

Annual Report
Of the Town Officers of the Town of
Norton, Vermont



OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

I pledge allegiance to the Flag
of the United States of America
and to the Republic for which it stands
one nation under God, indivisible
with liberty and justice for all.

For the fiscal year ending

June 30, 2021

Including report of the School Directors

The Town of Norton

Would like to Thank

The Colebrook Copy Center

For doing such a great job on our

Town Reports.

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TOWN OFFICERS

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>EXPIRES</u>
Moderator	Stephane Thibault	2022
Select Board	Franklin Henry	2022
	Christopher Fletcher	2023
	Daniel Keenan	2024
Town Clerk	Gina Vigneault	2024
Town Treasurer	Gina Vigneault	2024
Auditors	Jody Gordon	2022
	Sandra Rhodes	2023
	Monica Vigneault**	2024
Listers	David Rhodes	2022
	Gina Vigneault	2023
	Jody Gordon**	2024
	Christina Duffy*	
1 st Constable	Elias Emerson**	2022
2 nd Constable	Roland Vigneault	2022
Delinquent Tax Collector	Gina Vigneault	2023
Road Commissioner	Christopher Fletcher**	2022
	Steven Duffy*	
Justices of the Peace	Betsy Fontaine	2024
	Jody Gordon	2024
	Rosario Poulin	2024
	Daniel Sbardella	2024
	Kenn Stransky	2024

APPOINTED BY SELECT BOARD

Development Review Board	Daniel Keenan		2022
	Gina Vigneault		2023
	Jody Gordon		2023
	Tonilyn Fletcher		2024
	Cheryl Shepherd*		2024
Planning Commission	Daniel Keenan		2022
	Gina Vigneault		2022
	Jody Gordon		2023
	Tonilyn Fletcher		2024
	Suzanne Isabelle		2024
Emergency Management Officer	Gina Vigneault	802- 822-5205	2022
Town Health Officer	Carolyn Royce	802-673-0910	
Notary Public	Betsy Fontaine	802-822-5562	
	Gina Vigneault	802-822-5205	
State Fire Warden	Roland Vigneault	802-822-5205	
Zoning Administrator	Christina Duffy	802-723-4455	
E911 Coordinator	Albert Anderson	802-822-9912	

*Appointed
 ** Resigned

GENERAL INFORMATION

Town Clerk

Gina Vigneault

Betsy Fontaine, Assistant Town Clerk

Telephone: 802-822-9935

Fax: 802-822-9965

Email: townofnorton@myfairpoint.net or townofnorton@gmail.com

Office Hours

Tuesday 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Thursday 10:00 AM – Noon

Friday 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Last Saturday of each month 10:00 AM – Noon

Or by appointment

Town Treasurer

Gina Vigneault

Betsy Fontaine, Assistant Town Treasurer

Telephone: 802-822-9935

Fax: 802-822-9965

Office Hours

Same as above

Scheduled Meetings

Select Board: Date and time of regular meetings will be determined at the organizational meeting which will be held after Town Meeting.

Development Review Board: No scheduled meeting, only as posted.

Planning Commission: No scheduled meeting, only as posted.

NOTICE

TOWN OF NORTON DOG LICENSE

Licenses for all dogs 3 months old and over, are due on or before April 1, 2022.

Rabies Certificates must be presented and also certificates for spayed females and altered males must be presented. THIS IS THE LAW!

After April 1, 2022 an increase will be added for late fees.

Vermont Statute 20 Section 4003 states that, "A person may not obtain a dog license for a dog three months of age or older, unless he delivers to the Town Clerk a certificate or a certified copy thereof signed by a duly licensed veterinarian stating that the dog has within thirty months been vaccinated against rabies with a vaccine approved by the Department of Agriculture, and unless the person certifies that the dog described in the certificate or copy is the dog to be licensed..."

FEES

Females/Males	\$13.00	After April 1st	\$17.00
Spayed Females	9.00		13.00
Altered Males	9.00		13.00

If your dog is not licensed, your dog may be destroyed and you may be fined up to \$500.00.

TOWN MEETING WARNING

The legal voters of the Town of Norton, Vermont are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Norton Town Office on Monday, the 28th day of February 2022 at 7 p.m., to transact the following business.

Town Business

ARTICLE 1:

To elect a moderator.

ARTICLE 2:

To elect a Select Board Member for a term of three years to replace Franklin Henry, whose term expires.

ARTICLE 3:

To elect an Auditor for a term of three years to replace Jody Gordon, whose term expires.

ARTICLE 4:

To elect an Auditor for a term of two years to replace Monica Vigneault, who resigned.

ARTICLE 5:

To elect a Lister for a term of three years to replace David Rhodes, whose term expires.

ARTICLE 6:

To elect a Lister for a term of two years to replace Christina Duffy, who replaced Jody Gordon, who resigned.

ARTICLE 7:

To elect a Road Commissioner to a term of one year to replace Steven Duffy, who replaced Christopher Fletcher, who resigned.

ARTICLE 8:

To elect a First Constable to a term of one year to replace Elias Emerson, who resigned.

ARTICLE 9:

To elect a Second Constable to a term of one year to replace Roland Vigneault, whose term expires.

ARTICLE 10:

Shall the Town vote to adopt a January 1 through December 31 calendar year, effective for the calendar year beginning January 1, 2024 as provided by 24 V.S.A § 1683(c)?

ARTICLE 11:

Shall the town authorize integrated licensees in town pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 863?
“Integrated licensee” means a person licensed by the state Cannabis Control Board to engage in the activities of a cultivator, wholesaler, product manufacturer, retailer, and testing laboratory in accordance with state law.

ARTICLE 12:

Shall the town authorize cannabis retailers in town pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 863?
“Cannabis Retailer” means a person licensed by the state Board to sell cannabis and cannabis products to adults 21 years of age and older for off-site consumption.

ARTICLE 13:

To vote if the taxpayers will pay their taxes in two equal installments to the Town Treasurer until September 30, 2022 no later than 5 pm and March 31, 2023 no later than 5 pm when they become delinquent?

ARTICLE 14:

Shall the voters of the Town of Norton raise and appropriate the sum of \$3488.00 with revisions, if any, for the following agencies?

Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging	\$ 300.00
Orleans Essex Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice, Inc	\$1,500.00
Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc	\$ 338.00
Island Pond Public Library	\$ 100.00
Rural Community Transportation	\$ 300.00
Northeast Kingdom Learning Services	\$ 250.00
NorthWoods Stewardship Center	\$ 250.00
VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force	\$ 100.00
North Country Chamber of Commerce	\$ 100.00
Vermont Family Network	\$ 250.00

ARTICLE 15:

To vote if the Town will adopt the following budgets:

Subtotal Town Administration:	\$ 53,050.00
Subtotal General Government:	\$110,107.00
Subtotal Waste Mgmt Operation Only	\$ 16,493.82
Subtotal Waste Haul/Disposal Only	<u>\$ 9,868.00</u>
Total General Fund:	<u>\$189,518.82</u>
Total Highway Fund:	<u>\$ 21,790.60</u>
TOTAL BUDGET	<u>\$211,309.42</u>

ARTICLE 16:

To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to apply for grants and to accept and expend grants or gifts for the use and benefit of the Town?

ARTICLE 17:

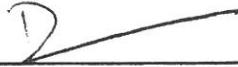
To transact any other non-binding business proper to be brought before said meeting.

ARTICLE 18:
To adjourn.

Dated at Norton, Vermont this 20th day of January 2022.



Christopher Fletcher, Select Board Chair



Daniel Keenan



Franklin Henry

Select Board of Norton, VT

LISTER'S REPORT

As you know the town has been conducting a town-wide reappraisal, all properties have had their initial evaluations completed and property information is currently available online, via the following link: <https://www.nemrc.info/Norton/>, using the personalized code from the postcard that was sent to all property owners in Norton. The reassessment team is currently completing the valuation process. When the valuation is complete, currently estimated for early-April, letters will be sent to residents who have any changes in appraisal. There will be a pre-grievance period should there be any discrepancies in property information. Following the pre-grievance period there will be opportunity for formal grievance. Although we expect that appraisals will go up, given the current trend in the housing market, we are hopeful that the reappraisal will ensure that all property values are fair and accurate.

The Lister's are continually updating and verifying the town parcel records. Annually, we check on the progress of all building permits that were issued during that year. We revisit the properties that have permits that had not been completed 100%, in prior years. This is an ongoing process of data collection and verification.

In order to have accurate data in our files and to arrive at accurate values we need your continued assistance. If you have not submitted, or your current contact information has changed, please contact us with the following information (current mailing address, phone number we can best reach you at, and current email address). Please send this information to nortonlisters@gmail.com or call the Town Office at 1-802-822-9935. We may be visiting your property this year or have questions for you, so it is imperative that this information be current.

Please remember, if you have questions or concerns it is always best to submit them in writing. The quickest way would be via email, as it is checked daily. Otherwise, you can submit it by postal mail to Norton Listers, PO Box 33, Norton, Vt. 05907.

Thank you, everyone, for working with us.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina Vigneault
David Rhodes
Christina Duffy

TYPICAL PROCEDURE USING ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER

- a. The Moderator reads the article: **"Shall the Town give \$2,000 to the ice rink for their youth hockey program?"**
- b. A voter raises his or her hand to be **recognized** (called on). The Moderator recognizes the voter and the voter stands up and makes a motion to adopt the article: **"I move the article."**
- c. The Moderator asks if there is a "second to the motion" (another voter who wants to discuss and vote on the article): **"Do we have a second to the motion?"**
- d. A second voter "seconds" the motion: **"I second the motion."** If there is no second, the article is "passed over" (not discussed or voted on.)
- e. After the "second" the Moderator says, "It has been moved and seconded that we...." and restates the motion in order to place it before the assembly. The Moderator then asks for any discussion on the motion: **"Would anyone like to begin discussion on the motion?"**
- f. Voters raise their hands to be recognized by the Moderator. When a person is called on, he or she speaks to the Moderator. Voters may make statements in support of or against the proposal. This discussion is called **debating the motion**. At any time, a voter can move to close the debate. A motion to cut off debate needs a three-fourths majority to pass. The Moderator ensures that everyone who wants to speak has a turn before anyone is allowed to speak a second time. This prevents the debate from getting personal, and makes sure everyone has an equal opportunity to participate.
- g. A voter may move to amend the article: **"I move to amend the article by reducing the proposed amount to \$1,500."** An amendment can be rejected by the Moderator (ruled **out of order**) if it is not **germane** (relevant) or if it is **hostile to** (against) the article. For example, an amendment that proposes to take the \$2,000 for the ice rink and use it instead for repairs on the town pool would be rejected as hostile.
- h. After an amendment is made, the Moderator asks for a second, and if there is one, the Moderator will see if people want to discuss the amendment. At the end of discussion there will be a vote, first on the amendment, and then, if discussion is complete, there will be a vote on the original motion, as amended.

- i. Each article on the warning can only have one amendment at a time, and each amendment to the article can only have one amendment to the amendment at a time. The votes go in reverse order.
- j. There are three ways for the town meeting to vote on an article:
 1. For a **Voice vote** the Moderator will say, "**All in favor indicate by saying Yea,**" followed by, "**All against signify by saying Nay.**"
 2. If the Moderator cannot tell the outcome of the voice vote he or she can ask for a "**hand count**" (**All in favor of the motion, please raise your hand.**)
 3. If seven voters move to **divide the assembly**, the motion is voted by **paper ballot**: "**I move to divide the assembly.**" The Moderator asks "**Are there six more voters who 'second' this motion?**" If so, paper is passed out to all voters and they indicate their vote by writing yes or no. The votes are usually counted by the clerk and **board of civil authority** (local officials who help run the election) and are then reported to the Moderator.

No matter which voting method is used, a voter must be present to vote at town meeting. A person cannot go home early and ask a friend or family member to cast his vote for him.

- k. After the vote is announced, the Moderator moves to the next article on the agenda by reading it to the assembly. If a voter interrupts this reading by moving to reconsider the prior vote, the Moderator must stop his reading and ask if there is a second to the motion to reconsider. The meeting may only reconsider a vote once before going to the next item on the agenda.

Auditor's Report

We have examined the reports for the Town of Norton. To the best of our knowledge the reports are accurate. A deposit of \$0.26 was made June 30, 2021, as previously suggested to clear, and balance the report for the 2021/2022 fiscal year. We preformed monthly reconciliations of all bank accounts, the Grand List, taxes, tax penalties, interest (billed & collected) and ledgers.

We would like to thank all the Town Officers for their time and dedication for the past year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sandra Rhodes
Jody Gordon

**TOWN OF NORTON GENERAL FUND
2020-2021 EXPENSES AND 2021-2022 BUDGET
2022 - 2023 PROPOSED BUDGET**

	<u>2020/21</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2020/21Actual</u> <u>Expenditures</u>	<u>2021/22</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2022/23 Proposed</u> <u>Budget</u>
TOWN ADMINISTRATION				
Town Treasurer	7,175.00	7,626.01	8,000.00	10,000.00
Town Clerk	8,712.50	4,694.71	10,000.00	10,000.00
Assistant Town Clerk/Asst. Treasurer	8,266.62	8,664.50	10,000.00	11,000.00
Select Board	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00
Listers	2,496.00	1,703.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
Reappraisal	1,093.00	0.00	1,100.00	1,100.00
Lister Education	750.00	0.00	750.00	750.00
Auditors	2,912.00	1,612.57	3,000.00	3,000.00
Auditors Education	250.00	0.00	250.00	250.00
Health Officer	50.00	50.00	100.00	100.00
Zoning Administrator	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	3,000.00
Election Workers	2,043.00	1,895.29	1,000.00	2,400.00
Janitor	850.00	565.63	850.00	1,000.00
Animal Control Officer	150.00	91.25	150.00	150.00
Planning Commission	50.00	0.00	50.00	500.00
Development Review Board	50.00	0.00	50.00	500.00
Emergency Management Officer	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
Forest Fire Warden	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
Tax Collector's Fees	500.00	1,592.81	500.00	500.00
FICA/MEDI Expenses	3,000.00	2,493.61	3,500.00	3,800.00
Total Town Administration	\$42,048.12	\$34,689.38	\$45,500.00	\$53,050.00
GENERAL GOVERNMENT				
Insurance	4,300.00	3,460.46	4,450.00	4,450.00
Workmen's Comp.	225.00	154.15	225.00	225.00
Voted Contributions	2,768.00	2,768.00	3,638.00	3,488.00
UCVH Emergency Services	550.00	550.00	550.00	550.00
45th Parallel	13,407.15	15,239.94	13,407.15	20,000.00
Northern Borders Dispatch	5,397.24	5,397.24	5,945.41	6,000.00
Beecher Falls Fire Dept.	5,775.00	5,775.00	5,775.00	5,775.00
Police Protection	300.00	0.00	300.00	300.00
County Tax	10,100.00	9,907.20	10,100.00	11,000.00
VLCT Dues & VMCTA Dues	1,326.00	1,326.00	1,326.00	1,919.00
Town Officer's Conferences	600.00	0.00	600.00	600.00
Town Officer's Mileage	250.00	43.12	500.00	500.00
NVDA	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
Town Reports	700.00	545.00	700.00	700.00
Street Lights	2,781.00	2,741.16	2,781.00	2,600.00
Telephone	1,500.00	1,609.32	1,500.00	1,750.00
Postage	1,000.00	1,028.85	1,000.00	1,100.00
Office Supplies, Repairs Equipment	3,000.00	2,176.37	3,000.00	1,000.00
Auditors Expense	200.00	0.00	200.00	200.00
Land Record Supplies	200.00	2.50	200.00	200.00
Land Records Microfilm	250.00	0.00	250.00	250.00
Legal Notices & Fees	150.00	37.50	150.00	150.00
Lister's Expenses & Education	850.00	74.80	850.00	150.00
Dog Licenses	275.00	297.35	275.00	300.00
Animal Control	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00

