

ANNUAL Town & School REPORT

**Town of
NEWPORT, VERMONT**

**For The Fiscal Year Ending
December 31, 2023**

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DATES TO REMEMBER IN 2024

MARCH 5, 2024	TOWN MEETING DAY AND PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION
APRIL 1, 2024	DOG LICENSE DUE
MAY 4, 2024	GREEN UP DAY
AUGUST 13, 2024	PRIMARY ELECTION
OCTOBER 27, 2024	PROPERTY TAXES DUE
NOVEMBER 5, 2024	GENERAL ELECTION

REMINDER: The Town of Newport is not responsible for damage to vegetation, structures, fences, or mailboxes within the Town highway right of way during snow-plowing or mowing. (Title 19 V.S.A.904,III). State law prohibits plowing, blowing, or shoveling of snow across or onto a Town or State Highway. Violators may be subject to a fine or penalty and may also be liable for damage to property, vehicles, and any undue cost to the Town for removal of the snow. In addition, the actual cost for the specific equipment and manpower used to remove this snow may be charged to the private property owner, with a minimum charge of one hour per Road Department personnel and equipment. Especially during winter months, please do not park on town roads; it is dangerous for the Town of Newport Road Crew. You may be towed or ticketed after your first warning.

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*appointed by Selectboard

Town Officers

MODERATOR: Richard Tetreault	2024
TOWN CLERK: Denise Daigle	2024
TOWN/SCHOOL TREASURER: Denise Daigle	2024
SELECTBOARD:	
Steve Barrup	2024
Richard Gosselin	2025
Jerry Waterman	2026
SCHOOL DIRECTOR:	
3 Year Term – Dari-Joi Glover	2024
Cameron Thompson	2025
Reene Fontaine	2026
2 Year Term – Jillian Raymond	2024
Tina Royer	2025
LISTERS:	
Arlene Brown	2024
Oscar Roberts	2025
Steve Naraghi	2026
FIRE WARDEN: Mike Beaumier (Appointed by State)	2024
SCHOOL DIRECTOR TO NCUHS: Dwight Brunnette	2024
DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR: Denise Daigle	2024
FIRST CONSTABLE: Anthony Glover	2024
SECOND CONSTABLE: Terry Dillon	2024
*ROAD COMMISSIONER: Mike Baraw	2024
*WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONER: Mike Baraw	2024
*NVDA REPRESENTATIVE: position not filled	2024
*ANIMAL CONTROL: Steve Edgerley	2024
HEALTH OFFICER: Steve and Ann Edgerley	2026
*INSPECTOR OF WOOD AND TIMBER: (Appointed by Board)	
Mike Baraw.	2024
JUSTICES OF THE PEACE:	
Stephen Lowell, Jim Hilliker, Linda Waterman,	
Robert Hilliker, Steve Edgerley, Maureen McGuire	2024
*SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE: Selectboard	2024
*CONSERVATION COMMITTEE:	
Bruce Sargent, Ike Brunnette	2024
Chris Donovan	2025
Glenn Foster, Chairperson	2026

*CEMETERY COMMISSION:

June Sheltra, Steve Edgerley, DeAnn Meunier,	
Vincent and Trish Buttice	2024

*WATER COMMITTEE:

Becky Therrien, Chairperson, Dennis DeLaBruere, Dwight Brunnette,	
Ernest Choquette, Steve Barrup, Rene Patenaude	2024

*ARPA COMMITTEE:

Joanne Guyette-Worth, Chairperson, Bob Best, Mike Baraw,	
Ellen Fox, Denise Daigle	2024

*CIVIL DEFENSE: Selectboard	2024
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*ZONING BOARD:

Glenn Foster, Ernest Choquette; Jeff Hall, Bruce Sargent,	
Ron Merrill, Ed Champine, Oscar Roberts (administrator)	2024

PLANNING BOARD:

Ed Champine, Joanne Guyette-Worth	2024
Mike Beaumier, Bruce Sargent	2025
Ernest Choquette, Becky Therrien, Linda Curtis	2026

*REPRESENTATIVE TO NATIONAL ORGANIZATION ON DISABILITY:

This position not filled.	2024
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DEPUTY REGISTRARS: (Appointed by Town Clerk),

Curtis-Britch & Bouffard Funeral Home	2024
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TOWN OF NEWPORT

Annual Town Meeting March 7, 2023

The annual town meeting of the Town of Newport and the Town School District was called to order at 6:00PM by Selectboard Chair, Steven Barrup.

Mr. Barrup requested a moment of silence for our troops, and then the flag salute was done.

1. David Ghelli made a motion that the clerk dispense with the reading of the entire warning, motion was seconded and PASSED on a voice vote.
2. TO ELECT A MODERATOR: Jerry Waterman nominated Richard Tetreault. Nominations were closed and Denise Daigle cast one ballot electing Richard Tetreault.. After the town clerk administered the oath to Mr. Tetreault, he explained to the body some of Roberts Rules of Order.

3. TO HEAR AND DISPOSE OF THE REPORTS OF THE TOWN OFFICERS AS FOLLOWS:

- a. Fire Department report
- b. Treasurer's Report
- c. Selectboard's report
- d. Tax Collector's report
- e. School Directors' report
- f. Principal's report
- g. Listers' report

Dave Ghelli made a motion to hear and dispose of the report of the town officers. This was seconded by Sarah Hardin. This PASSED on a voice vote.

4. TO ELECT ALL NECESSARY OFFICERS AS FOLLOWS:

- a. SELECTPERSON FOR A THREE YEAR TERM: Dave Ghelli nominated Jerry Waterman. Nominations were closed and Denise Daigle cast one ballot electing Jerry Waterman. The Town Clerk administered the oath to Mr. Waterman.
- b. SCHOOL DIRECTOR FOR A THREE YEAR TERM: Oscar Roberts nominated Randy Mathison. Daniel Royer nominated Renee Fontaine. Renee Fontaine was elected by a show of hands. The Town Clerk administered the oath to Ms. Fontaine.
- c. SCHOOL DIRECTOR FOR A TWO YEAR TERM: Derek Royer nominated Tina Royer. Nominations were closed and this PASSED on a voice vote. The Town Clerk administered the oath to Ms. Royer.
- d. LISTER FOR A THREE YEAR TERM: Oscar Roberts nominated Steve Naraghi. Nominations were closed and Denise Daigle cast one ballot electing Steve Naraghi.
- e. DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR FOR A ONE YEAR TERM: Sarah Hardin nominated Denise Daigle. Nominations were closed and this PASSED on a voice vote.
- f. FIRST CONSTABLE FOR A ONE YEAR TERM: Emily Hammond nominated Anthony Glover. Nominations were closed and this PASSED on a voice vote. The Town Clerk administered the oath to Mr. Glover.

g. SECOND CONSTABLE FOR A ONE YEAR TERM: Emily Hammond nominated Terry Dillon. Nominations were closed and this PASSED on a voice vote. The Town Clerk administered the oath to Mr. Dillon.

h. PLANNING BOARD MEMBER FOR THREE YEAR TERM: Arlene Brown nominated Linda Curtis. Nominations were closed and this PASSED on a voice vote. The Town Clerk administered the oath to Ms. Curtis.

i. PLANNING BOARD MEMBER FOR A THREE YEAR TERM: Bruce Sargent nominated Ernest Choquette. Nominations were closed and this PASSED on a voice vote. The town clerk administered the oath to Mr. Choquette.

j. PLANNING BOARD MEMBER FOR A THREE YEAR TERM: Jill Raymond nominated Becky Therrien. Nominations were closed and this PASSED on a voice vote.

5. To see if the voters of the Town of Newport will vote to appropriate \$19,488.00 to the Orleans County Sheriff's Department to allow for police services in town for the contractual year of April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024. Sarah Hardin made a motion to approve this article. This was seconded by Conrad Bellavance. The body had no objection in allowing a representative from the Sheriff's department to speak and answer questions. Some discussion followed. This article PASSED on a voice vote.
6. To see if the voters of the Town of Newport will vote to approve a one year contract in the amount of \$62,777.00 to the Newport Ambulance Service, Inc. Steve Edgerley made a motion to accept this article. This was seconded by Sarah Hardin. The assembly granted Jeff Johanson of the Newport ambulance service permission to speak with regard to this article. Some discussion followed. This article PASSED on a voice vote.
7. To see if the voters of the Town of Newport will vote to appropriate \$40,611.74 to the Newport Town Fire Department (to help defray expenses). Lauren Dillon made a motion to approve this article. This was seconded by Conrad Bellavance. This article PASSED on a voice vote.
8. To see if the voters of the Town of Newport will vote to appropriate \$30,000.00 to the Newport Town Fire Department to be placed in a reserve fund for the purchase of equipment and vehicles that will outdate and/or need to be replaced. Dave Ghelli made a motion to approve this article. This was seconded by Lauren Dillon. The assembly granted Jason Willis, fire chief, permission to speak with regard to this article. This article PASSED on a voice vote.
9. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$300.00 per student for "Special Busing". This amount to be paid directly to the bus service, if available. If busing is not available, individuals MUST present a bill to the Clerk's Office prior to October 1st, 2023 with verification that their child is attending a certified private school and the date of enrollment as a regular education student. Ernest Choquette made a motion to accept this article. This was seconded by Jill Raymond. This article PASSED on a voice vote.
10. To see if the voters of the Town of Newport will approve the school board to expend \$3,394,954.00, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year. Sarah Hardin made a motion to

accept this article. This was seconded by Terry Dillon. Jill Raymond explained the budget numbers and the school's mission statement to the assembly. Jill Raymond made a motion to amend the amount in this article to \$3,396,454.00. This was seconded by Dari Joi Glover. The amendment PASSED on a voice vote. More than seven people requested a paper ballot vote. Some discussion followed. Results of the paper ballot vote were:
YES – 40 NO – 20 SPOILED – 1. This article PASSED

