

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD VERMONT 2023

OUR 163rd TOWN REPORT

FISCAL YEAR: JULY 1, 2023 - JUNE 30, 2024



INFORMATIONAL MEETING: MARCH 4, 2024 - 7:00 P.M.

At Wallingford Elementary School

POLLS OPEN: MARCH 5, 2024 10:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.

at Wallingford Town Hall

Conservation Commission
Development Review Board
Energy Committee
Planning Commission
Prudential Committee
Recreation Committee
Selectboard
Wallingford Historical Society
Mill River Unified Union
School District Board

Town Meetings

4th Monday, 4:30 p.m. Town Hall
3rd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Town Hall
1st Tuesday, 5:30 p.m., Town Hall
2nd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
1st & 3rd Wednesday, 6:00 p.m., Town Hall
2nd Thursday, 5:30 p.m. Town Hall
1st & 3rd Monday, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall
On Call by Chairperson
1st Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. at Mill River, 3rd Wednesday at
different schools

Town Hours

Assessor
Gilbert Hart Library

By Appointment
Monday & Thursday - 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday & Friday - 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Saturday - 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday - Thursday - 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Monday & Wednesday - Noon - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday - 8:00 a.m. - Noon
Monday - 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Town Administrator
Town Clerk & Treasurer
Transfer Station

Zoning Administrator

Phone & E-Mail

Burn Permits-Roger Sheehan, Jr.	802-548-6298	
Burn Permits-Martin Rabtoy	345-5550	
Gilbert Hart Library	446-2685	ghlib@comcast.net
Assessor	446-2974	wallisters@wallingfordvt.com
Health Officer	802-345-6993	
Mill River Union High School	775-3451	
Selectboard	446-2872	selectboard@wallingfordvt.com
Town Clerk/Treasurer	446-2336	townclerk@wallingfordvt.com
Town Administrator	446-2872	townadmin@wallingfordvt.com
Town Garage	446-2472	roads@wallingfordvt.com
Transfer Station	446-2524	
Wallingford Elementary School	446-2141	
Wallingford Fire District #1	446-2964	wallfired1@vermontel.net
Zoning Administrator	446-2974	zoning@wallingfordvt.com



Visit us on the Web <http://www.wallingfordvt.com>

.....and on Facebook – Town of Wallingford, VT

Town of Wallingford
Rutland County, Vermont
Population: 2,094

Index

American Legion	34
ARPA Committee.....	7-8
Assessor Report.....	21-22
Auditors' Report.....	7
Births	37
Budget, Expenses	10-14
Budget, Fund Balances.....	20
Budget, Revenues.....	9
Conservation Commission Report.....	29
Deaths.....	37-38
Dedication	2
Delinquent Tax Collector's Report.....	35
Energy Committee Report.....	33-34
Enhanced 911.....	20-21
Fire Chief's Report.....	40-41
Fire Protection Budget Report.....	43
Gilbert Hart Library.....	24
Proposed Budget.....	23
Green Hill Cemetery Association...	44-45
Green Mountain National Forest.....	42
Green Up Vermont	44
Marriages	39
Non-Profit Organizations.....	45
Planning Commission Report.....	31
Recreation Committee Report.....	26-27
Rutland Co. Solid Waste District...	35-36
Rutland Regl Planning Comm.....	41-42
Selectboard Report.....	17-18
Selectboard Explanation Town Meeting	
Warning Articles V and VI.....	18-19

Town, Annual Info Meeting Minutes..	15-17
Town Clerk and Treasurer Report....	19-20
Town Officers.....	3-5
Transfer Station.....	21
Tree Warden Report.....	25
Trustees of Public Funds Report.....	32-33
VT Spay and Neuter Program.....	46-47
Wallingford Community Thrift.....	24-25
Wallingford Historical Society.....	30
Wallingford Rescue, Inc.....	27-28
Proposed Budget.....	28-29
Wallingford Seniors Report.....	20
Warning, Town.....	6
Zoning Report.....	32

*Disclaimer - individuals submitting reports
are responsible for the accuracy of their
submissions.

** Annual Town Report with color
photographs is available online at
www.wallingfordvt.com Click on
Government on the Home Page then Town
Meeting on the drop down menu.

Dedication

Wallingford citizens, local groups, neighboring organizations and folks throughout central Vermont are familiar with the good work quietly taking place within the walls of Wallingford Community Thrift Shop on Main Street. Shop volunteers include Barbara Boucher, Jeannie Underwood, Karen Dagostino, Eileen Shannon, Susan Cobleigh, Sue Jepson, Mary Downey, Luise Durr, Marianne Stephan, Nancy Moore, Patricia Moore, Sabra Shulman, Sherry Johnson, Ann Buffum, Erin Seward, Julie Sharon, Tina Casey, and Ardy Wolynech. Wallingford Thrift's annual report indicated they have assisted 28 families directly with either household goods, clothing, gift cards or cash donations for expenses due to medical or other disastrous events. In addition, the shop made donations to the Rutland Humane Society, The Brick Church "Yellow Box" project, BROCC, Wallingford Standard Newsletter, Rutland Welcomes, Wallingford Summer Camp for scholarships, Mill River Union Project Graduation and Honor Society Food Baskets, Vermont Foodbank, United Way's "Happy Feet" program, Rutland Community Cupboard, Rutland Community Cares, Wallingford Elementary School and Tinmouth school (winter clothing), Baptist Church free clothing giveaway, Rutland Habitat for Humanity, Green Mountain Neighbors, Tinmouth Milfoil Mitigation project, Come Outside Alive, Companions in Wholeness as well as food gift cards for Town officials to distribute. To honor beloved volunteer Cassie Ahearn, a donation of gift certificates was made to thank nurses at the Cancer Center for their care. In addition, a bench was donated for the pollinator garden at Stone Meadow Park in Cassie's honor. During the devastating July 2023 flood event, Wallingford Thrift administered a Vermont Community Foundation grant of \$10,000 to provide direct assistance to flood victims here in Town.

This group of volunteers quietly and without fanfare touch lives by operating the shop and distributing proceeds from sales to varying deserving groups and individuals. The true definition of neighbors helping neighbors. For their steadfast devotion to the Town of Wallingford and surrounding communities, the citizens of Wallingford with heartfelt gratitude dedicate the 2023 annual Town Report to the volunteers of Wallingford Community Thrift Shop.



With the Dedication in mind, here is an excerpt of Gov. Scott's State of the State address 01/04/24:

"Sometimes, it's the little things that make the biggest difference.

A few years ago, the residents of Wallingford were looking for a way to strengthen their town. Many of us might think that means new sidewalks or a business expanding. But in Wallingford, they kept coming back to the simple idea of just getting together. So, they brought back "Wallingford Day." A day to celebrate who they are, reconnect with neighbors with food trucks and fireworks, art shows and auctions, music and dancing. Most importantly, it's a day set aside to be together, a reminder that it takes effort to build community."



Many local residents and public officials participate in our local Front Porch Forum (FPF). FPF is a Vermont-based online service that helps neighbors connect and build community by hosting local online conversations in every town in the state. To read more about missing pets, wildlife sightings, break-ins, road conditions, local events, recommendations, helping neighbors in need and more, sign up (free of charge) at FrontPorchForum.com.

Elected Town Officers
Officers Elected at Town Meeting (1-year term)

Moderator.....Tammy Heffernan

Selectboard

Bruce Duchesne
Carolyn Behrendt
Justin Jankus
Mark Tessier
Kathy Luzader

Term/Date Expires

Three Year/2024
Two Year/2024
Three Year/2025
Two Years/2025
Three Years/2026

Auditors

Barbara Kaminski
Patricia Pranger
Jim Bagnall

Three Year/2024
Three Year/2025
Three Year/2026

Delinquent Tax Collector

Jill Stone-Teer

Three Year/2025

Town Clerk & Treasurer

Julie Sharon

Three Year/2026

Trustee of Public Funds

David Ballou
Patricia Pranger
Anne Awad

Three Year/2024
Three Year/2025
Three Year/2026

**Mill River Unified Union
School District Directors**

Paul Garland
Bruce Moreton
Liz Filskov
Nick Flanders

Three Year/2024
Three Year/2024
Three Year/2025
Three Year/2026

Town Officers

Assessor.....	John Tiffany
Assistant Town Clerk & Treasurer.....	Jill Stone-Teer
Constable.....	Robert Cook
Deputy Fire Warden.....	Marty Rabtoy
Dog Warden.....	Joseph Elwell
E911 Coordinators.....	Eric and Dale Davenport
Emergency Management Director.....	Jim Bagnall
Fire Protection Budget..	Richard Kendall, Michael McMahon & Mark Tessier
Fire Warden.....	Roger Sheehan, Jr.
Health Officer.....	Trisha Nash
Road Commissioner	Philip Baker
Town Administrator	Sandi Switzer
Tree Warden.....	Rob Barker
Zoning Administrator.....	Erika Berner

Planning Commission (3-Year Terms)

Erika Berner, Chair	2024
Kevin Mullin	2024
Lucy Thayer	2025
Jill Burkett	2025
Tony Masuck, Vice Chair	2026
Jeff Biasuzzi - Alternate	

Term Expires

Development Review Board (3-Year Terms)

Elizabeth Blaisdell	2024
Lucy Thayer, Chair	2025
Jason Stone	2025
Dave Ballou	2026
Jill Burkett	2026
Joyce Barbieri and Jeff Biasuzzi – Alternates	

Term Expires



Monthly newsletter is available on the municipal website.

Conservation Commission (4-Year Terms)

	Term Expires
Denise Eddy	2024
Ralph Nimtz	2024
Deborah Scranton, Co-Chair	2025
Vacant	2025
Jane Quigley	2026
Dennis Duhaime	2026
Carol Macleod	2027
Vacant	2027

Energy Committee (3-Year Terms)

	Term Expires
John Armstrong	2024
Katherine MacLauchlan	2024
Ken Welch, Vice Chair	2024
Robbie Stubbins	2025
Doug Blodgett	2025
Jay White	2025
David Castonguay, Chair	2026
Tom Fort	2026
Ralph Nimtz	2026

ARPA Committee

Robert Allen, Anne Awad (Vice Chair), Jim Bagnall, Bruce Dobbins, Elicia Pinsonault, Peg Soule (Chair), and Grey Wicker.

Rep. to Rutland Co. Solid Waste District	Bruce Dobbins
Alt. to Rutland Co. Solid Waste District	Vacant
Rep. to Rutland Reg'l Planning Commission	Erika Berner
Alt. to Rutland Regional Planning Commission	Vacant
Rep. to Rutland Reg'l Transportation Council	Bruce Dobbins
Alt. to Rutland Reg'l Transportation Council	Vacant

Justices of the Peace (Elected, Terms Expire 2025)

Nan Dubin, Maureen Duchesne, Sandra Eddy, Gary Fredette, Kate Goetz, Curtis Lidstone, Tony Petrossi, Wendy Savery, Stanley Seward, and Ken Welch

Recreation (Appointed, One-Year Terms)

David Cornwell, Brian Ferguson, Mark Noble, and Shannon Pytlik

Warning

Town of Wallingford Annual Town Meeting

March 5, 2024

The legal voters of the Town of Wallingford are hereby Warned to gather for an Informational Meeting on Monday, March 4, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Wallingford Elementary School to review Town Meeting articles. The polls will be open Tuesday, March 5, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. at Wallingford Town Hall for the purpose of voting all articles by Australian ballot:

ARTICLE I. To elect all officers as required by law: **two Selectboard members**, one for a two-year term and one for a three-year term; **one Auditor** for a three-year term; **one Trustee of Public Funds** for a three-year term; a **Town Moderator** for a one-year term; and **three School Board Directors**, two for three-year terms and one to complete the final year of a three-year term with the Mill River Unified Union School District.

ARTICLE II. Shall the Town vote to have scholarships provided under Title 16 VSA, Section 2535, the same to be applied for on or before April 29, 2024 at the Mill River Unified Union School District Office?