**TOWN OF NORTON GENERAL FUND
2020-2021 EXPENSES AND 2021-2022 BUDGET
2022 - 2023 PROPOSED BUDGET**

	<u>2020/21</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2020/21Actual</u> <u>Expenditures</u>	<u>2021/22</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2022/23 Proposed</u> <u>Budget</u>
Marriage Licenses	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
Town Office Heat	3,000.00	1,980.55	3,000.00	3,000.00
Town Office Electricity	800.00	578.13	800.00	800.00
Grounds Maintenance & Supplies	1,500.00	1,634.63	6,500.00	6,500.00
Snow Removal	1,300.00	700.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Green Up Vermont	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
Certified Public Audit	250.00	0.00	250.00	250.00
Lawyer/Attorney	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
NEMRC	5,000.00	5,079.20	5,250.00	5,250.00
Lister Map Updates	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Overpayment of Taxes	0.00	878.28	0.00	0.00
Building Maintenance	5,000.00	22,758.80	10,000.00	20,000.00
Town Garage	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Town Garage Electricity	400.00	899.15	400.00	400.00
Generator	350.00	252.51	350.00	350.00
Misc.	100.00	1,257.64	100.00	100.00
Flags & Banners, etc	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Rainy Day Fund	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Total General Government	\$81,354.39	\$94,914.42	\$93,622.56	\$110,107.00
WASTE MANAGEMENT				
Recycling Labor	7,800.00	6,610.00	7,800.00	8,000.00
Building Maintenance Labor	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grounds Maintenance Labor	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FICA / Medi Expenses	596.70	505.67	596.70	650.00
Insurance & Workmen's Comp	1,248.00	874.00	1,248.00	1,300.00
Bulky Items Removal	2,010.00	580.00	2,010.00	2,010.00
Building Repair Maintenance	150.00	0.00	150.00	150.00
Grounds Maintenance	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
Recycling Supplies	200.00	45.00	200.00	200.00
Electricity	900.00	905.73	1,000.00	1,000.00
Snow Removal	1,300.00	700.00	1,300.00	1,300.00
Dump Closure Escrow	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
Equipment & Supplies	450.00	0.00	450.00	450.00
Container Rental (Porta Potty)	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00
NEKWMD Per Capita	152.10	152.10	152.10	143.82
Total Waste Management	\$16,096.80	\$11,562.50	\$16,196.80	\$16,493.82
Rubbish Removal	3,480.00	3,480.00	3,480.00	3,480.00
Tipping Fees	2,500.00	2,393.16	2,500.00	2,500.00
Franchise Tax	500.00	272.70	500.00	500.00
NEKWMD Surcharge	1369.00	1,212.46	1369.00	1369.00
NEKWMD Surcharge-E waste, Haz, etc	200.00	49.00	200.00	200.00
Trash Bags	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Coos County Dues	1418.00	1,418.00	1450.00	1819.00
Total Hauling Expenses	\$9,467.00	\$8,825.32	\$9,499.00	\$9,868.00
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$148,966.31	\$149,991.62	\$164,848.36	\$189,518.82

**TOWN OF NORTON GENERAL FUND
2020-2021 EXPENSES AND 2021-2022 BUDGET
2022 - 2023 PROPOSED BUDGET**

	<u>2020/21</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2020/21 Actual</u> <u>Expenditures</u>	<u>2021/22</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>2022/23 Proposed</u> <u>Budget</u>
APPROPRIATIONS				
Council on Aging	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
VNA & Hospice	1500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1500.00
Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.	338.00	338.00	338.00	338.00
Island Pond Public Library	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Rural Community Transportation	330.00	330.00	0.00	300.00
Northeast Kingdom Learning Services	0.00	0.00	200.00	250.00
NorthWoods Stewartship Center	0.00	0.00	250.00	250.00
VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
North Country Chamber of Commerce	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Orleans County Fair Association	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00
Vermont Family Network	0.00	0.00	250.00	250.00
Total Appropriations	\$2,768.00	\$2,768.00	\$3,638.00	\$3,488.00

NON BUDGET ITEMS

School Allocation	\$215,429.00
State of VT Treasurer-School	\$245,628.69
Total Non Budget Items	\$461,057.69

GRAND TOTAL 2020/2021 EXPENSES

Gina M. Vigneault
Town of Norton, Treasurer

TOWN OF NORTON - HIGHWAY FUND
 2020/2021 EXPENSES AND 2021/2022 BUDGET
 2022/2023 PROPOSED BUDGET

	2020/21 Budget	2020/21 Actual Expenditures	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Proposed Budget
Insurance & Workmen's Comp.	450.00	325.89	450.00	450.00
Mowing	1,500.00	960.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Emergency Road Repair	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Winter Maintenance	400.00	0.00	400.00	400.00
Road Signs	200.00	0.00	200.00	200.00
Contracted Winter Maintenance	5,000.00	2,135.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Grading-Gravel & Trucking	8,000.00	4,102.50	8,000.00	11,000.00
Better Roads	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MRGP Administrative Fee	60.00	0.00	60.00	60.00
MRGP Annual Fee	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
MRGP Application/Processing Fee	100.00	240.00	100.00	250.00
Road Commissioner Stipend	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00
FICA/MEDI	30.60		30.60	30.60
TOTAL	\$23,640.60	\$8,663.39	\$18,640.60	\$21,790.60

**TREASURER'S REPORT
 HIGHWAY FUND**

Cash Balance 07/01/2020 \$ 23,156.17

Receipts

Allocation of Taxes	21,744.66
State Aid	1,957.86
Overweight Permits	90.00
Total Receipts	\$ 23,792.52

Expenses

Orders Paid	8,663.39
Total Expenses	8,663.39

Balance 06/30/2021 **\$ 38,285.30**

Gina M. Vigneault, Treasurer

TOWN OF NORTON
TREASURER'S REPORT
GENERAL FUND 2020/21
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

Cash Balance 07/01/20 \$ 372,433.87

RECEIPTS

Property Tax	567,584.78
Delinquent Taxes	35,548.55
Delinquent Tax Interest	3,194.95
Delinquent Tax Fees	1,603.13
Copies	897.00
Public Record Fees	3,520.00
Land Record Fees	1,260.00
Bank Interest	453.82
Building Permits	995.00
Dog Licenses	573.00
Liquor Licenses	185.00
Railroad Tax	2,104.55
Pilot Program	28,779.00
Current Use	11,572.00
Grant Money (CTCL)	5,000.00
Reappraisal Monies	2,688.50
UTG Recycling Rent	5,400.00
Trash Bags	9,330.00
Refunds (VLCT, Snow Blasters, Amazon, Antivirus)	780.58
Highway Funds	2,047.86
Historical Society	20.00
Misc.	<u>94.29</u>

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$ 683,632.01

TOTAL FUNDS \$ 1,056,065.88

EXPENSES

General Fund Orders	611,049.31
Highway Fund Orders	<u>8,663.39</u>

TOTAL EXPENSES 619,712.70

Ending Cash Balance 06/30/2020 \$ 436,353.18

TOTAL

*This balance includes monies for:

Audit Reserve Fund	\$ 5,750.00
Building Maintenance Reserve Fund	\$ 3,285.20
General Reserve Fund	\$ 30,095.59
Lister Education Reserve Fund	\$ 3,138.45
Historical Society Reserve Funds	\$ 801.20
Highway Emergency Repairs	\$ 11,676.00
Highway Reserve Fund	\$ 22,471.43
Old Town Cemetery Fund	\$ 3,091.41
Preservation Grant	\$ 1,993.38
Rainy Day Fund	\$ 25,000.00
Reappraisal Reserve Fund	\$ 47,890.02
Land Records Microfilm	\$ 402.70
Land Records Supply	\$ 4,133.68
MRGP Road Permit Fund	\$ 1,740.00
SUB-TOTAL	\$ 161,469.06
Tax Credits	\$ 675.69
Highway Fund Balance 06/30/21	\$ 14,872.65
Waste Management Fund Balance 6/30/21	\$ 9,590.34
Sub-Total	<u>\$ 186,607.74</u>

TOTAL

GENERAL FUND BALANCE

Gina M. Vigneault, Treasurer

RESERVE FUND ACCOUNTS 2020/2021

AUDIT RESERVE FUND

Starting Balance 07/01/2020	\$5,500.00
Approved at Town Meeting March 2021	250.00
Account Expenditures	<u>0.00</u>
Account Balance as of 06/30/2021	\$ 5,750.00

BUILDING MAINTENANCE RESERVE FUND

Starting Balance 07/01/2020	\$1,044.00
Approved at Town Meeting March 2021	5,000.00
Account Expenditures	<u>2,758.80</u>
Account Balance as of 06/30/2021	\$ 3,285.20

GENERAL RESERVE FUND

Account Balance as of 07/01/2012	\$ 40,095.59
Account Expenditures (roof)	<u>10,000.00</u>
Account Balance as of 06/30/2021	\$ 30,095.59

HIGHWAY EMERGENCY REPAIRS

Account Balance as of Special Town Meeting 07/01/19	\$ 7,676.00
Approved at Town Meeting March 2020	2,000.00
Approved at Town Meeting March 2021	2,000.00
Account Expenditures	<u>0.00</u>
Account Balance as of 06/30/2021	\$ 11,676.00

HIGHWAY RESERVE FUND

Account Balance as of 07/01/2020	\$ 22,471.43
Account Expenditures	<u>0.00</u>
Account Balance as of 07/01/2021	\$ 22,471.43

HISTORICAL SOCIETY RESERVE FUND

Starting Balance 07/01/2020	\$ 781.20
Revenue from 2020/2021	<u>20.00</u>
Account Balance as of 06/30/2021	\$ 801.20

LAND RECORDS MICROFILM

Account Balance as of 07/01/2020	\$ 152.70
Approved at Town Meeting March 2021	\$ 250.00
Account Balance as of 06/30/2021	\$ 402.70

LAND RECORDS SUPPLY

Account Balance as of 07/01/20	\$ 2,673.68
Approved at Town Meeting March 2021	\$ 200.00
Revenue from 2020/2021	<u>\$ 1,260.00</u>
Account Balance as of 06/30/21	\$ 4,133.68

LISTER EDUCATION RESERVE FUND

Account Balance as of 07/01/2020	\$ 3,138.45
Account Expenditures	0.00
Account Balance as of 06/30/2021	\$ 3,138.45

MRGP ROAD PERMIT FUND

Account Balance as of 07/01/2020	\$ 1,820.00
Deposited from 2020/21 Budget	560.00
Deposited from 2020/21 Budget	100.00
Account Expenditures	<u>740.00</u>
Account Balance as of 06/30/2021	\$ 1,740.00

OLD TOWN CEMETERY RESERVE FUND

Account Balance as of 07/01/2020	\$ 3,091.41
Account Expenditures	<u>0.00</u>
Account Balance as of 06/30/21	\$ 3,091.41

RAINY DAY FUND

Account Balance as of 07/01/20	\$30,000.00
Deposits from 2020/2021 Budget	5,000.00
Account Expenditures (roof)	10,000.00
Account Balance as of 06/30/21	\$25,000.00

REAPPRAISAL RESERVE FUND

Account Balance as of 07/01/2020	\$ 45,201.52
State Payments	<u>2,688.50</u>
Account Balance as of 06/30/2021	\$ 47,890.02

GRANT ACCOUNTS

PRESERVATION TRUST GRANT

Preservation Trust Grant as of 07/01/20	\$ 1,993.38
Account Expenditures	<u>0.00</u>
Account Balance as of 06/30/21	\$ 1,993.38

SAVINGS AND CD'S 2020/2021

DUMP CLOSURE SAVINGS

CD# 3107000502

Starting Balance: 07/01/2020	\$758.82
Interest	<u>11.77</u>

Ending Balance: 07/10/2021 **\$770.59**

DUMP CLOSURE SAVINGS

Savings # 1107601156

Starting Balance: 07/01/2020	\$1,054.63
Deposits	50.00
Interest	<u>1.05</u>

Ending Balance: 06/30/2021 **\$1,105.68**

**TOWN OF NORTON
STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED
From the 2020 Grand List**

Tax Rate:

Non-Homestead	1.7328
Homestead	1.3356

Non-Homestead Education	245,646.00 x 1.7328	425,655.44
Homestead Education	64,991.96 x 1.3356	86,803.28
Recycling	310,637.96 x 0.0400	12,425.52
Municipal Highway	310,637.96 x 0.0700	21,744.66
Municipal General	310,637.96 x 0.3500	108,722.28

Note: The Non-Homestead figure is different by -.05 due to miscalculation within the NEMRC System.
The Homestead figure is different by -.02 due to miscalculation within the NEMRC System
The Municipal figure is off by + \$1.01 due to a miscalculation within the NEMRC System.

TOTAL TAX BILL **\$ 655,351.18**

Taxes Assessed and Billed

COLLECTIONS

Property Tax	579,754.26
HS-122 State Payments	52,898.31
Delinquent Taxes to Collector	21,144.64
Refunds	878.28
Credits	675.69

Total Taxes Accounted For: **\$655,351.18**

Tax Collector's Report 2020

2018 Delinquent Taxes Collected	\$ 421.86
2019 Delinquent Taxes Collected	\$ 12,820.05
Uncollected 2019 Delinquent Taxes	
Name Withheld	\$ 388.28
2020 Delinquent Taxes Collected	\$ 15,696.82
Uncollected 2020 Delinquent Taxes	
Caffery	
*	
Guisbert, Gonzalo	
Guisbert, Gonzalo	
*	
Knights, Robert	
Lienau, Mark	
*	
Roy, Jenny & Chantal	
*	
*	
*	
	\$ 5,447.82

* Paid before December 31, 2021

BALANCE OF TOTAL COLLECTED TAXES	\$ 28,938.73
BALANCE OF TOTAL UNCOLLECTED TAXES	\$ 5,836.10

Gina M. Vigneault, Delinquent Tax Collector
Town of Norton, VT
December 31, 2021

Select Board Report

I hope this is reaching everyone in a happy and healthy state as the Covid 19 is still hindering normal life. Please follow all precautions and stay safe.

We have a few projects completed this year at the Town Office:

We had the entire roof replaced. It was a priority as all the old shingles were falling off. They replaced all the shingles and removed the non-working antennas that were up on the roof.

Also, we had the asphalt recoated. The cracks were too bad to just fill. Gray's Paving recoated and Frank's Line Striping painted the lines to stay in compliance with our park and ride that we have there. These expenditures will appear in next year's town report.

As you already have seen, the Select Board hired NEMRC to reevaluate the entire town. We had to complete this in the next couple years per the State of Vermont. NEMRC was in Canaan doing a reevaluation for them and offered a discount if we took them on while they were local. All properties have been visited and we appreciate all the assistance in meeting with them.

Town meeting is also coming up. Please join us to vote for your fellow Norton residents who are running for positions within the town.

Also, this year we would like to propose a return to a calendar year. We feel this would make it easier for the voters to understand the town report and expenditures. A calendar year would also help the Town Clerks as this is a busy time of year for them preparing tax bills.

Christopher Fletcher

Daniel Keenan

Franklin Henry

Vital Statistics

2020-2021

Traditionally, Vital Statistics (Births, Deaths, Burials, Marriages, and Civil Unions) were printed in our Town Report each year. New Federal regulations (Intelligence Reform Law and the Real ID Act) are expected to be issued this year and one of the areas that will be particularly affected is accessibility of vital records. These regulations will result in a centralized vital records system, more stringent protocols for obtaining certified copies and a tracking system for those who request certified copies. States will also be required to implement new security standards regarding accessibility to birth and death certificates.

The Vermont Department of Health began phasing in new regulations for acquisition of birth and death certificates beginning in 2007. However, with fraud and identity theft on the increase and for the protection of the public, we have changed our traditional report this year. We are including statistical information only. This information will only be marriages, births, deaths, and burials that actually took place in Norton.

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please feel free to call the Town Office.