11. To see if the voters of the Town of Newport will vote to appropriate \$298,661.03 for the General Fund expenditures and direct the Selectboard to deduct anticipated revenue. Steve Roberts made a motion to accept this article. This was seconded by Terry Dillon. This article PASSED on a voice vote.
12. To see if the voters of the Town of Newport will vote to appropriate \$826,355.58 for the Roads and Equipment expenditures and direct the Selectboard to deduct anticipated revenue. Randy Desrochers made a motion to accept this article. This was seconded by Dave Ghelli. This article PASSED on a voice vote.
13. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$21,000.00 for the Lister's expenditures. Cameron Thompson made a motion to accept this article. This was seconded by Jill Raymond. This article PASSED on a voice vote.
14. To see if the Town will vote to transfer into the re-appraisal fund the amount not used by the lister's budget in 2022 which is \$8,021.20. Randy Desrochers made a motion to accept this article. This was seconded by Cameron Thompson. This article PASSED on a voice vote.
15. To see if the voters of the Town of Newport will vote to appropriate \$25,000.00 to the Goodrich Memorial Library. Jill Raymond made a motion to accept this article. This was seconded by Steve Edgerley. This article PASSED on a voice vote.
16. To see if the voters of the Town of Newport will vote to appropriate \$1,100.00 to Rural Community Transportation (RCT) for services provided to residents that live in the Town of Newport. Randy Desrochers made a motion to accept this article. This was seconded by Terry Dillon. This article PASSED on a voice vote.
17. To see if the voters of the Town of Newport will vote to appropriate \$500.00 to the Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Society to assist with its commitments to rescuing, and finding homes for unwanted pets. Steve Edgerley made a motion to accept this article. This was seconded by Dave Ghelli. This article PASSED by a voice vote.
18. To see if the voters of the Town of Newport will vote to appropriate \$1,000.00 to the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging in providing services to residents of the town. Conrad Bellavance made a motion to accept this article. This was seconded by Terry Dillon. This article PASSED on a voice vote.
19. To see if the voters of the Town of Newport will vote to appropriate \$625.00 to the Old Stone House Museum to assist in maintaining the Old Stone House Museum and its Educational Program, and direct the selectmen to assess a tax sufficient to meet the same. Steve Edgerley made a motion to accept this article. This was seconded by Randy Desrochers amendment This article PASSED on a voice vote.

20. To see if the voters of the Town of Newport will vote to appropriate \$3,188.00 to the Northeast Kingdom Human Services a not-for-profit 501c (3) organization, to provide psychiatric mental health services to residents of Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans Counties. Jill Raymond made a motion to accept this article. This was seconded by Cameron Thompson. This article PASSED on a voice vote.
21. To see if the voters of the Town of Newport will vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,200.00 to Umbrella, Inc. to support services to the residents of the town Celine Champine made a motion to accept this article. This was seconded by Jill Raymond. This article PASSED on a voice vote.
22. To see if the voters of the Town of Newport will vote to appropriate a sum not to exceed \$500.00 as requested by Orleans County Citizen Advocacy for the purpose of creating and supporting one-to-one relationships between people with disabilities and community volunteers, and to direct the Selectmen to assess a tax sufficient to meet the same. Cameron Thompson made a motion to accept this article. This was seconded by Maureen McGuire. This article PASSED on a voice vote.
23. To see if the voters of the Town of Newport will vote to appropriate \$4,200.00 to Orleans-Essex VNA & Hospice, Inc. for the services of Skilled Nursing, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Medical Social Work, Licensed Nurses Aide, Homemaker, Personal Care Attendant, Hospice, and Maternal Child Health Programs, and other community health programs provided by the Agency. Dave Ghelli made a motion to accept this article. This was seconded by Steve Edgerley. This article PASSED on a voice vote.

24. To adjourn. Hearing no objections the Moderator adjourned the meeting.

ATTEST: Denise Daigle – Town Clerk - Town and School Treasurer

RICHARD TETREAU, Moderator

STEVEN BARRUP
JERRY WATERMAN
RICHARD GOSSELIN
Selectboard-Town of Newport

JILLIAN RAYMOND
DARI-JOI GLOVER
LAUREN DILLON
CHRIS HAMMOND
CAMERON THOMPSON
School Board, Town of Newport

AUSTRALIAN VOTING RESULTS AS FOLLOWS:

N.C.U.H.S. and N.C. Career Center Budget 61 YES 31 NO

RECEIVED AND RECORDED THIS 9th DAY OR MARCH, 2023.

DENISE DAIGLE
Town Clerk – Town and School Treasurer

Warning
ANNUAL TOWN/SCHOOL MEETING
TOWN OF NEWPORT – 2024

NOTICE...TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE TOWN OF NEWPORT.
VOTING BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT FROM 8:00AM TO 7:00PM AT THE NEWPORT
TOWN SCHOOL GYM IN NEWPORT CENTER ON TUESDAY MARCH 5, 2024
ON THE FOLLOWING:

NORTH COUNTRY UNION HIGH SCHOOL AND CAREER CENTER –
THE LEGAL VOTERS OF THE TOWN OF NEWPORT AND OF THE SCHOOL
DISTRICT ARE HEREBY WARNED AND NOTIFIED TO MEET AT THE NEWPORT
TOWN SCHOOL GYM IN NEWPORT CENTER, VERMONT ON TUESDAY
EVENING, MARCH 5, 2024 AT 6:00PM TO TRANSACT THE FOLLOWING
BUSINESS:

1. Request by the Clerk to dispose of the reading of the entire warning.
2. To elect a Moderator.
3. To hear and dispose of the reports of the Town Officers as follows
 - a. Fire Department report
 - b. Treasurer's report
 - c. Selectboard's report
 - d. Tax Collector's report
 - e. School Directors' report
 - f. Principal's report
 - g. Lister's report
4. To elect all necessary officers as follows:
 - a. Town Clerk for a three year term
 - b. Town/School Treasurer for a three term
 - c. Selectperson for a three year term
 - d. School director for a three year term
 - e. School director for a two year term
 - f. Union School Director for a three year term
 - g. Lister for a three year term
 - h. Delinquent tax collector for a one year term
 - i. First constable for a one year term
 - j. Second constable for a one year term
 - k. Planning board member for a three year term
 - l. Planning board member for a three year term
 - m. Planning board member for a three year term
5. To see if the voters of the Town of Newport will vote to appropriate \$20,496.00 to the Orleans County Sheriff's Department to allow for police services in town for the contractual year of April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025. (\$19,488.00 was voted last year).
6. Shall the voters of the Town of Newport vote to approve a one year contract in the amount of \$67,491.00 to the Newport Ambulance Service, Inc. (\$62,777.00 was voted last year).
7. Shall the voters of the Town of Newport vote to appropriate \$40,678.13 to the Newport Town Fire Department to help defray expenses. (\$40,611.74 was voted last year).
8. Shall the voters of the Town of Newport vote to appropriate \$30,000.00 to the Newport Town Fire Department to be placed in a reserve fund for the purchase of equipment and vehicles that will outdate and/or need to be replaced. (\$30,000.00 was voted last year).
9. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$300.00 per student for "Special Busing". This amount to be paid directly to the bus service, if available. If busing is not available, individuals MUST present a bill to the Clerk's Office prior to October 1st, 2024, with verification that their child is attending a certified private school and the date of enrollment as a regular education student.
10. Shall the voters of the Town of Newport School District approve the school board to expend \$3,809,719.00, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year. (3,396,954.00 was voted last year).
11. Shall the voters of the Town of Newport School District approve the school board to transfer the \$75,500.00 unallocated unaudited general fund balance from the 2022-2023 school year to the capital improvement fund. (none was voted last year).
12. Shall the voters of the Town of Newport vote to appropriate \$327,227.01 for the General Fund expenditures and direct the Selectboard to deduct anticipated revenue (\$298,661.03 was voted last year).
13. Shall the voters of the Town of Newport vote to appropriate \$875,674.67 for the Roads and Equipment expenditures and direct the Selectboard to deduct anticipated revenue (estimated anticipated state aid revenue for 2024 \$53,030.28) (\$826,355.58 was voted last year).
14. Shall the voters of the Town of Newport vote to appropriate \$21,000.00 for the Lister's expenditures (\$21,000.00 was voted last year).
15. Shall the voters of the Town of Newport vote to transfer into the re-appraisal fund the amount not used by the lister's budget in 2023 which is \$5,855.65.
16. Shall the voters of the Town of Newport vote to appropriate \$25,000.00 to the Goodrich Memorial Library (\$25,000.00 was voted last year).
17. Shall the voters of the Town of Newport vote to appropriate \$1,100.00 to Rural Community Transportation (RCT) for services provided to residents that live in the Town of Newport. (\$1,100.00 was voted last year).
18. Shall the voters of the Town of Newport vote to appropriate \$500.00 to the Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Society to assist with it's commitments to rescuing, and finding homes for unwanted pets. (\$500.00 was voted last year).
19. Shall the voters of the Town of Newport vote to appropriate \$1,000.00 to the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging in providing services to residents of the town. (\$1,000.00 was voted last year).
20. Shall the voters of the Town of Newport vote to appropriate \$625.00 to the Old Stone House Museum to assist in maintaining the Old Stone House Museum and its Educational Program, and direct the selectmen to assess a tax sufficient

to meet the same. (\$625.00 was voted last year).

