construct a level area to set up the rink. The basketball court is not an option as it could damage the pavement. We have a plan in place and hope to begin working on leveling an area in the spring/summer 2023.

We continue to collaborate with the Jaquith Library in various ways, including their summer programming and the Fall Harvest Festival. We are also excited to be supporting the work of the Recreation Economy for Rural Communities Grant, and see this as a long term plan to support their goal of enhancing outdoor recreation and economic opportunities in Marshfield. We are always excited for new recreation perspectives and ideas, so please join us for one of our meetings at the Old Schoolhouse Common: the last Thursday of February, May, August and November at 7:00 p.m.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

The Marshfield Budget Committee met on December 20, 2022 to review requests for funding from many non-profit organizations that provide services to citizens of Marshfield. Requests are submitted prior to our annual meeting, and must include the organization's impact on Marshfield (description of the service provided and number of residents served) plus a current budget. See link to the Town of Marshfield website to review requests. <https://www.marshfieldvt.gov>. Representatives are invited to attend our meeting to provide additional information and respond to questions from the Budget Committee.

In deciding how to allocate funds, committee members consider the impact of services on residents, the uniqueness of services provided, and prior years' allocations. While recognizing the importance of municipal support to the sustainability of these non-profits, we strive to support the vital services they provide and at the same time minimize budget increases from year to year. No monies were allocated for organizations that did not submit a request. We recommend support for the following:

Central Vermont Adult Basic Education	\$ 575.
Central Vermont Council on Aging	\$ 1,400.
Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice	\$ 3,200.
Circle	\$ 350.
Family Center of Washington County	\$ 300.
Friends of the Winooski	\$ 350.
Good Beginnings of Central Vermont	\$ 300.
Green -Up Vermont	\$ 100.
Onion River food Shelf	\$ 1,100.
OUR House of Central Vermont	\$ 100.
People's Health and Wellness Clinic	\$ 400.
Twin Valley Senior Center	\$ 3,250.
Twinfield Together Mentoring Program	\$ 250.
Vermont Association of the Blind and Visually Impaired	\$ 150.
Vermont Center for Independent Living	\$ 150.
Vermont Family Network	\$ 200.
Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force	\$ 100.
Washington County Youth Service Bureau	\$ 250.
Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District	\$ 300.

Respectfully,

Marshfield Budget Committee: Betsy Brigham, Doris Dufresne, Deanna Martin, Thomas Maclay (Michael Caccavo, absent)

APPROPRIATIONS

	<u>Actual 2021</u>	<u>Budget 2022</u>	<u>Actual 2022</u>	<u>Budget 2023</u>
Other Appropriations				
Cemeteries	10,500	10,500	10,500	15,000
Historical Society	6,455	6,455	6,455	6,907
Jaquith Public Library	82,727	84,383	84,383	101,763
Natural Resources Inventory	0	13,920	13,920	0
Total Other Appropriations	<u>99,682</u>	<u>115,258</u>	<u>115,258</u>	<u>123,670</u>
Outside Agencies				
Transportation Services				
GMTA Commuter Bus	8,333	8,333	6,833	8,333
Total Transportation Services	<u>8,333</u>	<u>8,333</u>	<u>6,833</u>	<u>8,333</u>
Social Services				
Central Vermont Adult Basic Edu	575	575	575	575
Central Vt Council on Aging	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,400
Central Vermont Home Health	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,200
Circle fka Battered Women's Svc	350	350	350	350
Family Center of Washington Cty	300	300	300	300
Friends of the Winooski	300	300	300	350
Good Beginnings	300	300	300	300
Green Mountain Transit	882	882	882	0
Green Up Vermont	100	100	100	100
Rural Fire Protection Task Forc	100	100	100	100
Onion River Food Shelf	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100
Our House	100	100	100	100
People's Health & Wellness	300	300	300	400
Twin Valley Seniors	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,250
Twinfield Mentoring Program	250	250	250	250
VT Assoc. for Blind & Visually	150	150	150	150
Vt Ctr for Independent Livin	150	150	150	150
VT Family Network	200	0	0	200
Washington Cty Youth Serv Bur	250	250	250	250
Winooski Natural Resources Cons	200	0	0	300
Total Social Services	<u>13,207</u>	<u>12,807</u>	<u>12,807</u>	<u>12,825</u>
Total Outside Appropriations	21,540	21,140	19,640	21,158

APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS

The following information is taken from the individual requests from these organizations. The full requests are posted on the Town's website. <https://marshfieldvt.gov>

Central Vermont Adult Basic Education Inc: Our mission is to provide free adult education and literacy instruction to adults age 16+, in Washington, Orange and Lamoille counties, and to engage the entire community in our students' efforts. In doing so, we create opportunities for jobs and further education.

Central Vermont Council on Aging: CVCOA is the primary agency serving older Vermonters aged 60 and over as well as their families and caregivers throughout the 54 towns of Central Vermont. We are a private nonprofit that assists these elders to remain independent for as long as possible. All services are made available to our clients at no charge, without regard to health, income or other resources.

Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice: CVHHH is a full service, not-for-profit Visiting Nurse Association committed to providing high quality, medically-necessary home health and hospice care to all Central Vermonters, regardless of their ability to pay. In addition, CVHHH promotes the general welfare of the citizens of central Vermont with health promotion and long term care services.

Circle: A small, community based organization dedicated to ending all forms of domestic and sexual violence. Circle provides services to all victims of domestic and sexual violence, regardless of gender, age, sexual orientation, religion, or ethnicity. Circle has always provided these necessary services at no cost.

Family Center of Washington County: This organization operates an Early Childhood Program serving children from 6 weeks to 5 years as a traditional early childhood program as well as a therapeutic program for children with special physical or behavioral health needs. Other services and programs include child care referral and financial assistance, outreach to new parents, family supportive housing services, home visiting, job development, and other programs including playgroups and parent education classes.

Friends of the Winooski: FOW is a small non-profit organization working with communities toward a clean, healthy, resilient Winooski watershed. Our Learn, Restore, and Paddle programs give residents access to priority information about their watershed, opportunities to plant trees along streams, collect water quality samples, develop solutions to local erosion problems, and enjoy paddling our scenic rivers. Marshfield is represented in our Winooski Headwaters Community Partnership, along with Cabot and Plainfield, identifying opportunities to focus on headwaters-specific challenges and solutions.

Good Beginnings: Our mission is to bring community to families and their babies. As part of our Postpartum Angel Family Support Program, trained volunteers visit families weekly to provide respite, community connections, and hands-on help during the postpartum period. We also provide peer support groups, early parenting workshops, and financial assistance with basic needs.

Green Up Vermont: Organizes, promotes, and mobilizes a statewide cleanup day of our roadsides and waterways, always on the first Saturday in May, called Green Up Day. We are committed to raising public awareness for a litter free environment and pride in our communities through educational components in schools year-round and have initiated additional efforts to involve more youth.

Onion River Food Shelf: Operates a food shelf in the Old Schoolhouse Common in Marshfield, open to residents of Marshfield, Cabot, Calais, East Montpelier, and Plainfield, open on Wednesdays.

OUR House of Central Vermont, Inc: We are a nonprofit Children's Advocacy Center and Special Investigations Unit located in Barre and serving all of Washington County. OUR House's mission is to provide a safe and supportive setting for child victims of physical and sexual abuse, their non-offending family members as well as adult survivors of sexual abuse. OUR House (which stands for One Unified Response) works very closely with the Dept for Children and Families, Law Enforcement, the State's Attorney's Office, CVMC and SACT along with other local organizations to ensure investigations whenever possible are conducted in a child friendly environment, with staff whom are trained in the area of trauma. We also offer therapy referral, case management, safety planning, training, and referral services to children and adults.