Gina Vigneault, Town Clerk

Norton Vital Statistics

2020-2021

Marriages	0
Births	0
Deaths	2
Burials	1

2021
ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
NEK CHOICE SCHOOL DISTRICT



INFORMATIONAL MEETING NOTICE
Monday, February 21, 2022 at 6:00 PM
Essex North Supervisory Union Office
5 Park Street, Canaan, VT
Call in Remotely with Phone Number 1-312-626-6799
Zoom Meeting ID: 841 3000 9555 Passcode: 731487

Our mission of the NEK Choice School District is to acknowledge each student's individuality and provide school choice to help ensure the most rewarding and successful educational experience and environment.

Bloomfield, Brunswick, East Haven, Granby, Guildhall, Kirby, Lemington, Maidstone, Norton, Victory

NEK CHOICE SCHOOL DISTRICT WARNING

The legal voters of NEK Choice School District are hereby duly notified and warned to meet at their respective individual voting locations below, to vote for Articles One (1) through Four (4) by Australian Ballot on Tuesday, March 1, 2022, with the polls open from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

- Town of Brunswick: Brunswick Community Office Building
- Town of Bloomfield: Bloomfield Town Hall
- Town of East Haven: East Haven Community Building
- Town of Granby: Granby Town Office
- Town of Guildhall: Guildhall Town Office
- Town of Kirby: Kirby Town Office
- Town of Lemington: Lemington Town House
- Town of Maidstone: Maidstone Town Office
- Town of Norton: Norton Town Office
- Town of Victory: Victory Town Office

ARTICLE 1. Shall the voters of NEK Choice School District authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money in anticipation to pay tuition expenses? (Australian Ballot)

ARTICLE 2. Shall the voters of NEK Choice School District authorize the Board of School Directors to withdraw from the reserve fund in order to pay unanticipated tuition expenses? (Australian Ballot)

ARTICLE 3. Shall the voters of the NEK Choice School District approve the Board of Directors to expend \$5,814,523.00 which is the amount the School Board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$20,285 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 16.8% higher than for the current year. (Australian Ballot)

ARTICLE 4. To elect all School District Officers, as required by law. (Australian Ballot)

Given unto our hands this 20th day of January 2022.

NEK Choice School District Board Chair



Miles Etter

NEK Choice School District Message from the Board Chair

It has been an interesting year for NEK Choice School District. Students returned to their schools and adjusted to the many challenges that Covid presents. We are familiar with the changes and stressors students have encountered, how families continue to juggle their life responsibilities, and how schools are stretched to meet the expanded needs of their students. It is a draining period of time we are in. Patience, Positivity and Appreciation practiced daily will help contribute to better results.

Our student population has increased in spite of some students leaving the district and several students shifting to home schooling. This presented more tracking for the office, but after 5 years of operation, they have improved the process greatly. We have established good relationships with the 36 schools our students attend, and we have had consistent leadership and staff which has helped immensely.

Our Board, which is moving into a 6th year, has been fortunate to see 8 members continue to serve their terms since the inaugural meeting. Other members are working on their 2nd year, and I hope they will stay committed. I hope and trust that we will see new, interested individuals look to take on a school board role as long-serving members decide to retire.

Karen, our Superintendent, has put together information to inform you of estimated tax rates. Our budgets have been good in comparison to projections presented in the Articles of Agreement. The CLA decrease, due to house and land sales, has impacted towns throughout the state and this has been brought to the legislators' attention. The legislators have been working to find a way to help offset this in order to help taxpayers. It is always helpful when town citizens reach out to their representatives in the legislature and express the concerns the boards have presented. To help yourselves – get involved, and share your concerns.

Our Annual Meeting will offer the opportunity to participate at both an in-person site in Canaan and a remote site. This coming year, we also plan to seek out as many student stories as possible. We'd like to share challenges, successes, and accomplishments – from during school and after graduation. If you are so inclined and inspired, please send your child's story to your School Board member or to the Superintendent's office. Thanks for the opportunity to serve your children!

Remember – if you have any questions or concerns, please contact your school board member or the Superintendent's office. We are more than happy to help.

Respectfully,



Miles Etter

NEK Choice School District Chair

**NEK School Choice School District
Report of the Superintendent**



Dear Families and Community Members,

As I reflect on this past year, it is easy to begin listing all the challenges we have faced over the past two years in education. It would be just as easy to highlight all the sacrifices and efforts it has taken to keep our schools open and our children safe in what is now our third school year impacted by COVID-19. Despite these challenges and sacrifices, administrators, teachers, staff members, students, and caregivers have all come together to meet this unprecedented time in our lives. Vacations have been postponed, plans have been canceled, and protocols - whether we agree with them or not - have been followed. In short, you've done whatever has been needed on a day-to-day basis to protect not only your own families, but every family in our district. I could not be more proud and more grateful to serve the children and families of the NEK Choice School District.

Our overall enrollment has increased from the prior school year, even with several transitions to home study and families moving out of our district. We are currently working with 36 schools to ensure residencies are verified, tuition payments are made timely and support services are being provided based on needs for the 312 children in our NEK Choice communities. Our Director of Student Services, Jennifer Lawcewicz and Associate Director of Student Services, Beth Lemnah have continued to streamline contractual agreements for student services working collaboratively with 21 of the 36 schools our students currently attend.

As it relates to the budget, there are still many moving targets in the current legislative session related to our estimated equalized per pupil costs including the final Tax Commissioners yield, the use of prior year surplus from the education fund, potential changes to the funding formula related to the UVM Weighting Study Report and the ACT173 Special Education block grant. Based on our projections for the FY2023 budget, we anticipate a 16.8% rise in our projected equalized per pupil cost to \$20,285. Our total expenditures less offsetting revenues account for the educational spending request of \$5,814,523 which calculates our NEK Choice Homestead Union Tax Rate for the school district at \$1.5680, which is an increase of \$.0360 cents from the prior year.

Under our Act46 Articles of Agreement, we no longer receive any incentives and/or throttles limiting community taxes from increasing or decreasing by 5%. Although, some communities will be impacted significantly by their town's Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) and grand list outcomes on re-appraisals, comparatively the projected tax rates shared in the 2018 community merger vote presentation are lower than previously anticipated.

Towns	2018 ACT46 Tax Rate Projections for FY2023	Current Tax Rate Projections for FY2023
Bloomfield	\$1.8698	\$1.4797
Brunswick	\$2.1043	\$1.7840
East Haven	\$1.9577	\$1.6702
Granby	\$1.9638	\$1.6090
Guildhall	\$1.8930	\$1.6424
Kirby	\$2.0541	\$1.6605
Lemington	\$1.9453	\$1.5732
Maidstone	\$1.8862	\$1.7883
Norton	\$2.1051	\$1.8298
Victory	\$1.9378	\$1.6371

If you would like more information or have questions or concerns pertaining to the budgets or educational needs of your children, feel free to contact me by email at kconroy@ensvt.org, phone 802-266-3330 ext. 202, or visit our website at <http://www.ensvt.org/NEK-Choice>.

Please join us at our Annual Informational Meeting on Monday, February 21st at the Essex North Supervisory Union Office located at 5 Park Street in Canaan, connect remotely via Zoom Meeting Id: 841 3000 9555 Passcode: 731487 at 6:00PM or join us by phone (312) 626-6799. I look forward to continuing to be a strong fiscal agent for the district while providing a choice in educational experiences for all our students and families.

Stay safe, stay healthy, stay well,

Karen E. Conroy
Superintendent of Schools
Essex North Supervisory Union

FOTHERGILL SEGALE & VALLEY

Certified Public Accountants



October 25, 2021

To the Management and
Board of School Directors
NEK Choice School District

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of NEK Choice School District for the year ended June 30, 2021. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated May 21, 2021. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Matters

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by NEK Choice School District are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year. We noted no transactions entered into by the School District during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The School District had no accounting estimates.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. There were no corrected or uncorrected misstatements as a result of our audit procedures.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated October 25, 2021.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the School District's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the School District's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to management's discussion and analysis, which is required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of School Directors and management of NEK Choice School District and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

Fothergill Segale & Valley, CPAs

FOTHERGILL SEGALE & VALLEY, CPAs
Vermont Public Accountancy License #110

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUND
AND RECONCILIATION TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

JUNE 30, 2021

	<u>Governmental Fund General Fund</u>
ASSETS	
Cash in banks	\$ 1,167,202
Total assets	<u>\$ 1,167,202</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	
Liabilities	
Accounts payable	\$ 1,392
Due to Essex North Supervisory Union	<u>69,466</u>
Total liabilities	<u>70,858</u>
Fund Balance	
Committed	637,596
Assigned for FY2022	393,036
Assigned for future budgets	<u>65,712</u>
Total fund balance	<u>1,096,344</u>
Total liabilities and fund balance	<u>\$ 1,167,202</u>

RECONCILIATION TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION:

TOTAL FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS and NET POSITION - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	<u>\$ 1,096,344</u>
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Report of the Director of Student Support *Jennifer Lawcewicz*

We are so very fortunate to have such dedicated, flexible, and positive educators and support staff in our district. This year has presented us with increasing challenges as we stretch to ensure that all learners are getting the support they need to be successful during this pandemic. Educators and administrators have been extraordinary flexible and creative, compassionate, and supportive of both students and staff throughout this year.

At Canaan Schools, we currently have three special education teachers and 11 paraprofessionals who support 36 students with individualized education plans (IEPs). I provide case management for the other 29 students at Canaan who are on 504 or educational support plans as well as our 5 students who are in out of district placements. Our administrative assistant, Lori Kolatschek, manages the accounting, payroll, and Medicaid for our department in collaboration with the main office.

I am proud of the improvements we have made as a department. We continue to contract with in-person related service providers including Speech & Language, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Sign Language, Teacher of the Blind and Visually Impaired, Teacher of the Deaf, a behavior consultant, a school psychologist, and the UVM I-Team. The addition of Irene Simons from Northeast Kingdom Human Services and Tina Tarryk from Mobile Counseling have brought in-person therapy and behavioral supports to many students in need. Although we conduct many of our own evaluations in-house, we also contract with a school psychologist to conduct some of the more complex evaluations.

In the Northeast Kingdom Choice District, my Associate Director, Beth Lemnah, has worked hard to ensure that the needs of all students are being met. She currently oversees 40 students on IEPs and 22 students on 504s or educational support plans as well as ensuring the evaluations of any new referrals or 3-year re-evaluations are completed. Beth works closely with 21 schools throughout the Northeast Kingdom to ensure that each student is receiving the services and supports that they need. This has become extraordinarily complex as schools move in and out of remote learning and students move in and out of our district.

We have adjusted our plans for developing a life skills program and shifted to individualized life skills programming focused on the unique needs and interests of the individual student. This has included engaging lessons in gardening, cooking, robotics and STEM, work-based learning, shopping, and menu planning, etc. Through this approach, students are engaged in learning with their peers throughout the day, while additionally participating in authentic learning experiences specific to their individual needs. I would like to thank the staff, administration, school boards, and community members for their continued support as we work to creatively meet student needs in these unprecedented times. I feel very fortunate to work with such amazing people.

NEK Choice School District

2022-2023 (FY23) Approved Budget

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE	Approved Budget (FY22)	Proposed Budget (FY23)	Increase/ (Decrease)
Supervisory Union Assessment	219,175.00	231,699.00	12,524.00
Total Superintendent's Office:	219,175.00	231,699.00	12,524.00

SCHOOL BOARD			
Board Members Stipend	10,293.00	10,700.00	407.00
NEK Choice Clerk	50.00	50.00	-
NEK Choice Moderator	50.00	50.00	-
Payroll Taxes	795.00	-	(795.00)
Audit Services	11,000.00	11,025.00	25.00
Legal Services	3,000.00	3,500.00	500.00
Advertising	1,700.00	1,000.00	(700.00)
Postage, Printing & Publishing	500.00	750.00	250.00
Dues & Fees-VSBA Data/Dues/New Member Trainings	3,400.00	3,400.00	-
Supplies	200.00	-	(200.00)
Total School Board:	30,988.00	30,475.00	(513.00)

TREASURER			
Treasurer Stipend	1,200.00	1,260.00	60.00
Payroll Taxes	92.00	-	(92.00)
General Supplies	100.00	-	(100.00)
Total Treasurer:	1,392.00	1,260.00	(132.00)

REGULAR EDUCATION: PreK Tuition			
Tuition-Location TBD PreK \$3656 FY 23 (7)	24,752.00	25,592.00	840.00
Total PreK Tuition (7 students):	24,752.00	25,592.00	840.00

REGULAR EDUCATION: Elementary Tuition			
Tuition-Location TBD New Kindergarteners (4)	68,000.00	63,912.00	(4,088.00)
Tuition-Barnet K-6 (1)	54,000.00	19,313.00	(34,687.00)
Tuition-Burke Town K-6 (3)	89,215.00	53,571.00	(35,644.00)
Tuition-Canaan K-6 (9)	171,000.00	176,130.00	5,130.00
Tuition-Clonlara K-6 (0)	30,610.00	-	(30,610.00)
Tuition-Colebrook Elementary K-6 (0)	77,124.00	-	(77,124.00)
Tuition-Concord K-6 (5)	71,372.00	89,286.00	17,914.00
Tuition-Good Shepherd K-6 (1)	-	15,861.00	15,861.00
Tuition-Groveton Elementary K-6 (2)	32,014.00	32,974.00	960.00
Tuition-Lancaster Elementary K-6 (13)	174,260.00	233,321.00	59,061.00
Tuition-Lunenburg Elementary K-6 (0)	17,843.00	-	(17,843.00)
Tuition-Lupine Montessori K-6 (3)	-	23,198.00	23,198.00
Tuition-Lyndon Town K-6 (7)	124,901.00	125,000.00	99.00
Tuition-Mount Royal Academy North K-6 (5)	-	25,039.00	25,039.00
Tuition-Newark K-6 (4)	53,529.00	71,428.00	17,899.00
Tuition-Peacham K-6 (1)	18,270.00	19,313.00	1,043.00
Tuition-Riverside K-6 (43)	719,335.00	687,071.00	(32,264.00)
Tuition-St. Johnsbury School K-6 (5)	66,096.00	68,079.00	1,983.00
Tuition-Stratford K-6 (8)	154,692.00	141,629.00	(13,063.00)
Tuition-Sunnybrook Montessori K-6 (1)	19,260.00	4,877.00	(14,383.00)
Tuition-Sutton K-6 (2)	53,529.00	35,714.00	(17,815.00)
Tuition-Thaddeus Stevens K-6 (5)	91,830.00	79,892.00	(11,938.00)
Tuition-Waterford K-6 (5)	90,000.00	96,563.00	6,563.00
Tuition-Woodland Community K-6 (5)	10,300.00	53,045.00	42,745.00
Total Elementary Tuition (132 students):	2,187,180.00	2,115,216.00	(71,964.00)