ARTICLE III. Shall the Town vote to have one-half (1/2) of the fiscal year 2025 (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025) property taxes and fire protection taxes paid to the Town Treasurer on or before October 21, 2024 at 4:30 P.M. and the remaining one-half of the fiscal year 2025 property taxes and fire protection taxes paid to the Town Treasurer on or before April 21, 2025 at 4:30 P.M.? Payments are physically due in the Town Office; post-marked dates WILL NOT be accepted.

ARTICLE IV. Shall the voters of the Town of Wallingford appropriate a sum not to exceed \$1,450,419 for the General Operation of the Town, with an amount not to exceed \$1,080,388 to be raised in Property Taxes for fiscal year 2025?

ARTICLE V. Shall the voters of the Town of Wallingford approve the establishment of a Wallingford Asset Fund for the planning, assessment, acquisition, or improvement of assets that directly benefit the residents of Wallingford?

ARTICLE VI. Shall the voters of the Town of Wallingford approve transferring Fiscal Year 2024 surplus up to \$466,789.51 resulting from one-time unanticipated revenue to the Wallingford Asset Fund?

ARTICLE VII. Shall the Town stabilize the real estate taxes of the Wallingford Rescue, Inc. property, pursuant to Title 32 V.S.A. §3840, at \$150 annually for five years commencing as of July 1, 2024?

ARTICLE VIII. To conduct such other business (non-binding, advisory only) as may properly come before the meeting.

The legal voters of the Town of Wallingford, Vermont are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting shall be as provided in Chapters 43 and 51 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated and 17 V.S.A § 2642(b)

Wallingford Selectboard

Auditor's Report

We, the undersigned auditors for the Town of Wallingford, have examined the accounts and records for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023. This audit included a review of bank accounts, statements, selected accounts payable, financial statements and payroll records. We are of the opinion, after having conducted this audit, to the best of our knowledge and belief, that the reports accurately represent the financial status of the Town of Wallingford for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

Barbara Kaminski, Patricia Pranger and Jim Bagnall, Auditors



Stone Meadow Book Path organized by Michael Luzader on behalf of Gilbert Hart Library. Photo by Sandi Switzer

ARPA Committee

The ARPA Committee appointed by the Selectboard included Robert Allen, Anne Awad (vice-chair), James Bagnall, Bruce Dobbins, Elicia Pinsonault, Grey Wicker, and Peg Soule (chair).

The Committee thanks all the grant applicants for their work in gathering and presenting the information necessary for careful review of submissions; without these efforts, the Town would not be able to use this money nearly as effectively in meeting the town's needs.

The Committee would especially like to thank Sandi Switzer who has provided us with her tireless support, information, communication, and good humor throughout this process. We know she will have a very important role in implementing these projects as they move forward.

The Committee submitted its final report to the Selectboard May 1, 2023. We divided the applications into three categories in order to prioritize the applications. These categories included **Health and Safety**, projects that would **Benefit the Entire Town**, and projects that would **Benefit Some of the Town**. We also reported applications that were approved on their merits but **Not Recommended for Funding at this Time**, and applications that were **Not Recommended for Funding**.

The Selectboard acted on the Committee's recommendations during their regular meeting on May 17, 2023. Their decisions can be found in their May 17, 2023 minutes.

Peg Soule, Chair



Pollinator garden and bench dedicated to Cassie Ahearn. Photo by Moriah Cutro-Kelly.



Revenues	Budget Jul 22 - Jun 23	Actual Jul 22 - Jun 23	Budget Jul 23 - Jun 24	Budget Jul 24 - Jun 25
4501 · Green Mtn National Forest PILT	25,000.00	29,700.00	27,500.00	27,500.00
4502 · Highway State Aid	83,500.00	85,753.53	85,750.00	88,325.00
4503 · Ordinance Fines	7,500.00	6,810.89	10,000.00	7,500.00
4504 · Town Share RR Taxes	350.00	1,049.30	1,050.00	1,050.00
4505 · Office Rent	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
4506 · Motor Vehicle Registration Renewals	90.00	105.00	125.00	120.00
4510 · Dog Licenses	5,300.00	5,988.00	5,300.00	5,300.00
4511 · Liquor & Cannabis Licenses	695.00	795.00	750.00	750.00
4512 · Civil Marriage Licenses	700.00	770.00	700.00	800.00
4513 · Zoning Permits	4,000.00	5,377.50	4,000.00	4,000.00
4514 · Transfer Station Fees	25,000.00	41,103.50	40,000.00	40,000.00
4515 · Scrap Metal/Recycling	2,000.00	1,876.65	2,000.00	3,000.00
4516 · Hunting/Fishing Licenses	37.50	41.50	25.00	30.00
4517 · Recording Fees	20,000.00	15,117.00	19,000.00	15,000.00
4518 · Records Restoration Fees	3,000.00	3,000.00	5,000.00	4,000.00
4519 · Copy Fees	3,000.00	2,630.94	2,800.00	2,500.00
4520 · 8% Penalty Delinquent Taxes	5,600.00	9,102.19	4,800.00	5,500.00
4521 · 1% Interest on Past Due Taxes	13,000.00	9,247.20	10,000.00	9,000.00
4522 · Interest Earned on Bank Accounts	100.00	3,134.21	300.00	3,000.00
4523 · Current Property Taxes	992,037.06	819,509.91	1,051,133.39	1,080,388.00
4524 · Previous Yr's Carry Forward Balance	0.00	74,372.28	0.00	0.00
4526 · Delinquent Property Taxes	70,000.00	114,583.98	60,000.00	50,000.00
4527 · Fernfield Farms Income	6,184.44	6,184.44	7,156.61	8,782.00
4528 · Ralph Stafford Scholarship	4,235.05	4,235.05	5,155.24	6,024.00
4530 · Overweight Permits	250.00	355.00	250.00	300.00
4533 · Green Mountain Passports	50.00	48.00	50.00	50.00
4534 · Grants Awarded	0.00	33,389.41	0.00	0.00
4540 · Miscellaneous	0.00	1,843.28	0.00	0.00
4543 · Land Use Reimbursement	35,000.00	38,094.00	38,000.00	38,000.00
4545 · Summer Recreation Program	2,500.00	5,680.00	7,000.00	7,500.00
4546 · Cell Antenna Lease Payments	19,650.00	19,700.56	20,250.00	20,850.00
4547 · Elfin Lake Gate Income	6,000.00	6,953.75	7,500.00	6,500.00
4548 · Elfin Lake Concession Income	2,200.00	1,975.00	2,200.00	3,000.00
4550 · Donations	0.00	573.69	0.00	0.00
4553 · Communications Group Income	4,800.00	5,283.75	5,000.00	5,500.00
4554 · Wallingford Day-offsets 5816	0.00	5,115.51	0.00	0.00
4557 · ARPA Funds - offsets 5161	0.00	416,948.62	0.00	0.00
4558 · ANR PILT	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,150.00
Total REVENUES	1,345,779.05	1,780,448.64	1,426,795.24	1,450,419.00

Administration	Budget Jul 22 - Jun 23	Actual Jul 22 - Jun 23	Budget Jul 23 - Jun 24	Budget Jul 24 - Jun 25
5000 · Auditor Stipends	150.00	150.00	150.00	300.00
5001 · Selectboard Stipends	7,600.00	7,000.00	7,600.00	7,600.00
5002 · Assessor				
5002-A · Assessor Clerk Salary	2,000.00	501.50	1,500.00	1,500.00
5002-B · Assessor Expenses	7,250.00	7,168.15	7,250.00	7,250.00
5002-C · Property Tax Maps	1,650.00	3,500.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
5002-F · Reappraisal Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,800.00
5002-G · Assessor Contract	18,400.00	14,237.50	18,400.00	19,200.00
Total 5002 · Assessor Expenses	29,300.00	25,407.15	29,150.00	32,750.00
5003 · Town Administrator Salary	49,140.00	50,532.75	51,600.00	53,150.00
5004 · Zoning				
5004 · Zoning Administrator Salary	5,100.00	5,817.34	6,250.00	6,250.00
5004-A · Zoning Expenses	300.00	475.88	300.00	300.00
Total 5004 · Zoning	5,400.00	6,293.22	6,550.00	6,550.00
5005 · Town Clerk & Treasurer Salary	53,500.00	53,457.04	56,175.00	57,860.00
5006 · Road Crew Salaries	155,460.00	154,524.49	163,250.00	168,135.00
5007 · Road Crew Overtime Salaries	15,000.00	18,206.79	15,750.00	16,460.00
5008 · Transfer Station Salaries	28,900.00	25,771.13	28,900.00	27,400.00
5009 · Assistant Town Clerk/Treasurer Salary	18,500.00	17,582.25	19,800.00	21,225.00
5010 · Road Commissioner Stipend	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
5011 · Tree Warden Stipend	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
5012 · Delinquent Tax Collector Salary 8%	5,600.00	9,042.94	4,800.00	5,500.00
5023 · Employer - Medicare, SS & Child Care	27,450.00	27,688.81	28,875.00	30,975.00
5024 · Employer's Retirement Fund Match	18,450.00	18,084.19	19,350.00	20,700.00
5025 · Unemployment, PACIF, Health, Etc.	96,750.00	99,994.65	104,000.00	114,615.00
5027 · Grant Expenses-offsets 4534	0.00	42,159.68	0.00	0.00
5041 · Health Officer Stipend	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
Total ADMINISTRATION	513,700.00	558,395.09	538,450.00	565,720.00

Town Government Operations	Budget Jul 22 - Jun 23	Actual Jul 22 - Jun 23	Budget Jul 23 - Jun 24	Budget Jul 24 - Jun 25
5112 · Elections & Town Meeting	3,000.00	1,060.39	1,300.00	1,300.00
5113 · Town Report	3,000.00	2,106.62	3,150.00	3,150.00
5114 · Office Expenses	13,000.00	10,969.79	13,000.00	14,000.00
5114-A · Del. Collector Office Expenses	350.00	0.00	375.00	425.00
5115 · Legal Expenses	5,000.00	2,325.65	3,000.00	3,000.00
5116 · Planning & Zoning Notices	750.00	413.80	750.00	750.00
5117 · Ads & Warnings	1,100.00	728.65	750.00	750.00
5118 · Seminars/Meetings & Mileage	500.00	461.95	500.00	500.00
5122 · Records Restoration	3,000.00	50.23	5,000.00	4,000.00
5123 · Memorial Day Expenses	300.00	0.00	300.00	300.00
5125 · VLCT Dues	3,774.00	3,774.00	3,900.00	4,025.00
5126 · Rutland Regional Planning Comm. Dues	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
5130 · Workplace Safety Expenses	250.00	0.00	250.00	250.00
5133 · Dog License Fees to State of VT	2,500.00	2,390.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
5134 · Civil Marriage License Fees to State of VT	500.00	550.00	500.00	650.00
5150 · Transfer Station Operating Expenses	110,000.00	78,543.05	110,000.00	100,000.00
5151 · Town Hall Operating Expenses	18,500.00	18,372.39	19,000.00	20,000.00
5153 · Cemeteries	500.00	720.00	0.00	0.00
5155 · Rutland County Tax	20,630.00	18,185.22	23,775.00	20,000.00
5157 · Conservation Commission	2,500.00	2,480.31	2,500.00	2,500.00
5158 · Energy Committee	500.00	243.40	500.00	500.00
5160 · Communications Group Expenses	4,800.00	4,795.16	4,800.00	5,500.00
5161 · ARPA Funds - offsets 4557	0.00	416,948.62	0.00	0.00
5540 · Miscellaneous Expense	0.00	218.55	0.00	0.00
Total TOWN GOVERNMENT OPS	195,454.00	566,337.78	196,850.00	185,100.00