People's Health & Wellness Clinic: Their mission is to provide health care services and wellness education to uninsured and underinsured Vermonters. The clinic is sustained by dedicated volunteer practitioners, who provide an array of medical, mental health, oral health, bodywork, and other services. PHWC also provides comprehensive case management services.

Twin Valley Senior Center: TVSC offers the community of Marshfield plus surrounding towns a place for social gatherings and activities. It offers well balanced meals to attendees at the center. The center hosts many health related clinics and exercise programs, art classes, tax preparation and informative speakers on many topics. The center cooks, packages, and delivers meals to the homebound.

Twinfield Together Mentoring Program: The mission of the program is to provide all interested youth in our community an opportunity for a one-on-one friendship with a responsible, attentive and nurturing role model through a mentoring relationship. Twinfield Together supports three unique mentoring programs: community-based mentoring, *Everybody Wins!* mentoring and peer mentoring.

Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired: Our mission is to help Vermonters with visual impairments to be more independent, cultivate

adaptive skills, and improve their quality of life. We provide training, support grounds, and a summer camp for students.

Vermont Center for Independent Living: VCIL is a statewide, non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities. VCIL works to serve individuals who can benefit from our direct services as well as to educate and inform members of the community about disability related issues and independent living.

Vermont Family Network: Vermont Family Network is a state-wide organization whose mission is to empower and support all Vermont children, youth and families, especially those with special needs. Their program offers families a variety of services, trainings, parent matches, school meeting support, and a helpline. The Family Support Consultants are all experienced parents of special needs, allowing them to relate to and understand the unique needs of families dealing with the special needs of their children. Vermont Family Network will be a child's with special needs greatest advocate.

Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force: We help Vermont communities protect lives, property and natural resources by enhancing fire suppression resources. Our Program Manager helps local fire departments identify appropriate sites for dry hydrants and other rural water supply systems, design installations, and find financial support to support the costs of construction.

Washington County Youth Service Bureau/Boys & Girls Clubs: The Bureau's mission is to provide a wide range of innovative and effective programs that empower and enrich the lives of youth and families in Washington County, and to provide leadership and support to other youth programs throughout Vermont. We accomplish this through a variety of programs including: youth & family counseling; a program for runaway youth; a transitional living program for homeless youth; an adolescent substance abuse treatment program; a program supporting youth involved in foster care; a transitional living program for young men returning from jail; a teen center; a substance abuse prevention program; and a 24 hour on-call service. The Bureau also operates 4 statewide youth-focused coalitions.

Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District: WNRCD promotes the conservation, development, and wise use of lands, water, forest, and wildlife across the service area, WNRCD categorizes their work across agricultural assistance, forestland enhancement, urban conservation, and watershed stewardship. They provide the following services to all District residents, municipalities and schools: on-site technical assistance and homeowner consultations on resource concerns, workshops and conferences, low-cost native trees and shrubs, and planning/financial/facilitation assistance and technical oversight of clean water projects like riparian buffer plantings, stormwater remediation, or culvert upgrades for fish passage.

CV FIBER

CVFiber is a nonprofit municipal entity governed by volunteer delegates who are appointed by our 20-member Central Vermont towns. Our aim is to provide access to fast, dependable, and affordable Internet service, with the first priorities being those who are unserved or underserved.

CVFiber will provide homes with speeds ranging from 100 Mbps to 2 Gigs, and businesses with speeds ranging from 1 Gig to 10 Gigs. Speeds will always be symmetrical, for example, 100 Mbps download and 100 Mbps upload, for the best interactive experience for education, telemedicine, conference calls, business, gaming, and more. Providing rural Vermont with this level of service will enhance education, enable our workforce, create opportunities, and support the State's economy.

The 1,200-mile CVFiber community broadband network will cost an estimated \$60 million and take approximately three years to construct, provided funding, material, and labor are available. It is anticipated that Federal grants will fund 50% to 60% of the construction with the remainder funded through debt financing. CVFiber cannot receive town tax dollars and will support its ongoing operations with subscription revenues. Initial construction started in December 2022. CVFiber plans to construct up to 550 miles of its community broadband network in 2023.

To keep costs to subscribers down, 13 member towns have allocated \$833,000 of town American Rescue Plan Act funds to CVFiber. These funds are matched dollar-for-dollar by the Vermont Community Broadband Board (VCBB) for a total contribution of \$1.67 million. Town allocations are used within the town and directly benefit residents. The VCBB is extending the dollar-for-dollar match through May 2023, providing each of our member towns the opportunity to allocate up to \$100,000 for a total contribution of \$200,000. Please contact me for more information (jdiamantides@cvfiber.net). Thank you for your support.

By providing symmetrical high-speed broadband access, CVFiber and the other Vermont Communication Union Districts are closing the rural digital divide by providing future generations with capabilities that we cannot imagine. The education and work opportunities made available by symmetrical high-speed broadband access will be as transformational to rural Vermont today as electrification was in the mid-twentieth century. Connectivity is only the beginning. Please visit us at cvfiber.net.

Jerry Diamantides
Chair, CVFiber Governing Board

DESIGNATED FUNDS

ARPA Fund

Balance, January 1, 2022		182,793.27
ARPA Fund Received	182,879.46	
Transfer for School St Bridge	(20,962.65)	
Library Porch	(4,159.52)	
Public Works	(37,778.05)	
Picnic Shelter	(400.00)	
Balance, December 31, 2022		302,372.51

Bandstand Fund

Balance, January 1, 2022		1,273.72
Interest	3.32	
Replace Electrical Outlet	(319.96)	
Balance, December 31, 2022		957.08

Bridge Fund

Balance, January 1, 2022		112,901.27
Interest	(119.42)	
Budget Appropriation	3,500.00	
Bridge Grants	206,336.00	
ARPA Funds for School St Bridge	20,962.65	
School St Bridge	(343,580.50)	
Balance, December 31, 2022		0.00

Conservation Fund

Balance, January 1, 2022		12,702.66
Interest	47.83	
Sale of Marshfield Booklets	17.00	
Donation to Bee the Change	(100.00)	
Proceeds from Plant Sale	611.91	
Watershed Grant	2,022.00	
Watershed Grant Expenses	(1,742.65)	
Invasive Species Grant	275.00	
Invasive Species Grant Expenses	(275.00)	
Balance, December 31, 2022		13,558.75

Energy Fund

Balance, January 1, 2022		231.51
Interest	0.78	
Balance, December 31, 2022		232.29

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Engineering Fund

Balance, January 1, 2022		3,542.24
Interest	11.93	
Balance, December 31, 2022		3,554.17

Highway Equipment Fund

Balance, January 1, 2022		113,547.62
Interest	409.57	
Budget Appropriation	89,548.00	
Grants in Aid for Erosion Projects	12,100.00	
Principal Payment - Loader	(22,000.00)	
Interest Payment - Loader	(880.00)	
Principal Payment - 2022 Truck	(22,000.00)	
Interest Payment - 2022 Truck	(1,936.00)	
Principal Payment - 2020 Truck	(22,000.00)	
Interest Payment - 2020 Truck	(1,760.00)	
Principal Payment - 2018 truck	(15,000.00)	
Interest Payment - 2018 truck	(300.00)	
Balance, December 31, 2022		129,729.19

Fire Department Capital Equipment Fund

Balance, January 1, 2022		108,527.50
Interest, Bank Accounts	258.66	
Interest, Investments	415.00	
Budget Appropriation	15,000.00	
1937 Truck Refurbishment	(10,199.74)	
Brush Truck	(22,184.20)	
Radios	(2,260.44)	
Change in Market Value-Investments	(1,144.91)	
Balance, December 31, 2022		88,411.87

Fire Department Ed Duke Fund

Balance, January 1, 2022		15,050.02
Interest	47.22	
Donations to the Fund	1,050.00	
Dry Hydrant Grants	2,726.00	
Dry Hydrant Repairs	(3,365.37)	
Fire Station Addition Design	(1,069.00)	
Corporate Cup Sponsorship	(114.00)	
Balance, December 31, 2022		14,324.87