NEK Choice School District
2022-2023 (FY23) Approved Budget

REGULAR EDUCATION: Secondary Tuition (7-8/9-12)	Approved Budget (FY22)	Proposed Budget (FY23)	Increase/ (Decrease)
Tuition-Barnet 7-8 (1)	-	19,313.00	19,313.00
Tuition-Burke Town 7-8 (2)	17,843.00	35,714.00	17,871.00
Tuition-Canaan 7-8 (7)	120,000.00	144,200.00	24,200.00
Tuition-Clonlara 7-8 (0)	16,720.00	-	(16,720.00)
Tuition-Colebrook Elementary 7-8 (1)	19,281.00	19,014.00	(267.00)
Tuition-Concord 7-8 (4)	53,529.00	71,428.00	17,899.00
Tuition-Danville 7-8 (1)	18,000.00	18,849.00	849.00
Tuition-Groveton Middle 7-8 (1)	16,007.00	16,487.00	480.00
Tuition-Lancaster Elementary 7-8 (2)	104,556.00	35,896.00	(68,660.00)
Tuition-Lyndon Town 7-8 (2)	89,215.00	35,714.00	(53,501.00)
Tuition-Mount Royal Academy North 7-8 (1)	-	5,008.00	5,008.00
Tuition-Newark 7-8 (1)	71,372.00	17,857.00	(53,515.00)
Tuition-Riverside 7-8 (16)	284,240.00	277,556.00	(6,684.00)
Tuition-St. Johnsbury School 7-8 (2)	22,032.00	22,693.00	661.00
Tuition-Stratford Public 7-8 (1)	17,188.00	17,704.00	516.00
Tuition-Thaddeus Stevens 7-8 (2)	33,440.00	34,695.00	1,255.00
Tuition-Waterford 7-8 (1)	-	19,313.00	19,313.00
Tuition-Woodland Community 7-8 (0)	10,300.00	-	(10,300.00)
Tuition-Arlington 9-12 (0)	16,720.00	-	(16,720.00)
Tuition-Blue Mountain Union High School 9-12 (1)	-	17,347.00	17,347.00
Tuition-Burke Mountain Academy 9-12 (2)	16,720.00	34,695.00	17,975.00
Tuition-Canaan 9-12 (13)	200,000.00	267,800.00	67,800.00
Tuition-Colebrook Academy 9-12 (1)	43,134.00	23,292.00	(19,842.00)
Tuition-Danville 9-12 (0)	54,000.00	-	(54,000.00)
Tuition-East Burke 9-12 (0)	16,720.00	-	(16,720.00)
Tuition-Groveton High 9-12 (7)	117,803.00	104,003.00	(13,800.00)
Tuition-Holderness 9-12 (1)	16,720.00	17,347.00	627.00
Tuition-Killington Mountain School 9-12 (2)	-	34,695.00	34,695.00
Tuition-Lyndon Institute 9-12 (36)	575,215.00	735,482.00	160,267.00
Tuition-North Country Charter Academy 9-12 (1)	15,682.00	-	(15,682.00)
Tuition-North Country Union High School 9-12 (1)	19,425.00	19,055.00	(370.00)
Tuition-St. Johnsbury Academy 9-12 (26)	407,925.00	512,838.00	104,913.00
Tuition-White Mountain School 9-12 (2)	16,720.00	34,695.00	17,975.00
Tuition-White Mountain Regional 9-12 (14)	227,348.00	298,061.00	70,713.00
Extra Cost-St. Johnsbury Academy 9-12 Guided Studies (1)	9,518.00	9,337.00	(181.00)
Total Secondary Tuition (152 students):	2,647,373.00	2,900,088.00	252,715.00
Total Pre K, Elementary & Secondary Tuition (291 students):	4,859,305.00	5,040,896.00	181,591.00
Total Non Special Education Services:	58,422.00	53,400.00	(5,022.00)
SPECIAL EDUCATION: Services			
Total Special Education Services:	258,450.00	456,793.00	198,343.00
Grand Total of NEK Choice School District Expenditures:	5,427,732.00	5,814,523.00	386,791.00

Revenue Statement NEK Choice School District	Est. Revenue (FY22)	Est. Revenue (FY23)	Increase/ (Decrease)
Prior Year Surplus	393,036.00	-	(393,036.00)
Education Fund	5,033,696.00	5,813,523.00	779,827.00
Interest	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Total Revenue:	5,427,732.00	5,814,523.00	386,791.00

District: Northeast Kingdom Choice USD		U065		Property dollar equivalent yield	Homestead tax rate per \$12,937 of spending per equalized pupil
SU: Essex North		Essex County		12,937	1.00
				15,484	
				Income dollar equivalent yield per 2.0% of household income	
Expenditures		FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023
1.	Adopted or warned union district budget (including special programs and full technical center expenditures)	\$5,340,056	\$4,903,958	\$5,427,732	\$5,814,523
2.	plus Sum of separately warned articles passed at union district meeting	-	-	-	-
3.	Adopted or warned union district budget plus articles	\$5,340,056	\$4,903,958	\$5,427,732	\$5,814,523
4.	plus Obligation to a Regional Technical Center School District if any	-	-	-	-
5.	plus Prior year deficit repayment of deficit	-	-	-	-
6.	Total Union Budget	\$5,340,056	\$4,903,958	\$5,427,732	\$5,814,523
7.	S.U. assessment (included in union budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-
8.	Prior year deficit reduction (if included in union expenditure budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-
Revenues					
9.	Union revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, federal, etc.)	\$12,888	\$696,090	\$394,036	\$1,000
10.	Total offsetting union revenues	\$12,888	\$696,090	\$394,036	\$1,000
11.	Education Spending	\$5,327,168	\$4,207,868	\$5,033,696	\$5,813,523
12.	Northeast Kingdom Choice USD equalized pupils	289.20	295.50	286.59	286.59
13.	Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	\$18,420.36	\$14,239.82	\$17,564.10	\$20,285.16
14.	minus Less net eligible construction costs (or P&I) per equalized pupil	\$72.90	\$70.77	\$73.57	-
15.	minus Less share of SpEd costs in excess of \$50,000 for an individual (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-
16.	minus Less amount of deficit if deficit is SOLELY attributable to tuitions paid to public schools for grades the district does not operate for new students who moved to the district after the budget was passed (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-
17.	minus Less SpEd costs if excess is solely attributable to new SpEd spending if district has 20 or fewer equalized pupils (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-
18.	minus Estimated costs of new students after census period (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-
19.	minus Total tuitions if tuitioning ALL K-12 unless electorate has approved tuitions greater than average announced tuition (per eqpup)	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt
20.	minus Less planning costs for merger of small schools (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-
21.	minus Teacher retirement assessment for new members of Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2015 (per eqpup)	-	-	-	-
22.	Excess spending threshold	threshold = \$18,311	threshold = \$18,756	threshold = \$18,786	threshold = \$19,677
23.	plus Excess Spending per Equalized Pupil over threshold (if any)	\$18,311.00	\$18,756.00	\$18,789.00	\$19,977.00
24.	Per pupil figure used for calculating District Equalized Tax Rate	\$18,420	\$14,240	\$17,564	\$20,285.16
25.	Union spending adjustment (minimum of 100%)	172.994% based on yield \$10,848	129.476% based on yield \$10,968	155.201% based on \$11,317	156.800% based on yield \$12,937
26.	Anticipated equalized union homestead tax rate to be prorated [\$20,285.16 + (\$12,937 / \$1.00)]	\$1,7299 based on \$1.00	\$1,2948 based on \$1.00	\$1,5320 based on \$1.00	\$1,5680 based on \$1.00
.02 Income					
Prorated homestead union tax rates for members of Northeast Kingdom Choice USD					
		FY 22 Eq Tax Rate	Equalized Rate FY 2023	CLA FY 2023	Est Tax Rate FY2023
T021	Bloomfield	1.5320	1.5680	105.97%	1.4797
T035	Brunswick	1.5320	1.5680	87.89%	1.7840
T064	East Haven	1.5320	1.5680	93.88%	1.6702
T083	Granby	1.2155	1.5680	97.45%	1.6090
T088	Guildhall	1.2155	1.5680	95.47%	1.6424
T108	Kirby	1.5320	1.5680	94.43%	1.6605
T111	Lemington	1.5225	1.5680	99.67%	1.5732
T118	Maidstone	1.2155	1.5680	87.68%	1.7883
T144	Norton	1.5320	1.5680	85.69%	1.8299
T216	Victory	1.7818	1.5680	95.78%	1.6371
27.	Anticipated income cap percent to be prorated from Northeast Kingdom Choice USD [(\$20,285.16 + \$15,484) x 2.00%]	2.72% based on 2.00%	2.04% based on 2.00%	2.55% based on 2.00%	2.62% based on 2.00%
Prorated union income cap percentage for members of Northeast Kingdom Choice USD					
		FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023
T021	Bloomfield	2.72%	2.04%	2.55%	2.62%
T035	Brunswick	2.72%	2.04%	2.55%	2.62%
T064	East Haven	2.72%	2.04%	2.55%	2.62%
T083	Granby	2.72%	2.04%	2.55%	2.62%
T088	Guildhall	2.72%	2.04%	2.55%	2.62%
T108	Kirby	2.72%	2.04%	2.55%	2.62%
T111	Lemington	2.72%	2.04%	2.55%	2.62%
T118	Maidstone	2.72%	2.04%	2.55%	2.62%
T144	Norton	2.72%	2.04%	2.55%	2.62%
T216	Victory	2.72%	2.04%	2.55%	2.62%

- Following current statute, the Tax Commissioner recommended a property yield of \$12,937 for every \$100 of homestead tax per \$100 of equalized property value. The Tax Commissioner also recommended an income yield of \$15,484 for a base income percent of 2.0% and a non-residential tax rate of \$1,482. New and updated data will likely change the proposed property and income yields and perhaps the non-residential rate.
 - Final figures will be set by the Legislature during the legislative session and approved by the Governor.
 - The base income percentage cap is 2.0%.

NEK CHOICE ESTIMATED TAX RATES FY23

ESTIMATED Tax Rates for FY23 with Variance to			
FY22 Tax Rates	FY22	FY23 ESTIMATED	Variance
Total Budget	\$5,427,732	\$5,814,523	\$386,791
Local Revenues	\$394,036	\$1,000	\$(393,036)
Education Spending	\$5,033,696	\$5,813,523	\$779,827
Equalized Pupils	286.59	286.59	-
Education Spending Per Equalized Pupil	\$17,564	\$20,285	\$2,721
Dollar Equivalent Yield (Tax Commissioner's Recommendation)	\$11,317	\$12,937	\$1,620
Equalized Homestead Tax Rate	\$1.5520	\$1.5680	\$0.0160
Merger Tax Rate Incentive	\$0.0200	-	\$(0.0200)
NEK Choice Towns Homestead Tax Rate (after incentive)	\$1.5320	\$1.5680	\$0.0360

NEK Choice Towns	FY22 Tax Rate	FY23 Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)	FY23 Estimated Tax Rate	Variance
Bloomfield	\$1.4728	105.97%	\$1.4797	\$0.0069
Brunswick	\$1.6183	87.89%	\$1.7840	\$0.1657
East Haven	\$1.6541	93.88%	\$1.6702	\$0.0161
Granby	\$1.2179	97.45%	\$1.6090	\$0.3911
Guildhall	\$1.1710	95.47%	\$1.6424	\$0.4714
Kirby	\$1.5143	94.43%	\$1.6605	\$0.1462
Lemington	\$1.4639	99.67%	\$1.5732	\$0.1093
Maidstone	\$1.2796	87.68%	\$1.7883	\$0.5087
Norton	\$1.6947	85.69%	\$1.8298	\$0.1351
Victory	\$1.7621	95.78%	\$1.6371	(\$0.1250)

NEK Student Population by Town & Grade

Town	Pre-K	Grades K-6	Grades 7-12	Total
Bloomfield		8	9	17
Brunswick		6	6	12
East Haven	1	19	26	46
Granby			6	6
Guildhall	3	16	15	34
Kirby	14	71	60	145
Lemington		3	9	12
Maidstone		9	7	16
Norton		8	8	16
Victory		1	7	8
Grand Totals	18	141	153	312

**Essex North Supervisory Union
2022-2023 (FY23) Approved Budget**

Expenditures SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE	Approved Budget (FY22)	Proposed Budget (FY23)	Increase (Decrease)	NEK Choice	Canaan
GENERAL COSTS					
SUPERINTENDENTS OFFICE:					
Superintendent Salary	\$111,000	\$116,000	\$5,000	\$58,000	\$58,000
Treasurer Stipend	\$1,680	\$1,747	\$67	\$874	\$874
Business Administrator Salary	\$57,930	\$70,000	\$12,070	\$35,000	\$35,000
Admin Asst/Accounts Payable/NEK Residency Clerk Salary	\$34,611	\$37,440	\$2,829	\$18,720	\$18,720
Payroll & Human Resource Benefits Coordinator Salary	\$38,808	\$43,680	\$4,872	\$21,840	\$21,840
Benefits	\$121,933	\$116,464	(\$5,469)	\$58,232	\$58,232
Advertising	\$1,654	\$1,700	\$46	\$850	\$850
Audit Services	\$11,000	\$14,175	\$3,175	\$7,088	\$7,088
Cleaning Costs	\$3,900	\$0	(\$3,900)	\$0	\$0
Computer Equipment	\$2,125	\$0	(\$2,125)	\$0	\$0
Contracted Services	\$6,075	\$11,820	\$5,745	\$5,910	\$5,910
Dues & Fees-Registrations/Memberships	\$8,164	\$6,500	(\$1,664)	\$3,250	\$3,250
General Supplies/Books/Misc	\$5,162	\$4,800	(\$362)	\$2,400	\$2,400
Lease-NEK Expense Only	\$2,723	\$8,374	\$5,651	\$8,374	\$0
Legal Services	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$2,500	\$2,500
Postage	\$1,891	\$1,900	\$9	\$950	\$950
Prof/OLT Liab. Ins-Errors & Omissions/Liability Ins.	\$5,117	\$9,450	\$4,333	\$4,725	\$4,725
Repairs/Maintenance	\$480	\$2,364	\$1,884	\$1,182	\$1,182
Software	\$20,100	\$18,750	(\$1,350)	\$9,375	\$9,375
Telephone/Internet	\$9,780	\$8,000	(\$1,780)	\$4,000	\$4,000
Trash Removal	\$2,600	\$0	(\$2,600)	\$0	\$0
Travel Expenses	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$3,000
Tuition Reimbursement	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000
Total Supervisory Union Expenditures:	\$458,233	\$486,164	\$27,931	\$247,269	\$238,895

Expenditures TRANSPORTATION	Approved Budget (FY22)	Proposed Budget (FY23)	Increase (Decrease)	NEK Choice	Canaan
Owned Bus-Salary	\$11,420	\$8,000	(\$3,420)	\$0	\$8,000
Owned Bus-Benefits	\$874	\$612	(\$262)	\$0	\$612
Owned Bus-Repairs, Inspections, Fuel, Fees, Insurance, Supplies	\$8,515	\$19,550	\$11,035	\$0	\$19,550
Owned Bus-Lease Year -3 out of 3	\$13,829	\$13,829	\$0	\$0	\$13,829
Bus Service-Contracted Reg Student Transportation	\$188,400	\$205,000	\$16,600	\$0	\$205,000
Bus Service-Athletic Transportation, Contracted	\$28,417	\$30,000	\$1,583	\$0	\$30,000
Bus Service-Music/Field Trips Transportation, Contracted	\$19,500	\$18,500	(\$1,000)	\$0	\$18,500
Bus Service-CTE Transportation, Contracted	\$26,250	\$17,000	(\$9,250)	\$0	\$17,000
Total Transportation Expenditures:	\$297,205	\$312,491	\$15,286	\$0	\$312,491

Expenditures NON SPECIAL ED	Approved Budget (FY22)	Proposed Budget (FY23)	Increase (Decrease)	NEK Choice	Canaan
Salaries-Director/Asst Director/Admin Asst/Teacher/Paras/PK Para	\$117,996	\$159,587	\$41,591	\$36,664	\$122,923
Benefits-Director/Asst Director/Admin Asst/Teacher/Paras/PK Para	\$32,834	\$51,842	\$19,008	\$14,715	\$37,127
Contracted Services-504 Only BMH,LI,Deaf,PT,OT,SLP,Blind, Subs	\$16,380	\$43,948	\$27,568	\$837	\$43,111
Equipment-504 Students	\$1,000	\$0	(\$1,000)	\$0	\$0
General Supplies/Dues & Fees-504 Students	\$1,500	\$129	(\$1,371)	\$29	\$100
Transportation/Tuition-504 Out of District	\$0	\$21,220	\$21,220	\$1,155	\$20,065
Total Non Special Ed Services:	\$169,710	\$276,726	\$107,016	\$53,400	\$223,326