Appropriations	Budget Jul 22 - Jun 23	Actual Jul 22 - Jun 23	Budget Jul 23 - Jun 24	Budget Jul 24 - Jun 25
5202 · Ralph Stafford Scholarship	4,235.05	4,235.05	5,155.24	6,024.00
5203 · VNA & Hospice	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
5204 · So. Western Vt. Council on Aging	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
5205 · Gilbert Hart Library	38,000.00	38,000.00	40,000.00	42,000.00
5206 · Rutland County Humane Society	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
5207 · Rutland Mental Health Services	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
5208 · BROC	0.00	0.00	250.00	250.00
5209 · RSVP & The Volunteer Center	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
5210 · Wallingford Rescue, Inc.	21,000.00	21,000.00	21,000.00	23,500.00
5211 · Mt. Holly Rescue Squad	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00
5212 · Regional Ambulance Service	1,100.00	1,100.00	750.00	750.00
5213 · NewStory Center	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
5214 · VT Center for Independent Living	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
5215 · Vermont Adult Learning	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
5216 · VT Association for the Blind	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00
5218 · Green Up Vermont	100.00	100.00	150.00	150.00
5219 · Rutland Nat'l Resource Conservation	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
5220 · Rutland County Parent Child Center	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
5221 · Wallingford Flag Expenses	150.00	142.75	150.00	150.00
5222 · Irving Smith Scholarship	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
5227 · Advocacy Resources Community	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
5228 · The Preservation Trust of Vermont	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
5231 · American Red Cross	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
5232 · VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
5233 · Child First Advocacy	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
5235 · Vermont Family Network	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
5237 · VT Council on Rural Development	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
5238 · Rutland County Restorative Justice Ctr.	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
5239 · NeighborWorks of Western Vermont	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
5240 · Nelson Tift Scholarship	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
Total APPROPRIATIONS	71,025.05	71,017.80	74,295.24	77,164.00

Highway Department	Budget Jul 22 - Jun 23	Actual Jul 22 - Jun 23	Budget Jul 23 - Jun 24	Budget Jul 24 - Jun 25
5301 · Town Garage Operating Expenses	11,850.00	13,047.12	15,400.00	15,400.00
5302 · Equipment-Misc.	2,600.00	3,041.81	3,000.00	3,000.00
5307 · 2000 Galion Road Grader	3,900.00	801.43	0.00	0.00
5308 · 2011 Caterpillar Backhoe	2,000.00	1,235.92	2,500.00	2,500.00
5310 · Sanders/Plows	2,000.00	6,951.30	2,500.00	2,000.00
5314 · Hired Equipment	12,000.00	10,300.00	12,000.00	10,000.00
5315 · Diesel Fuel	27,500.00	31,129.31	34,375.00	34,375.00
5316 · Gasoline	1,200.00	843.93	1,200.00	1,200.00
5317 · Tree Service/Landscaping	3,250.00	400.00	4,000.00	3,250.00
5318 · Winter Sand	38,100.00	22,169.64	35,000.00	35,000.00
5319 · Winter Salt	60,000.00	32,006.12	60,000.00	45,000.00
5320 · Chloride	975.00	1,485.00	975.00	975.00
5321 · Culverts	9,750.00	9,422.61	9,000.00	9,000.00
5322 · Oil and Grease	3,250.00	3,338.73	2,000.00	2,500.00
5323 · Gravel	107,500.00	81,328.47	125,000.00	125,000.00
5324 · Blades, Chains & Shoes	3,250.00	1,598.99	3,250.00	2,500.00
5325 · Paving	65,000.00	69,191.37	75,000.00	85,000.00
5327 · Traffic Control Devices	650.00	463.46	500.00	500.00
5328 · Road Crew Clothing Stipend	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
5332 · Special Projects	2,000.00	3,000.00	2,500.00	3,500.00
5336 · 2014 Kenworth Truck	6,500.00	9,821.00	6,500.00	6,500.00
5337 · 2016 Kenworth Truck	5,500.00	4,224.96	5,500.00	6,500.00
5338 · 2006 Chevrolet Truck	1,000.00	165.95	500.00	500.00
5339 · Municipal Roads General Permit	2,090.00	1,765.00	1,350.00	1,350.00
5340 · 2018 Dodge Ram Truck	1,500.00	3,798.69	1,500.00	1,500.00
5342 · 2019 Milton CAT Loader	21,320.00	22,653.32	21,325.00	1,000.00
5343 · 2020 Milton CAT Excavator (4 of 4) & main.	12,455.00	14,810.14	12,450.00	13,000.00
5344 · Carry Forward Balance	0.00	-8,478.03	0.00	0.00
5345 · 2014 International Truck	0.00	2,748.51	2,000.00	0.00
5346 · 2023 CAT Grader (1 of 5) & main.	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	28,000.00
5347 · Eager Beaver Trailer	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	0.00
Total HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	408,640.00	349,764.75	443,825.00	440,550.00

Public Safety	Budget Jul 22 - Jun 23	Actual Jul 22 - Jun 23	Budget Jul 23 - Jun 24	Budget Jul 24 - Jun 25
5402 · First Constable Stipend	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
5406 · Special Officer Contract	46,000.00	42,145.70	57,900.00	63,700.00
5408 · Dog Warden Stipend	1,250.00	1,250.00	1,250.00	1,260.00
5410 · Dog Warden Expenses	50.00	0.00	50.00	50.00
Total PUBLIC SAFETY	47,550.00	43,645.70	59,450.00	65,260.00

Capital	Budget Jul 22 - Jun 23	Actual Jul 22 - Jun 23	Budget Jul 23 - Jun 24	Budget Jul 24 - Jun 25
5710 · Route 140W Bridge Phase II	10,835.00	10,838.50	0.00	0.00
5712 · Bridge Reserve Fund	30,000.00	30,000.00	40,000.00	40,000.00
5713 · Building Reserve Fund	19,650.00	19,650.00	20,250.00	20,850.00
5716 · Highway Reserve Fund	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Total CAPITAL	80,485.00	80,488.50	80,250.00	80,850.00

Recreation	Budget Jul 22 - Jun 23	Actual Jul 22 - Jun 23	Budget Jul 23 - Jun 24	Budget Jul 24 - Jun 25
5801 · Elfin Lake Salaries	9,500.00	7,742.42	10,400.00	9,750.00
5901 · Summer Recreation Salaries	8,200.00	7,116.45	8,600.00	10,000.00
5803 · Telephone	250.00	307.77	325.00	300.00
5804 · Electric	450.00	506.48	450.00	550.00
5805 · Maintenance	2,500.00	1,610.68	2,500.00	3,500.00
5806 · Portable Restroom	750.00	2,215.45	1,375.00	1,500.00
5807 · Field Trips	1,500.00	1,869.50	1,800.00	2,000.00
5808 · Lake Expenses	525.00	914.66	525.00	525.00
5809 · Recreation Expenses	650.00	992.50	400.00	500.00
5810 · Lake Concessions	1,000.00	1,236.13	1,300.00	1,400.00
5812 · Mowing	2,600.00	2,950.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
5814 · Youth Sports	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
5816 · Wallingford Day	0.00	5,115.51	1,750.00	1,750.00
5817 · Recreation Programs	500.00	0.00	750.00	500.00
Total RECREATION	28,925.00	32,577.55	33,675.00	35,775.00

Total EXPENSES	1,345,779.05	1,702,227.17	1,426,795.24	1,450,419.00
-----------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------

Annual Informational Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2023

Selectboard Members Present: Bruce Duchesne, Kathy Luzader, Justin Jankus, Carolyn Behrendt, and Mark Tessier.

Others present: Sandi Switzer, Julie Sharon, Dave Seward, Rob Carey, Maria French, Carol Tashie, Peg Soule, Tammy Heffernan (moderator), Gary Fredette, and Jane Duda.. There were about 35 people in attendance. Only Town officials and those who addressed the Board were listed as present.

Selectboard Chair Bruce Duchesne called the meeting to order at the Wallingford Elementary School at 7:00 p.m. Moderator Tammy Heffernan welcomed everyone to the annual Informational Meeting. B. Duchesne introduced Board members. Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Heffernan asked if anyone new to Town Meeting would like to introduce themselves. Marie Sheehan said this was her first Town Meeting

Article I. Ms. Heffernan read Article I related to elective offices. No public input.

Article II. Ms. Heffernan read Article II related to scholarships. No public input.

Article III. Ms. Heffernan read Article III regarding property tax payments. No public input.

Article IV. Ms. Heffernan read Article IV of the Informational Meeting Agenda: Shall the voters of the Town of Wallingford appropriate a sum not to exceed \$1,426,795.24 for the General Operation of the Town, with an amount not to exceed \$1,051,133.39 to be raised in Property Taxes for fiscal year 2024? B. Duchesne provided an overview of revenue and expenses for the coming fiscal year as follows:

Social Security Cost of Living (COLA) is 8.7 percent. The Board approved 5 percent employee raises. The zoning administrator is putting in more hours each month, so there was an increase to zoning salary line 5004. Note, line 5008 transfer station salaries was level funded- we budgeted for a new employee taking the place of a longtime employee so hourly rates were adjusted, but transfer station employees would also receive 5 percent increases. The overall Administration budget is up about 4.6 percent.

Legal expenses line 5115 was reduced from \$5,000 to \$3,000 to offset increases elsewhere including line #5155 Rutland County Tax (up about \$3,000 and which the Town has no control). The overall Town Government spending is up just under \$1,400.

Most line items were level-funded. Gilbert Hart Library requested a \$2,000 increase from \$38,000 to \$40,000. The total Appropriation increase was less than \$3,300.

Increased prices for fuel and materials impacted the proposed Highway budget. Town garage operating expenses line 5301 is up \$3,550 (heating fuel, etc); Diesel fuel line 5315 is up \$6,875; we reduced winter sand line 5318 from \$38,100 to \$35,000; level funded winter salt line 5319 at \$60,000; increased gravel line 5323 by \$17,500 as a result of a projected 30 percent material increase; paving line 5325 is up \$10,000 also due to rising material costs. The overall Highway budget is up \$35,185 mainly due to gravel and paving.

With feedback from residents, the Board increased line 5406 Special Officer Contract for sheriff patrols from \$46,000 to \$57,900. This will give us 24 hours of coverage a week rather than 20 hours. We had discussed even more hours with Sheriff David Fox, but he indicated staffing could be an issue. The overall public safety budget is up \$11,900.

Capital budget was reduced slightly - \$235.

Salary increases for the Summer Recreation program and Elfin Lake are reflected on lines 5801 and 5901. Most other lines items are up slightly due in large part to the rising cost of doing business. The overall Recreation budget is up \$4,750.

The Selectboard began working on the proposed budget in mid-November. Highway, Recreation, Conservation, Energy, Zoning, Gilbert Hart Library, Wallingford Rescue, Mt. Holly Rescue, the assessor, and the Rutland County sheriff were all given the opportunity to attend meetings or provide input. Agendas were posted to alert residents which sections of the budget would be discussed at meetings. After a lot of input, the Board presents the Fiscal Year 2024 budget that will meet the needs of the municipality while keeping in mind the impact on taxpayers' wallets. We urge citizens to support this spending plan.

Dave Seward asked about Communication Group expenses and B. Duchesne responded the line item was for the monthly newsletter. Mr. Seward asked about cell tower income and B. Duchesne said it was included in the Building Fund for building maintenance and upkeep.

Article V.. Ms. Heffernan read Article V regarding Mt. Moriah Masonic Temple tax stabilization. No public input.

Article VI. Ms. Heffernan read Article VI regarding Wallingford Rotary tax stabilization. No public input.

Article VII. Ms. Heffernan read Article VII regarding Maple Valley Grange tax stabilization. Rob Carey asked if the Grange was still operating. Ms. Heffernan responded state Grange officials requested tax stabilization.