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Fire Department Building Fund		
Balance, January 1, 2022		19,843.80
Interest	74.54	
Budget Appropriation	<u>2,750.00</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2022		22,668.34
Martin Covered Bridge Fund		
Balance, January 1, 2022		8,087.72
Interest	20.95	
Maintenance of Grounds	(1,035.16)	
Mowing	<u>(840.00)</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2022		5,693.51
OSC Building Fund		
Balance, January 1, 2022		52,354.84
Interest	181.41	
Budget Appropriation	3,000.00	
Block Foundation Grant	3,000.00	
Picnic Tables	<u>(1,796.00)</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2022		56,740.25
Paving Fund		
Balance, January 1, 2022		72,465.36
Interest	160.79	
Budget Appropriation	5,000.00	
Paving Various Small Jobs	<u>(35,000.00)</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2022		42,626.15
Pet Control Fund		
Balance, January 1, 2022		13,406.81
Interest	47.32	
Surcharge on Dog Licenses	654.00	
Dog Impoundment Penalty	60.00	
Pound Fees	<u>(30.00)</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2022		14,138.13
Playground Fund		
Balance, January 1, 2022		9,116.20
Interest	32.14	
Budget Appropriation	600.00	
Donations	53.70	
Signs for Playground Fence	<u>(146.35)</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2022		9,655.69

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Reappraisal Fund

Balance, January 1, 2022		175,077.00
Interest	470.71	
State Appropriation	7,866.00	
Reappraisal Expenses	<u>(50,960.55)</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2022		132,453.16

Records Restoration

Balance, January 1, 2022		51,585.80
Interest	185.75	
Fees Collected	7,410.00	
Land Records Software	(3,060.00)	
Land Records Microfilm	<u>(79.80)</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2022		56,041.75

Recreation Fund

Balance, January 1, 2022		639.94
Interest	3.26	
Budget Appropriation	500.00	
Donations	130.00	
Ice Skating Rink Liner	<u>(1,237.50)</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2022		35.70

Stranahan Town Forest Fund

Balance, January 1, 2022		5,366.77
Interest	16.52	
Income from Sugaring and Haying, hal	1,192.57	
Signs for Parking Lot	(251.07)	
Wetland Crossing	<u>(1,585.84)</u>	
Balance, December 31, 2022		4,738.95

Total Designated Funds, December 31, 2022 **897,932.36**

Fire Dept Investment Account		12,635.23
Designated Funds in Bank Accounts		<u>885,297.13</u>
		897,932.36

DESIGNATED FUNDS POLICY

The Town of Marshfield has designated some town funds to be set aside for future projects. This designated fund balance is segregated into several categories.

The following categories are funded through transfers from the general fund, to be shown as individual line items in the town budget and approved by the voters:

- **Bridge Fund:** This money is used to pay for town highway bridge work.
- **Engineering Fund:** This money has been set aside to allow the town to hire an engineer if required for major development projects.
- **Highway Equipment Fund:** This money is used to buy plow trucks and other major pieces of highway equipment.
- **Fire Department Equipment Fund:** This money is used to replace fire trucks and other equipment for the fire department.
- **Fire Department Building Fund:** This money is used for capital improvements to the Fire Station.
- **Old Schoolhouse Common Building Fund:** This money is used for capital improvements to the Old Schoolhouse Common.
- **Paving Fund:** This money is used for town highway paving projects.
- **Reappraisal Fund:** This category is funded through a line item in the town budget and also by an appropriation from the State of Vermont. It is used for town-wide reappraisals.

The following categories are funded through a combination of transfers and fundraising:

- **Conservation Fund:** This category is funded through donations and proceeds from fundraising, and may also include a line item in the town budget. It will be used for future conservation projects.
- **Energy Fund:** This category is funded through donations and proceeds from fundraising, and may also include a line item in the town budget. It will be used for projects undertaken by the Marshfield Energy and Climate Change Committee.
- **Playground Fund:** This category is funded through donations and a transfer from the general fund. It is used for maintenance of the playground at the Old Schoolhouse Common, primarily for replacing

the woodchips under the playground equipment, and may be used to purchase other equipment in the future.

- **Recreation Fund:** This category is funded through donations and a transfer from the general fund. It is used to purchase recreation equipment, and was used in 2021 to refinish the basketball court at the Old Schoolhouse Common.
- **Stranahan Fund:** This category is funded by one-half of the revenue from the Stranahan Town Forest. It is used for Town Forest expenses. This fund will be capped at \$5,000.

The following categories of designated funds are either statutory or they are funded solely through donations:

- **Bandstand Fund:** This fund originated from donations that were raised to build the bandstand. It is used for maintenance of the bandstand.
- **Ed Duke Fund:** This category was established in memory of a Marshfield firefighter. It is funded through donations and used at the discretion of the fire department.
- **Martin Covered Bridge Fund:** This category is funded through donations and grants for the rehabilitation of the covered bridge and the creation of the surrounding park. It is used for maintenance and improvements of the bridge and park.
- **Pet Control Fund:** This category is funded through a surcharge on dog licenses, as allowed by statute, for the purpose of rabies control. It is used to pay for the dog officer and other animal control expenses.
- **Records Restoration Fund:** This category is funded by a portion of the recording fees that are received when land records are recorded at the town office. It is used for records restoration, preservation, and computerization.

Any remaining categories of designated funds result from grants that have been obtained for a specific purpose, and those funds are returned if unspent.

- **ARPA:** The American Rescue Plan funds are federal funds meant to help respond to COVID. Some of the funds have been used for public works purchases and for School Street Bridge. The Selectboard has not finalized plans for the remaining funds.

COMMUNITY GARDEN AND COMMUNITY SUPPER

2022 was another great year for the community garden. To start off the planting season in April Littlewood Farm in Plainfield donated a whole bed's worth of bell pepper plants. We had numerous delicious green peppers this season.

In June, Don Mitchell, who does the mowing at the Old Schoolhouse Commons (OSC), donated several yards of wood chips to be used around the garden beds. Local kids, Malcolm Campbell, Isabelle Farnham and Zayne Moshinski eagerly helped spread the wood chips making the task more fun and with beautiful results!

Anne Miller taught a tomato trellising workshop in mid June showing participants the difference between determinate and indeterminate varieties, different methods for trellising the vines and how to prune the tomato plants. She taught another workshop in August where participants learned about the parts of a flower, how they are pollinated and how to hand pollinate. This workshop was the first in a series of seed saving workshops. More workshops are being planned for this winter and spring so stay tuned.

This summer the local deer decided to start harvesting some plants for themselves! We were able to keep them at bay by covering the plants with netting. While this was successful at keeping the deer (and rabbits) away it may have sent the wrong message to folks thinking we didn't want anyone harvesting the vegetables. Perhaps next year we'll add some better signage to let everyone know they are welcome to reach under those nets to harvest. Along with the deer issue we also had a tomato hornworm issue. We have yet to have a successful tomato year at the garden but we will try again next year.

The community garden provided vegetables for both the Onion River Food Shelf and the Wednesday community suppers (6pm at the OSC). In 2023 the garden will plant foods that the suppers use most frequently such as garlic, onions, lettuce and other crops. In 2022, in addition to harvesting food every week for the food shelf, we encouraged folks to harvest directly from the garden. This way

the veggies are freshest and folks can take what they need anytime. Everyone is welcome to harvest vegetables during the growing season. Also, we have garden beds available for folks who want to grow their own plot.