Expenditures SPECIAL EDUCATION /SERVICES	Approved Budget (FY22)	Proposed Budget (FY23)	Increase (Decrease)	NEK Choice	Canaan	Other
Salaries-Director/Asst Director/Admin Asst/Teachers/Paras/Subs	\$513,656	\$633,746	\$120,090	\$217,339	\$382,298	\$34,109
Salaries-Adaptive PE (IDEA Grant)	\$70,475	\$4,636	(\$65,839)	\$1,530	\$3,106	
Benefits-Director/Asst/Admin Asst/Teachers/Paras	\$233,245	\$319,273	\$86,028	\$102,592	\$193,805	\$22,876
Benefits-Adaptive PE (IDEA Grant)	\$55,096	\$1,674	(\$53,422)	\$552	\$1,122	
Advertising	\$1,000	\$645	(\$355)	\$233	\$412	
Contracted Services-(IDEA-B & IDEA PreK Grant)	\$0	\$122,690	\$122,690	\$57,921	\$64,769	

Expenditures SPECIAL EDUCATION /SERVICES	Approved Budget (FY22)	Proposed Budget (FY23)	Increase (Decrease)	NEK Choice	Canaan	Other
Contracted Services-PT/OT/Speech/Visions/Deaf/Prof Dev	\$277,790	\$529,559	\$251,769	\$395,210	\$121,180	\$13,169
Dues & Registrations	\$11,649	\$7,924	(\$3,725)	\$5,196	\$2,728	
Equipment	\$21,579	\$4,900	(\$16,679)	\$2,507	\$2,393	
Equipment Maintenance	\$1,000	\$0	(\$1,000)			
General Supplies-Adaptive PE (IDEA Grant)	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000		\$2,000	
General Supplies/Books/Software-Special Ed	\$19,097	\$11,326	(\$7,771)	\$4,930	\$6,396	
Postage	\$1,300	\$2,000	\$700	\$1,380	\$620	
Telephone	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500	\$0	
Transportation-Out of District Placements	\$27,700	\$125,612	\$97,912	\$66,514	\$59,098	
Travel-Director/Asst Director	\$4,500	\$1,500	(\$3,000)	\$805	\$695	
Tuition-Out of District Placements/Other Spec Ed Tuitions	\$193,031	\$910,754	\$717,723	\$544,938	\$365,816	
Totals for Special Education Expenditures:	\$1,432,618	\$2,679,739	\$1,247,121	\$1,403,147	\$1,206,438	\$70,154

Expenditures GRANTS/Medicaid Funds	Approved Budget (FY22)	Proposed Budget (FY23)	Increase (Decrease)	NEK Choice	Canaan
Salaries	\$82,631	\$195,215	\$112,584	\$34,834	\$160,381
Benefits	\$45,823	\$106,189	\$60,366	\$18,369	\$87,820
Contracted Services	\$51,400	\$80,532	\$29,132	\$17,961	\$62,571
Dues & Fees	\$0	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$595	\$2,905
Supplies	\$0	\$16,660	\$16,660	\$2,832	\$13,828
Transportation	\$0	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$1,020	\$4,980
Totals for Grant/Medicaid Expenditures:	\$179,854	\$408,096	\$228,242	\$75,611	\$332,485

Grand Total of All Expenditures:	\$2,537,620	\$4,163,216	\$1,625,596	\$1,779,428	\$2,313,634
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Revenue Statement SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE/TRANSPORTATION	Revised (FY22)	Estimated (FY23)	Increase (Decrease)	NEK Choice	Canaan
Transportation Aid Revenue from State	\$71,000	\$116,034	\$45,034		\$116,034
Interest	\$1,000	\$250	(\$750)	\$125	\$125
SU Assessments	\$435,630	\$455,024	\$19,394	\$231,699	\$223,325
Transportation Assessment	\$226,205	\$196,457	(\$29,748)		\$196,457
E-Rate Reimbursement	\$0	\$2,700	\$2,700	\$1,350	\$1,350
Prior Year Surplus	\$21,603	\$28,190	\$6,587	\$14,095	\$14,095
Total Superintendents Office/Transportation Revenue:	\$755,438	\$798,655	\$43,217	\$247,269	\$551,386

Revenue Statement NON SPECIAL ED SERVICES	Revised (FY22)	Estimated (FY23)	Increase (Decrease)	NEK Choice	Canaan
Contracted Services-PD to ENSU	\$169,710	\$276,726	\$107,016	\$53,400	\$223,326
Total Non Special Ed Revenue:	\$169,710	\$276,726	\$107,016	\$53,400	\$223,326

Revenue Statement SPECIAL ED SERVICES	Revised (FY22)	Estimated (FY23)	Increase (Decrease)	NEK Choice	Canaan	Other
EEE Assessment from District	\$22,183	\$10,793	(\$11,390)	\$4,965	\$5,828	
EEE Grant from State	\$30,400	\$25,000	(\$5,400)	\$11,500	\$13,500	
Special Ed Reimbursement from District	\$526,583	\$974,817	\$448,234	\$451,828	\$390,544	\$70,154
Mainstream Block Grant	\$212,400	\$926,081	\$713,681	\$500,084	\$425,997	
Intensive Reimbursement from State	\$498,736	\$0	(\$498,736)			
Special Ed Extraordinary Reimbursement from State	\$16,745	\$674,339	\$657,594	\$374,767	\$299,572	
IDEA-B Grant Ages 3-21	\$125,571	\$127,000	\$1,429	\$58,852	\$68,148	
IDEA-B Preschool Grant	\$0	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$1,151	\$2,849	
Total Special Ed Revenue:	\$1,432,618	\$2,742,030	\$1,309,412	\$1,403,147	\$1,206,438	\$70,154

Revenue Statement Grants/Medicaid	Revised (FY22)	Estimated (FY23)	Increase (Decrease)	NEK Choice	Canaan	Other
CFP Grants	\$116,175	\$358,073	\$241,898	\$60,872	\$297,201	
Medicaid Grant	\$63,679	\$50,023	(\$13,656)	\$14,739	\$35,285	
Total Grants/Medicaid Revenue:	\$179,854	\$408,096	\$228,242	\$75,611	\$332,485	

Grand Total All Revenues:	\$2,537,620	\$4,225,507	\$1,687,887	\$1,779,428	\$2,313,635	\$70,154
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Norton Recycling and Waste Disposal Guide

249 VT Route 114 South
Wednesday, 5:00pm - 6:00pm
Saturday, 9:00am - 12:00pm
Sunday, 2:00pm-5:00pm

NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES & OFFICE PAPER (JUNK MAIL): Mix together - Includes catalogs, telephone books, glossy inserts, paperback books, colored paper, white paper, wrapping paper and junk mail. Any color or type of paper can be in this category **except** brown Kraft bags and boxboard.

CORRUGATED CARDBOARD & BROWN KRAFT BAGS & BOXBOARD: Mix together. **NO** wax-coated cardboard, egg cartons, cardboard soiled with food waste, or Styrofoam. Remove excess tape. Staples are OK. Please no strings, handles, or bags with plastic layers.

TIN CANS: Please rinse. Labels are OK. Flattening not required. Separate from aluminum cans (Aluminum is not magnetic).

ALUMINUM CANS, FOIL AND FOOD TRAYS: Labels OK. Flattening not required, please rinse. Snack bags and candy wrappers are not aluminum foil!

GLASS: Any color bottles and jars. Please rinse. Dishes, window, mirror, ceramic, Pyrex and drinking glasses are acceptable. **NO** crystal, lids, metal or wood. **NO** light bulbs.

#1—#2 PLASTIC CONTAINERS: Type of plastic stamped on container. Includes all labeled rigid plastic containers, 2-gal capacity or less. Labels OK, please rinse, crush larger containers. **NO BLACK PLASTICS, PESTICIDE CONTAINERS, AUTOMOBILE OIL CONTAINERS. No vinyl siding, Styrofoam, syringes or medical devices.**

FOOD SCRAPS: All food scraps, including meat, bones, dairy. Please remove PLU stickers. No plastics, metals, paper.

PLASTIC BAGS: Any plastic bag that is labeled #2,4, or 5. Call for the current list of acceptable bags.

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS:

SPECIAL WASTES: Oil, Oil filters, Aerosols, Hard and Soft covered Books, fluorescent bulbs, Electronics., scrap metals

HOUSEHOLD TRASH: Bags can be purchased at Norton Town Office and Lake View Store. Rolls of 10, \$10 for small bags, \$20.00 for large bags.

CLOTHING AND TEXTILES: Drop and Swaps held annually, contact the waste district for more information..

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE – BY APPOINTMENT ONLY, Monday – Friday, May through the end of September in Lyndonville, and special events throughout the District June – September. Call for details.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS – CONTACT THE NORTHEAST KINGDOM WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
AT (802) 626-3532 or (800) 734-4602 On the web at www.nekwmd.org, e-mail outreach@nekwmd.org

Acceptable HHW Materials

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

- AEROSOLS
- AIR FRESHENERS
- AMMONIA
- ARTS AND CRAFTS SUPPLIES
- BLEACH
- CLEANERS (INCLUDES: DRAIN, OVEN, FLOOR, WINDOW, TOILET, RUG, ETC.)
- DISINFECTANTS
- METAL & FURNITURE POLISH
- MOTHBALLS
- MERCURY THERMOMETERS
- NAIL POLISH & REMOVER
- NI-CD, LITHIUM, MI-MH, AND BUTTON CELL BATTERIES
- SPOT & STAIN REMOVERS
- ALKALINE BATTERIES *

GARDEN SUPPLIES

- CREOSOTE
- DIOXINS
- FERTILIZERS
- FLEA KILLERS
- FUNGICIDES
- HERBICIDES
- INSECT SPRAYS
- MURIATIC ACID
- NO-PEST STRIPS
- PESTICIDES
- RODENT KILLERS

GARAGE

- ANTIFREEZE
- BRAKE FLUID *
- CORROSIVES

- CAR WAXES AND CLEANERS

GARAGE (CONTINUED)

- ENGINE DEGREASERS
- FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS *
- GASOLINE/DRY GAS
- KEROSENE
- LEAD-ACID CAR BATTERIES *
- LIGHTER FLUID
- OIL-BASED PAINT
- LATEX-BASED PAINT
- PAINT THINNER
- PROPANE CYLINDERS
- SEALANTS
- STAINS/STRIPPERS
- SWIMMING POOL CHEMICALS
- TRANSMISSION FLUID *
- WOOD PRESERVATIVES
- USED MOTOR OIL AND FILTERS *

* ALSO ACCEPTED AT OIL AND BATTERY STATIONS YEAR ROUND

PLEASE DO NOT BRING:

- ASBESTOS
- EXPLOSIVES, INCLUDING GUN POWDER, AMMUNITION
- FLARES
- INFECTIOUS WASTE
- PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION
- RADIOACTIVE WASTE, INCLUDING SMOKE DETECTORS
- UNKNOWN GAS CYLINDERS
- EMPTY CONTAINERS

**CONTACT THE NEKWMD IF YOU HAVE ITEMS YOU CANNOT IDENTIFY
802-626-3532 or 800-734-4602 or www.nekwmd.org**

2022 PROPOSED BUDGET

BUDGET ITEM	2021 BUDGET	2021 ACTUAL as of 12/31/2021	2022 PROPOSED BUDGET
ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES			
Advertising	\$700.00	\$960.63	\$1,100.00
Audit -- Financial	\$6,595.00	\$7,845.00	\$6,845.00
Audit -- Waste Haulers	\$900.00	\$329.40	\$1,000.00
Bank Charges	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cleaning	\$1,920.00	\$1,810.00	\$1,920.00
Copier	\$1,500.00	\$1,274.20	\$1,500.00
Dues/Permits/Fees/Penalties	\$5,050.00	\$6,516.58	\$6,500.00
Heating Fuel	\$1,000.00	\$1,087.18	\$1,000.00
Liability & Casualty Ins.	\$13,000.00	\$15,971.00	\$14,000.00
Legal Fees	\$2,000.00	\$7,828.26	\$4,000.00
Postage	\$2,000.00	\$2,016.62	\$2,500.00
Office Supplies	\$3,200.00	\$5,457.91	\$4,000.00
Telephone - Office	\$3,000.00	\$3,324.07	\$3,300.00
Miscellaneous	\$1,000.00	\$1,623.01	\$500.00
Water/Sewer	\$900.00	\$1,005.82	\$1,000.00
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	\$42,765.00	\$57,049.68	\$49,165.00
Gross Wages	\$402,925.00	\$387,638.16	\$417,500.00
OT Wages--Warehouse	\$3,500.00	\$747.32	\$3,000.00
Fica (Employer Match)	\$25,300.00	\$24,079.90	\$25,900.00
Medi (Employer Match)	\$5,900.00	\$5,631.69	\$6,100.00
Unemployment/HCP Insurance	\$3,500.00	\$4,618.56	\$5,000.00
VMERS (Retirement)	\$21,000.00	\$21,830.36	\$23,500.00
Workman's Comp. Insurance	\$53,000.00	\$30,412.00	\$53,000.00
Mileage - Employee	\$4,000.00	\$2,876.21	\$3,000.00
Supervisor Secretary Payments	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Personnel Equipment	\$500.00	\$406.97	\$500.00
Training	\$500.00	\$73.84	\$500.00
Travel	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
TOTAL PERSONNEL	\$520,675.00	\$478,315.01	\$538,050.00
EQUIPMENT EXPENSES			
Baler Loan Payment	\$40,537.00	\$39,056.17	\$39,056.17
Baler Repairs	\$5,000.00	\$1,095.25	\$2,000.00
Baler Supplies	\$7,000.00	\$7,281.45	\$5,000.00
Forklift Fuel	\$1,800.00	\$2,403.75	\$2,000.00
Forklift Repairs	\$2,000.00	\$6,411.50	\$4,000.00
Misc. Equipment Repairs	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Skidsteer Repairs	\$4,000.00	\$1,022.15	\$3,000.00
Warehouse Supplies	\$2,000.00	\$2,342.44	\$1,500.00
Mack Truck Loan Payment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,694.33
Truck Down Payment-Grant Funded	\$0.00	\$60,000.00	\$0.00
Trucks--Diesel	\$17,000.00	\$20,412.32	\$17,000.00
Trucks--Repairs	\$10,000.00	\$29,115.39	\$15,000.00
TOTAL EQUIPMENT	\$89,837.00	\$169,140.42	\$102,750.50

2022 PROPOSED BUDGET

BUDGET ITEM	2021 BUDGET	2021 ACTUAL as of 12/31/2021	2022 PROPOSED BUDGET
BUILDING EXPENSES			
Electricity	\$6,500.00	\$4,951.06	\$5,000.00
Maintenance	\$1,200.00	\$1,022.79	\$1,500.00
Trash Removal	\$3,000.00	\$3,517.90	\$3,500.00
TOTAL BUILDING	\$10,700.00	\$9,491.75	\$10,000.00
PROGRAMS EXPENSES			
Composting	\$24,000.00	\$43,400.50	\$29,000.00
Composter/Bin	\$5,000.00	\$1,756.80	\$4,000.00
Consulting Services-Grant Funded	\$4,000.00	\$21,408.21	\$0.00
Education Outreach	\$6,000.00	\$8,533.86	\$7,000.00
Hazmat Disposal	\$33,000.00	\$44,149.67	\$35,000.00
Hazmat Supplies	\$4,000.00	\$3,145.68	\$4,000.00
Sale of Recyclables-Processing	\$30,000.00	\$29,314.80	\$25,000.00
Special Collections	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Supplies	\$300.00	\$231.56	\$400.00
Tire Disposal	\$15,000.00	\$21,515.00	\$18,000.00
TOTAL PROGRAMS	\$121,550.00	\$173,456.08	\$122,650.00
SUB-TOTAL	\$785,527.00	\$887,452.94	\$822,615.50
Capital Improvement Fund	\$24,000.00	\$26,500.00	\$24,000.00
TOTAL CAPITAL FUND	\$24,000.00	\$26,500.00	\$24,000.00
TOTAL NEK EXPENSES	\$809,527.00	\$913,952.94	\$846,615.50
Grants--St of VT	\$92,000.00	\$128,673.12	\$92,000.00
Hauling--Recycling Pick-ups	\$54,630.00	\$63,613.00	\$54,000.00
Haz Mat/Paint Care	\$6,000.00	\$5,978.66	\$5,000.00
Interest Income	\$0.00	\$28.04	\$20.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$500.00	\$3,016.24	\$1,500.00
Program Sales--Composter/Bins	\$4,000.00	\$1,329.00	\$2,000.00
Programs- Oil Filter Program	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Sale of Recyclables	\$85,000.00	\$154,154.51	\$121,888.50
Compost Income	\$22,000.00	\$35,113.61	\$29,000.00
Electronics Income	\$20,000.00	\$22,676.73	\$18,000.00
Scrap Metal Income	\$15,000.00	\$23,863.00	\$17,500.00
Battery Income	\$6,000.00	\$5,091.25	\$4,000.00
Tire Income	\$15,000.00	\$13,472.84	\$18,000.00
Per Capita Assessment	\$44,800.00	\$44,681.96	\$39,057.00
Surcharge--Waste Haulers	\$444,447.00	\$486,516.42	\$444,500.00
TOTAL NEK REVENUES	\$809,527.00	\$988,358.38	\$846,615.50

Executive Committee Report

The NEKWMD finished 2021 by processing slightly more recycling compared to 2020 – 2,952 tons in 2021 compared to 2,882 tons in 2020. Significant increases in organics, cardboard, and scrap metal offset decreases in mixed paper. Most other material tonnages were at or slightly above 2020 amounts. Recycling markets were very strong for nearly all of 2021.