Article VIII. Ms. Heffernan read Article VIII regarding a Wallingford Day non-binding article. B. Duchesne said it was intended to gather input from residents. Maria French urged residents to support the article and noted Wallingford Day has been a Recreation Committee event for the past several years and relied on municipal insurance coverage. She said the Wallingford Day group raised all the funds needed for the annual event and no taxpayer dollars had been spent. Peg Soule indicated Ms. French's explanation helped clarify the article. B. Duchesne said the Town had acted in the capacity as a bank for the event and was cautioned by Vermont League of Cities and Towns not to handle money unless it was officially a Recreation Committee subcommittee. He noted the fiscal year 2024 budget included \$1,750 for the annual event. Ms. French said members of the Wallingford Day group wanted to be sure any unspent funds raised did not roll into the general budget at the close of the fiscal year. Gary Fredette said he fully supported Wallingford Day and it should be under the Town's umbrella. Carol Tashie asked if the Wallingford Day group wanted to be part of the Recreation subcommittee and Ms. French confirmed they did especially for insurance purposes. Rob Carey commented this discussion showed why annual Town Meetings were

important to attend for informational reasons. He asked if Wallingford Day was similar to Little League. J. Jankus responded Little League became a part of the Recreation Committee over a period of time. Jane Duda said the connection between Wallingford Day and the Town's Recreation Committee would add continuity.

Article IX. Ms. Heffernan read Article IX related to Other Business. Town Administrator Sandi Switzer reminded residents the Town Hall Concert Series featured Extra Stout playing Irish music on March 15.

Dave Seward asked for an ARPA update.

Peg Soule responded there were 27 applicants and the ARPA Committee would likely make recommendations to the Selectboard in April.

By consensus, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Submitted By: Sandi Switzer/Town Administrator APPROVED THIS 20th Day of March, 2022

Selectboard Report

It has been a very busy year. The Wallingford Selectboard awarded a number of grants from federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds totaling about \$583,000 to the following: the South Wallingford Water Company for upgrades; Highland Water Supply Association for repairs; East Wallingford Fire Department for a vehicle and equipment; School Street sidewalk upgrades; flashing radar signs on Route 7 and Route 140W; Wallingford Rescue generator and stair chair; Gilbert Hart Library for a roof repair; Town Hall record digitization; Town Hall weatherization, Fire District #1 20-year evaluation of wastewater treatment plant; Town Hall cybersecurity; Main St. Café; a security system for the Town Hall ballot drop box; a telecommunications risk survey; and Highway Dept. roadside mower. Because some ARPA projects may not be completed by the federal deadline in 2026 and there is a risk of losing the money, the Selectboard included two items on the Town Meeting Warning to establish a Wallingford Asset Fund and then fund it with one-time unanticipated revenue from transferring ARPA monies into the municipal general account as advised by Vermont Leagues of Cities. **Please see a detailed explanation following this report. The Board urges voters to approve Articles V and VI on the Town Meeting Warning to ensure those funds are not at risk.**

The Board reviewed design alternatives submitted by VHB Consultants for the School Street sidewalk replacement project as part of the VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Grant awarded last year in the amount of \$542,828. Alternative 2 was selected for the western section of the project and alternative 1 for the eastern section. Those designs are available at Town Hall. The Town's \$22,000 Watersheds of Vermont grant project to draft Elfin Lake erosion reduction preliminary and final designs was completed. The Town will be seeking grant funds later this year for construction. Other grants awarded to the Town this year, included: Grants in Aid in the amount of \$18,000 for road work; a VLCT Safety Grant in the amount of \$2,500 to purchase a hazardous waste spill containment pallet, traffic cones, a steel drum dolly, a spill kit, ergonomic chairs and slip mats; a \$17,100 VTrans Structures Grant to pave Creek Road Bridge; and a Grants in Aid Equipment grant in the amount of \$5,600 to purchase a debris blower. The Town is waiting to hear on a Better Roads

\$20,000 grant application for road improvement projects on East Street, Dugway Road and Hartsboro Road.

The Board hired Co-Directors Lisa Cotrupi and Lawrie Roundy to oversee the popular Summer Recreation Program with the assistance of junior counselors Samuel Groom and Olive Skiathitis. Four part time employees – Annika Heintz, Charlie Burch, Kathleen Ahearn and Adam Luzader- ran Elfin Lake concessions and Ari LeFebre and Samuel Groom served as lifeguards to watch over swimmers at the public beach.

The road crew had their hands full following the July flood event that impacted about two dozen roads and the Creek Road bridge. Road Commissioner Phil Baker, the road crew and Town Administrator Sandi Switzer are working with FEMA and a number of state agencies on federal/state reimbursement following the federally declared disaster. The Town is collaborating with two landowners and state/federal officials to acquire 1451 Route 103 and 33 Weston Road as part of the Buyout Program. If approved, structures from those flood prone properties would be demolished and the land would become undeveloped municipal properties in perpetuity.

The Town Hall Concert Series continued with well attended events in September, October and December. Concerts are also scheduled in March and April. The Board worked diligently on the Fiscal Year 2025 budget to balance the needs of the municipality with the pocketbooks of community members. We have reduced and/or level funded line items wherever possible.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to the municipal employees and the many volunteers who serve on boards, committees, and commissions. Our wonderful community is a reflection of your hard work and dedication and your efforts do not go unnoticed. Please remember, the Selectboard meets twice monthly and appreciates your input. We are here to serve you.

Bruce Duchesne (Chair), Carolyn Behrendt, Justin Jankus, Kathy Luzader, and Mark Tessier,
Wallingford Selectboard

Town Meeting Articles V and VI Explanation

Voters at Town Meeting in March will be asked to approve two special articles to establish and fund a Wallingford Asset Fund in order to pay for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) projects, which were reviewed and recommended by the Town's ARPA Committee then approved by the Selectboard.

ARPA funds were distributed nationwide to every municipality to offset impacts from the pandemic. But the funds came with specific deadline requirements – the money must be obligated by December 31, 2024 and spent by December 31, 2026.

The Town of Wallingford intends to use these ARPA funds for projects like the School Street sidewalk replacement (currently in the engineering and permitting process) and to help purchase a fire truck and equipment for the East Wallingford Fire Department. However, those projects may extend beyond the 2026 federal spending deadline, posing a real risk of losing the money. Therefore, the Wallingford Selectboard is following Vermont League of Cities and Town's (VLCT) two-step recommendation to preserve our ARPA Funds. First, the Selectboard was advised to transfer ARPA funds into the municipal general account creating a surplus in the current FY'24 budget year. The second step would be to create a Wallingford Asset Fund from the surplus, and

that money would be used over the next few years for all of the ARPA projects approved by the Selectboard. Those projects include repairs to community water systems, flashing radar signs to be installed on Main Street and Route 140W, rehabilitation of School Street sidewalks, weatherization of Town Hall, digitization of Town Hall records, and much more.

Transferring the funds allows the Town to report to the federal government in April of 2024 that our ARPA funds have been spent, satisfying federal deadline requirements. The funds would no longer be at risk and the Town no longer has a deadline to spend the money, paying for the various projects.

The Wallingford Selectboard took the first step and voted on December 4, 2023 to transfer \$466,789 in ARPA funds to the municipal general account to eliminate the risk of losing this money. Now they are seeking voter approval to establish and fund the Wallingford Asset Fund with the surplus, which would accomplish the second step. The Selectboard urges voters to approve Town Meeting Warning Article V asking voters to establish the Wallingford Asset Fund and Article VI asking voters to fund it with the Fiscal Year 2024 surplus resulting from this one-time influx of ARPA money into the general fund.

Town Clerk & Treasurer Report

This office offers free notary service, vehicle/snowmobile registration renewals, dog registrations, hunting and fishing licenses, civil marriage licenses, liquor licenses, copying, Green Mountain passports, and land postings. We also generate property tax bills and collect payments, run the food shelf, provide certified copies of vital records and publish the monthly newsletter. This is in addition to being the repository of all town records, including deeds, mortgages, vital records, meeting minutes, and election results.

The ARPA Committee awarded funds, through the American Rescue Plan Act, to digitize all of our land records, so that they are available online. The Town contracted with Cott Systems to digitize the land records from Book 1 to Book 100. They are now finishing this project for us.

Don't forget to file your Homestead Declaration Form with the Vermont Department of Taxes if you are a Vermont resident whose property meets the definition of a homestead. A homestead is the principal dwelling and land surrounding the dwelling owned and occupied as a person's domicile as of April 1st. The Household Income Schedule must also be filed to receive a property tax rebate.

In 2024, we will officiate three elections – Town Meeting and the Presidential Primary in March, the Vermont Primary election in August, and the General, including the Presidential election in November. Vermont law requires that you declare which party ballot you want to vote in the Presidential Primary. Also, ballots will be mailed automatically for the General Election. If you would like to register to vote, you can register online at <https://olvr.vermont.gov> or visit this office. There is no deadline to register to vote. Existing voters can access their voter-specific web page at <https://mvp.vermont.gov> to request an absentee ballot, update voter information, view a sample ballot, and much more.

All dogs, age six months and older, must be registered annually by April 1st. A valid rabies certificate must be submitted if it is not already on file. A rabies clinic will be held in March.

No two days are the same in this office, which makes me love my job even more. Feel free to contact me or Jill Stone-Teer at 802-446-2336 should you ever have any questions or concerns. News and updates are posted on the Town website, Facebook page, and Front Page Forum.

Julie Sharon, Town Clerk and Treasurer

Wallingford Seniors

A program intended to keep Seniors active and healthy is the "Bone Builders" program held at Gilbert Hart Library on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.

Fund Balances

Fund Balances
(as of December 31, 2023)

Bridge Reserve Fund	\$ 297,429.91	\$ 4,473.55
Building Reserve Fund	\$ 112,237.21	\$ 2,701.82
Cemetery Fund	\$ 5,970.98	\$ 8.84
Conservation Commission	\$ 2,024.69	\$ 3.00
Highway Reserve Fund	\$ 56,967.31	\$ 747.75
Reappraisal Reserve Fund	\$ 91,777.52	\$ 2,270.57

Enhanced 911

We would like to start by thanking everyone working at the Town Office for all the continued help and support they have given us throughout the past year.

2023 has been a relatively quiet year for the committee. We have added a few new numbers and changed a few. We continue to remind everyone to please have your locatable address visibly displayed with 3-inch reflective numbers so Emergency Services can readily locate your address from the road. This is also beneficial to delivery services in identifying your correct address.

If you are building on a new lot or changing the use of a current lot, please notify Town Hall personnel OR notify us, and we would be happy to assist you in assigning your locatable address. Also, as a reminder, your parcel number is NOT your E911 locatable address.

If you have any questions or would like to verify your correct E-911 number, please contact us at telephone: 802-446-2007.

Eric and Dale Davenport, E-911 Coordinators

Transfer Station

The Wallingford Transfer Station provides valuable services to residents, including Zero Sort recycling, the collection of electronic waste, yard waste, book recycling, and solid waste. Reminder, only recyclables go in the Zero Sort bin and NOT garbage. Food is banned from the solid waste stream and must be composted or placed in the food scrap bin. Free collection of household hazardous waste will take place May 18th from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and July 20th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in 2024.

Thru a partnership with the Trex Plastic Film Recycling program, the Transfer Station collected 4,612 pounds of plastic. Kudos to Art Nemeth and Jerry Reynolds, volunteers and Wallingford residents who want to keep plastics out of the solid waste stream for making this program a big success. The Trex recycling programs accepts: grocery bags, bread bags, bubble wrap, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, plastic shipping envelopes, zip-lock and other re-closable food storage bags, cereal bags, case overwrap, salt bags, pallet wrap and stretch film, wood pellet bags, and produce bags. As with all recycling, the materials should be relatively CLEAN. These items must go in the specially marked bins and NOT mixed with Zero Sort. Trex does NOT accept pet food bags, mesh/net produce bags, pool covers, frozen food bags, candy bar wrappers, chip bags, six pack rings, and vinyl shower curtains (see Transfer Station employees if you have questions).