This past June Wednesday night community suppers started up again! Lawrence Black was in charge of them for over 20 years but because the pandemic shut everything down these beloved suppers were ground to a halt. Lawrence decided not to continue them once things opened up. Several people missed these dinners and decided to form a committee in an effort to revive them. It now takes a whole committee plus several volunteers to do the work that Lawrence did! Connie and Lawrence have continued to be very generous in supporting the new version of community supper but we miss seeing them very much.

Please contact us at marshfieldcommunitygardens@gmail.com if you have questions about the community garden or community supper or would like to volunteer. We look forward to seeing you next summer!

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Marshfield Conservation Commission (MCC) has been in existence for 16 years. The Commission is composed of nine community members appointed by the Select Board. We meet monthly on the first Wednesday at 7 PM at Old Schoolhouse and via Zoom. The meetings are open to the public, and we welcome attendance by any interested community members. We participate in service activities on town land, lead field trips, and sponsor talks by local experts.

The primary goal of the Conservation Commission is to encourage community involvement in protecting and enhancing the town's natural resources. We are strictly non-regulatory and provide advisory information to the Select Board and other town boards.

Members: Taber Allison, Luke Boushee, Steve Fiske, Ed Jalbert, Bradley Materick (Treasurer & Facilitator), Anne Miller, Sara Norton, Bob Popp (Secretary) and Annie Reed.

The Marshfield Conservation Commission has been involved in the following activities in 2022.

Field Trips:

- Mother's Day Wildflower Walk at Stranahan held jointly with Stranahan Stewardship Com.
- Annual Bird Migration Walk at Stranahan Town Forest.

Tree and Shrub Sale:

- Organized and carried out the annual tree and shrub sale. Material was locally sourced wherever possible;
- Cabot Conservation Commission is now included as well as Plainfield CC.
- Surplus plant materials were planted at the Old Schoolhouse Common property;

Old Schoolhouse Common:

- Worked with Bee the Change to plant a pollinator garden behind OSC
- Plot was tilled, planted with cover crop and watered weekly throughout the summer
- Plot will be reseeded with pollinator plants in the Spring.

Town Natural Resource Inventory:

- Oversaw the town natural resource inventory including soliciting matching funds at Town Meeting, hiring contractors to undertake the inventory and contacting landowners of parcels warranting visits.
- Contractors visited 17 sites including the majority of those with high and medium priorities.
- Details will be available in a Final Report followed by a public presentation.

Stream Bioassessment:

- Successfully submitted a proposal to state for Watershed Grant that was used to sample Aquatic Macroinvertebrates and complete Community Assessments from six stream reaches from the Guernsey Brook, Nasmith Brook, and Marshfield Brook watersheds
- All stream reaches showed excellent or very-good biological integrity, meeting Class A or B1 water quality and aquatic life standards.

Water Quality Sampling:

- Nine streams in three towns were sampled including, Lye, Marshfield, Nasmith and Turtlehead Brooks in Marshfield. Samples were collected biweekly and analyzed for Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Chloride levels. All locations showed all three elements to be low, indicating very good water quality.

Other Activities:

- Assisted with management plan and trail work at Stranahan Town Forest.
- Successfully submitted a small grant for the purchase of two weed wrenches to control Non-native Invasive species on town properties.

ENERGY COMMITTEE

The Marshfield Energy and Climate Change Committee meets the first Monday of each month at 7:00pm in person and online. I hope you'll Join us for a meeting, all are welcome! Share an idea, help with a project, or just say hi. Our meeting location is the Old Schoolhouse Common, and by zoom.

Our goals are to help reduce our town's CO2 emissions; to help community members reduce their energy costs and CO2 emissions; to educate our community about climate solutions, and help educate others. Committee member interests often determine the projects we work on, while working towards the goal of reducing the already evident effects of climate change.

In 2022 we worked in the following areas:

- The committee stayed informed about federal and state monies from the COVID pandemic and the Inflation Reduction Act. Specifically any monies targeted to impact CO2 reduction programs in Vermont. Many Federal and State incentives are already planned, or rolling out in January of 2023, such as: EV (Electric Vehicle) incentives for new and used vehicles; workplace and home EV Charger incentives; weatherization funding; and more. Efficiency Vermont, and others, are expected to introduce many new programs in 2023.
- The committee continued monitoring the town's 3 solar trackers, located adjacent to the Town Garage and Old Schoolhouse common. The existing array of trackers is now 10 years old, and has produced nearly 250,000kWh. Payback is expected to be complete in 2025, matching the payback projections created in 2012 when it was installed.
- Research was conducted and presented to the Selectboard about feasible options to fully offset all of the Town's electrical use. Changes by the utility to billing of the existing trackers will take effect in early 2023. Once this change is understood further efforts will be made to move towards fully offsetting Marshfield's electrical use with Solar.
- A group of current and former Committee members are working to create a Marshfield based solar group that local residents can buy into called Upper Winooski Community Solar. While not affiliated with the committee, they have kept us informed of their

hard work. The committee's educational goals mean spreading the word about ways to get solar, without putting it on your land or home, while investing in our community. We applaud the effort, and can't wait to see what your work in 2023 brings.

- The committee helped to make connections to funding opportunities, and help reduce energy use, for Marshfield's Onion River Food shelf. Work in this area will continue into 2023 as we look to assist with ensuring efficiency of a new walk-in cooler.
- The committee is participating in the Old Schoolhouse Common Building Committee, with the goals of sharing information about incentives; looking for weatherization opportunities; and advising in other energy related areas, wherever we can help.
- The committee conducted research, and provided recommendations to Twinfield and the Caledonia Central Supervisory Union about Electric School buses (EV Bus). Thanks to the efforts of the Supervisory Union, school board, and personnel an EPA grant was awarded for the purchase of an EV Bus at Twinfield. The Committee will continue to offer technical guidance and support through the grant, procurement, and installation process, as helpful and requested.
- The committee offered EV rides during the Harvest Festival last fall. Numerous current and former committee members offered advice, answered questions, and shared information about EV's, incentives, and personal experiences.

Ongoing membership from Rich Phillips, Anne Miller, Wes Cate, and Ellen Keene, Nick Seifert and from new member Mike Xenakis, drove the work we completed. Thank you guys!

In 2023 the committee hopes to continue, or begin new involvement in a number of areas, including: Grant funding for an EV charging station at the OSC; climate and related educational programming; Weatherization and energy reduction efforts at the OSC; EV Bus grant support; implementing the Enhanced Energy Plan as an addenda to the Marshfield Town Plan; Marshfield Dam safety and planning initiatives; Increasing town solar energy production; and more!

VIRGINIA STRANAHAN MEMORIAL TOWN FOREST

The Stranahan Forest Stewardship Committee (SFSC), a seven person committee appointed by the Selectboard, is responsible for the day-to-day management of the 620-acre Stranahan Forest (SF), which is owned by the town. The Stranahan Forest is protected by a conservation easement held by the Vermont Land Trust and the VT Housing & Conservation Board. The Committee maintains trails, open spaces and historic sites, and develops new policies, procedures, budgets and plans for approval by the Select Board. Major decisions, including periodic management plan updates, require ultimate approval by the Selectboard. The Committee meets monthly; all meetings are open to the public. We typically meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month, at 5:30, in the Hap Hayward History Center, accessed through the Jaquith Library.

The Committee encourages people to visit the Stranahan Forest to enjoy its beautiful trails, woods, fields, cellar holes, wetlands, wildlife, and other natural features. The varied uses of the property include hunting, agriculture, sugaring, education, habitat and natural resource protection, historic preservation, and recreation. Hiking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, mountain biking, horseback-riding, and snowmobiling are available in our town forest along trails designated for the various means of travel. Find trail maps and information on the Town of Marshfield website or at the kiosks located in parking areas on Hollister Hill and Jake Martin Roads, as well as a Facebook page that is maintained by members of the SFSC committee (called "Friends of Stranahan Town Forest"). Please reach out to anyone on the Committee if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas related to the Stranahan Forest.