21. Shall the voters of the Town of Newport vote to appropriate \$3,188.00 to Northeast Kingdom Human Services a not-for-profit 501 (c) (3) organization, to provide psychiatric mental health services to residents of Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans Counties. (3,188.00 was voted last year).
22. Shall the voters of the Town of Newport vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,200.00 to Umbrella, Inc. to provide services to residents of the Town. (\$2,200.00 was voted last year.)
23. Shall the voters of the Town of Newport vote to appropriate a sum not to exceed \$500.00 as requested by Orleans County Citizen Advocacy for the purpose of creating and supporting one-to-one relationships between people with disabilities and community volunteers, and to direct the Selectmen to assess a tax sufficient to meet the same. (\$500.00 was voted last year).
24. Shall the voters of the Town of Newport vote to appropriate \$4,200.00 to Orleans-Essex VNA & Hospice, Inc. for the services of Skilled Nursing, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Medical Social Work, Licensed Nurses Aide, Homemaker, Personal Care Attendant, Hospice, and Maternal Child Health Programs, and other community health programs provided by the Agency. (\$4,200.00 was voted last year).
25. Shall the voters of the Town of Newport vote to appropriate \$1,500.00 for the support of Northeast Kingdom Community Action (NEKCA), a not for profit 501©(3), to offer Food Shelf services to residents.
26. To transact any other non-binding business which may legally come before this meeting?
27. To Adjourn.

DATED AT NEWPORT CENTER THIS 29th DAY OF JANUARY, A.D. 2024.

STEVEN BARRUP
JERRY WATERMAN
RICHARD GOSSELIN
Selectboard – Town of Newport

CAMERON THOMPSON
DARI-JOI GLOVER
REENE FONTAINE
TINA ROYER
JILLIAN RAYMOND
School Board, Town of Newport

Received and recorded this 29th day of January, 2024.
DENISE DAIGLE – Town and School Clerk and Treasurer

Select Board Report - 2023

Hello and another year has passed. It seems to me the years are going faster, but that is another story.

Our meetings are still held on the 1st Thursday of every month. The Select Board meetings are in person at 5:30. The audio recordings along with agendas and minutes will be posted on the Town's website (townofnewport.org). If you haven't visited the website it is worth checking out.

As always if you need the Select Board to take action on an issue it needs to be placed on the agenda and warned. Please see the Town Clerk or Select Board to be placed on the agenda.

Town Meeting this year will be from the floor in person and voting on March 5th at 6pm at the School gymnasium.

Our Road Crew still consist of Mike Baraw, Road Commissioner; Equipment Operators, Jason Driver and Ty Camber. We feel that they are doing an excellent job maintaining our roads. The year 2023 was challenging and 2024 will be due to this inflationary period as you will see in the budget increases.

The Highway Budget went up \$29,319.00 and the General Fund Budget went up \$30,573.00. See Budget Comparisons in the Town Report.

Our Water and Sewer systems are working okay. The rate structure will stay the same for 2024.

You will also see under Recreation and Parks an increase, this is for a Boat Washing station and attendant at Strawberry Acres Access. www.allearthrenewables.com is monitoring the solar system. Our site number is 1639. Check out the site.

The ARPA Committee (Bob Best, Mike Baraw, Denise Daigle, Joanne Guyette Worth, and Ellen Fox) voted and made recommendations to the Select Board to upgrade the Solar Panels and the panels were replaced last fall, also to build a fire pond, wash bay and garage addition, new recycling center, Town Clerk's Office repairs and a new ball field. We would like to thank the committee for their hard work.

In closing the Select Board is thankful to everyone for their help in running the town, Denise Daigle, Avis Rollins, and the Listers, in the Town Clerks office; Mike, Jason, and Ty, at the Town Garage; and Charlie Buck at the Recycling Center.

We all owe YOU the voters for making Newport Town what it is. THANK YOU!

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Waterman
Richard Gosselin
Steve Barrup

Listers' Report - 2023

The numbers for transfers and permits for 2023 were as follows: 93 Transfers and 45 Permits.

If you plan on changing the footprint of your property, adding an addition or new building, or sub-dividing your property it is important to remember to get a permit from the town clerk. She will forward this permit to the zoning administrator for review and approval. New constructions cost \$57.00 and \$27.00 for any other changes.

We continue to attend as many workshops as possible to try our best to keep up with the constant changes of procedures that the state inflicts on us, especially current use.

Just a reminder, we do go on the road to check properties for any changes. We welcome anyone with any questions at all to give us a call to set up a time to meet with us. You can call our number 802-334-2830 or the town clerk's number 802-334-6442 anytime with questions or concerns. We encourage anyone with any questions with regard to your property's assessment to give us a call to go over this with us.

We thank you for your support and understanding.

Sincerely,
OSCAR ROBERTS
ARLENE BROWN
HOSSEIN (STEVE) NARAGHI
Listers - Town of Newport

Cemetery Commission Report - 2023

The commission would like to again acknowledge the amount of effort and work that is involved in keeping these cemeteries looking good – Jay Knight Property Management for doing the all of the cemeteries in town and keeping them in fine shape – Heritage Memorials who does our cleaning and repairing of the monuments plus gives us good advice on how to manage problems coming up in the future – Jon's Tree Service who helped with tree/brush trimming and removal. To the Junior ROTC group for the placing of the flags on the graves for us.

We would like to also say a very important THANK YOU to the taxpayers for giving us the money to be able to keep the cemeteries in good shape.

WRIGHT CEMETERY on Collins Mill Road

As of this time most of the work we needed to get done is completed except for the upkeep of lawns, etc. that is ongoing. Jon's Tree service removed a few trees that were in danger of falling and damaging head stones. He also trimmed over hanging branches that were a danger.

ROUTE 100 CEMETERY on Route 100

Jon's Tree Service removed a number of trees that were overhanging and threatening our stones and grounds. In addition, he trimmed a number of branches that were a threat to our stones. The tree above the vault was taken down but the vault removal/repair did not happen as time once again got away from everyone. This is on the agenda to definitely be taken care of in 2024 along with the repair of the road. Providing the budget passes the commission would like to have a sign made for this cemetery as well. There is always a need for stone repair/upkeep/cleaning each year.

LAKE ROAD CEMETERY (HOLBROOK BAY) on Lake Road

The stones we planned on cleaning this past year did not happen – time got away from everyone last year. Providing the budget passes we plan to do a number of stone repair/upkeep/cleaning at this cemetery as well. We also would like to have a sign made for this cemetery, repair the road, trim the trees on the north side of the cemetery, repair the split rail fence, and remove a dirt pile that has accumulated over the years at the top of the new part of the cemetery.

Once again we would like to thank you for your continued support. Stay Safe and Healthy.

Respectfully,

Cemetery Commission – Town of Newport

June Sheltra
DeAnn Meunier
Steve Edgerley
Vince Buttice
Trish Buttice

Treasurer's Report

STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED – 2023

TAXES ASSESSED – BILLED	GRAND LIST	RATE	AMOUNT
SCHOOL – RESIDENTIAL	978,176.50	1.4636	\$ 1,431,659.11
SCHOOL – NON-RESIDENTIAL	1,037,997.12	1.5456	\$ 1,604,328.37
GENERAL FUND	2,009,571.50	0.1061	\$ 213,215.61
ROADS.....	2,009,571.50	0.3584	\$ 720,230.20
APPROPRIATIONS.....	2,009,571.50	0.0951	\$ 191,110.21
HS-122 PENALTIES.....			\$ 680.76
			\$ 4,161,224.26
LESS CORRECTIONS TO TAX BILLS			\$ 3,529.48
ACTUAL AMT. TO BE COLLECTED BY TREASURER			\$ 4,157,694.78
COLLECTED AND TURNED OVER BY TREASURER.....			\$ 4,028,881.65
DELINQUENT TAXES TURNED OVER TO COLLECTOR.....			<u>128,813.13</u>
			\$ 4,157,694.78

Delinquent Tax Collector's Report

Balance of 2022 taxes collected in 2023	\$ 100,248.64
Total taxes billed in 2023	\$4,157,694.78
2023 taxes collected by Treasurer as of 10/27/23.....	\$4,028,881.65
2023 delinquent as of 10/28/23	\$ 128,813.13
2023 delinquent taxes collected as of 12/31/23	\$ 38,438.61
2023 Current Use changes not yet collected.....	<u>\$ 1,248.39</u>
2023 delinquent taxes still outstanding as of 12/31/23.....	\$ 89,126.13
DENISE DAIGLE	
Delinquent Tax Collector	

Dog Tax Report – 2023

Total dogs registered	105
Total fees collected	\$1,187.00
Less fees to state	<u>525.00</u>
Total deposited into general fund.....	\$ 662.00
DENISE DAIGLE	
Town Clerk and Treasurer	