Property owners are required to display municipal stickers on their motor vehicles in order to access the Transfer Station. Stickers are available for purchase at Town Hall at a cost of \$3 each. Residents will receive free 50-punch and 20-punch cards with their property tax bills in August. Punch cards may only be used for bagged garbage. Punch cards may be purchased at Town Hall or the Transfer Station. For those interested in composting, Rutland County Solid Waste District is selling residential compost bins. For more information, call RCSWD at (802) 775-7209. As always, residents are encouraged to recycle, reduce and reuse. Wallingford Transfer Station hours are Mondays and Wednesdays from noon to 5:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to noon.

Assessor Report

Over 200 towns in 2022 and 2023 received letters from the State of Vermont mandating they start the reappraisal process. Wallingford had already begun the process, but had not yet awarded a contract. Therefore, Wallingford received a similar letter from the state. Wallingford's last reappraisal was for the 2018 tax year.

New England Municipal Resource Center, the Town's contracted Assessor, will perform the next reappraisal. This is a 2-year project. The reappraisal will be completed for the 2026 tax year. Inspections will start sometime during the late summer of 2024. New values will not be available until the spring of 2026. Look for a description of the process with your next year's tax bill mailing.

The asking prices on some properties for sale have dropped due to rising interest rates and likely being overpriced. Despite this, properties are still selling much higher than what assessments indicate. Some are selling 2 to 3 times their assessments.

The tax year 2023 Common Level of Assessment (COD) was 84% and the Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) was 20.38%. These are statistical numbers the state uses to determine the Equalized Education Tax. This is based on a 3-year study of sales, 2019 to 2022. When the COD is below 85% or the COD is over 20%, the state orders a reappraisal. For the 2024 tax year, using the sales study from the 2020 to 2023 sales, it has been determined that the CLA is 76.86% and the COD is 22.94%.

Keep in mind that after a reappraisal with an increase in values, if town and school budgets stay relatively the same, the tax rate goes down. The increase in your tax bill will not increase in the same percentage as your assessment.

John Tiffany, Assessor



Selectboard Chair Bruce Duchesne honors Road Crew member Charlie Woods with a plaque for 25 years of dedication to the Town of Wallingford. Photo by Sandi Switzer

Gilbert Hart Library Association Budget (2023-24)

Operating Income:

Town Funding	\$42,000
Memberships	\$8,000
Interest & Dividends	\$10,000
Memorials/Honorariums	\$1,000
Fundraising	\$2,000
Donations	\$2,500
Library Cards	\$50
Petty Cash Fees/Donations	\$600
Friends	\$2,000
Grants	\$1,000
Total Revenue:	\$69,150

Operating Expenses:

Salaries	\$34,235
Bookkeeper	\$1,600
Payroll Taxes	\$2,800
Insurance (workers comp)	\$625
Insurance-Building	\$2,000
Electricity	\$2,100
Fuel Oil	\$3,000
Telephone	\$700
Equipment Expense	\$1,000
Maintenance – Bldg	\$10,000
Maintenance – Grounds	\$2,000
Postage/Courier	\$1,000
Library Supplies	\$1,000
Printing/fund-raising	\$600
Technical Support	\$250
Workshops/Dues/Mileage	\$300
Total Operating Expense	\$63,210

Library Acquisition

Books	\$6,000
Periodicals	\$500
Audios, Videos	\$750
Programming	\$1,400
Computer Software	\$0
Automation	\$1,400

Total Resource Expense \$10,050

Total Expenses **\$73,260**

Income/(Loss) **- \$4,110**

Gilbert Hart Library

An extensive roof repair project at Gilbert Hart Library funded in part by an ARPA grant awarded by the Town of Wallingford was completed this past year. In addition to summer programming and inter-library loan courier grants provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Vermont Department of Libraries, a Winnie Bell Learned grant funded the purchase of 40 new titles for children, juvenile, and young adult readers. We continued to provide selections on the Stone Meadow book path for all ages to enjoy and helped Wallingford Day efforts with programming, including musical performances in the Klock Room. Twenty-plus local children under the age of 5 are registered to each receive one book a month through the library's participation in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. Lively book discussions throughout the year included the VT Reads title *Last Night at the Telegraph Club* and a book by local author Reinolt Tofer, *The Estonian Spy*. Gilbert Hart is also connected with the Vermont Department of Libraries initiative The Palace Project, a lending app for eBooks and downloadable audiobooks. The library continues to be a community center hub, providing a place for people to study, work, and find their next book to read.

Wendy Savery, *Librarian* and **Michael Luzader**, *Chair of GHL Board of Trustees*

Wallingford Thrift

Wallingford Community Thrift Shop is all about Neighbors helping Neighbors. This group of volunteers is dedicated to supporting and helping residents in Wallingford and surrounding communities.

Since our last reporting, we helped 28 families directly with either household goods, clothing, gift cards or cash donations for expenses due to medical or other disastrous events. In addition, the shop made donations to the Rutland Humane Society, The Brick Church "Yellow Box" project, BROCC, Wallingford Standard Newsletter, Rutland Welcomes, Wallingford Summer Camp scholarship, Mill River Union Project Graduation and Honor Society Food Baskets, Vermont Foodbank, United Way's "Happy Feet" program, Rutland Community Cupboard, Rutland Community Cares, Wallingford Elementary School and Tinmouth school (winter clothing), Baptist Church free clothing giveaway, Rutland Habitat for Humanity, Green Mountain Neighbors, Tinmouth Milfoil Mitigation project, Come Outside Alive, Companions in Wholeness as well as food gift cards for Town officials to distribute. In addition, to honor our valued and loved volunteer Cassie Ahearn, we donated gift certificates to thank the nurses at the Cancer Center for their care and a bench at Stone Meadow Park in her memory.

We also stocked a small food shelf outside the front of the shop. We call it "The Giving Box." Please feel free to take whatever food or supplies you need. We just ask that you limit yourself to items you need to get by and save some food for other neighbors.

In addition, we were honored to be chosen as a trusted partner by the Vermont Community Foundation to administer grants to flood victims in Wallingford. In addition, many of our donations after July were to local flood victims to help with heating systems and appliances.

We could not do this without the support we receive from the community, both from the donations you give us as well as the purchases you make. We thank everyone who has made the Wallingford Community Thrift Shop a success. Located at 218 North Main Street in Wallingford, the shop is open Thursday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, please call (802) 446-6040. If you are looking for a volunteer opportunity (and have fun), please contact us.

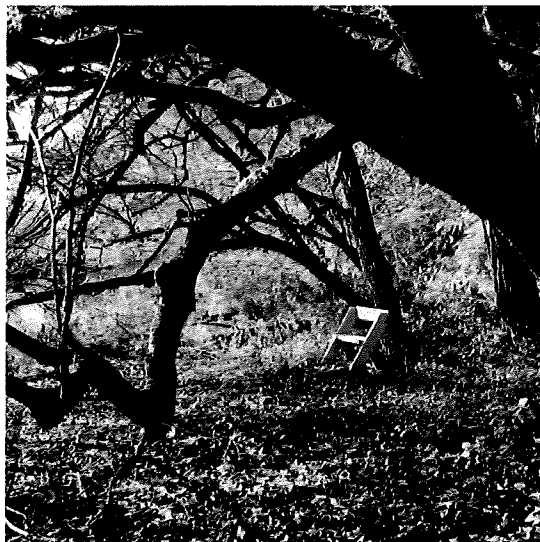
Tree Warden

"Trees are poems that the earth writes upon the sky."---- Kahill Gibran

Laws related to tree wardens and Shade Tree Preservation were updated by legislators in 2020. The tree warden and the legislative body of the municipality have been asked to adopt a Shade Tree Preservation Plan. The plan would identify public shade trees, identify sites for new plantings, and adopt an ordinance for the administration of the Shade Tree Preservation Plan. The legislative body of the municipality may also appoint Deputy Tree Wardens.

If you are interested in serving on a Tree Preservation Board in Wallingford, please contact me at robtreestar@gmail.com or (802) 446-2932.

Rob Barker, Tree Warden



New bench under the Musclewood Tree by Otter Creek. Photo by Ralph Nimtz.



Many local residents and public officials participate in our local Front Porch Forum (FPF). FPF is a Vermont-based online service that helps neighbors connect and build community by hosting local online conversations in every town in the state. To read more about missing pets, wildlife sightings, break-ins, road conditions, local events, recommendations, helping neighbors in need and more, sign up (free of charge) at FrontPorchForum.com.

Recreation Committee

2023 was a busy year for the Wallingford Recreation Committee. Our facilities, including Elfin Lake and Wallingford Recreational Park, were regularly visited throughout the year by hundreds of Wallingford residents as well as guests from all over the country. Our Town Park hosted Little League again this past spring with many Wallingford children participating in games and practices. Residents of all ages enjoyed tennis and pickleball on the beautiful court and basketball on the nicely refinished and upgraded court.

Volunteers offered their time and expertise to repair and upgrade benches in the baseball dugouts. They worked side by side with Recreation Committee members at our "Spring Work Day" to clean up the park, cut brush and other vegetation, prepare ballfields for seasonal use, and overall park maintenance.

In response to continued vandalism, the Recreation Committee purchased and installed a new security system at the Town park.

Our Wallingford Summer Camp provided safe and affordable programming at Elfin Lake for Wallingford children – supporting them and their families through fun, engaging, and quality experiential opportunities, including off-site visits and trips.

Unfortunately, the July flood resulted in extensive damage to many parts of the park. This included significant damage to the ballfields and skateboard facilities. Members of the Recreation Committee completed storm damage cleanup and removed downed trees and vegetation. Plumbing repairs at the Elfin Lake facility also caused headaches and burned through limited funds.

We have begun the planning process to make necessary repairs to the park and we have worked with outside organizations as well as town officials to ensure we are eligible for any restoration funds available. We continue to explore how to improve facilities at Elfin Lake for the benefit of our community.

In response to a public survey that we developed and administered to the citizens of Wallingford, the Recreation Committee moved forward with the goal of restoring potable water to the park. While an attempt to locate and repair what we believed was a damaged water line was ultimately not successful, we discovered lines to the existing spigot were undamaged. We are on track to make repairs and upgrades in order to have water access for the public sometime in 2024.

Vermont League of Cities and Towns inspected the Town park and recommended a list of improvements, upgrades, and repairs. Some of the work has been completed, including repairs to the play structure climbing wall and wood chips generously donated by True Temper were spread beneath the structure making it both safer and more attractive. This addressed one key concern of the VLCT inspection.

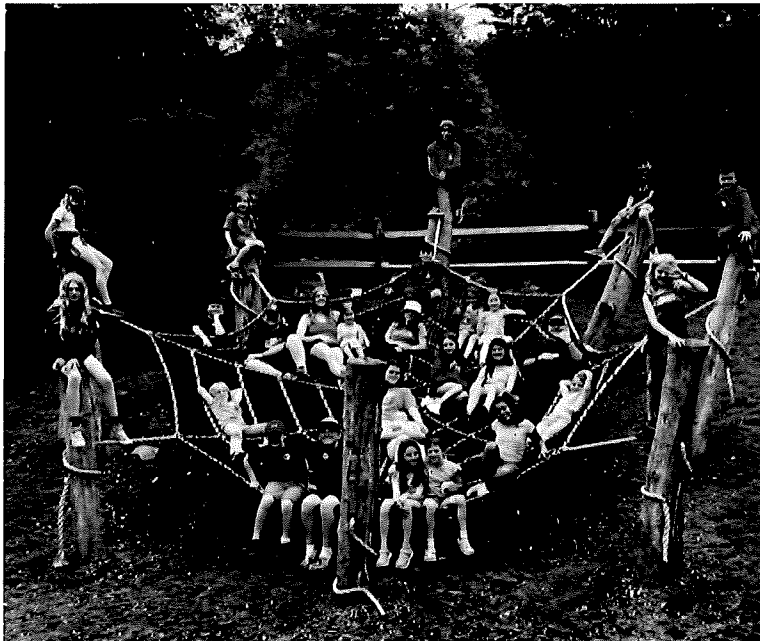
Working with Mill River Union High School and Middle School Cross-Country Coach Brian Elliot, the Conservation Committee, and Selectboard, we hosted our first annual cross country meet on a course spanning the park, Stone Meadow, and Elfin Lake. By all accounts, this event was a success

for all involved and had many benefits for the Town, bringing more foot traffic to local businesses as well as showcasing our public spaces.