In 2022, we focused on the following:

- **Completing our update of the Stranahan Forest Management Plan**
 - We completed our draft of the updated plan in early 2022, held a public meeting to get input, made revisions, and then met with the Selectboard seeking approval. The Selectboard approved the plan in July. The updated plan, with extensive appendices, is available on the town's website. The plan essentially serves as a multi-year workplan for the Stewardship Committee; each year we will prioritize specific projects related to the goals and objectives in the plan, so that we have a realistic annual workplan to focus on.

- **Routine trail maintenance**
 - One of the key responsibilities of our Committee is to keep the existing 7 miles of trails in the Forest open and available for public use. Members of our group and other volunteers periodically clear trees and other obstacles from the trails, and do some brushhogging and mowing in the summer and fall. We also appreciate that frequent trail users often help with this task on their own. The three specific bike trails (Uncle Maple, Tapline and Molasses) are maintained by local

members of Riders of Plainfield-Marshfield (RIPM). Thanks to all the volunteers who help us keep all the trails open throughout the year.

- **Rebuild of the boardwalk on the Old Mill trail**
 - We held a successful volunteer work day on October 22, and completed a rebuild and significant upgrade of the boardwalk on the Old Mill trail. 16 volunteers worked together to bring the materials to the site, take apart the old, rotting boardwalk, and construct a much stronger (and longer) boardwalk over a wet area of the trail. We had enough people to also do some more routine trail maintenance elsewhere in the Forest, and to begin to move some rocks for a future improved small stream crossing.

- **Dogs in the Forest**
 - We know that many people who regularly visit the Forest bring their dogs with them. This year, we posted signs reminding dog owners to keep their dogs under their control at all times, and in sight. For some dogs, this could mean keeping them leashed. We have received a few complaints about aggressive dogs off-leash – please be sure that your dogs are in control at all times when you use the forest.

Events:

A local tracking group routinely uses the SF.

Our annual Mother’s Day spring wildflower walk, co-sponsored with the Marshfield Conservation Commission and Jaquith Library, was well-attended this year. Twenty people participated, including one couple driving all the way from Burlington.

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB):

Savannah Ferreira, forest health specialist at the Dept. of Forests, Parks, and Recreation, came out to our town forest last March and confirmed Emerald Ash Borer in some black and white ash on the edge of a hayfield at Stranahan Forest. More dead and dying ash were found at other sites in Marshfield during last summer’s Ecological Assessment of Marshfield. The Committee has contacted the Department staff to see if the Forest could be used as a biocontrol (wasp) release site.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stranahan Forest Stewardship Committee

Ellen Cooke, Brett Engstrom, Nancy Everhart, Douglas Glover, Patrick Pfeifer, Michael Sabourin, and Jenny Warshow

JAQUITH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Town Account

	Actual 2021	Budget 2022	Actual 2022	Budget 2023
Available, Jan. 1	21,017	21,017	21,017	21,013
Income				
Previous Year's Surplus	1,796	698	698	0
Town Appropriation	82,727	84,383	84,383	101,763
Total Fundraising	4,489	4,000	5,888	4,495
Dividends Cashed Out	3,700	7,577	7,230	0
Interest	8	11	23	18
Total Income	92,719	96,669	98,222	106,276
Expense				
COVID expenses	128	100	213	215
Deficit from previous year	0	0	0	0
Books	6,992	7,000	7,079	7,000
Magazines	220	150	193	155
Book Review Subscriptions	206	210	219	220
Amazon Prime	119	0	0	0
Computer Expenses	2,170	2,490	2,507	4,035
Telephone	924	900	931	950
Old Schoolhouse Common	12,840	12,840	12,840	13,735
Cleaning Service	30	0	378	1,040
Insurance	995	1,010	1,010	1,046
Library Equipment	0	0	0	0
Library Supply	861	782	934	1,030
Postage and Returns	919	853	858	1,060
Conference Fees	134	100	85	100
Transportation/Mileage	0	0	0	50
Finance Charge	37	40	53	50
Miscellaneous Expenses	104	0	47	50
Staff Expense				
Librarian	34,267	36,608	37,114	33,050
Children's Librarian	14,074	15,028	15,020	16,080
Regular Part-Time	0	0	0	8,840
Substitute	1,685	1,560	2,100	1,669
Custodian	739	780	390	0
Social Security	3,145	3,374	3,387	3,698
Medicare Expense	735	789	792	865
Retirement Expense	2,700	3,020	3,030	2,768
Health Insurance	7,996	9,035	9,047	8,570
Total Payroll Expenses	65,342	70,194	70,879	75,540
Total Expense	92,021	96,669	98,225	106,276
Surplus/Deficit	698	0	(4)	0
Town Fund Balance	21,715		21,013	
Applied to Next Year	(698)		0	
Available Dec. 31	21,017		21,013	

JAQUITH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Jaquith Account

	<u>Actual 2021</u>	<u>Actual 2022</u>
Jaquith Fund Balance, Jan. 1 (including investments)	129,079	145,217
Income		
Investment Income	16,169	(24,518)
Less Dividends Transferred	(3,700)	(7,230)
Grants	26,204	16,300
Donations	6,425	7,268
Conscience Can	50	79
Book Replacement	54	27
Book Sales	215	398
Total Income	45,418	(7,676)
Expenses		
Payroll	821	367
Books	291	724
Playgroup	0	146
After School Program	4,891	0
Programs	2,827	9,541
Program Supplies	585	1,396
Story Project	17,729	4,064
Other Donation/Grant Purchases	2,137	4,876
Total Expenses	29,280	21,115
Net Income/(Loss)	16,138	(28,790)
Jaquith Fund Balance, Dec. 31	145,217	116,427
Town Account Balance	21,715	21,013
Jaquith Account Balance	145,217	116,427
Total Library Funds	166,932	137,440
Cash on Hand	38	0
Checking	4,919	12,172
Savings	28,562	24,575
Paypal/Gift Cards	1,003	0
Prepayments	410	441
Investments	132,000	100,252
Total Library Funds	166,932	137,440

JAQUITH PUBLIC LIBRARY

A small-town library with big town offerings!

How did the Jaquith Public Library Get Its Name?

People are always asking **how the Jaquith Public Library got its name**. Here is a very brief history from the second Biennial Report of the Library Commission for the years 1897-1898 as recorded in Zula W. Mear's *History of the Jaquith Public Library Marshfield, Vermont*.

"The Marshfield Public Library was opened in November 1895, after receiving the \$ 100 gift of books from the State. It now numbers 152 volumes which had a circulation of 1,000 last year. **The town has recently been willed \$6,000 for a free public library by A. J. H. Jaquith**, and \$2,000 is to be used as soon as received, to purchase books and \$1,000 is to be placed in trust, the income to be used for the same purpose. By a vote of the town last March as soon as the above named funds come into possession of the town the books now composing the Public Library will be placed with the Jaquith money, and the whole will be known as the **J.H. Jaquith Free Public Library**. Librarian, Alvi T. Davis, Trustees, O. H. Smith, E. C. Pitkin, J. B. Pike, I. H. Edson and F. A. Thomas."

Zula Mears history also states "According to Pitkins' History of Marshfield, there had been a circulating library since before the Civil War, books with Circulating Library labels in them have been found in the attic of the present library. One book has "Marshfield Library February 11, 1850 inscribed on the fly leaf which verifies the statement."

The Jaquith Library Today:

Now we are in the year 2023. Time flies, doesn't it? Whether we say that there has been a Marshfield Library since 1850 and for 173 years, or since 1895 and for 128 years, we can all agree we have come a long way from the 1800's! Our name was shortened to Jaquith Public Library and our budget has increased a hundred-fold. **Now the library is also a community center**, offering **programs for adult and youth, concerts, art gallery showings, author readings, the Hap Hayward History Center, meeting space for groups, movies viewings and expanded Wi-Fi** inside the library and outside, all the way to the bandstand.