The District ended 2021 with a surplus of \$74,405.44. Revenues in 2021 were 22% above projections, while expenses were 13% above projections. The COVID19 pandemic did not disrupt our work schedule to any large degree in 2021. In fact, the main impact of the pandemic on District operations was to drive commodity prices to near record levels. Revenues for the sale of recyclables, the surcharge, grants, and recycling pick-up fees were the primary drivers for above average revenues in 2021. Fees used to generate revenues will remain mostly unchanged or decrease in 2022. The per capita assessment will decrease from \$0.94/person to \$0.84/person, the surcharge will remain the same at \$24.99, and hauling fees will remain unchanged at \$49 and \$33/stop for facilities and schools, respectively.

There were no additions or subtractions to the District membership in 2021. 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 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 three part-time employees in 2021. 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

December 1, 2021

Town of Norton
PO Box 33
Norton, VT 05907
townofnorton@myfairpoint.net

To the Attention of the Selectboard:

On behalf of the Island Pond Public Library, we ask the Town of Norton for their support of our Library for year 2022.

This request for \$100 in Appropriations is sent to you for our up-coming Budget. We sincerely appreciate the support you have given us over the years and hope for your future support for our modern and updated Public Library.

Hoping to continue our good affiliation with the Town of Norton, we are at your service when our assistance is needed.

Respectfully,
Susan Vera, Chair
Board of Trustees
Island Pond Public Library
ippl@comcast.net



Dear Select Board Committee:

The North Country Chamber of Commerce is reaching out for your support to help fund economic development activities that directly impact towns in the North Country, including Norton. We are asking for support in these efforts for 2022.

Nearly 200 members strong and growing, the North Country Chamber of Commerce represents small and large businesses alike. A volunteer board of directors guides our organization, supported by our staff. Together, we are able to accomplish what no one of us could do on our own, and the entire region benefits from our efforts.

Our organization is the premier advocate and marketing venue for businesses from Stratford to Pittsburg, NH and into Northeastern Essex County, VT. Our mission continues to be to serve as the premier advocate for commerce and industry by facilitating interaction among business, government, education, labor, and the greater community. And, to actively create innovative opportunities for businesses to advance within our regional economy. We are excited for 2022 and would be thrilled if you would support us in furthering our mission!

This past year had many changes, including a new office staff. We are proud of what we are accomplishing together. This year we are updating our website to offer better services to all of our members. We are excited to be working with planning commissions and other area agencies to work to solve housing issues. We believe that all growth starts there. The Chamber also continues to work in partnership with nearby chambers, area organizations, as well as state agencies to represent the area's interests beyond the region.

We ask that you pledge \$100.00 toward this effort. Your pledge will strengthen our ability to grow and sustain our commitment to this great area and your community. We have developed a formula for this request, based on the number of businesses that we have in our records for each of the towns within our coverage area, both members and non-members

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions or concerns that we could help with, please feel free to reach out to me or members of our Board of Directors anytime.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jacqui Thayer".

Jacqui Thayer
Executive Director

NORTHEAST KINGDOM
Council on Aging



New directions for living well.

December 2021

Town of Norton Select Board,

On behalf of the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging, we are writing to ask for an appropriation from the town of Norton to support our work with older Vermonters living in your community. Your support is vitally important as we continue to face challenges due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the increasing need to protect and feed our elder Vermonters as they stay home and stay safe.

The NEK Council on Aging serves as a central guide for older Vermonters to gain services and assistance in their communities. We remain a critical resource for the COVID-19 emergency response. In FY 2020 the Council aided **over 4,440 residents of the Northeast Kingdom** and with our congregate and home-delivered meals program, **delivered 234,616 meals**. We also offer a Helpline, Medicare counseling and Bootcamp, exercise and mobility programs, specially-trained staff who help people develop long-range planning as they age, family and caregiver support programs and grants, case management for those who need a bit more support with aging in place, as well as support to apply for fuel, food, and pharmacy programs. Our nutrition programs partially fund meal sites and home delivered meals under the guidance of our registered dietitian. Working with RCT and Legal Aid, we provide for the complex challenges people face while living in a rural community. Our work is supplemented by over 370 volunteers who serve as home-delivered meals drivers, wellness program leaders, and home-based caregivers.

As a private, 501c (3) non-profit corporation, we have been serving older Vermonters for over 42 years. This year, we are requesting the amount of \$300.00 from the residents of the town of Norton. We have enclosed a brief letter in support of this request for inclusion in your town report and a copy of our 2021 Annual Report.

Suggested wording for the warning article for town meeting follows: *"Shall the town vote to appropriate the sum of \$300.00 to assist the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging in providing services to older Vermonters in the ensuing year."*

Please feel free to contact me should you have questions or need additional information.

Warm regards on behalf of the staff and Board of Directors of the NEK Council on Aging,

Meg Burmeister
Executive Director
www.nekcouncil.org

The mission of the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging is to *"Help People Age with Independence and Dignity."* Our goal is to enhance the ability of these Vermonters to live as independently as possible, actively participating in and contributing to their communities.

181 Crawford Road - Derby
PO Box 724 Newport VT 05855
Phone 802-334-6744 Fax 802-334-7455
Toll free 800-696-4979

2225 Portland Street
PO Box 368 St. Johnsbury VT 05819
Phone 802-748-3181 Fax 802-748-0704
Toll free 800-649-0118

www.nkhs.org



NORTHEAST
KINGDOM
HUMAN
SERVICES

Serving the NEK
since 1960

November 22, 2021

Town of Norton Select Board
PO BOX 33
NORTON, VT 05907
townofnorton@gmail.com

RE: 2022 Town Meeting Appropriation Request

Dear Town of Norton Select Board and Community Members:

The professional employees at Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc. follow the mission to empower individuals, families, and communities by promoting hope, healing, and support. We ask for you to financially support our mission and agency by including the following article in your 2022 Town Meeting Warning.

ARTICLE: Shall the Town of Norton vote to raise, appropriate, and expend the sum of \$338 for the support of Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc., a not for profit 501(c)(3), to support community members who cannot otherwise afford care to improve their lives through confidential program services for emergency crisis, mental health, addiction, and/or developmental/intellectual challenges?

This appropriation request amount represents 0.35% of appropriation requests from 48 towns we serve in the Northeast Kingdom. This request is the same amount as voted at the 2021 Town Meeting.

A summary report of how Northeast Kingdom Human Services supported your town is included with this letter. We will send the NKHS Summary FY21 Financial Statement as requested in a separate email.

For more information about our agency and services, please visit our website at <https://www.nkhs.org>, or call our offices in Derby (802-334-6744) or St. Johnsbury (802-748-3181). Emergency Services are available 24/7.

We strive to respond to community needs with quality care.

Respectfully,

Northeast Kingdom Human Services Board of Directors and Leadership Team

Contact Ruth Marquette at RMarquette@nkhs.net regarding appropriation questions.

We're all about being human.

Northeast Kingdom Learning Services, Inc.

55 Seymour Lane, Suite 11
Newport, VT 05855

1-844-GO NEKLS(466-3557) / toll free
(802) 334-6532 / phone
(802) 334-6555 / fax

info@neklsvt.org
www.NEKLSVT.org



"Every success story is a tale of constant adaptation, revision, and change."

Richard Branson

December 2021

Dear Valued and Appreciated Voters of Norton,

Northeast Kingdom Learning Services, Inc. (NEKLS), like many non-profits, has been impacted by the COVID pandemic. We are seeing a reduction in the number of referrals leading to fewer students. This has had an impact on staffing levels. Remaining staff has had to deal with their children's schools closing and switching to remote learning, with COVID positive cases, and with close contact identifications resulting in quarantining. All of these factors have lead to fewer funds coming into NEKLS to support operations and program delivery while operational costs remain steady.

NEKLS is adapting, revisoning and changing in response to COVID 19 and other programmatic changes outside of NEKLS's control. We are implementing more distance learning opportunities via Zoom and video chats with our students and families. We have hired an Outreach Specialist who is working to spread the word about us in all of the communities throughout the tri-county region, and we have begun to see the positive impact of this work.

The services that NEKLS delivers as the NEK's Adult Education and Literacy provider are critical to achieving Vermont's stated goals for individuals and families:

- We provide learners with educational services of the scope and rigor needed for the attainment of a high school diploma.
- We prepare Vermonters for good paying jobs available from many diversified employers, and for work in a variety of sectors.
- We help Vermont's children and young people achieve their potential.
- We help Vermonters with disabilities and elders live with dignity and in the setting they prefer.
- Our programs and services support Vermont in achieving a "Prosperous Economy".

The need for literacy and adult education programs leading to career and college readiness is higher than ever as Vermonters of the NEK recover from the COVID -19 pandemic. When people have the literacy skills they need, they can pursue further education or careers. They will also have better health outcomes and more stable employment and housing.

As seen first hand during the COVID 19 pandemic, childcare is a critical component of a "Prosperous Economy". Without access to affordable, high quality, sustainable childcare, Vermonters cannot access or retain employment. NEKLS opened up the *Ready, Set, Grow Childcare Center* in late 2019, just months before the COVID-19 pandemic erupted. NEKLS supports the work of *Let's Grow Kids* and the Vermont

Our mission is to inspire and empower learners, birth and beyond.

legislators who are working diligently to improve access to and affordability of high quality early education and childcare. It takes a village to raise a child, and our village is a community of providers addressing challenges in education, workforce development, childcare, mental health, housing, food insecurity, substance misuse, and business development. Our village also includes people like you who, by voting to support appropriations to the non-profit providers of these services, including NEKLS, make a crucial difference in the lives of our children, our grandchildren, our friends and our neighbors.

NEKLS is committed to providing the highest quality of services, and our success is measured by the success of the Vermonters we serve. Thank you for your past support of NEKLS. We look forward to your continued support and respectfully requests a town appropriation of \$250.00 this year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Faust". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michelle Faust, M.S.
Executive Director

NORTHWOODS
STEWARDSHIP CENTER
Connecting people and place through science, education and action

December 15, 2021

Town of Norton
PO Box 33
Norton, VT 05907

Dear Members of the Norton Selectboard,

I am writing to express our sincere thanks for your past support respectfully request that the Town of Norton renew its support for the NorthWoods Stewardship Center by placing an item on the warning at Town Meeting for an appropriation of \$250.

NorthWoods offers widespread conservation and educational services throughout the region and is supported through the generosity of private individuals, local communities, charitable grants, and fee-for-service contracts. We provide reduced-cost educational programs (including camps, After School Programs, and natural science activities); summer Conservation Corps jobs for local youth; and a variety of practical workshops for adults throughout the year.

The Conservation Corps youth gain hands-on work experience, environmental education, career training, and a hard-earned paycheck while completing valuable stewardship work, and we take pleasure in hiring from local communities to encourage engagement in the recreational opportunities that our area is rich with.

The NorthWoods Stewardship Center is a local organization and we invite all Norton residents to visit us at our East Charleston location to enjoy a ski, paddle, or nature hike or to join us for one of our youth camps or landowner education programs. Support from the Town of Norton is critical to the success of these programs and *we appreciate your support!*

Thank you. I am happy to respond to any questions or comments.

Sincerely,



Maria Young
Executive Director
NorthWoods Stewardship Center

Skilled Nursing
Occupational Therapy
Physical Therapy
Speech Therapy
Licensed Nurses Aides
Nutrition
Social Services



Hospice
Maternal Child Health
Special Services
Long Term Care
Personal Care Attendants
Homemakers

Phone: (802) 334-5213

Fax: (802) 334-8822

46 Lakemont Road Newport, Vermont 05855

Lyne B. Limoges, MSN, RN, Executive Director

SERVICE REPORT FY 2021 ORLEANS ESSEX V.N.A. and HOSPICE, INC.

Orleans Essex Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) and Hospice, Inc. provides professional quality home health services to the residents of the 24 communities in Orleans and northern Essex counties. We serve the elderly, homebound and chronically ill through the VNA and homemaker programs and the terminally ill through our Hospice program. Special programs include a variety of clinics available to the public. As the only not-for-profit agency serving the area, our services are available to anyone in need regardless of their ability to pay and all clients are charged the same fee for the same service. We are locally controlled by a volunteer Board of Directors representing the towns we serve. We adhere to strict regulations, which prohibit the practice of charging more to a client who can afford services to compensate for those who cannot. All revenue, by law, goes back into the Agency to provide, maintain, and improve services and programs.

SUMMARY OF SERVICES:

Total Agency Visits FY 2021.....	42,199
Total Visits FY 2021 - Town of Norton.....	95

During Fiscal Year 2021, home based services were provided to 9 individuals in Norton for a total of 95 multi-disciplinary visits. 2 residents received services through Agency-sponsored wellness programs.

Appropriation Request for 2022.....\$1,500.00

Members of your community are in need of services daily and they receive them from the dedicated staff of the Orleans Essex VNA and Hospice, seven days a week, 24-hours a day. The funds your community appropriates to our Agency allow us to continue providing much needed care to individuals without third party insurance and those unable to pay, and provide special programs open to all community members. The Orleans Essex VNA & Hospice is supported by donations, service fees, and the generosity of communities who realize that in order to continue providing high quality home health services to their family members, friends, and neighbors, appropriations are desperately needed.

Respectfully submitted,
Lyne B. Limoges, MSN, RN
Executive Director



Rural Community Transportation, Inc.

1677 Industrial Parkway • Lyndonville, Vermont 05851

Phone: (802)748-8170 • Fax: (802)748-5275 • <http://riderct.org>

"COMMUNITY IS OUR MIDDLE NAME"

December 2, 2021

Town of Norton
Norton Town Office
P.O. Box 33
Norton, VT 05907

Re: Request for town appropriation

Dear Norton Voters,

Rural Community Transportation, Inc. (RCT) respectfully requests that the following special appropriation article appear on the 2022 warning for the Town Meeting:

Article: Shall the Town of Norton vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of **\$300.00** for the support of **Rural Community Transportation, Inc.** to provide services to residents of the Town of Norton.

RCT is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation which provides public transportation services throughout Caledonia, Orleans, Essex and Lamoille Counties. In FY2021, RCT provided 60 rides to 2 residents of Norton, traveling 561 miles at a total cost of \$314.69. RCT continued to provide safety-focused, demand-based rides in COVID-19 pandemic conditions without interruption in service.

RCT operates with federal and state funding; however, our funding sources typically require between 20% and 50% locally matched dollars. All town appropriations received are used to provide the required local match, and are therefore vital to RCT's operation.

We hope you will vote to fund this request, and RCT looks forward to continued service to the residents of Norton.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amy Obenauf".