TOWN OF NEWPORT GENERAL LEDGER

Comparative Budget Report

Account	Budget FY - 2023	Actual FY - 2023	Proposed FY - 2024
REVENUES			
TAX REVENUE			
Property Tax	\$ -	(194,367.82)	\$ -
Appropriation Tax.....	-	191,110.21	-
State of Vt - Current Use	55,000.00	53,264.00	55,000.00
Total Tax Revenue	55,000.00	50,006.39	55,000.00
LICENSES AND PERMITS			
Liquor Licenses	140.00	140.00	140.00
Dog Licenses.....	600.00	662.00	600.00
Total Licenses and Permits	740.00	802.00	740.00
INTERGOVERNMENT REVENUE			
Local Fines	600.00	423.41	500.00
Total Intergovernment Revenue.....	600.00	423.41	500.00
CHARGES FOR SERVICES			
Town Clerk's fees/record.	25,000.00	21,781.20	20,000.00
Restoration Fund	-	4,668.00	4,000.00
Total Charges for Services	25,000.00	26,449.20	24,000.00
INTEREST EARNED			
Interest Earned	9,000.00	14,442.24	12,000.00
interest earned-del.taxes	-	6,238.32	5,000.00
Total interest Earned	9,000.00	20,680.56	17,000.00
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES			
Other Revenue	-	6,755.00	-
Zoning Income.....	1,200.00	1,847.00	1,200.00
Misc. Revenue.....	15,000.00	21,289.28	15,000.00
Total Miscellaneous Revenues.....	16,200.00	29,891.28	16,200.00
TOTAL REVENUES	\$106,540.00	\$128,252.84	\$113,440.00
TOWN GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES			
SALARIES/COMPENSATION			
Select Board	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Select Board Secretary.....	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
Town Treasurer/Clerk	48,436.70	47,826.00	51,827.26
Asst Town Clerk/Treasurer	1,180.00	853.26	11,180.00
Zoning/Planning.....	3,500.00	6,063.00	5,000.00
Health Officer.....	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Total Salaries/Compensation	60,316.70	61,942.26	75,207.26
BENEFITS			
Social Security (FICA)	5,565.00	5,813.19	5,800.00
Medicare (MEDI)	1,411.21	1,357.23	1,357.00
Health Insurance	24,247.64	22,546.82	27,258.44
Retirement.....	4,060.48	4,128.15	4,405.31
Total Benefits	35,284.33	33,845.39	38,820.75

Account	Budget	Actual	Proposed
TOWN MEETING & ELECTIONS	FY - 2023	FY - 2023	FY - 2024
Ballot Clerk's Compensation	1,000.00	250.00	1,000.00
Town Reports.....	2,400.00	2,394.00	2,400.00
Elections	2,000.00	-	-
Total Town Meeting & Elections	5,400.00	2,644.00	3,400.00
LISTER'S EXPENSES			
Listers' Salaries	15,000.00	11,093.20	15,000.00
Telephone.....	625.00	710.53	750.00
Mileage.....	500.00	115.15	500.00
Computer Expense.....	3,000.00	1,862.96	3,000.00
Other Expenses.....	1,875.00	1,362.51	1,750.00
Total Lister's Expenses.....	21,000.00	15,144.35	21,000.00
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Office Supplies	6,000.00	7,933.93	8,000.00
Postage	2,000.00	1,678.00	2,000.00
Telephone.....	625.00	727.81	725.00
Copier Expense.....	500.00	350.00	500.00
Computer Expense.....	6,300.00	6,765.20	6,800.00
Advertising.....	2,500.00	2,865.00	2,900.00
Tax Map Maintenance	4,500.00	4,600.00	4,600.00
Web Site	500.00	-	500.00
Dog Expense.....	3,000.00	1,979.93	2,000.00
Liability Insurance.....	41,685.00	43,591.00	43,174.00
Grant Expense.....	3,000.00	-	-
Legal and CPA expenses	15,000.00	10,560.00	15,000.00
ATV Expense.....	250.00	-	-
Other Expense.....	3,500.00	1,359.51	3,500.00
Total Operating Expenses	89,360.00	82,410.38	89,699.00
SANITATION			
Recycling	15,000.00	11,489.54	15,000.00
Total Sanitation.....	15,000.00	11,489.54	15,000.00
RECREATION & PARKS			
Strawberry Acres/Milfoil	7,500.00	17,812.30	15,000.00
Total Recreation & Parks	7,500.00	17,812.30	15,000.00
CEMETERIES			
Labor-Lake Road/Wright Ce.....	8,000.00	8,395.00	8,000.00
Labor - Route 100 Cem.	8,000.00	5,207.00	8,000.00
Other Expenses/Rte. 100	20,000.00	7,000.00	20,000.00
Total Cemeteries.....	36,000.00	20,602.00	36,000.00
OTHER TOWN EXPENSES			
VLCT Dues	4,500.00	3,752.00	4,500.00
County Tax.....	28,500.00	30,785.94	32,000.00
Street & Bridge Lights.....	1,000.00	1,015.20	1,100.00
Solar Panel Expense	1,000.00	493.86	1,000.00
Total Other Town Expenses.....	35,000.00	36,047.00	38,600.00

Account	Budget	Actual	Proposed
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE	FY - 2023	FY - 2023	FY - 2024
Electricity & Heat	2,000.00	1,804.66	2,000.00
Repairs & Maintenance	5,000.00	1,208.97	5,000.00
Groundskeeper	4,500.00	6,460.00	5,000.00
Total Town Clerk's Office	11,500.00	9,473.63	12,000.00
OTHER VOTED ARTICLES			
Fire Dept. - expenses	40,611.74	40,611.74	-
Fire Dept.-truck.....	30,000.00	30,000.00	-
Private School Busing	3,000.00	2,400.00	3,000.00
Orleans Cty. Sheriff Dept.....	19,488.00	19,246.08	-
Newport Ambulance	62,777.00	62,777.07	-
Goodrich Mem. Library.....	25,000.00	25,000.00	-
Northeast Kingdom Svcs	3,188.00	3,188.00	-
OrleansEssex VNA&Hospice	4,200.00	4,200.00	-
Orleans Cty. Citizen Adv.....	500.00	500.00	-
Rural Community Trans.....	1,100.00	1,100.00	-
Umbrella, Inc.	2,200.00	2,200.00	-
Area Agency on Aging	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Old Stone House Museum	625.00	625.00	-
Cemetery Flags	300.00	486.72	500.00
Frontier Animal Society.....	500.00	500.00	-
Total Other Voted Articles	194,489.74	193,834.61	3,500.00
Total Town Government.....	\$510,850.77	\$485,245.46	\$348,227.01
HIGHWAY REVENUE			
Highway property tax.....	\$ -	\$720,230.20	\$ -
State Aid - Highways	106,042.00	162,284.60	53,030.28
Misc. Income - Highway	-	235.00	-
Grant Money.....	-	74,432.46	-
Accounts Receivable	-	72,470.38	-
Total Highway Revenue	\$106,042.00	\$1,029,652.64	\$ 53,030.28
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT EXPENSES			
SALARIES/COMPENSATION HWY			
Regular Hours	\$136,735.00	\$137,828.00	\$150,600.00
Overtime	38,265.00	31,787.97	39,590.00
Total Salaries/Compensation Hwy ..	175,000.00	169,615.97	190,190.00
HIGHWAY BENEFITS			
Social Security (FICA)	12,040.00	11,412.17	12,982.18
Medicare (MEDI)	2,816.40	2,669.06	3,036.15
Health Insurance	59,178.68	50,568.28	55,857.68
Retirement.....	16,270.50	15,191.44	17,543.66
Total Highway Benefits	90,305.58	79,840.95	89,419.67
Account	Budget	Actual	Proposed
FUEL	FY - 2022	FY - 2022	FY - 2023
Equipment-fuel	60,000.00	49,027.41	60,000.00
Total Fuel.....	60,000.00	49,027.41	60,000.00

Account	Budget	Actual	Proposed
REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE	FY - 2023	FY - 2023	FY - 2024
Loader	4,000.00	5,381.40	4,000.00
#7 - 2020 Western Star	5,000.00	14,821.58	5,000.00
Plows & Sanders	12,000.00	9,216.06	12,000.00
Backhoe.....	2,000.00	3,360.52	4,000.00
Screeener Expense	3,000.00	1,925.93	3,000.00
Truck 4 - pick up	4,000.00	3,076.97	4,000.00
Mower.....	1,500.00	1,215.80	1,500.00
Ten whlr. -2023 Freightli	4,000.00	6,762.73	4,000.00
truck#6- 2016 ten whl int	7,000.00	14,450.60	7,000.00
Grader Expense	7,000.00	7,696.54	7,000.00
Other Equipment/deprec.	80,000.00	78,709.00	100,000.00
Total Repairs/Maintenance	129,500.00	146,617.13	151,500.00
CONTRACTED SERVICES			
Grant Expenses.....	4,000.00	44,525.99	4,000.00
Ditch Work	10,000.00	5,311.25	10,000.00
Bush Hogging	500.00	\$-	500.00
Street Sweeping Contracts.....	1,500.00	810.00	1,500.00
Other Contracted Services	10,000.00	10,029.27	10,000.00
Total Contracted Services	26,000.00	60,676.51	26,000.00
MATERIALS & SUPPLIES			
Culvert Pipe	15,000.00	58,769.06	25,000.00
Cold Patch & Paving.....	125,000.00	158,850.49	125,000.00
Gravel Crushing.....	65,000.00	60,000.00	65,000.00
Purchase - Material	5,000.00	1,603.41	5,000.00
Salt	40,000.00	31,270.08	40,000.00
Sand	5,000.00	2,075.00	5,000.00
Chloride	45,000.00	32,107.67	45,000.00
FEMA/GRANT WORK.....	-	18,381.64	-
Total Materials & Supplies	300,000.00	363,057.35	310,000.00
TOWN GARAGE			
Tools	2,000.00	1,963.14	2,000.00
Radio	1,500.00	-	1,500.00
Telephone/Internet.....	1,800.00	1,759.24	1,800.00
Advertising.....	500.00	-	-
Electricity and heat	6,000.00	4,945.37	7,000.00
Repairs/Maintenance.....	5,000.00	3,842.51	5,000.00
Road Signs	4,000.00	2,975.32	4,000.00
Uniforms	10,000.00	12,883.97	13,000.00
Other Expenses.....	4,000.00	6,166.36	4,000.00
Total Town Garage.....	34,800.00	34,535.91	38,300.00
OTHER EXPENSES			
Training.....	500.00	-	500.00
Taxes Gravel pit - Cov.	2,900.00	2,915.18	3,000.00
Storage Building	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	5,000.00	1,450.24	4,000.00