Now, in addition to books, we lend **movies, audio books, laptops, DVD players, Chromebooks, puzzles, games, snow shoes and STEM Maker Space Boxes**. We also have **Marshfield Story Project** equipment available at the library for projects at home or on location: **laptop and scanner** for scanning photos and uploading, **home interview kit** so you can record oral histories, a **digital camera with high quality video** for capturing your own memories or podcasts. **People can access all kinds of services from their homes:** e-books and audiobooks online through **Libby** and **Green Mountain Overdrive**, **VT Online Library**, **Universal Class** and **Consumer Reports**. You can find links to our online services by going to our website: www.jaquithpubliclibrary.org.

Program offerings at the Jaquith Library:

Now that COVID restrictions have been lifted we are back to **Second Wednesday Movies** upstairs in the library, inside programs for youth like **Magic the Gathering and Crafting, Art & Author** events, **Chapters in History Book Group** and the **Monday Book Group**. Both book groups are open to new members and the books are provided by the library.

We still hold many activities outside such as the **Pumpkin Walk, Annual Harvest Festival, Winter Celebration, Summer Concerts and Summer Reading Programs**, and our weekly **Story time/Playgroup** (inside during inclement weather), and seasonal **Storywalk** along the recreation path.

NEW PROGRAMS: Game Night after **Community Supper, Arts & Crafts with Middle School Youth, Selfcare for Teens**, and an **Afterschool Nature Based Enrichment Program**.

Planning and organizing all of these events for the community takes a lot of time and effort. We have decided to **hire a 10 hour a week Program Coordinator in 2023** to help support volunteer training, recruitment and events.

Gratitude:

We continue to be so grateful for the volunteers who give their time to help with shelving, working the circulation desk, processing books, helping with computers, planning and providing programs, working tirelessly at events and many other unseen tasks. Thank you to the artists and authors who shared their creativity with us. Thanks to the Library Trustees and the Friends for their endless work. Thank you to all the generous donors who gave financial support for programming and our annual appeal. This library could not function as fully as it does without the selfless gifts of time, enthusiasm, energy, resources and love of the library that these countless individuals give. **Thank you!**

Become a Member of the Friends Organizing Committee:

The Friends Organizing Committee is integral to the funding of the high quality and variety of programs we all enjoy. The Friends also help at events such as the Harvest Festival, Summer Concert Series and book & bake sales. Call or email the library to join and become a member of a great team of volunteers.

Library Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. & 3 to 6 p.m.; Wednesdays: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 7 p.m.; Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Sundays: closed

Library Trustee Meetings: second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. by Zoom and in person

Contact: 802-426-3581

jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com

www.jaquithpubliclibrary.org

CEMETERY OPERATING FUND

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
Balance, Jan. 1	27,265	28,910
Income		
Interest	1,307	1,391
Appropriation	10,500	10,500
Burials	4,600	4,600
Total Income	<u>16,407</u>	<u>16,491</u>
Operating Expenses		
Operating Expenses		
Sexton	800	2,500
Burials	3,200	3,200
Flags	230	350
Capital Repairs	0	1,850
Cemetery Mowing	10,500	10,500
Insurance	32	22
Green Burial Site	0	2,592
Total Operating Expenses	<u>14,762</u>	<u>21,014</u>
Total Expense	14,762	21,014
Net Income	1,645	(4,523)
Balance, Dec. 31	28,910	24,387

CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE FUND

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
Balance, Jan. 1	153,039	161,432
Income		
Investment Income		
Mutual Fund Dividends	7,657	6,884
Change in Market Value	(682)	(23,837)
Capital Gains	668	0
Total Investment Income	<u>7,642</u>	<u>(16,953)</u>
Lot Purchases	<u>750</u>	<u>2,250</u>
Total Income	8,392	(14,703)
Balance, Dec. 31	161,432	146,728

BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
Certificates of Deposit	0	0
In General Fund Account	37,328	35,055
Bonds/Government Securities	24,477	21,154
Mutual Funds	128,537	114,906
Total Assets	<u>190,341</u>	<u>171,115</u>
Perpetual Care Fund Balance	161,432	146,728
Operating Fund Balance	28,910	24,387
Total Both Funds	<u>190,341</u>	<u>171,115</u>

CEMETERY RULES AND REGULATIONS

In 2021, the Selectboard updated the Cemetery Ordinance, and adopted separate Cemetery Rules and Regulations that may be revised from time to time. The Rules and Regulations cover the following:

- I. **Interments and disinterments**
Sets the rules for interments, and requires approval of the Cemetery Sexton or Cemetery Commission for all interment activities.
- II. **Memorial Work**
Sets rules for memorials. The Cemetery Sexton must approve all work and lay out all grave corner markers and approve location of monuments.
- III. **Foundations**
Sets rules for foundation size and date of installation. The Cemetery Sexton must oversee the work.
- IV. **Memorials, mausoleums, and vaults**
Requires Cemetery Sexton's permission before starting work. Prohibits damage to other cemetery monuments, trees and property.
- V. **Lot plantings and decorations**
Sets rules for what may be used decorate cemetery lots, and what happens to items left.
- VI. **Endowment Care**
Explains the Town's obligations regarding perpetual care.
- VII. **Fees**
 1. Sexton services overseeing installation of foundations and monuments: \$20.00 per hour
 2. Installation of corner markers: \$20.00 per hour
 3. Cost of grave lots: \$500.00 for Marshfield residents, \$750.00 for non-residents
 4. Excavation, back fill and reseeded: \$700.00 for full burials, \$400.00 for cremation burials
 5. Transfer of lots between family members or from owner back to town: \$50, deeds to be prepared by the Town.

For more information about the cemetery rules or to arrange work in the cemetery or to purchase a lot, contact Sexton Joe Mangan at 426-3121.

The full text of the rules may be obtained from the Town Clerk or viewed on the Town website: <https://marshfieldvt.gov/ordinances>

SUMMARY OF CIVIL ORDINANCES ADOPTED as of December 31, 2022

#1 Burning and Disposal of Solid Waste

Prohibits dumping and burning of solid waste and requires the removal and proper disposal of hazardous fluids (antifreeze, oil, gasoline) and the battery from junked or long unused vehicles.

#2 Regulating Cemetery Operations (revised in 2021**)**

Covers cemetery operations, cemetery closure to all persons at night, vandalism, driving over graves, etc. Updated cemetery rules were adopted at the same time.

#3 Regulating use of External Facilities - Old Schoolhouse Common and other town lands and buildings

Restricts the use of the Town land and facilities surrounding the Old Schoolhouse Common, prohibits smoking on the Old Schoolhouse Common property, limits motor vehicles to parking areas and graveled driveways, prohibits alcoholic beverages, and makes it unlawful to deface or destroy Town property.

#4 Regulating Domestic Pets (revised in 2021**)**

Brings together in one document the licensing, rabies, vicious dog, nuisance and disturbance control requirements.

#5 Road Naming and Road Addressing

Authorizes the Selectboard to name all public and private roads in Marshfield, establishes a numbering system unique for each dwelling, and requires the numbers to be displayed at each dwelling.

#6 Traffic Ordinance (revised in 2021**)**

Sets speed limits on Town roads.

#7 Livestock Ordinance (enacted in 2021**)**

Prohibits Running at Large, authorizes impoundment and other remedies and penalties

The complete text of these ordinances can be reviewed online at <https://marshfieldvt.gov/ordinances> or obtained from the Town Clerk's Office.

MARSHFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The ***Marshfield Story Project***, a 2-year grant-funded program to preserve Marshfield's community memory with oral history video recordings and a new digital archive, ended in February of 2022, but the ***Marshfield Story Project can live on!*** Part of the funding provided new, modern equipment for the library, including a **scanner, digital camera, voice recorder and a Home Interview Kit**. You can use this equipment to record your own history, make a podcast, or scan old photos to preserve them for the future.