Amy Obenauf
Administrative Coordinator



September 20, 2021

Town of Norton
PO Box 33
Norton, VT 05907

Dear Select Board,

The mission of Vermont Family Network (VFN) is to empower and support all Vermont children, youth, and families, especially those with disabilities or special health needs. Formed in 2008 when two organizations, the Vermont Parent Information Center (VPIC) and Parent to Parent of Vermont (P2P), merged, VFN has collectively served the families across Vermont for more than 30 years. Vermont children, youth, and families are provided with a “one-stop-shop” to help them reach their full potential. VFN gives a strong start, lifts family voices, and advances inclusive communities.

We are writing you today to ask for your support in continuing to serve families in Norton and throughout the state, with an appropriation of \$250. Traditionally primarily funded through state and federal grants, we find that waning funds threaten to slow our work and minimize the number of families we can support. We are reaching out to communities like Norton where we have served many families to seek your help. Your appropriation will help ensure the work we can do all around the state continues to happen with the same excellence and care that it has for the past 30 years.

We are proud to serve over 1,400 families yearly with expert information, referral, and assistance services provided by family support consultants located in Williston, Newport, and Rutland, an annual conference and more through our Family Support Program.

Vermont Family Network is also home to Puppets in Education, an educational puppetry team that teaches children and parents about important issues like anxiety awareness, bullying, child abuse, and disability awareness through engaging performances that emphasize compassion, respect, effective leadership, and communication. Each year over 10,000 school children and adults benefit from these educational programs and workshops.

Thank you so much for your consideration. The funding received will go a long way to ensuring our ability to continue to provide the much-needed services to Vermont families. Please feel free to reach out to me at Claire.giroux-williams@vfn.org, or my cell phone at 301-509-2435 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Claire Giroux-Williams
Development and Communications Manager
Vermont Family Network



Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force

Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD)
170 Lower Sumner Hill Road, Sumner, ME 04292
(802) 828-4582 | dryhydrantguy@yahoo.com | www.vacd.org

November 15, 2021

Re: **Request for Town Appropriation, Vermont Rural Fire Protection Program**

Dear Board of Selectpersons, Town Clerks and Auditors:

On behalf of the Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force, I am writing to request your support of the Vermont Rural Fire Protection (RFP) Program, formerly called the Dry Hydrant Grant Program. The RFP program helps Vermont communities protect lives, property, and natural resources by enhancing fire suppression resources. Program Manager and Engineering Technician Troy Dare 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. During the **23+ years** of the program, almost **1200 grants** totaling over **\$2.6 million** have been provided to Vermont towns for installation of new rural fire protection systems, as well as for replacements and repairs.

The Rural Fire Protection Program is managed by the Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD). VACD is the membership association of Vermont's fourteen Natural Resources Conservation Districts, whose mission is to work with landowners and communities to protect natural resources and support the working landscape throughout the state.

We have made several adjustments to the Rural Fire Protection Grant Program, including changing the name from Dry Hydrant Grant Program to Rural Fire Protection Program to better reflect the diverse range of projects we support. We have increased the maximum grant award amount from \$5,000 to \$10,000 per project. New rural fire protection systems, along with repair, replacement, relocation, upgrades of existing systems, and drafting site development, are eligible for grant funding on an ongoing basis. And we now consider applications from Vermont towns and fire departments on a revolving basis throughout the year rather than just once a year.

The annual expense of the Rural Fire Protection Program in FY 2021 was **\$193,930**, of which **\$92,909** was paid in grants to Vermont communities for construction costs. The remaining budget covered site assessments, project design and program oversight. Most of our funding comes from the Vermont Department of Public Safety through annual appropriations by the Vermont Legislature. In addition, the program receives support from the US Forest Service through the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation. Unfortunately, these grants do not completely cover the costs of the program. Therefore,

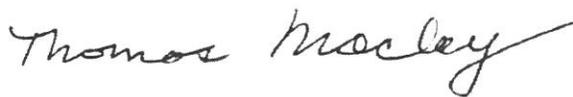
we are respectfully requesting that you include a \$100 appropriation in your town budget to support the Rural Fire Protection Program. Last year, we received over **\$11,000** in town appropriations from over **100** towns, with contributions still coming in. We are deeply grateful for your ongoing support.

215 Vermont communities have benefitted from the Rural Fire Protection program. Our goal is to extend this support to all Vermont towns and continue to assist local fire departments in reducing the risk of injury, loss of life, and damage to property and natural resources, thereby improving the safety and welfare of Vermont communities.

Enclosed please find a summary report for the Rural Water Supply Grant Program, as well as an invoice and W-9 from VACD in case they are required. VACD's tax form 990 is also available upon request. Please feel free to contact me, Troy Dare, or Jill Arace, Executive Director of VACD, with any questions you may have. Our contact information is provided below. If you would like to receive this appropriation request by mail instead of by email, please contact Troy Dare.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Tom Maclay, Chair
Rural Fire Protection Task Force
(802) 426-3265 | 83creameryst@fairpoint.net

Troy Dare, Program Manager & contact person Town Appropriation business
Vermont Rural Fire Protection Program
(802) 828-4582 | dryhydrantguy@yahoo.com

Jill Arace, Executive Director
Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD)
(802) 496-5162 | jill.arace@vacd.org

Rural Fire Protection Task Force Members:

Tom Maclay, Chair, Marshfield VFD
Bill Sanborn, Vice-Chair, Town of Maidstone
Walter Bothfeld, Jr., Cabot VFD
Tyler Hermanson, VT Enhanced 9-1-1
Mike Greenia, Vermont Division of Fire Safety
Christine Kaiser, Stowe VT
Lars Lund, VT Forest Parks & Recreation

BEECHER FALLS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC
REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING 2021

CURRENT MEMBERS

Wilman Allen	Paul Cote	Alan Leigh	Hunter Roy
Christian Anderson	Robert Couture	Daniel Lepine	Roland Roy
Dillon Begin	Harland Crawford	Kesler Lyons	Chris Tanerillo
Brian Bissonnette	Vernon Crawford	Tucker McMann	Steve Young
Chris Bissonnette	Scott DeGray	Todd Nichols	
Robert Brousseau	Norman Flanagan	Steven Noyes	
Peter Bunnell	Jamie Fogg	Philip Pariseau	
Douglas Burns	Nick Goudreau	Chris Ricker	
Bernard Charest	Raymond Higgins	Philip Rondeau	
John Charest	Ken Knapper	Nathaniel Rougeau	

We were able to add three new members in 2021 and we lost five due to various reasons. The new members were Alan Leigh, Raymond Higgins, and Tucker McMann.

The Beecher Falls Volunteer Fire department answered a total of 89 emergency calls in the fiscal year December 1, 2020 to November 30, 2021. Our call volume continues to be down. This is due to the pandemic. Once the pandemic became bad we decided to not run medical calls anymore unless special requested by the ambulance corps. This was done to decrease exposure to our members and help prevent a large outbreak that could have affected the response for fires. We still responded as usual to any type of rescue or motor vehicle accident which will continue. Going forward we are not sure at this time what the future holds for the department pertaining to medical emergencies. There are only a very few members who are certified in EMS. A new licensing period is coming up and it is anticipated that we are going to lose a couple more responders as they are not going to recertify. Most of our EMS responders have been doing this for a very long time and some are ready to step down. There is a lot of time involved in keeping up with the training and recertification. Along with that when we were responding to everything we were going out 4-5 times a week. The department has tried to get more involved within the department and also tried membership drives to increase the number of EMS responders but this has been unsuccessful. We will continue to move forward and see where it takes.

The officers of the department would like to thank the membership for all their hard work over the past year. Every Wednesday evening there is always a few at the station either training, cleaning and maintaining equipment, or doing whatever may need to be done to keep things ready to go.

As always we are looking for new members. Just reach out to any member or stop by the station on any Wednesday evening.

We want to thank everyone who has reached out to us in different ways for your continued support it is greatly appreciated.

Chief Steve Young,
Beecher Falls Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

45th Parallel Emergency Medical Services

2021 Annual Report



Proudly serving the Communities of:
Canaan, Clarksville, Colebrook, Columbia, Dixville, Lemington,
Norton, Pittsburg, Stewartstown, and the United Towns and
Gores

January 2022

Introduction

The 45th Parallel EMS is a 501-C-3 nonprofit corporation that was founded in 2008 to provide emergency medical services to Beecher Falls, Canaan, Clarksville, Colebrook, Columbia, Dixville, Lemington, Norton, Pittsburg, Stewartstown, and the United Towns and Gores. The agency started as a mix of volunteer and paid staff and has steadily grown over the years. The 45th Parallel EMS is now a full-time paramedic level service, offering the highest available Advanced Life Support services to the member towns, and critical care transport services between local hospitals and larger specialty care and trauma centers.

The 45th Parallel EMS has a Medical Resource Hospital Agreement (MHRA) with Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital in Colebrook, NH, and a transport contract with North Country Hospital in Newport, VT. The 45th Parallel EMS also provides interfacility transport services to Androscoggin Valley Hospital, Cottage Hospital, Littleton Regional Hospital, Memorial Hospital, Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital, Spere Memorial Hospital and Weeks Medical Center.

2021 Ambulance Activity

- 911 Responses 719
- Interfacility Transport Responses 553
- Total Call Volume 1272

Responses by Town

Town	2020 Call Volume	2021 Call Volume	% Change since 2020
Canaan	45	66	46.67%
Clarksville	30	25	-16.67%
Colebrook	278	302	8.63%
Columbia	62	61	-1.61%
Dixville	6	1	-83.33%
Lemington	9	15	66.67%
Norton	21	18	-14.29%
Pittsburg	84	116	38.10%
Stewartstown	113	69	-38.94%
UTG	3	5	66.67%

Equipment

The 45th Parallel EMS currently owns and operates a fleet of 5 ambulances:

- **45A1** – 2012 AEV type III Ford E450
- **45A2** – 2017 AEV Type 1 F-550 4x4
- **45A3** – 2015 AEV Type 1 F-550 4x4
- **45A4** – 2016 AEV Type 1 F-550 4x4
- **45A5** – 2020 Demers Type II Ford Transit

Personnel

The 45th Parallel EMS strives to provide the highest quality of patient care possible. Maintaining a highly educated, skilled and competent staff are critical to our mission. We currently employ:

- 8 Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT)
- 2 Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians (AEMT)
- 7 Nationally Registered Paramedics (NRP).
 - All paramedics have completed either the Certified Intensive Care Provider (CICP) program, or the CCEMT-P Critical Care Paramedic class.

Due to significant shortages in EMS staffing nationwide, we have expanded our search for employees beyond the local community. As a result of these efforts, the 45th Parallel EMS has recruited talented and highly qualified staffing from all over New England. At the time of this writing, approximately 40% of our staff commutes long distances to provide care to the community. The average commute time is one hour and 15 minutes. Without these providers, we would not be able to offer adequate services. The members of the 45th Parallel EMS would like to extend the invitation to any community members that may be interested in learning about EMS and helping the community.

Community Education and Involvement

The 45th Parallel EMS offers CPR and First Aid training through the American Heart Association. Classes are available for healthcare workers, daycare providers, and community members. In addition to Basic Life Support (BLS) classes, the 45th Parallel EMS now has instructors trained to teach Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), and International Trauma Life Support (ITLS). For more information on these classes, please contact or visit our station.

The 45th Parallel EMS continues to work with area schools and law enforcement agencies to provide "Stop the Bleed" classes to healthcare professionals and community members. Stop the Bleed is intended to cultivate grassroots efforts that encourage bystanders to become trained, equipped, and empowered to help in a bleeding emergency before professional help arrives.

Public Access Defibrillators

The 45th Parallel EMS maintains Public Access Defibrillators in local businesses, schools, public buildings and churches. As part of an Emergency Response Plan, the importance of Public Access Defibrillators cannot be stressed enough.

- Defibrillation within three minutes of sudden cardiac arrest increases the chances of survival to 70 percent. Shock within one minute of collapse raises the survival rate to 90 percent.
- Calling 911 is necessary, but the wait for first responders can take too long. The national average call-to-shock time is nine minutes.
- OSHA now recommends AEDs in the workplace, and recent legislation requires many workplaces to provide them.

The 45th Parallel EMS would like to extend our thanks to **Bangor Savings Bank** for providing a grant to help maintain this program.

911 Signs

Being able to easily identify the address of the incident is of vital importance in an emergency. Having a reflective 911 sign that is clearly visible from the road helps improve our ability to respond. The 45th Parallel EMS can provide you with a 6" x 18" reflective sign to mark your address. These signs are sold by donation, and readily available at our station.

Board of Directors

As a non-profit organization, the 45th Parallel EMS is governed by a Board of Directors. Members are appointed from every town, fire department and Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital. The Board of Directors meets 6 times a year to oversee the business operation of the company. The board currently has openings for two "at large members". These positions are perfect for community members that are interested in getting involved.

Edward Laverty, Chairman
Steve Young, Vice Chairman
Greg Placy, 2nd Vice Chair
Michel Dionne, Treasurer
Mike Collins, Secretary
Anthony Soldo (alternate rep)
Arnold Gray
Barbara Nolan
Dan Keenan
David White
Dwayne Covell
Earl Bunnell
Jennifer Fish
Richard Judd
Robert Couture
Scott Colby

Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital
Beecher Falls Volunteer Fire Department
Town of Colebrook
Town of Clarksville
Town of Columbia
United Towns and Gores
Pittsburg Fire Department
United Towns and Gores
Town of Norton
Town of Lemington
Town of Stewartstown
Colebrook Fire Department
Town of Dixville
Town of Pittsburg
Town of Canaan
Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital

A Note from the Chief

It is a pleasure to present the 2021 Annual Report for the 45th Parallel Emergency Medical Services. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve this community for another year. The ongoing Covid-19 pandemic continues to present new challenges in healthcare and the field of EMS. Nationwide staffing shortages and rapidly rising inflation that affects operational costs continue to strain the healthcare system. The 45th Parallel EMS has only continued to operate and grow during this time thanks to the dedication and hard work of our employees, and the overwhelming community support we receive.

2021 was a busy year for the 45th Parallel EMS, with a 13% increase in total call volume from 2020. A total of 1,272 ambulance calls were handled by our staff. This is an 11% increase in 911 emergency responses, and a 33% increase in interfacility transports between hospitals for advanced or specialty medical care. The ongoing Covid-19 pandemic has drastically reduced bed availability at tertiary care centers such as Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. As a result, many interfacility transports have been pushed to hospitals further away. It is now becoming routine to transport patients as far away as Boston or Springfield, Massachusetts, Portland or Bangor, Maine, or Burlington, Vermont. We have even received requests to transport patients to Connecticut, Rhode Island, and New York.

Over the past 3 budget years, our Board of Directors, administrators, and staff have managed to keep budget increases to a minimum, averaging a 1% increase in requested appropriations from our core towns. We have also increased our efforts to seek other sources of revenue to offset costs. This effort includes expanding our interfacility transport business to a larger number of facilities, improving revenues from patient billing. Despite these efforts, the current economic climate and inflation has caused some significant increases in expenses. From fuel prices to the cost of medical supplies and insurances, all operational costs have gone up. As a result, this year's budget includes a 10% increase in our appropriation request. We understand that these are difficult financial times for everyone. Our staff and our Board of Directors will continue to work diligently to keep further cost increases to a minimum, and seek additional alternative methods of funding.

Thank you for your continued support of the 45th Parallel EMS. For more information on our CPR, First Aid and Stop the Bleed classes, Public Access Defibrillator Program, 911 sign campaign, or to learn how you can get involved, please contact us at (603) 237-5593, or feel free to stop by our station at 46 Ramsey Road, Colebrook, NH 03576.

Respectfully submitted,



Nathan J. Borland, NRP, CICP
Chief Executive Officer
45th Parallel EMS



“THE GREATEST THREAT TO OUR PLANET IS THE BELIEF THAT SOMEONE ELSE WILL SAVE IT”

Robert Swan, Explorer

Town of Norton
Gina Vigneault
P.O. Box 33
Norton, VT 05907

Thank You Norton
for helping keep Vermont a
beautiful place to live, work & play!