Account	Budget	Actual	Proposed
OTHER EXPENSES cont.	FY - 2023	FY - 2023	FY - 2024
Highway Permit	1,350.00	1,765.00	1,765.00
Total Other Expenses.....	10,750.00	7,130.42	10,265.00
Total Highway Department	\$826,355.58	\$910,501.65	\$875,674.67
REVENUES			
Transfer from Gen Fund	\$ -	\$ 78,709.00	\$ -
Total Transfers	\$ -	\$ 78,709.00	\$ -
WATER REVENUES			
Water Fees	\$ -	\$107,764.96	\$105,000.00
Penalty on Overdue Water	-	2,460.11	-
Misc Water Revenue	-	460.19	-
USDA Money	-	10,800.00	-
Total Water Revenues	\$ -	\$121,485.26	\$105,000.00
WATER EXPENSES			
Water Postage.....	\$ 180.00	\$ 148.00	\$ 204.00
USDA Loan Payments.....	5,018.27	5,119.12	5,218.28
M & T Bank payment	12,151.00	12,151.00	12,151.00
Water Professional Fees	10,000.00	555.00	10,000.00
Water Contracted Services.....	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
State Fees	500.00	78.75	500.00
Water Testing Expense.....	2,000.00	1,975.00	2,000.00
Water Other Expenses	4,000.00	15,162.81	4,000.00
Repairs/Maintenance Lines.....	10,000.00	2,665.49	10,000.00
Repairs/Maintenance Wiell.....	20,000.00	16,855.85	20,000.00
Water Electricity.....	11,000.00	11,532.94	11,000.00
Water Interest Expense	5,299.33	5,194.88	5,095.72
Total Water Expenses.....	\$ 95,148.60	\$ 86,439.34	\$ 95,169.00
SEWER REVENUES			
Sewer Fees	\$ -	\$ 32,902.50	\$ 32,000.00
Penalty on Overdue Sewer.....	-	751.42	-
Misc Sewer Revenue.....	-	88.00	-
Total Sewer Revenue.....	\$ -	\$ 33,741.92	\$ 32,000.00
SEWER EXPENSES			
Sewer Postage	\$ 120.00	\$ 124.50	\$ 136.00
USDA Loan Payments.....	2,467.67	2,677.65	2,600.00
Sewer Professional Fees.....	6,000.00	3,407.50	6,000.00
Sewer Contracted Services.....	4,200.00	4,200.00	4,200.00
State Fees	1,700.00	\$-	\$-
Sewer Testing Expenses	4,000.00	2,405.00	4,000.00
Sewer Other Expenses.....	1,500.00	1,625.00	1,500.00
Repairs/Maintenance Lines.....	5,000.00	5,069.93	5,000.00
Repairs/Maintenance Field.....	15,000.00	3,769.86	15,000.00
Sewer Electricity.....	120.00	76.27	120.00
Sewer Interest Expense	2,000.00	1,822.35	2,000.00
Total Sewer Expenses.....	\$ 42,107.67	\$ 25,178.06	\$ 40,556.00

Account	Budget	Actual	Proposed
CEMETERY REVENUES	FY - 2023	FY - 2023	FY - 2024
Sale of Lots.....	\$ -	\$ 2,600.00	\$ -
Sale of Cornerstones.....	-	(250.00)	-
Misc. Revenue.....		100,000.00	
Total Cemetery Revenue.....	\$ -	\$ 102,350.00	\$ -
ARPA FEDERAL GRANT			
Fire Equipment	\$ -	10,731.68	\$ -
Fire Pond Construction.....	-	31,720.00	-
Land Records Rest and onl	-	60,335.60	-
Fence/Gates at Reservoir.....	-	12,318.33	-
Recycling Center Project.....	-	38,528.80	-
Road Upgrade recycling/so	-	6,460.00	-
Ball Field Renovations.....	-	20,140.00	-
Solar Panel Upgrade	-	38,016.00	-
TO ADA Improvement.....	-	21,187.00	-
Town Garage Addition	-	221,822.75	-
Tools For Town Garage	-	3,470.23	-
Total ARPA Federal Grant	\$ -	465,730.39	\$ -

TELLING & HILLMAN, P.C.

ACCOUNTANTS • AUDITORS
5 PARK STREET — MIDDLEBURY, VT 05753

PHONE: (802) 388-3311
WEB: WWW.TELLINGANDHILLMAN.CPA

January 16, 2024

Select Board
Town of Newport, Vermont
PO Box 85
Newport Center, VT 05857

We are auditing the financial statements of the Town of Newport, Vermont for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Upon completion of our audit the financial statements and our report thereon will be available for public inspection at the Town Office (or on the Town's website @www.townofnewport.org).

Very truly yours,

Telling & Hillman, P.C.

Telling & Hillman, P.C.

Report of the School Principal

Dear Newport Center Residents;

As a new year begins, we reflect on the accomplishments of the past 12 months. I am excited to share that the current updates at the school are almost complete. Thanks to the support of the community, school board, superintendent and various staff who managed the process. We are now able to enjoy an updated playground for the school and community, LED lighting and new flooring throughout the building, a larger parking lot, an updated furnace and removal of the old oil tank and various upgrades to the plumbing. As COVID becomes a thing of the past, so too does the federal dollars to support our recovery. I appreciate the NTS board for making financial decisions with our funding that will have a sustaining impact in our town. Additionally, the Newport Rotary donated \$25,000 towards our inclusive playground. This generous donation supported all children accessing the playground, no matter what level of physical ability they have.

The recovery plan for NTS is immersed in safety and learning for all. Our staff and students have been focused on micro-goals and learning rounds. This approach allows teachers to take a close look at student work weekly, if not daily and adjust instruction to meet student learning needs. This approach requires data and analysis to inform instructional decisions. As you may know, the Vermont State Testing System recently changed to Cognia- a new test to determine student achievement. These tests are given to students once per year and can support our school in looking at long term trends. However, to affect student learning continuously, the teachers must analyze the student's work on a regular basis. Our system to work in these shorter learning rounds with continuous analysis and collaboration to meet student needs is functional this year. We are already seeing early signs of enhanced growth by adjusting student groupings and instruction each 7 weeks to meet their needs. The Vermont Agency of Education is implementing the VT Mtss systems. We are utilizing that structure to create more focused learning opportunities for all students.

Looking forward, I am in hopes that the school will return to being a community "hub" and resource for all. We are currently hosting town meeting day again and local recreational sports groups are utilizing our gym for practice. I hope we can continue to support the greater Newport Town residents with multi-generational community meals and other events to reinforce our sense of belonging and connection. We are excited to share that we have partnered with the Town Office to purchase a digital sign that will soon be installed. The sign will keep everyone informed of community and school events.

I acknowledge the support of the school board members; Jill Raymond, Cameron Thompson, DJ Glover, Reene Fontaine and Tina Royer, superintendent- Elaine Collins and the staff, families and community of Newport Center for your support and commitment to ensuring the highest quality education for our students.

Well Wishes for a Year of Prosperity and Gratitude;

Sincerely;

Shelly Lanou, Newport Town School Principal

Report of the School Board

Dear Newport Town Community,

Newport Town School Board was happy to welcome Reene Fontaine and Tina Royer into service as our newest school board members. They have brought much enthusiasm, critical thinking, and community connection. Their service has already proven beneficial to our town.

This year brought many exciting improvements to the school grounds. This year we were ecstatic to have invited the Rotary Club to our Playground Grand Opening. The Rotary Club generously donated \$25,000 dollars to the construction project which was additionally funded with Federal ESSER funds (COVID recovery money for schools), along with continued use of existing functional equipment. The new playground features a play area for our Pre-School aged children and is more accessible to children of all abilities. All students attended the Playground Grand Opening, which included the pledge of allegiance, talks on civic engagement, and the Panther Pride Cheer! Ask a local youngster to sing you the cheer and it's sure to put a smile on your face.

This Summer we hope to conclude improvements to the parking lot which we intend will improve drainage, add parking spaces, improve drop-off/pick-up traffic flow thus reducing roadway back-ups, and revitalize the entries and walkways in front of the school. Inside the school, the remaining spaces have received new flooring, thus concluding several years effort. We have seen the floors are holding up well and that students and staff find the "homier feel" improves the learning atmosphere. We were also relieved to have tested negative for PCBs, thus avoiding need for costly abatement.

The 2023-2024 Community Survey results reflected much positive regard for the school and staff's efforts. The Community responded positively, and in some cases "strongly agreed", that the school is meeting our goals of creating a safe and inviting learning space. We will continue to strive for overall improvement, to include our communication with parents and our town.

If it has been a while since you were in school or had a child enrolled in public school, you might be surprised to learn how much the education system has changed. North Country Supervisory Union and Newport Town School have a wealth of collective knowledge and systems for educating young people along with earnest dedication to implementing evidence-based practices with fidelity. Those interested in our school's academics should know, your board is too. Over the past several years your school board has taken deep dives in the academic process at Newport Town School. Teachers at Newport Town School have also taken a revitalized interest in the process of educating young people. Over the last several years our school has implemented a model in which learning is evaluated on a "micro" level. Teachers now take a pause every 6-weeks, and review each student's learning and focus on classroom trends. Collaborating to evaluate gains and strategize next steps for addressing

gaps. This micro-focused approach offers real-time feedback to teachers and has been attributed to the revitalized energy and dedication of staff. A child may come home reporting they "played a computer game in school today" but our specialized learning software can offer students targeted curriculum and provides individualized, and timely, data to direct teaching improvements. No longer do Elementary Teachers stand at the front of classrooms, lecturing large groups of children, if they ever did. Instead, a learning topics may be presented to an entire class, but now you will see much of the teaching/learning process is broken down into small group activities and even 1-1 instruction. This requires much collaboration on the part of all adults working within our school.