We look forward to 2024 and the challenges and opportunities it will hold, including the erosion abatement and redesign work at Elfin Lake, more collaboration with the MRU Cross Country Team, and the challenges of repairing our ballfields after extensive damage.

Finally, we are excited to have welcomed new members to our committee and we are hopeful that it will continue to grow as interested Wallingford residents join and become involved.

David Cornwell, Brian Ferguson, Mark Noble, and Shannon Pytlik, Recreation Committee



Wallingford Summer Camp Program 2023. Photo by Lawrie Roundy.

Wallingford Rescue, Inc.

From October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023 Wallingford Rescue, Inc. was called out a total of 244 times. This included 16 calls in Tinmouth and a total of 38 mutual aid calls to assist in East Wallingford, Danby, East Dorset, Clarendon, Middletown Springs, and Rutland.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of Wallingford Volunteer Fire Department for their continued assistance and support throughout the year. Thank you to Regional Ambulance Service for their help with both coverage and Paramedic level intercepts.

Our 2017 Ambulance purchased last year has had the detailing updated on the exterior and has been on the road since the beginning of 2023. The old ambulance, fondly known as Big Red, was sold rather quickly to the Vermont Railroad. They have another life planned for it as it will be used for railroad work.

If anyone is interested in joining Wallingford Rescue, please call squad headquarters at 802-446-3942 and leave a message. A member will return your call. We are actively recruiting qualified members, drivers and auxiliary members to help better serve our communities. Daytime coverage is especially needed and training will be provided. Special thanks go to the townspeople for their constant support throughout the year. Wallingford is a very special place with generous, awesome people who live in it.

Greg Ricketts, President

Wallingford Rescue, Inc. For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

RECEIPTS

Town Allocations:

Wallingford	\$11,000	
Tinmouth	<u>\$3,000</u>	\$14,000
Wallingford Equipment Allocation		\$38,113
Transport		\$69,562
Donations		\$1,146
Miscellaneous		\$491
Gain <loss> investments		<u>\$9,513</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$132,825

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS

Medical Supplies	\$2,197	
Insurance	\$9,487	
Fuel, Equip Repair, Veh Exp	\$15,867	
Stipends	\$8,716	
Ambulance	\$48,165	\$84,432

General & Administration:

Fees	\$6,120	
Building Improvements	\$24,250	
Commissions	\$6,043	
Utilities, Property Taxes	\$6,445	
Mortgage Interest/Principle	\$18,705	
Building Maintenance/Supplies	\$11,152	
Postage and Supplies	\$1,228	
Dues & Conferences	\$300	
Training & Miscellaneous	\$1,140	
Public Relations	\$618	
Treas. & Secretary Compensation	<u>\$1,000</u>	\$77,001
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		<u>\$161,433</u>

Excess Cash Receipts over Disbursements	(\$28,608)
Cash Balance October 1, 2022	<u>\$202,791</u>
Cash Balance September 30, 2023	<u>\$174,183</u>

As of September 30, 2023 cash consisted of the following:

Cash-Checking	\$67,816
Morgan Stanley	<u>\$106,367</u>
Cash Balance, September 30, 2023	\$174,183

Conservation Commission

It has been a busy 2023 for the Wallingford Conservation Commission. We kicked off the year at Stone Meadow by re-introducing the annual Cabin Fever Fun Day. Kids of all ages enjoyed sledding followed by hot dogs and s'mores over a roaring campfire. Bees arrived in the spring to populate the Stone Meadow hives. Wooden steps were built on Bog Trail over the summer and a trail was added along Otter Creek this past fall. "Otters Edge Trail" starts near the Waldo Lane parking lot and follows along the creek. A wooden bench has been installed to allow hikers to rest while enjoying the wildlife and views of the flowing creek. In an effort to grow the canopy over more of the Stone Meadow trails, brush was cleared around selected locust trees to encourage their growth. In addition to the Commission's usual work to keep the park beautiful, Vermont Mindful Walks and volunteers installed a community wildflower pollinator garden near the main trail.

The Conservation Commission adopted a mission statement this year: "Protect Wallingford's land, water, air, and biodiversity." Although Stone Meadow is a key focus, the Commission had an impact throughout the broader area as well. Commissioners coordinated the annual spring Green Up Day, and with your help, removed hundreds of bags of litter from our roadsides. A supplemental fall cleanup was successfully conducted by the Commission targeting some areas that needed additional attention. The Commission continued to work with Fitzgerald Environmental Consulting on a design project to reduce erosion and its impact on Elfin Lake. The Trex plastic bag and film recycling project has been a great success. Over 4000 pounds of plastic film have been diverted from the landfill this year with the help of the Transfer Station crew and everyone who separated and deposited their wood pellet bags, bubble wrap, and other plastic film materials. The Discovery Book recycling program also collected over 4000 pounds of books in only a few short months since implementation.

The Conservation Commission would like to thank all Wallingford residents who help keep our environment clean and we look forward to seeing you at the next Cabin Fever Fun Day as well as walking the trails throughout 2024.

Dennis Duhaime, Denise Eddy, Carol Macleod, Ralph Nimtz, Jane Quigley, and Debbie Scranton (Chair), Conservation Commission

Wallingford Historical Society

The Wallingford Historical Society again had a busy year. We fielded numerous questions from descendants of Wallingford families regarding their genealogy.

One particular interesting one was from John Adair's descendant. Mr. Adair established a marble monument works in South Wallingford in the 1870's. Many of his gravestones can be found in our cemeteries with a distinctive dove carved in them.

Another was a descendant of Samuel Morrison. Mr. Morrison manufactured spinning wheels in South Wallingford in the 1840's. We will have a presentation on him by Nora Rubinstein in the spring and will have some of his wheels there for you to see. Nora has done extensive research on the family and Samuel's amazing wheels.

We again were open to the public on Wallingford Day and look forward to 2024 when the State will be kicking off plans for the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution. We will keep you up to date on various activities happening throughout the state as they are announced on the Town's Facebook page, Website and Front Porch Forum.

In September, Wallingford resident Nick Strom-Olsen presented a program on the history of covered bridges built and designed in Vermont and surrounding states by his great, great, great grandfather Nicolas Powers. One of Mr. Power's bridges had been located on Route 140 in Wallingford. Nick did a fantastic job.

Last but not least, we have just received notification by the Bennington Museum that the Paul Thayer exhibit is moving ahead with date to be determined. Mr. Thayer built and designed many of the camps on Lake Elfin and tons of other unique buildings in New England.

Shout out to Elaine Warzocha for always being there for moving and cleaning exhibits, traveling to Bennington, posted meeting notices, etc.

Joyce Barbieri, President



*Wallingford Standard available online.
www.wallingfordvt.com/community/newsletter/*



Nicholas Power Covered Bridge on Route 140.

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission worked on the proposed Zoning Regulations throughout the year, meeting in person. The proposal was sent to the town attorney and the Rutland Regional Planning Commission for review. A Public Hearing was scheduled in January 2024.

Erika Berner, Planning Commission Chair



Visit us on the Web <http://www.wallingfordvt.com>

.....and on Facebook – Town of Wallingford, VT

Zoning

A total of 41 permits were issued for the year ending mid-December, which is nine fewer than last year for the same period.

Deck / Porch	7
Driveway	2
Garage	2
Home Occupation	1
Lot Line Adjustments	2
New Homes	3
No Permit Needed	1
Peddler's License	2
Home Renovations	7
Short Term Rentals	3
Storage Sheds / Barns	8
Concrete pad	1

Pending DRB Hearing in January 2024

Dog Boarding	1
Move Free-Standing Sign	1

Conferences / Workshops:

Two on-line workshops.

Erika Berner, Zoning Administrator

Trustees of Public Funds

The Trustees of Public Funds have the responsibility to receive, hold, manage, invest and reinvest the assets of the Trust. The Trustees shall collect and distribute the income in accordance with the underlying bequests or Trust Agreements. The trustees have invested in well-diversified moderate allocation mutual funds. The status is as follows:

	<u>Shares Held</u>	<u>Market Value 12/31/2023</u>
1993 Revenue Augmentation Trust	10,498.407	\$246,082.66
Ralph E. Stafford Memorial Fund	7,200.599	\$168,782.04

After the down year of 2022, the accounts experienced a small positive rate of return in calendar year 2023. The investment holds an overall four-star rating from the investment research firm, Morningstar, and continues to be awarded a low-risk rating. Quarterly dividend distributions sustain

the investments. American Funds Income Fund of America (AMECX) continues to be an appropriate investment having shown a return of over 10 percent since the inception of accounts.

By January 31 of each year, the 1993 Revenue Augmentation Trust shall distribute net income up to a maximum of 5 percent of Trust assets to the Town as "Other Income" or for such other category designated by the Selectboard. The Revenue Augmentation Trust terminated December 7, 2023. In accordance with the trust document, voters at Town Meeting in March of 2022 approved Article V: *Shall the voters of the Town of Wallingford appropriate 2/3 of the Revenue Augmentation Trust balance at the time of its termination in December 2023 to be used for Capital Project(s) as determined by the Selectboard with 1/3 of the balance in the fund at termination in December 2023 to remain in the custody of the Trustees of Public Funds to lower future taxes.*

The Ralph E. Stafford Memorial Fund, created by bequest, shall distribute net income "to grant scholarships to worthy and needy students who are residents of the Town of Wallingford, and, who wish to attend schools of higher learning beyond the high school level."

The 2023 Ralph E. Stafford Memorial Fund scholarship recipients were Emma Johnson and Kaitlyn Sharp.

Anne Awad, Dave Ballou, and Patricia Pranger, Trustees of Public Funds

Wallingford Energy Committee

The Wallingford Energy Committee has been active during 2023, holding monthly meetings with the exception of a summer recess for the months of July and August. A summary of the committee's activities includes:

- The committee presented an electric vehicle demonstration and information expo at Wallingford Day 2023. Electric vehicles by Tesla, Ford and Hyundai were displayed. Information on purchase options, rebates, tax credits and cost of ownership were distributed to over 70 visitors.
- The bulk of the committee's activities revolved around energy efficiency projects for Town Hall.
 - A Request for Proposal for air sealing and insulation of the Town Hall basement was completed and sent out to bid. The successful bidder completed the work during the last quarter of 2023. The Energy Committee assisted with the moving of stored items to allow the work to proceed and returning the items back to their original location.
 - At the direction of the Selectboard, Ralph Nimtz contacted mechanical engineer firms regarding replacing the Town Hall oil fired boiler. After discussion, the Selectboard decided to not hire a mechanical engineer to redesign the heating system. Consideration for the replacement of the current oil-fired boiler has been tabled until a later date.

- A Request for Proposal to install energy efficient heat pumps for heating and cooling of the first floor of Town Hall is in the final stages of completion. It will be submitted to the Selectboard in the first quarter of 2024.
- The chair wishes to recognize the exceptional number of hours that committee members Ralph Nimitz, Jay White and Ken Welch spent during the past year on various projects. Their dedication is appreciated.

David Castonguay, Chair



**American Legion
Ralph H. Pickett Post #52, Wallingford, VT**

Post 52 of Wallingford, Vermont is comprised of a confederation of veterans from WWII to the Gulf Wars. Our oldest member is 101-year-old Don Shedd, a Marine who served in WWII.

Post 52 adheres to the four pillars of the American Legion and meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 0800 hours at the Wallingford First Congregational Church. We also meet on the third Tuesday of the month for our picnics, usually at the Danby Fun Center or at a members' house for a BBQ.

This year, our Post 52 Honor Guard was involved with funerals along with the Post 31 Honor Guard. We also collaborated with Wallingford Elementary School kindergarten and first grade students on the Thursday before Memorial Day. Together we placed flags by the graves of veterans who lost their lives while serving the United States of America.