For project details, visit the ***Marshfield Story Project*** page at <https://www.jaquithpubliclibrary.org/marshfield-story-project.html>

The Historical Society, with the Jaquith Public Library, continues a reading- discussion series called **Chapters in History**. Titles include *Martin Van Buren and the American Political System* by Donald B. Cole, *William Henry Harrison: The American Presidents Series, The 9th President, 1841* by Gail Collins, *John Tyler: The American Presidents Series: The 10th President (1841-1845)* by Gary May and *Democracy in America* (Volumes I & Volume II) by Alexis de Tocqueville.

Books are available for loan from the library. Participants meet in the Jaquith Public Library on second Saturdays, at 2 o'clock. This series is open and free to all those interested in discussing the incredible history of this country.

The website, www.genealogybank.com is still available at no charge for your genealogy research. Access this site using janetN@myfairpoint.net with password, "jaquith." It has local newspaper articles from long ago in Marshfield as well as genealogical information.

The Society is always looking for new participants and has resumed meeting in the Hap Hayward History Center upstairs in the Jaquith Public Library . If you would like to attend a meeting or join the Society please contact Susan Green at the Jaquith Library: 802-426-3581 or jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com. We continue to welcome your stories, old photos or mystery artifacts from Marshfield's past. Drop them off at Jaquith Public Library, labeled for the Historical Society.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

	<u>2021 Actual</u>	<u>2022 Actual</u>	<u>2023 Budget</u>
Checking Balance, Jan. 1	3,698	3,906	4,223
Income			
Gross Sales			
Book Sales	150	193	
Other Sales	54	120	
Appropriation	6,455	6,455	6,907
Donations	12		
Interest Income	1	4	
Total Income	<u>6,672</u>	<u>6,772</u>	<u>6,907</u>
Expense			
Rent	6,455	6,455	6,907
Book Printing			
Other Expenses	8		
Total Expense	<u>6,463</u>	<u>6,455</u>	<u>6,907</u>
Net Income	209	317	
Checking Balance, Dec. 31	3,906	4,223	4,223

DOGS

Marshfield had 311 dogs registered in 2019 and only 230 in 2021 and 233 in 2022. Please don't let the pandemic be an excuse for not being a responsible dog owner. You can register through the mail, and veterinarians are still providing rabies vaccinations. Please send in your dog's rabies certificate and fee today.

Dog licenses for the current year are available beginning on January 2. The deadline for licensing is April 1. Puppies must be licensed when they are six months old. You may license your dog via the mail or using our secure drop box if you send or drop off the following:

- Current rabies certificate (if we already have one on file, we will mail yours back to you). A dog's first rabies shot is good for one year; subsequent shots are good for three years.
- Spay/neuter certificate if applicable
- A description of the dog, including name, breed, size, color, and age
- A check for the appropriate fee, made payable to the Town of Marshfield

The 2023 dog license fees are as follows:

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Late</u>	New Dog After <u>Oct. 1</u>
Neutered/spayed dog or wolf-hybrid:			
License	4.00	6.00	2.00
Town Pet Control Surcharge	3.00	3.00	3.00
State Spay/Neuter Surcharge	4.00	4.00	4.00
State Rabies Control Surcharge	<u>1.00</u>	<u>1.00</u>	<u>1.00</u>
Total	12.00	14.00	10.00
Unneutered/Unspayed dog or wolf-hybrid:			
License	8.00	12.00	4.00
Town Pet Control Surcharge	3.00	3.00	3.00
State Spay/Neuter Surcharge	4.00	4.00	4.00
State Rabies Control Surcharge	<u>1.00</u>	<u>1.00</u>	<u>1.00</u>
Total	16.00	20.00	12.00

Dog Licenses Issued in 2022

Male	22
Male Neutered	85
Female	27
Female Spayed	<u>99</u>
Total	233

2023 RABIES CLINICS

Hardwick Veterinary Clinic will have rabies clinics every Saturday in March, from 8:30 to 9:30, for rabies vaccines only, \$25 each. Call 472-8400 for more information. Tractor Supply in Berlin has monthly rabies clinics. Call them at 223-2246 for more information.

DOG ORDINANCE

Marshfield's Civil Ordinance #4, Regulating Domestic Pets, was updated in 2021.

The ordinance prohibits an owner from allowing their dog to run at large or be a nuisance to others. Marshfield does not have a leash law but dogs are required to be under their owner's control at all times.

Dogs that are not licensed, or dogs that violate the ordinance may be picked up by Marshfield's Dog Officer. Violations that may cause your dog to be impounded include excessive barking, damage to property, scattering refuse, harassing pedestrians, cyclists, or passersby, worrying or attacking livestock or other pets, obstructing traffic, or threatening.

If your dog is impounded, you will be required to pay an impoundment fee and boarding fees before getting your dog back. In addition, the town ordinance allows the Selectboard to impose penalties. If your dog is found to be threatening or attacking livestock, the state statute requires the Selectboard to see that the dog is destroyed.

If you have a complaint about a dog, you should report the issue to the Animal Control Officer at ACO@marshfieldvt.gov.

Full text of the ordinance is available on the town's website, <http://www.marshfieldvt.gov/>, or at the Town Clerk's office.

NORTHEAST KINGDOM WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

The NEKWMD finished 2022 by processing less recycling compared to 2021 – 2,579 tons in 2022 compared to 2,952 tons in 2021. While most commodities showed decreases of about 40 tons, compostable material led the decline in commodities with a drop of 182 tons compared to 2021. Scrap metal and battery tonnages were nearly identical in 2021 and 2022. Recycling markets were very strong for nearly all of 2022, but took a dramatic drop in the last quarter.

The District ended 2022 with a surplus of \$5,604.53. Revenues in 2022 were 6.63% above projections, while expenses were 5.98% above projections. The District continued to benefit from the after effects of the pandemic through elevated commodity prices. Surcharge revenue was the primary driver for strong revenues in 2022. Some fees used to generate revenues will increase headed into 2023. The reintroduction of employer sponsored health insurance and an inflation rate of over 7% are the drivers of these increases in 2023. The per capita assessment will increase from \$0.84/person to \$1.06/person, and the surcharge will increase a dollar from \$24.99/ton to \$25.99/ton. Hauling fees and fees for tire management will remain unchanged in 2023.

There were no additions or subtractions to the District membership in 2022. We continue to serve the largest geographical area and largest number of towns (49) in the State. Our population served is 3rd in the state behind only the Chittenden Solid Waste District and the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District.

The NEKWMD is entering 2022 with a proposed budget of \$846,615.50 – an increase of 4.6% compared to 2021.

The NEKWMD was staffed by nine full-time and two part-time employees in 2022. Each of the member Towns is entitled to representation by at least one Supervisor. The Board of Supervisors is the principal authority over the NEKWMD and the primary means of contact with the member towns. The Board of Supervisors meets monthly with the District's Executive Director to set the direction of NEKWMD policy.

Since the surcharge on trash is based on the amount of waste produced, members have a clear opportunity to control their waste management costs. Costs can decrease as waste generation rates decrease and recycling rates increase.

We would like to express our appreciation to our able staff for their continuing commitment to our mission. The 47,600 residents of 49 Towns throughout the Northeast Kingdom can be assured that the NEKWMD will continue to address their waste management concerns in a timely and environmentally sound fashion.

NEKWMD Executive Committee

WARNING – TOWN MEETING 2023

The legal voters of the Town of Marshfield, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Twinfield Union School in said Town on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 9:00 E.S.T. in the forenoon to act upon the following articles from the floor.

Article 1. To elect the following Town Officers:

Moderator	1 year
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Article 2. To see if the Town will change the date of its annual town meeting to the third day preceding the first Tuesday in March pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2640(b).