To reflect the changes in learning design, and thanks to tireless advocacy on behalf of rural communities, the Vermont legislature has instituted substantial changes to how Vermont's Schools will be funded. When Act 127 was passed by the state legislature last year, it implemented new "weights" for students who live in poverty, rurality, sparsity, or those who are English Language Learners. This part of the Act did not become effective until this upcoming fiscal year, 2025. In incorporating these new weights, the state transitioned from an equalized pupil method of calculating student population to a Long-term Weighted Average Daily Membership (LTW ADM), or what we refer to as "weighted students". The intent of these weights was to increase the amount of money the state contributed to communities that fit into the categories mentioned above, because they cost more to educate, while lessening the tax burden of the members of such communities.

Newport Town's budget continues to support higher student enrollment than in past years. With around 130 students attending our elementary school and around 30 at the Jr. High. Initially, the switch to "weighted students" seemed like it was going to be very beneficial for Newport Town School and the taxpayers of Newport Center. Despite a more than \$6,000/student decrease in state funding, an almost 66% decrease in revenues, and an over 46% increase in our share of the supervisory union budget, the budget created by the school board and school administrator would have resulted in ZERO increase to the tax rate from last fiscal year (\$1.46).

Unfortunately, there are some factors outside of the school board's control that deeply affect the education tax rate. One of these factors is the Common Level of Appraisal (CLA). This is essentially where the state says our property tax assessed values are, compared to current fair market value. Last year, the state said our homes were assessed for only 90% of their market value. This year, the state says our homes are assessed at only 82% of their market value. This caused an approximately \$0.14 (9.81%) increase to the tax rate. Then in January 2024, after having already reduced the Dollar Equivalent Yield (DEY) by over \$6,000, the state reduced it by another \$281. This is in large part due to additional amendments added to Act 127 involving caps on budget increases. This caused another increase of approximately \$.04 (3.36%) to the education tax rate. In total, these outside factors accounted for an approximately \$.19

(13.17%) increase in the education tax rate for Newport Center residents.

To summarize in simple terms, the school board and school administrator created a budget that would have adequately funded the education of children in our community. While the Newport Center community should have benefitted greatly from the new “weighted students” model, other parts of Act 127 have had disastrous unintended consequences, causing a large hike in the tax rate. Educating our community’s children comes at a significant cost. The state finally admitted that not every community is the same and education in some communities costs more than in others. At the same time, the state said that many of these communities are not paying enough taxes on their homes, while it also decided to decrease the amount of money it was going to contribute to education. While we are disheartened by these changes, we hold hope that the state will “get it right in the end” and we hope that our Newport Town Community will stand strong in it’s support for the education of our young people.

Your Newport Town School Board stands firm in our dedication to providing our community’s children with opportunities to learn and grown in safe, supportive environments while remaining fiscally responsible and thus assuring the longevity and vitality of our community. Thank you again for your support and commitment to our community’s children, school employees, and Newport town board members.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Raymond,
Newport Town School Board Chair

NEWPORT TOWN SCHOOL 2023-2024 Staff Directory

PRINCIPAL	Shelly Lanou
SECRETARY	Denise DelaBruere
STAFF	
Pre-K	Melanie Barton
Kindergarten	Kellea Gosselin
Grade 1	Denise Goodridge
Grade 2	Nicole Chaput
Grade 3	Ann Locke
Grade 4	Christine Amyot
Grade 5	Kirstein Bonnell
Grade 6	Megan Stevens
SPED	Laura Barnard
SPED	Julie Zenel
Intervention	Lisa Dunlavey-Spaulding
Intervention	Julie Thaler
Intervention	Katrina McCullough
Library	J.C. Hines
Music	Jonathan DeRoehn
Guidance	Nedzsd (Jack) Hodzic
PE	Michelle Koch
Art	Shawna Nelson
Nurse	Mysha Dompierre
Bus Driver	George Frost
Bus Driver	Mario Forcier
Behavior Support	Jessica Farrar
BI	Heather Sanchez
SU	Kaitlyn Wright
Para	Desiree Coffin
Para	Amy Descheneau
Speech/Para	Tonya Ashan
Para/ASP	Aline DeLaBruere
LNA	Susan Wright
Custodian	Isaiah Casey
Food Director	Colleen Percy
Food Service	Michelle Robert
School Based Counselor	Kate Koetz

NEWPORT TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Proposed Budget FY2023-24

ACCOUNT	Budget FY-2023	Actual FY-2023	Proposed FY-2024	Proposed FY-2025
LOCAL REVENUES				
Investment Earnings - Interest	\$ (10,000)	\$ (23,629.30)	\$ (19,000)	\$ (19,000)
Revenues-Substitute For SU Held Positions	-	(537.45)	-	-
Refund of Prior Years Expenditure	-	(2,338.00)	-	-
Misc. Other Local Revenue	(5,000)	(11,943.80)	(5,000)	(5,000)
TOTAL LOCAL REVENUES	(15,000)	(38,448.55)	(24,000)	(24,000)
SUBGRANT REVENUES				
ESSER II Subgrant Revenues	-	(23,615.20)	-	-
ESSER III Subgrant Revenue	(97,253)	(243,195.43)	(48,259)	-
Subgrants for Schoolwide Programs	(68,679)	(82,866.79)	(80,325)	(100,252)
Other Subgrants	(650)	(525.00)	(650)	(650)
TOTAL SUBGRANT REVENUES	(166,582)	(\$350,202.42)	(129,234)	(100,902)
STATE REVENUES				
Education Spending Grant	(2,788,447)	(2,788,447.00)	(3,029,959)	(3,684,817)
Small Schools Grant	(87,161)	(87,161.00)	(87,161)	-
Special Ed. Reimbursements - Intensive	-	(2,816.30)	-	-
TOTAL STATE REVENUES	(2,875,608)	(2,878,424.30)	(3,117,120)	(3,684,817)
FEDERAL REVENUES				
ARPA Preschool Grant	-	(6,631.50)	-	-
TOTAL FEDERAL REVENUES	-	(6,631.50)	-	-
OTHER REVENUES				
Fund Balance As Revenue	(50,000)	-	-	-
TOTAL OTHER REVENUES	(50,000)	-	-	-
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES	(3,057,190)	(3,273,706.77)	(3,270,354)	(3,809,719)
FOOD SERVICE REVENUES				
Sales To Students	(12,000)	-	(12,000)	-
Sales To Adults	-	(423.07)	(4,000)	-
Transfer From General Fund	-	(58,198.37)	-	-
Misc. Other Local Revenues	(250)	(150.88)	(300)	-
State Additional Lunches	(900)	(1,115.46)	(1,000)	-
State add'l breakfast	(350)	-	(350)	-
Summer Food Service Program	-	(2,086.01)	-	-
Universal Meals	-	(24,511.68)	-	-
Federal After School Snack	(975)	(4,125.60)	(2,000)	-
Fresh Fruit & Veggie Program	(6,000)	(7,113.33)	(6,000)	-
Federal School Lunch	(60,000)	(53,206.56)	(70,000)	-
Federal School Breakfast	(24,500)	(23,242.05)	(29,450)	-
Other Subgrant Revenues	-	(3,298.22)	-	-
State School Lunch Match	-	-	(1,000)	-
TOTAL FOOD SERVICE REVENUE	(104,975)	(177,471.23)	(126,100)	-
GRAND TOTAL REVENUES	\$(3,162,165)	\$(3,451,178.00)	\$(3,396,454)	\$(3,809,719)

EXPENDITURES

ACCOUNT	Budget FY-2023	Actual FY-2023	Proposed FY-2024	Proposed FY-2025
REGULAR EDUCATION				
Salary - Elementary Teachers	\$ 475,478	\$ 521,427.82	\$ 535,875	\$ 625,116
Salary- Summer Teachers	-	375.00	-	-
Salary - Elementary Para	-	25,481.54	-	28,233
Substitutes Pay - Elementary	15,000	26,048.45	15,000	25,000
Health Ins - Elementary	133,844	126,448.96	140,229	149,458
Health Reimbursement Account	27,300	22,062.01	24,978	24,830
FICA - Elementary	36,374	41,303.83	42,142	51,894
Life Insurance - Elementary	348	401.53	375	444
VSTRS-OPEB Payment	4,206	4,206.00	3,018	6,036
Municipal Retirement	-	1,622.07	-	1,327
Workers Comp	3,756	5,146.21	4,019	5,488
Unemployment - Elementary	486	772.72	593	1,354
Tuition - Elementary	21,856	10,934.20	23,377	31,106
Dental Ins - Elementary	6,065	5,721.55	5,635	5,816
Long Term Disability - Elementary	1,617	1,626.20	1,661	2,025
Student Loan Assistance	-	1,000.00	-	5,000
Purchased & Technical Services	-	3,139.92	-	-
Contract Services-ESSER III	-	3,660.00	-	-
Tutoring Services	-	11,813.00	-	-
Contract Services-Excess Costs	30,000	62,712.47	30,000	30,000
Contracted Staff Through NCSU	85,781	86,945.01	93,188	56,073
Encore Program Assessment to NCSU	9,000	9,000.00	11,500	12,500
Tuition - Secondary	514,600	399,599.50	450,000	604,500
Tuition- Turning Points	-	8,456.36	-	-
Travel	-	104.83	-	-
Supplies - Elementary	10,000	15,275.59	10,000	20,000
Supplies-ESSER II	-	35,379.06	-	-
Supplies-Instructional Programs	-	-	3,000	3,000
Books\Periodicals - Elementary	3,500	4,596.84	3,500	3,500
Software	-	3,745.75	-	-
Dues\Fees - Elementary Siskin	3,000	135.00	3,000	3,000
TOTAL REGULAR EDUCATION	1,492,239	1,439,141.42	1,401,090	1,695,700
INTERVENTION ESSER III				
Salary Intervention Teacher	-	34,416.61	35,888	-
Wages-Intervention Teacher Asst	29,700	-	-	-
Health Ins	-	4,106.57	4,533	-
Health Reimbursement Account	-	-	950	-
FICA	2,272	2,547.99	2,745	-
Life Insurance	26	21.74	22	-
VSTRS New Teacher Assessment	-	701.00	-	-
VSTRS Pmt In Lieu of Contribution	-	2,145.20	-	-
Municipal Retirement	1,856	-	2,172	-
Workers Comp	235	252.57	269	-
Unemployment	226	34.52	34	-
Tuition	-	-	1,356	-
Dental Ins	-	178.87	178	-
Long Term Disability	101	107.28	111	-
TOTAL INTERVENTION ESSER III	34,416	44,512.35	48,259	-