Any veteran can now be a member of the American Legion. All they need to do is present their DD214 to the Post Adjutant.

More information can be found at www.legion.org. I can be reached at 802-342-8096 or at msloseby@yahoo.com.

Mark Loseby, Commander Post 52

Delinquent Tax Collector Report 12/31/23

Current Year Warrant 4/18/23 **\$104,646.71 (Principal only)**

Total Collected & Remitted to Town \$71,116.06
Current & Previous Years

Delinquent Principal Balance **\$33,530.65**
Including Years from 2020-2023

The following are delinquent in the payment of their taxes as of December 31, 2023

Blanchard Raymond	2021-2022 & 2022-2023
Brandt, Justin	2022-2023
Galiano Todd & D. Fouracre	2021-2022 & 2022-2023
Galiano Todd & D. Fouracre	2020-2021, 2021-2022 & 2022-2023
Galiano Todd & D. Fouracre	2020-2021 & 2021-2022
Galiano Todd & D. Fouracre	2020-2021, 2021-2022 & 2022-2023
McGrath, John	2022-2023
Maple Valley Grange	2022-2023
McCulley, Jeremiah	2022-2023
Morabito, Michael & Gayle	2021-2022 & 2022-2023
Narragansett Indian	2022-2023
Nimtz, Spencer	2020-2021, 2021-2022 & 2022-2023
Skiba, Richard	2021-2022 & 2022-2023
Weightman Linda (Estate of)	2022-2023

Jill Stone-Teer, Delinquent Tax Collector

Rutland County Solid Waste District

The Rutland County Solid Waste District (RCSWD) offers a variety of solid waste, recycling, waste education, household hazardous waste, composting and administrative support programs for our eighteen member municipalities, residents, and businesses. The District operates a regional drop-off center and transfer station at 14 Gleason Road in Rutland City. District program, facility and rate information is available on our website at www.rcswd.com. A new annual permit can be obtained from the convenience of your home or business via www.rcswd.com/permits in about 5 minutes. Debit and credit cards are accepted as an added means of payment at our facilities. A small convenience fee will be charged. The RCSWD did complete the Districts Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP) for the years 2020-2025. The State requires all communities have a current SWIP in place that meets the requirements of the State's Material Management Plan and delineates how solid and hazardous waste will be managed in the District for a five-year period.

Milestones will need to be reported back as required. The community's involvement in drafting and developing this document was encouraged. The District will continue to engage local businesses informing them of recycling, composting, hazardous waste and other the programs offered. The District will be working with local schools on many of these same issues. To this end, RCSWD was awarded a USDA Rural Development Grant this past year, which allowed the District to offer an expanded outreach program to 12 member towns with lower populations. This included reaching out to every household in these towns and seeking input regarding municipal needs to reduce reliance on landfills through waste reduction, reuse, and recycling programs.

Our website has been updated! This is your virtual Solid Waste Administration Office. Appointments, permits, events, and more are at your fingertips 24 hours a day. To keep up to date, please subscribe to our newsletter and e-mail alerts. Please see our 2023 Annual Report Book which covers in greater detail all of our programs to include: Waste Disposal -during 2023, residents and businesses in our member municipalities disposed of approximately 35,099 tons of municipal solid waste; Recycling -the District owns a Material Recovery Facility (MRF) and receives approximately 259,843 tons of recyclables a year from a large geographical area; Household Hazardous Waste - RCSWD operates an extensive Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program for district residents and small business generators with 32 collection events at twelve town transfer stations collecting over 45.95 tons of material annually. Other Programs - waste management education, reduction, construction, demolition waste, clean wood, and composting programs are offered. The District is continuing with its "Merry Mulch" program in collecting and processing over 1,200 Christmas trees annually. The District has been working with local organizations, including the Rutland Master Gardener's Club, 350 Rutland County, the Rutland Dismas House, Rutland Neighborhood Program, and Vermont Southwestern Council on Aging, Rutland Hospital and Women's Network & Shelter and the Rutland County Humane Society and our valued haulers.

Mark S. Shea, District Manager



Summer at Stone Meadow. Photo by Sandi Switzer

Births 2023

Child's Name	Sex	Date	Mother's Maiden Name	Father's Name
Watson Oliver Bouffard	M	3/17	Kayla Dowling	Michael Bouffard
Keith Alan Shaub	M	5/24	Megan Swisher	George Shaub
Wesley Michael LaCroix	M	5/25	Ashley Stewart	Jordan LaCroix
Robert Rutherford Stubbins III	M	6/13	Kelly Marrone	Robert Stubbins Jr.
Atlas Zedd Oprendeck	M	9/8	Bethany Bosch	Leon Oprendeck
Elizabeth Jane Cummings	F	10/20	Nicole Biasuzzi	Thomas Cummings
Hugo Carl Ullrich	M	11/29	Mariah Ford	Edward Ullrich

Births 2022

Child's Name	Sex	Date	Mother's Maiden Name	Father's Name
Gus Henry Ullrich	M	1/11	Mariah Ford	Edward Ullrich
Walker Lawrence Mullan	M	3/8	Haley Goodrich	Jaron Mullan
Isaac Abraham LaFlamme	M	3/10	Chelsey Wilcox	John LaFlamme
Brayden Richard Cummings	M	3/21	Janelle Cassant	Dustin Cummings
Evelyn Louise Francis Aines-Avery	F	4/7	Ashley Aines	Elliott Avery
Jackson Nathaniel Jones	M	4/11	Cassidy Bromley	Chad Jones
Everett Paul Ritchie	M	5/18	Lori Webster	Chad Ritchie
Oakley Lawrence Evans	M	5/18	Lynn Wade	Jeremy Evans
Adalyn Sue Prescott	F	6/16	Amber Prescott	
Forrest Harold Roser	M	6/30	Tara Alberico	Matthew Roser
Nora Renee Molaski	F	7/10	Anna-Michelle Fabian	Luke Molaski
Michael Magnus Harlow-Jankus	M	7/28	Abbey Harlow	Justin Jankus
Evelyn Sophia Bride	F	9/6	Stephanie Ellis	Thomas Bride
Myles Quinn Kitchin	M	9/23	Taylor Gainer	William Kitchin
Maeve Lee Baker	F	9/24	Malia Kapusta	Cody Baker
Oskar Wilson Leo Coziahr	M	11/4	Hannah Abler	William Coziahr
Karmyn Valencia Carroll	F	11/17	Hope Tupper	Ricky Carroll

Deaths 2023

Name	Age	Date	Residence
Oakley H. Allen Jr.	75	1/5	Wallingford
Suzanne M. Rockwell	75	2/26	Wallingford
Oswaldo Mercado	74	2/27	Wallingford
Cassandra A. Ahearn	56	3/16	Wallingford
Marcel J. Gosselin	51	3/23	Wallingford
Joanne E. Keener	74	3/25	Wallingford
Louise R. Daly	82	3/31	Rupert
Geraldine A. Weeks	92	5/2	Wallingford

John R. Furneaux	68	5/3	Wallingford
Shannon I. Squier	74	5/10	Wallingford
Marjorie F. Eddy	92	6/6	Wallingford
Nancy A. Lattuca	57	6/28	Wallingford
Eric Williams	71	7/1	Wallingford
John H. Blanchard	83	7/5	Wallingford
Raymond J. Senecal	82	8/30	Wallingford
Richard A. Flanders	71	10/3	E. Wallingford
Eleanor Pramuk	78	11/1	Wallingford
Ronald E. Roberts	77	11/13	Wallingford
Harold E. Elwell	95	11/14	Wallingford
Jane A. Speer	91	11/30	Wallingford
Elizabeth Frederick	84	12/8	S. Wallingford
Donald A. Belcher	82	12/11	E. Wallingford
Richard W. Wade	72	12/27	Wallingford
Eathel G. Holden	83	12/28	Wallingford

Deaths 2022

Name	Age	Date	Residence
Susan Gobetz	84	1/3	E. Wallingford
David Keener Sr.	86	1/31	Wallingford
Jane Hart	49	2/10	Wallingford
Rosella Brown	85	2/18	Wallingford
David Hagopian	75	3/3	Wallingford
Jacqueline Bombardier	70	4/6	Wallingford
Edward Porter	67	4/17	Wallingford
Joseph Carlson	76	4/30	Wallingford
Dana Carey	73	5/2	Wallingford
Gene Rist	74	5/9	S. Wallingford
Michael McMahan	71	5/13	Wallingford
Phyllis Seitler	92	5/27	Wallingford
Steve Emmons	71	5/27	Wallingford
Pamela Higgins	52	6/7	Wallingford
Kevin Lambert	59	6/24	E. Wallingford
Mark Downing	62	7/20	E. Wallingford
Danielle Warzocha	48	7/30	S. Wallingford
Warren Allen	83	9/7	Wallingford
Nelson Tift	73	10/17	Wallingford
Randall Phelps	68	10/28	Wallingford
Joan Kelley	89	12/4	Wallingford

Civil Marriages 2023

Spouse	Residence	Spouse	Residence	Date
Karim Chapman	E. Wallingford	Nicole Edwards	E. Wallingford	5/6
Nicole Stocker	New Hampshire	Robert DeJesus	New Hampshire	5/27
Causey Dunlap	New York	Ryan Hebel	New York	6/3
Scott LaFrancois	Wallingford	Karen Buck	Wallingford	6/17
Larissa de Bruin	Wallingford	Garrett Platts	Wallingford	8/12
Jaime Harrington	Rutland	Christie Allen	Rutland	9/20
Bailey Aines	Wallingford	Benjamin Crockett	W. Rutland	9/23
Cheyenne Hoyle	Wallingford	Austin May	South Carolina	9/30
Mallory Mollison	Wallingford	Joshua Bilodeau	Wallingford	9/30
Julie Joyce	Rutland	Bernard Miles	Rutland	10/6
Thomas Hough	Wallingford	Amanda Bucci	Wallingford	11/3
Ashley Stewart	Wallingford	Jordan LaCroix	Wallingford	11/11
Christine Palmer	E. Wallingford	Kristjan Jonsson	Iceland	11/19

Civil Marriages 2022

Spouse	Residence	Spouse	Residence	Date
Michael Daly	E. Wallingford	Rachel Rogers	E. Wallingford	3/12
Regina Ahern	Massachusetts	Rex Kletschka	Minnesota	4/20
Lindsay Wells	Connecticut	Trey Maserang III	Nevada	5/28
Zachary Campbell	Massachusetts	Brittany MacMurray	Massachusetts	6/11
Samuel Laitinen	Wallingford	Lyn Rinaldi	Wallingford	8/15
Krishant Prashad	New York	Isabella Acevedo	New York	8/17
Zara Mecier	Wallingford	John Falk	Wallingford	9/22
Stephen Baumann	Florida	Sara Browning	Florida	9/23
Tessa Davenport	Wallingford	Kevin Maguire	Wallingford	9/23
Sarah Niedzwiecki	Massachusetts	Steven Muhlhauser	Massachusetts	12/1
Shannon Towle	Wallingford	Alejandro Garrido Rosa	Peru	12/2





Members of Gov. Scott's cabinet and local representatives meet with those impacted by the July flood. Photo by Sandi Switzer

Wallingford Fire Chief's Report

The Wallingford Fire Department had a very successful 2023. We provided assistance just under 100 times for emergency and non-emergency situations throughout the year. Some examples of our responses included: structure fires, auto accidents, water rescues, carbon monoxide alarms, wildland fires, assist Wallingford Rescue with entry to locked areas, lift assist with rescue, CPR calls, car fires, mutual aid to area towns, elevator rescues, burnt food on the stove, etc.

The department was able to achieve its goal of firefighter training at the same level as a full-time professional fire department, at 24 hours per month or 288 hours per firefighter each year. This training takes place virtually as well as at the fire station on Tuesday evenings throughout the year. We also utilize additional resources for training with area departments, Wallingford Rescue for CPR, FEMA, the State Fire Academy, etc.