Your contribution makes a difference
#togetherwecan #greenupVT

Green Up Vermont
P.O. Box 1191
Montpelier, VT 05601-1191

www.greenupvermont.org

CHAIR

Michael Casella

CHAIR EMERITUS

F. Sheldon Prentice

VICE CHAIR

Parker Riehle

TREASURER

Corinna Costello

BOARD MEMBERS

Caleb Basa
Ronda Berns
Justin Brown
Erin Desautels
Ara Hagan
Lucas Herring
Bryn Oakleaf
Denise Palmer
Heather Pelham
Gene Richards

Appropriation Request Letter

Dear Residents of Norton

Thank you for your past appropriation to Green Up Vermont in support of Green Up Day. We had a great turnout with 22,000 volunteers picking up 418 TONS of trash and 16,250 tires from our roads and waterways. This amazing community service and sense of pride keeps our towns not only looking good, but also safe and healthy places to live. Your help is crucial in sustaining this mission of clean environments and teaching our youth to care about their communities. Your contribution is so appreciated and makes a real impact.

As Green Up rolls into our 52nd year, we are again requesting your support for the usual \$50.00 appropriation. The amount requested is based on town population and goes directly back to your town in the way of supplies, educational tools for your schools, and local promotion for Green Up Day.

• 0-1,000	\$50	• 1001 - 2000	\$100	• 2001 - 3000	\$150
• 3001 - 4,000	\$200	• 4,001 up	\$300		

Green Up Vermont is a private, non-profit organization whose mission is to promote the stewardship of our state's natural landscape and waterways and the livability of our communities by involving people in Green Up Day and raising public awareness about the health, economic and visual benefits of a litter-free environment year-round. Through this pandemic we learned that Vermonters feel Green Up Day was the one event that shouldn't ever be canceled and found safe ways to continue it. Let's keep building strong communities by working together for our beautiful way of life.

Mark your calendar for **Green Up Day 2022, May 7th** and help us celebrate 52 years of keeping Vermont green! Please contact me anytime with any questions or comments. I am pleased to serve your community and look forward to working with you again. Thank you so very much!

Kate Alberghini, Executive Director
802-522-7245 • greenup@greenupvermont.org

Payment Reminder for Green Up Appropriation 2021

We haven't yet received a check for your 2021 Green Up Appropriation. We realize many of you submit payment upon receipt of this notice. If you think our accounting is in error please contact us at greenup@greenupvermont.org or 522-7245.

Your 2021 balance due is \$0.00 Invoice #1069 Thank you!

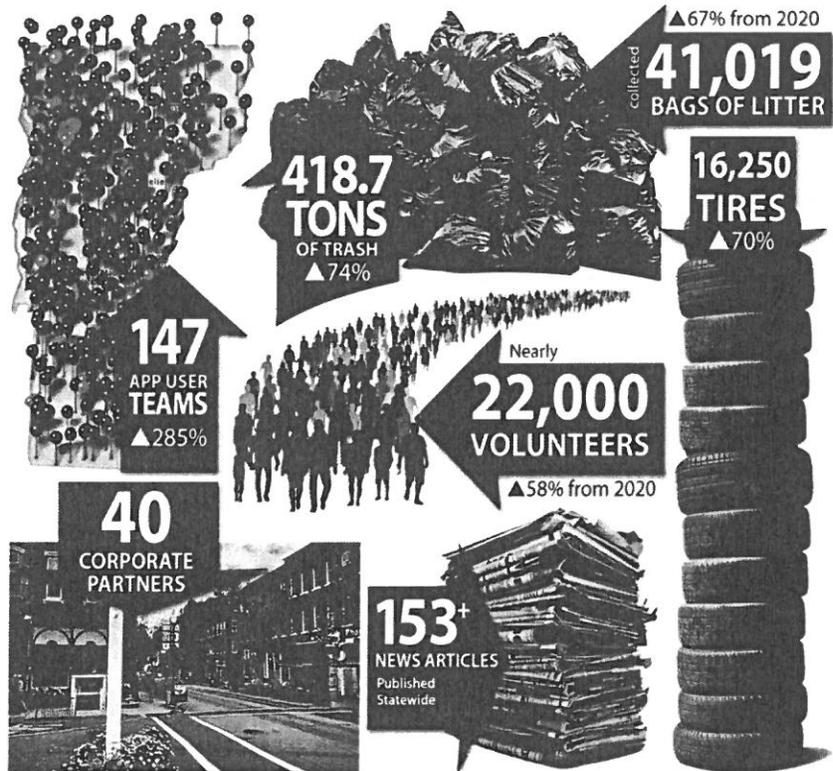
Green Up's mission is to promote the stewardship of our state's natural landscape and waterways and the livability of our communities by involving people in Green Up Day and raising public awareness about the benefits of a litter-free environment.

Green Up Vermont is a 501(c)(3) private nonprofit corporation.



GREEN UP VERMONT
www.greenupvermont.org

Green Up Day
May 7, 2022



Green Up Day on May 1, 2021 was a huge success thanks to nearly 22,000 volunteers statewide who Greened Up. The infographic shows that all your hard work to beautify Vermont is needed and that it makes where we get to live, work, and play a very special place. As one of Vermont's favorite holidays, it is imperative for today and for future generations to keep building pride, awareness, and stewardship for a clean Vermont environment.

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

Along with Green Up Day, we work year-round to further our impact with waste reduction initiatives, additional clean-up efforts, and educational programs.

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

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

Visit our website, like us on Facebook (@greenupvermont), and follow us on Instagram (greenupvermont). greenup@greenupvermont.org 229-4586



January 26, 2022

For Immediate Release

Contact: Christa Shute, Executive Director
Director@nekbroadband.org
(802) 793-7077

NEK Broadband Lights Up Internet Service to Its First Customers

Concord, Vermont – While many took a break for the holiday season, NEK Broadband and its partners were hard at work completing the first section of its fiber-optic network and customer installations. Construction crews battled inclement weather to finish hanging fiber-optic cable on utility poles, installing “drops” to customers’ homes, and turning on the very first service on its new network. When this initial project is complete, almost 350 addresses in parts of Concord and Lunenburg, plus a few addresses in Waterford, can subscribe for access to 100 Mbps symmetrical service or higher. The results were seen immediately by customers.

According to Don Whitehead, “It has been a struggle working from home on DSL. I have had to drive to the office just to move a large file. I was pretty skeptical when construction started in November. But I was connected before December 31st. Download speed is more than 50 times faster than dual-band DSL and upload speed is more than 250 times faster.”

George Babcock was enthusiastic, “The installation crew was awesome and it was painless and fast. The biggest difference we’ve noticed is the quality of streaming television and the drastic reduction in buffering. Thanks for bringing the Northeast Kingdom into the 21st century!”

NEK Broadband has partnered with Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom (WCVT), a 118-year old, third generation family-owned Vermont telecommunications company as their internet operator. “WCVT brings over twenty years of experience in building a rural fiber-optic network,” reports Board Chair Evan Carlson, “our customers can rely on their standards of quality service.”

This project was funded under the federal CARES Act, which required that network construction be completed by year-end 2021. NEK Broadband received an initial grant of \$460,000 for parts of Concord. An agreement with Lamoille FiberNet provided an additional \$399,000 sub-grant for a total of over 350 locations in Concord and Lunenburg.

“This initial project proves that the Communications Union District (CUD) model can be successful. We had a very short time to get it designed, engineered, permitted and built. All our partners and vendors, including Eustis Cable, Green Mountain Power, Mission Broadband, the

National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative, VELCO and Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom pulled out all the stops to make this project happen in a very tight timeframe," said Executive Director Christa Shute.

Additionally, a great deal of volunteer time and effort from NEK Broadband board members was involved. That commitment will continue throughout the five-to-seven-year timeline to reach all 55 towns in Orleans, Caledonia and Essex counties, as well as Wolcott.

There are other successes the organization is celebrating:

As of this month, 100% of the towns in the Northeast Kingdom, plus Wolcott in Lamoille County, are now members of the organization.

NEK Broadband recently received a 6.7-million-dollar pre-construction grant from the Vermont Community Broadband Board (VCBB) to help fund the detailed design, construction planning, and administration of the entire network.

A successful transfer of formerly state-owned fiber means that the organization now has an additional 170 miles through much of the northern areas.

Residents throughout the Northeast Kingdom and Wolcott are encouraged to indicate their interest in subscribing at <https://get.nekbroadband.org>. Although the complete network could take up to seven years to build, registering now will help the process. On the website, potential subscribers will provide an address and contact information, as well as complete a brief survey. NEK Broadband will provide ongoing updates to all those who have registered as well as through local media outlets.

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About NEK Broadband

NEK Broadband is a community-driven organization working to ensure every resident in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont has access to high-speed internet. Affordable internet is central to creating greater economic prosperity and educational opportunities for today's residents and for future generations. Formed on March 3, 2020, NEK Broadband is a Communications Union District (CUD) representing every town in Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties, plus Wolcott in Lamoille county.



To the Voters of Norton

The Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) has long been a regional advocate for stronger communities and vibrant local economies. As the state's only combined regional planning and economic development organization, we are uniquely suited to effectively serve the municipalities and businesses of the Northeast Kingdom.

This year, we are once more requesting dues from our member communities. These funds are critical as they allow our team of professionals to provide direct technical assistance to the 50+ municipalities and the many businesses in our region. Municipal contributions also allow us to leverage other state and federal funds for our region.

While local governance becomes more complex, our talented team staff is there to assist our member communities. Throughout 2021, we remained focused on the challenges presented by COVID while seeking opportunities to aid in regional recovery. We quickly mobilized to help all local governments secure ARPA funding and connected businesses and communities to other state and federal recovery resources. Our regular services continued as well, including:

- Land use planning & regulation – town plans and bylaws, and technical assistance for local officials;
- Transportation studies, Infrastructure inventories, and Project planning;
- Digital mapping and GIS services;
- Grant writing and administration for community and regional projects;
- Direct business support, referral services, and lending to employers in our region;
- Energy planning and water quality planning to help communities meet evolving statutory requirements;
- Local emergency planning and hazard mitigation planning;
- Brownfield assessments and planning;
- Economic development activities to grow and strengthen businesses in our region;
- Municipal education and training opportunities for local officials.

How have we served your community?

In Norton, NVDA Staff worked to provide Emergency Planning and Preparation, Planning and Zoning Assistance, Grants in Aid Technical Assistance, and provided COVID 19 information.

NVDA's municipal dues have remained level *since 2016* at \$0.75 per capita rate, with a maximum of \$3,500 and a minimum of \$500. We take great pride in providing professional services to the communities and businesses of the NEK, but next year an increase is expected so we may continue providing a high level of service. We take pride in keeping communities aware of new opportunities through our e-newsletter and social media. Contact us at tgonyaw@nvda.net to receive our e-newsletter and like us on Facebook.

Sincerely,
David Snedeker
Executive Director



November 29, 2021

Town of Norton, Vermont
Town Clerk
PO Box 148
Norton, Vermont 05907

Throughout the past 18 months, Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital (UCVH) has provided critical service to the citizens of Northern Coos County, including those in Norton.

- Norton residents count on us to share critical, data-driven information about the COVID-19 pandemic through regular advertising in local newspapers and ongoing Facebook posts.
- Our clinical staff participated in regular weekly emergency response meetings providing your municipal leaders with the information they needed to continue serving Norton citizens with confidence despite the rapidly changing work environment.
- Between October 1, 2020 and September 20, 2021, UCVH administered 4,968 COVID tests and 4,369 COVID vaccinations.

In 2022, we are planning changes to Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital to improve the quality of care we provide. Those changes include:

- Upgrades to the in-patient HVAC system to include room-to-room negative and positive pressure capabilities for the safest possible patient and clinical staff standards. We must prepare for the reality of highly contagious viruses continuing into our future.
- Full replacement of our telephone system to ensure predictable internal and external access to and from all departments at UCVH.
- Complete renovation of the Post Anesthesia Care Unit to provide more space for surgical patients and staff prior to and after surgery.

As you can see, while we face the daily onslaught from the COVID pandemic and its variants, we strive for providing the highest quality care to the citizens of Norton. We are here for you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and we appreciate your appropriation to support our critical work.

Thank you


Scott G. Colby
President & CEO

2021 Local Health Annual Report

Twelve Local Health District Offices around the state provide health services and promote wellness for all Vermonters. Additional information about your local health office and related programs can be found at <https://www.healthvermont.gov/local>.

COVID-19

It has been almost two years since the COVID-19 pandemic began, and in response, our families, schools, businesses, first responders, and countless other groups have worked to better protect the health of our communities. Together we ensured towns had access to the vaccine, testing, and other services needed to make more informed decisions about their health. As of December 1, 2021, approximately

- 494,000 Vermonters received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine.
- 546,055 people have been tested and a total of 2,570,835 tests completed.
- Many COVID-19 resources are now provided in over 20 different languages.
- Up-to-date information, including town-level data can be found on the Health Department's website: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity>.

Public Health Programs

In addition to COVID-19 response efforts, Local Health offices continue to provide health services and programs to Vermont communities, including but not limited to

- In collaboration with Town Health Officers and other local partners, we help Vermonters better understand the relationship between their environment and their health at a time when more of us are spending time at home with our families. Find information about environmental health and lead, asbestos, toxic chemicals, child safety, food safety, climate change, drinking water, and more at <https://www.healthvermont.gov/environment>.
- The WIC nutrition program continues to provide primarily remote access to services with phone appointments. In 2021, an average of approximately 11,300 infants, children, and pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding people were served by WIC in Vermont each month.
- As of November 23, 2021, 193,000 flu vaccine doses have been administered. Protecting people from influenza continues to be particularly important as the flu may complicate recovery from COVID-19.

Thank you to everyone involved in supporting these efforts. We look forward to what 2022 brings, to seeing you in the community, and encourage you to stay in touch with us.

The VT Spay Neuter Incentive Program aka "VSNIP", under the oversight of the VT Economic Services Department, is administered by VT Volunteer Services for Animals Humane Society (VWSA). VSNIP helps financially challenged Vermont residents spay/neuter cats and dogs for \$27.00. The balance is paid by fellow Vermonters when dogs are licensed by an added \$4.00 fee, the major funding for this important program. Funds are determined by the number of dogs licensed, which is required by law when a dog is six months of age. A current rabies vaccination is required to register, and a rabies vaccination can be administered after 12 weeks of age for both cats and dogs.

Prostate and mammary cancer is more likely to occur in unsterilized cats and dogs. It's not pretty and they're likely to die. Animals live longer and happier when they're spayed and neutered, are less likely to fight for territory, and mark what they claim to be "theirs"!

Licensing a dog: 1) helps identify your dog if lost, 2) provides proof your dog is protected from rabies in the event your dog is bitten by a rabid animal, but would still need immediate medical attention, 3) if your dog bites an animal or person – which could result in quarantine or possible euthanasia to test for infection, and 4) helps pay for VSNIP, addressing the population situation in Vermont.

Farms with cats should especially be aware that one rabid cat or dog can affect an entire population of animals on the premise. The answer is neutering through VSNIP which includes a rabies vaccination and the first of the two part distemper series.

Look for Rabies Clinics in March across the state. You can call your veterinarian and ask the cost of a rabies vaccination only, or call your nearest Tractor Supply Store for their Monthly Rabies Clinic schedule. Rabies IS in Vermont and it IS deadly.

To receive a VSNIP Application, send a 9" S.A.S.E to: VSNIP, PO Box 104, Bridgewater, VT 05034. Indicate if it's for a cat, dog or both. For more information, call 802-672-5302.

Please visit our website: www.VWSAHS.org

VWSA will be hosting Rabies Clinics in March. Call for dates and locations.

The animals thank you in advance! *Together We Truly Do Make A Difference!!*

Sue Skaskiw, VWSA Humane Society Executive Director/VSNIP Administrator