	Budget FY-2023	Actual FY-2023	Proposed FY-2024	Proposed FY-2025
PRESCHOOL				
Salary - PreK Teacher	51,230	53,665.00	56,875	59,861
Salary - PreK Para	18,018	20,299.32	33,419	25,921
Substitutes-PreK.....	-	976.52	-	1,000
Health Ins - PreK.....	-	3,000.00	4,000	4,000
FICA - PreK.....	5,297	5,962.59	6,907	6,639
Life Insurance - Pre-K.....	70	67.04	96	70
VSTRS-OPEB PAYMENT-PreK	1,402	1,402.00	1,509	1,509
Municipal Retirement-PreK	1,126	1,415.07	2,172	1,658
Workers Comp - PreK	547	543.04	677	721
Unemployment - PreK.....	122	138.00	206	227
Tuition - Pre K.....	2,732	698.69	2,712	2,712
Long Term Disability - PreK.....	235	211.56	280	266
Tuition Pre-K.....	29,248	9,749.35	30,112	38,840
Tuition-Independent Programs	-	7,192.00	-	-
Supplies	-	965.50	-	-
Supplies-ARPA PreK Grant	-	12,308.50	-	-
TOTAL PRESCHOOL.....	110,027	118,594.18	138,966	143,424
SCHOOLWIDE PROGRAMS				
Salary - Schoolwide Teacher.....	83,985	56,662.87	57,443	60,519
Health Ins - Schoolwide	8,042	7,519.03	7,979	13,328
Health Reimbursement Account	2,100	3,802.45	1,672	2,470
FICA - Schoolwide	6,425	4,141.91	4,394	4,630
Life Insurance - Schoolwide.....	87	39.92	38	38
VSTRS Pension Payment.....	17,628	4,669.47	14,728	15,517
VSTRS New Teacher Assessment	1,402	701.00	-	-
VSTRS Pmt In Lieu of Contribution	-	2,145.20	-	-
Workers Comp - Schoolwide.....	663	401.43	431	508
Unemployment - Schoolwide	122	60.72	61	100
Tuition - Schoolwide	5,464	1,084.80	2,387	2,387
Dental Ins - Schoolwide	342	327.42	313	568
Long Term Disability - Schoolwide	286	176.33	178	188
Supplies - Schoolwide	-	1,134.19	-	-
Books/Periodicals	-	24.00	-	-
TOTAL SCHOOLWIDE PROGRAMS.....	126,546	82,890.74	89,623	100,252
SPECIAL EDUCATION				
Wages-Summer.....	-	602.40	-	-
Salary - Para.....	78,180	90,759.60	89,071	138,642
Substitutes Pay	-	970.20	-	1,000
Health Ins	24,261	23,130.55	27,653	41,497
Health Savings Account	-	4,400.00	-	-
Health Reimbursement Account	6,600	2,017.47	6,600	8,800
FICA.....	5,981	7,051.83	6,814	10,683
Life Insurance	104	107.62	104	84
Municipal Retirement.....	4,886	6,204.22	5,790	5,671
Workers Comp	618	613.39	668	745
Unemployment	243	276.00	275	364
Dental Ins	650	895.30	955	1,713
Long Term Disability	266	222.46	276	275
SERVICES PURCHASED FROM SU.....	199,307	204,692.00	246,404	265,863
TOTAL SPECIAL EDUCATION.....	321,096	341,943.04	384,611	475,337

	Budget FY-2023	Actual FY-2023	Proposed FY-2024	Proposed FY-2025
EEE LOCAL				
EEE Local.....	23,719	23,719.02	34,112	42,842
TOTAL EEE LOCAL.....	23,719	23,719.02	34,112	42,842
GUIDANCE				
Salary - Teacher	43,208	-	59,580	62,708
Health Ins	6,434	-	9,067	10,553
Health Reimbursement Account	1,680	-	1,900	1,900
FICA.....	3,305	-	4,558	4,797
Life Insurance.....	35	-	44	44
VSTRS New Teacher Assessment	-	-	1,509	1,509
Workers Comp	341	-	447	527
Unemployment	49	-	69	114
Tuition	-	-	2,712	2,712
Dental Ins	273	-	355	369
Long Term Disability	147	-	185	194
Supplies	1,500	747.93	1,500	1,500
Dues/Fees	-	250.00	-	-
TOTAL GUIDANCE	56,972	997.93	81,925	86,927
GUIDANCE-ESSER FUNDED				
Salary - ESSER II Guidance	10,802	56,440.00	-	-
Health Ins - ESSER II	420	8,213.28	-	-
Health Reimbursement Acct-ESSER	-	1,900.00	-	-
FICA - ESSER II	826	4,160.50	-	-
Life Insurance - ESSER II.....	9	43.56	-	-
STRS Pension Payment.....	2,267	11,846.75	-	-
VSTRS New Teacher Assessment - ESSER II.....	1,402	1,402.00	-	-
Workers Comp - ESSER II.....	85	411.99	-	-
Unemployment - ESSER II	12	69.00	-	-
Dental Ins - ESSER II	68	357.76	-	-
Long Term Disability - ESSER II	37	174.96	-	-
TOTAL GUIDANCE-ESSER FUNDED.....	15,929	85,019.80	-	-
NURSE				
Salary - Nurse	37,966	56,583.09	80,612	52,151
Health Ins	12,900	23,007.24	26,378	10,553
Health Reimbursement Account	-	2,152.03	6,300	1,900
FICA.....	2,904	3,895.33	6,167	3,990
Life Insurance	44	56.58	70	44
VSTRS New Teacher Assessment	-	981.40	1,509	1,509
Municipal Retirement.....	1,733	1,638.91	2,019	-
Workers Comp	300	452.49	605	438
Unemployment	85	117.32	138	114
Tuition	-	-	-	2,712
Dental Insurance.....	650	862.48	955	369
Long Term Disability	129	176.98	250	162
Student Loan Assistance	-	700.00	-	1,000
Contract Services	-	122.50	-	-
Contract Services From NCSU	48,071	-	-	-
Supplies	500	574.31	1,000	1,000
TOTAL NURSE	105,281	91,320.66	126,002	75,942

	Budget FY-2023	Actual FY-2023	Proposed FY-2024	Proposed FY-2025
NURSE-ESSER FUNDED				
Salary - ESSER II Nurse.....	15,369	13,366.85	-	-
Health Ins - ESSER II.....	-	3,056.07	-	-
Health Reimbursement Account-ESSER II.....	-	4,551.02	-	-
FICA - ESSER II	1,176	963.73	-	-
Life Insurance - ESSER II.....	26	13.08	-	-
VSTRS Pension Payment.....	3,226	2,805.71	-	-
VSTRS OPEB.....	1,402	420.60	-	-
Workers Comp - ESSER II.....	121	102.25	-	-
Unemployment - ESSER II.....	36	20.72	-	-
Dental Ins - ESSER II.....	-	107.28	-	-
Long Term Disability - ESSER II.....	52	43.44	-	-
Student Loan Assistance.....	-	300.00	-	-
TOTAL NURSE-ESSER FUNDED.....	21,409	25,750.75	-	-
PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES				
Salary - Para.....	14,414	24,950.80	61,659	69,304
Health Ins	6,450	7,245.76	26,529	30,500
Health Reimbursement Account	2,100	2,200.00	6,600	6,600
FICA.....	1,103	1,783.83	4,717	5,302
Life Insurance.....	13	23.29	52	52
Municipal Retirement.....	901	1,621.90	4,008	4,434
Workers Comp.....	114	193.15	462	582
Unemployment	30	69.00	138	227
Dental Ins	325	711.70	1,200	1,344
Long Term Disability	49	61.09	191	215
Contract Services	-	7,356.87	-	-
Contract Services - School therapist	20,000	-	20,000	20,000
TOTAL PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES.....	45,499	46,217.39	125,556	138,560
PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES-ESSER FUNDED				
Salary - Para.....	14,414	32,385.94	-	-
Health Ins	6,450	15,873.57	-	-
Health Reimbursement Account	2,100	3,428.88	-	-
FICA.....	1,103	2,211.64	-	-
Life Insurance.....	13	26.10	-	-
Municipal Retirement.....	901	2,105.10	-	-
Workers Comp.....	114	231.46	-	-
Unemployment	30	69.00	-	-
Dental Ins	325	612.00	-	-
Long Term Disability	49	81.90	-	-
TOTAL PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES-ESSER ...	25,499	57,025.59	-	-
SPEECH SERVICES				
Salary - Para.....	18,875	-	21,370	-
Health Ins	8,344	-	2,000	-
Health Reimbursement Account	2,200	-	-	-
FICA.....	1,444	-	1,635	-
Life Insurance.....	26	-	26	-
Municipal Retirement.....	1,180	-	1,389	-
Workers Comp.....	149	-	160	-
Unemployment	61	-	69	-
Dental Ins	342	-	-	-