We have made progress with our "Lights on for Safety" program. If you have an emergency at your home, and it is safe for you to do so, please turn on as many lights as you can while waiting for firefighters to respond. This will improve visibility and make it easier for fire and rescue personnel to find you. But again, only if it is safe to do so.

We have a good roster of volunteers, but we are always looking for additional people to join our department. No experience required as we will train and help you grow with us. We also have a junior program, for ages 13 through 17. If you have an interest or would just like to stop in and see us on a Tuesday evening at the fire station, we would love to meet you.

My last request is that you review the location of your house number and ensure that it is visible from your street, so we can find you quickly. Please have a safe 2024 and thank you for your support.

Michael Hughes, Fire Chief

Rutland Regional Planning Commission

As we reflect on the past year, the Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC) extends its deepest gratitude to the towns within our region for their unwavering support and collaborative efforts in advancing community and economic development, thoughtful planning, and sustainable growth.

Community and Economic Development

Through strategic partnerships and public investment, we've worked to transform underutilized areas, like Pittsford Village Farm, into valuable community assets.

Town Planning and Zoning

By providing guidance and support to towns modernizing and updating their municipal plans and zoning regulations, we aim to create balanced, sustainable, and resilient communities that meet the needs of residents and businesses.

Water Quality and Natural Resources

Through collaborative efforts with local governments and organizations, our work as the South Lake Champlain Clean Water Service Provider identifies and develops projects that safeguard our water sources and protect the richness of our natural landscapes.

Emergency Preparedness and Climate Resilience

The RRPC led the charge responding and recovering from this summer's historic flooding. Beyond enhancing planning processes, we are committed to training local Emergency Management Directors (EMDs), ensuring swift and effective emergency responses, and building resilient communities equipped to navigate evolving climate dynamics.

Multimodal Transportation

The RRPC has worked towards developing multimodal transportation solutions, such as an analysis of the Rutland City Bus System, that prioritize accessibility and safety.

Energy Conservation and Efficiency

We are working with towns across the region to implement the Municipal Energy Resilience Program, aimed at saving energy and money for our critical town-owned buildings.

Affordable Housing

We worked closely with Vermont Finance Housing Agency (VFHA) to complete the 2023 Rutland Region Housing Needs Assessment and created a new planning program to help towns navigate housing challenges and opportunities.

Equity

Promoting equity is at the core of our planning efforts. We are dedicated to ensuring that our planning processes consider the needs and perspectives of all residents, fostering inclusive and equitable communities.

Regional Planning

We are thrilled to initiate a three-year process to update the 2018 Regional Plan, aiming to make it a true reflection of local priorities. We encourage active participation from residents, businesses, and organizations in meetings, workshops, and surveys to ensure diverse perspectives shape the updated plan. Your insights are invaluable in creating a blueprint for sustainable development, economic growth, and community enhancement. Stay tuned for upcoming engagement opportunities!

In closing, we want to thank all of the dedicated local volunteers and civil servants for their commitment to our region. Active participation in the local planning process ensures that diverse perspectives contribute to our shared vision. All are invited to join in helping shape our future as we look forward to another year of progress, innovation, and shared success.

Devon Neary, *Executive Director*

Green Mountain National Forest

The employees of the Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) depend heavily on support from the many municipalities, volunteers, partners and contractors who help us accomplish our robust program of work every year. We would like to take this time to thank you and your community for your support and the interest that you have shown in helping us manage the more than 400,000 acre GMNF, which several million outdoor recreation enthusiasts enjoy and is critical to our local economy. We are proud that the GMNF is part of Vermont and part of your town. It is truly one of Vermont's treasures and the largest contiguous public land area in the state. Our staff works hard to achieve quality public land management under a sustainable multiple-use management concept to meet the diverse needs of the people -- people in your town as well as all of the visitors who come to Vermont every year.

FIRE PROTECTION BUDGET

		Actual	Actual	Budget	Proposed Budget
		July '22-Jun '23	July '23-Dec'23	July '23-June '24	July '24-June '25
4400 · FIRE PROTECTION INCOME					
	44XX-Prior year Carry Over (Loss)	\$ 20,881.01	\$ 5,975.37		
	4401 · Interest - Checking	\$ 129.94	\$ 64.11	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00
	4402 · Contract Payment from Town/Tax	\$ 105,194.21	\$ 68,428.39	\$ 142,810.00	\$ 158,060.00
	4403 · Miscellaneous Income	\$ -	\$ -		
Total 4400 · FIRE PROTECTION INCOME		\$ 126,205.16	\$ 74,467.87	\$ 142,830.00	\$ 158,080.00
5400 - FIRE PROTECTION EXPENSE					
	5401 · Administrative Expense	\$ 7,600.00	\$ 8,100.00	\$ 8,100.00	\$ 8,600.00
	5404 · Emergency Phone	\$ 509.80	\$ 198.45	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
	5405 · State Dispatching Annual Fee	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
	5406 · Office Equipment Expense	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 500.00
	5407 · Utilities	\$ 10,972.58	\$ 2,286.80	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
	5408 · Chief's Stipend & FICA	\$ 1,614.75	\$ 1,614.75	\$ 1,625.00	\$ 1,625.00
	5411 · Attorney Fees	\$ -	\$ 1,057.50	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
	5412 · Insurance Expense	\$ 9,845.93	\$ 3,791.13	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 11,000.00
	5413 · Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
	5416 · Education/Training Expense	\$ 3,380.97	\$ 359.95	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
	5417 · Fire Hydrants/Dry Hydrants	\$ 4,115.67	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
	5419 · Firefighter Equipment	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 3,438.79	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
	5420 · Pager/Radio/Computer/Software	\$ 1,558.20	\$ 876.46	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
	5421 · Fire Vehicles Repairs/Maint.	\$ 4,327.24	\$ 9,143.01	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 12,000.00
	5422 · Fire Vehicles - Diesel	\$ 3,028.10	\$ 781.59	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
	5423 · Station Expense	\$ 2,244.47	\$ 1,220.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
	5427 · Truck Replacement Fund	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 27,000.00
	5433 · Testing/Maint.	\$ 6,431.22	\$ 4,712.81	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,500.00
	5435 · Firefighters Stipend	\$ 7,497.86	\$ -	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00
	5438 - Air Pack Replacement	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 22,000.00
	5439 - Deputy Chief's Stipend & FICA	\$ 2,153.00	\$ 2,153.00	\$ 2,155.00	\$ 2,155.00
	5440 - Repeater Radio Fund	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Total 5400 · FIRE PROTECTION EXPENSE		\$ 120,229.79	\$ 86,184.24	\$ 142,830.00	\$ 158,080.00
YEAR OVER (LOSS)		\$ 5,975.37			

Green Up Vermont

Green Up Day is May 4, 2024

Green Up Day continued to grow with 23,500 volunteers statewide who cleaned up nearly 348 tons of litter and 15,000 tires. We saw 23% more volunteers lend a hand and heard in many cases there was less litter (30%) to be cleaned up. Tire collection saw a 4.8% increase. The statistics show that the hard work to beautify Vermont is still needed but also that our efforts for awareness are paying off. As one of Vermont's favorite traditions, it is imperative for today and for future generations to keep building pride, awareness, and stewardship for a clean Vermont, as well as keep residents civically engaged.

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

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

Green Up Vermont is a private nonprofit organization that relies on your support to execute the tradition of cleaning up our roads and waterways, while promoting civic pride, and community engagement. **Thank you for supporting 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 online at www.greenupvermont.org.

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

Kate Alberghini, Green Up Vermont

Green Hill Cemetery

On behalf of the trustees of the Green Hill Cemetery Association, I would like to submit this report to the Town of Wallingford. The beautiful, historical Green Hill Cemetery was established as an Association in 1870. It is an active cemetery that operates as a 501(c)3 organization. It is governed by a Board of Trustees of not less than seven or more than eleven members. All meetings are open to the public and lot owners.

The Cemetery trustees are always concerned that the cemetery will be well maintained. We rely mostly on lot sales and internment fees to function. There are many lots available that can be paid with time-sale financing with 20% down, balance paid in 10 monthly payments. The deed is issued following the final payment. Many people purchase their lot well in advance of when it may be needed.

We are especially grateful for the support from the Town and to the lot owners who donate to us. These donations help immensely. On behalf of the board, I would like to thank our Superintendent

Curtis Lidstone, caretakers and volunteers for their hard work. That is what keeps the cemetery well maintained and always looking so nice. If you would like to purchase a lot in Green Hill Cemetery, you can contact Curtis Lidstone at 558- 5276. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 446-3239.

William H. Brooks III, President

Non-Profit Organization Contact Information

The following non-profit organizations requested funding in the Fiscal Year 2025 budget. Here is the contact information:

~Vermont Council on Rural Development, P.O. Box 1384, Montpelier, VT 005601, 802-223-6091, info@vtrural.org
~The Preservation Trust of Vermont, 104 Church Street, Suite 21, Burlington, VT 05401, 802-658-6647, www.ptvermont.org
~Green Up Vermont, P.O. Box 1191, Montpelier, VT 05601, 802-522-7245, www.greenupvermont.org
~Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 60 Kimball Avenue, South Burlington, VT 05403. 802-863-1358, www.vabvi.org
~Vermont Adult Learning, 16 Evelyn Street, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-775-0617, cwhite@vtadultlearning.org
~Regional Ambulance Service, 275 Stratton Road, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-773-1746 (non-emergency line).
~Rutland Natural Resources Conservation District, 170 South Main Street, Suite 4, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-775-8034, ext 117. www.vacd.org/conservation-districts/rutland
~Rutland County Humane Society, 765 Stevens Road, Pittsford, VT 05763 802-483-6700, www.rchsvt.org
~VNA, 7 Hospice of the Southwest Region, 7 Albert Cree Drive, Rutland, VT 05701, 800-244-0568, www.vermontvisitingnurses.org
~Vermont Center for Independent Living, 11 East State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602, 800-639-1522, www.vcil.org
~Community Care Network, Rutland Mental Health Services, P.O. Box 222, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-775-2381, www.rmhsccn.org
~Vermont Family Network, 600 Blair Park Road, Suite 240, Williston, VT, 05495, 1-800-800-4005, www.vermontfamilynetwork.org
~Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging, 143 Maple Street, Rutland, VT, 05701, 802-786-5990, 800-642-5119.
~NewStory Center, P.O.Box 313, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-775-3232 (crisis), 802-775-6788 (office), www.nscvt.org
~Child First Advocacy Center, P. O. Box 6822, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-747-0200, advocate@childfirstadvocacycenter.org, www.childfirstadvocacy.org
~Advocacy Resources Community, ARC, 128 Merchants Row, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-775-1370. info@arcrutlandarea.org, www.ARCRutlandArea.org
~RSVP & The Volunteer Center, 6 Court Street, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-775-8220, rsvpfgp@gmail.com, www.volunteersinvt.org
~NeighborWorks of Western Vermont, 110 Marble Street, West Rutland, VT 05777, 802-438-2303 info@nwwvt.org, www.nwwvt.org
~BROC, 45 Union Street, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-775-0878, HelloBROC@broc.org, www.broc.org
~Rutland County Humane Society, 765 Stevens Road, Pittsford, VT 05763, rchsvt.org
~Rutland County Restorative Justice Center, 50 Center Street, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-775-2479, info@rutlandrestorativejustice.org, www.rutlandrestorativejustice.org
~VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force, P.O. Box 566, Waitsfield, VT, 05673, www.vacd.org
~Rutland County Parent Child Center, 61 Pleasant Street, Rutland, VT 05701, 802-775-9711, info@rcpcc.org

Town of Wallingford
75 School Street
Wallingford, VT 05773

2023 Town Report
You can also view
the
Town Report at
at www.wallingfordvt.com

PRESORTED STANDARD

MAIL

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

WALLINGFORD, VT

PERMIT NO. 2