Article 3. To see if the Town will elect all officers, adopt all budget articles, and vote on all public questions by Australian ballot pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2680(d).

Article 4. To elect the following Town Officers:

Town Clerk	1 year
Town Treasurer	1 year
Selectperson	3 years
Selectperson	1 year
Auditor	3 years
Lister	3 years
Lister	2 years
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	1 year
Constable	1 year
Budget Committee Member	5 years
Library Trustee	3 years

Article 5. To elect School Directors to serve on the Union District Board, as follows:

School Director	3 years
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Article 6. To hear the reports of the Town Officers.

Article 7. To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$1,390,994 as the Selectboard Budget. Said amount made up as follows: \$901,901 to be raised in taxes; \$326,541 from other income; and \$162,552 previous year surplus to be applied. Said budget amount to be allocated as follows:

\$371,084 for the payment of indebtedness and general expenses (\$215,949 from taxes and surplus, and \$155,135 from other income);

\$804,996 for the support of highways and bridges (\$690,599 from taxes and surplus, and \$114,397 from other income);
 \$78,623 in support of the Marshfield Fire Department (all from taxes and surplus);
 \$51,194 in support of Emergency Services (all from taxes and surplus);
 \$18,618 in support of the Planning and Zoning Department (\$15,538 from taxes and surplus, \$3,080 from permit fees);
 \$1,800 in support of the Marshfield Recreation Committee (all from taxes and surplus);
 \$64,678 in support of the Old Schoolhouse Common (\$21,331 from building lease/rentals and other income, \$32,598 allocated from other town departments, \$10,749 from taxes and surplus).

Article 8. To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$101,763 in support of the Jaquith Public Library.

Article 9. To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$6,907 in support of the Marshfield Historical Society.

Article 10. To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$15,000 for the support, improvement and repair of the cemeteries.

Article 11. To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$8,333 as its share of the cost of commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into Montpelier. This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service, which will also be supported by appropriations from other towns, State and Federal funds, and rider fares.

Article 12. Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$ 12,825 to the following service agencies, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 2691?

- \$575 to Central Vermont Adult Basic Education for free adult education and literacy, including high school credentialing.
- \$ 1,400 to Central VT Council on Aging for supporting elders and family caregivers.
- \$ 3,200 to Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice for visiting nurse services.
- \$ 350 to Circle fka Battered Women's Services for support of direct services to victims of domestic and sexual violence.
- \$ 300 to Family Center of Washington County for delivering a variety of services to families, many of whom may be particularly vulnerable.
- \$ 350 to the Friends of the Winooski for water quality monitoring, tree planting, and ecological restoration.

- \$ 300 to Good Beginnings for free access to support, respite, and connections to community resources during the transition to parenthood.
- \$ 100 to Green Up Vermont for supplies and promotional materials in support of Green Up Day.
- \$ 1,100 to Onion River Food Shelf for food for residents.
- \$ 100 to Our House for support and advocacy for child victims of physical and sexual abuse.
- \$ 400 to Peoples Health and Wellness for providing free medical, mental health and oral health care to uninsured Central Vermonters.
- \$ 3,250 to Twin Valley Senior Center for providing social, emotional and physical wellbeing to our senior population.
- \$ 250 to Twinfield Together Mentoring Program for providing youth in our community an opportunity for a one-on-one friendship with a responsible adult.
- \$ 150 to VT Assoc. for Blind & Visually Impaired for vision rehabilitation services for blind and visually impaired Marshfield residents.
- \$ 150 to VT Center for Independent Living for programs and services to enhance the lives of people with disabilities.
- \$ 200 to VT Family Network for giving support to families of special needs children in Marshfield.
- \$ 100 to VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force for helping to develop water supplies for fire protection.
- \$ 250 to Washington County Youth Services Bureau for prevention, intervention, and support for youth and families in Washington County.
- \$ 300 to Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District for giving assistance to residents for conservation, development and wise use of lands, water, forest, and wildlife in Marshfield.

- Article 13.**
- a. To see if the Town will authorize the Treasurer to collect current taxes;
 - b. To see if the Town will vote to have the Town taxes paid by Friday, August 18, 2023, by physical delivery to the Treasurer

on or before the close of business, with interest of one percent per month or fraction thereof to be paid by delinquent taxpayers; and

- c. To see if the Town will vote to have the School taxes paid by Friday, November 17, 2023, by physical delivery to the Treasurer on or before the close of business, with interest of one percent per month or fraction thereof to be paid by delinquent taxpayers.

Article 14. To transact any other business proper to come before said meeting.

Dated at Marshfield, VT this 19th day of January, 2023

Richard Baker

Michele Gonzales

Christopher Martin

Marshfield, Vermont, January 19, 2023 I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Warning for the Annual Town Meeting for the year 2023 and that it was recorded before posting.

Attest, Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

NOTICE TO VOTERS

BEFORE ELECTION DAY:

CHECKLIST POSTED at Clerks Office by February 5, 2023. If your name is not on the checklist, then you must register to vote. **SAMPLE BALLOTS** will be posted by February 25, 2023.

HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE: There is no deadline to register to vote. You will be able to register to vote on the day of the election. You can register prior by visiting the town clerk's office or going online to **olvr.vermont.gov**.

REQUEST EARLY or ABSENTEE BALLOTS: You or a family member can request early or absentee ballots at any time during the year of the election in person, in writing, by telephone, email, or online at **mvp.vermont.gov**. The latest you can request ballots for the March 7, 2023 Election is noon on March 6, 2023. (Any other person authorized by you who is not a family member must apply in writing or in person for a ballot for you.)

WAYS TO VOTE YOUR EARLY BALLOT:

- You may vote in the town clerk's office before the deadline.
- Voter may take his or her ballot(s) out of the clerk's office and return in same manner as if the ballots were received by mail.
- Have ballot mailed to you, and mail or deliver it back to the clerk's office before Election Day or to the polling place before 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.
- If you are sick or disabled before Election Day, ask the town clerk to have two justices of the peace bring a ballot to you at your home. (Ballots can be delivered on any of the eight days preceding the day of the election or on the day of election.)

Town Web Address: <https://marshfieldvt.gov>

Town Clerk's hours: Tues. - Friday 8:00-12:00 & 12:30-4:00
Telephone: 426-3305 email: clerk@marshfieldvt.gov

Zoning and Listing Office: 426-3045 (ext. 1 Listers, ext. 2 Zoning)

SELECTBOARD:	Richard Baker	522-1020
	Michele Gonzales	426-2030
	Christopher Martin	454-8441

ROAD FOREMAN:	Tim Ksepka	426-3631
	Town Garage	426-3752

LIBRARY:	Susan Green	426-3581
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VILLAGE CLERK:	Meg Eberhardt	426-3393
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VILLAGE TRUSTEES:	Ian Covey	498-5624
	Art Gilman, President	426-3272
	Tamara McKee	426-3200
	Marie Olson-Badeau	426-3865

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS: Reach the ACO team via email: ACO@marshfieldvt.gov

Jaquith Library Trustees meet the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Marshfield Conservation Commission meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Marshfield Development Review Board meets the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. when required.

Marshfield Energy and Climate Change Committee meets the first Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Marshfield Fire Department meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. (at the Marshfield Fire Station).

Marshfield Historical Society meets the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Marshfield Planning Commission meets the first and third Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Marshfield Selectboard meets the first and third Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.

Recreation Committee meets the last Thursday of February, May, August and November at 7:00 p.m.

Stranahan Stewardship Committee meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.

Town Clerk's Office
122 School Street, Room 1
Marshfield, VT 05658
<https://marshfieldvt.gov>

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Please Bring This Report to Town Meeting on March 7, 2023
Need a Ride? Call one of your Selectboard members listed inside this cover.