	Budget FY-2023	Actual FY-2023	Proposed FY-2024	Proposed FY-2025
Speech Services cont.				
Long Term Disability	64	-	66	-
Regular Ed Speech Services	-	1,313.83	-	-
TOTAL SPEECH SERVICES	32,684	1,313.83	26,715	-
IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION				
Salary-Improvement of Instruction	-	1,815.00	-	-
Salary-Stipends	-	3,750.00	-	-
FICA.....	-	425.74	-	-
VSTRS Pension Payment.....	-	314.85	-	-
Municipal Retirement.....	-	97.50	-	-
TOTAL IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION	-	6,403.09	-	-
LIBRARY				
Purchased Services-SU.....	41,133	29,499.80	41,000	32,600
Books/Periodicals	2,000	386.41	2,000	2,000
Computer Software.....	200	425.10	200	200
TOTAL LIBRARY	43,333	30,311.31	43,200	34,800
TECHNOLOGY				
Contract Services	-	653.60	-	-
Supplies	-	1,329.98	8,000	20,000
Supplies-ESSER II	-	422.04	-	-
Tech Supplies-ESSER II.....	-	13,489.13	-	-
Computer Software.....	-	2,915.69	1,107	6,506
Equipment.....	6,000	-	-	-
TOTAL TECHNOLOGY	6,000	18,810.44	9,107	26,506
BOARD EXPENSES				
Salaries - Board.....	1,000	1,120.00	-	1,500
FICA.....	-	68.85	-	115
Board Member Services.....	-	2,000.00	1,000	1,000
Legal	3,000	143.70	3,000	3,000
Liability Insurance.....	5,111	7,539.70	5,111	5,111
Advertising	2,000	761.57	3,500	3,500
Supplies	-	236.60	-	-
Dues.....	525	578.49	525	525
Other Board Expenses.....	55,607	54.23	-	-
TOTAL BOARD EXPENSES.....	67,243	12,503.14	13,136	14,751
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT				
NCSU Assessment	93,036	93,036.00	108,891	159,629
TOTAL OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT.....	93,036	93,036.00	108,891	159,629
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL				
Salary - Principal	84,000	90,000.00	93,600	104,832
Salary - Clerical	29,700	32,301.04	35,298	39,879
Substitutes-Clerical	-	120.00	-	-
Health Ins	35,177	38,151.81	42,426	49,136
Health Reimbursement Account	8,400	9,322.38	8,600	8,400
FICA.....	8,698	8,676.28	9,861	11,070
Life Insurance	200	200.10	200	200
Municipal Retirement.....	1,856	2,099.58	2,294	2,552
Workers Comp	898	900.05	967	1,216
Unemployment	122	138.00	138	227

	Budget FY-2023	Actual FY-2023	Proposed FY-2024	Proposed FY-2025
Office of the Principal cont.				
Tuition	-	-	-	2,712
Dental Ins	1,008	1,620.00	1,608	1,680
Long Term Disability	387	364.98	400	449
Postage	1,000	502.32	1,000	1,000
Travel	250	466.67	250	250
Supplies	2,000	6,823.86	2,000	10,000
Dues\Fees	500	1,199.00	500	500
TOTAL OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL.....	174,196	192,886.07	199,141	234,102
FISCAL SERVICES				
Contract Fiscal Services From NCSU	20,200	20,200.00	21,000	22,100
Interest Current Loans	-	12,296.46	7,500	7,500
TOTAL FISCAL SERVICES.....	20,200	32,496.46	28,500	29,600
AUDIT SERVICES				
Audit Services.....	6,100	5,806.00	5,900	5,250
TOTAL AUDIT SERVICES.....	6,100	5,806.00	5,900	5,250
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE				
Salaries-Custodian.....	39,291	38,151.14	46,058	48,277
SUMMER WAGES	7,000	8,615.72	9,500	9,500
Health Ins	12,900	10,800.70	17,311	19,903
Health Reimbursement Account	4,200	4,657.05	4,400	4,400
FICA.....	3,006	3,330.30	4,250	4,420
Life Insurance	26	30.73	26	26
Municipal Retirement.....	2,456	3,039.77	2,994	3,089
Workers Comp	2,589	2,727.66	3,035	3,384
Unemployment	61	69.00	69	114
Dental Ins	1,008	665.90	600	1,008
Long Term Disability	134	142.08	143	150
Water Services	14,160	9,813.13	14,160	14,160
Rubbish Services	2,500	2,920.57	2,500	2,500
Purchased Services	20,000	43,129.49	20,000	20,000
Contracted Serv.	15,000	3,927.65	15,000	15,000
Symquest copier.....	9,000	8,660.75	9,000	9,000
Property Insurance.....	6,100	5,101.53	6,100	6,100
Telephone	3,000	4,514.19	3,000	3,000
Supplies	15,000	50,909.48	15,000	25,000
Electricity.....	25,000	31,722.66	25,000	25,000
Propane.....	-	19,490.63	-	30,000
Heating Oil.....	20,000	-	20,000	-
TOTAL OPERATION & MAINTENANCE.....	202,430	252,420.13	218,146	244,030
CARE & UPKEEP-BUILDINGS				
Contract Services	-	2,035.00	-	55,000
TOTAL CARE & UPKEEP-BUILDINGS.....	-	2,035.00	-	55,000
CARE & UPKEEP OF GROUNDS				
Contract Services	-	153,596.29	2,500	2,500
Snow Removal.....	-	4,790.00	5,500	6,000
Lawn Care	-	1,500.00	1,800	2,500
TOTAL CARE & UPKEEP OF GROUNDS.....	-	159,886.29	9,800	11,000

	Budget FY-2023	Actual FY-2023	Proposed FY-2024	Proposed FY-2025
TRANSPORTATION				
Contracted Services - NCSU.....	70,000	110,255.74	87,549	105,000
TOTAL TRANSPORTATION.....	70,000	110,255.74	87,549	105,000
EXTRA CURRICULAR TRANSPORTATION				
Field Trips	1,000	3,295.95	3,000	3,000
TOTAL EXTRA CURRICULAR TRANSPORT.....	1,000	3,295.95	3,000	3,000
DEBT SERVICES				
Long Term Debt - interest	986	-	12,018	10,690
Long Term Debt - principal.....	72,000	-	64,859	67,379
TRANSFER TO HOT LUNCH.....	-	58,198.37	-	50,000
TOTAL DEBT SERVICES	72,986	58,198.37	76,876	128,069
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES	3,057,813	3,336,790.69	3,260,104	3,809,719
FOOD SERVICE				
Wages	41,694	49,650.35	48,773	-
Substitutes	-	1,470.60	-	-
BS/BC.....	12,900	16,873.57	19,311	-
Health Reimbursement Account	4,200	6,801.17	4,400	-
FICA.....	3,190	3,703.38	3,731	-
Life Insurance	52	47.55	52	-
Municipal Retirement.....	2,606	3,373.31	3,170	-
Workmans Comp	1,047	1,102.86	1,224	-
Unemployment Compensation	122	138.00	138	-
Long Term Disability	142	111.30	151	-
Repairs & Maintenance	-	6,585.00	1,000	-
Travel	-	135.30	-	-
Supplies	1,200	2,982.77	1,200	-
Supplies Fresh Fruits and Veggies.....	1,000	-	1,000	-
Propane.....	1,200	95.33	1,200	-
Food	30,000	44,421.06	45,000	-
Food fresh Fruits and Veggies	5,000	6,486.09	5,000	-
Software.....	-	254.55	1,000	-
Miscellaneous.....	-	79.20	-	-
TOTAL FOOD SERVICE	104,352	144,311.39	136,350	-
GRAND TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$3,162,165	\$3,481,102.08	\$3,396,454	\$3,809,719

District: Newport Town SU: North Country		FY25 is the first year of Act 127 Long Term Weighted Average Daily Membership for pupil counts. Equalized pupils are shown for FY22 - FY24. LTWADM is required			T140 Orleans County		Property dollar equivalent yield	1140 Orleans County		Homestead tax rate per \$9,171 of spending per LTWADM
							9,171			1.00
							10,227			Income dollar equivalent yield per 2.0% of household income
Expenditures		FY2022	FY2023	FY2024						FY2025
1.	Budget (local budget, including special programs, and full technical center expenditures)	\$2,850,197	\$3,162,165	\$3,396,454						\$3,809,719
2.	<i>plus</i> Sum of separately warned articles passed at town meeting									
3.	Locally adopted or warned budget	\$2,850,197	\$3,162,165	\$3,396,454						\$3,809,719
4.	<i>plus</i> Obligation to a Regional Technical Center School District if any									
5.	<i>plus</i> Prior year deficit repayment of deficit									
6.	Total Expenditures	\$2,850,197	\$3,162,165	\$3,396,454						\$3,809,719
7.	S.U. assessment (included in local budget) - informational data									
8.	Prior year deficit reduction (included in expenditure budget) - informational data									
Revenues										
9.	Offsetting revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, etc.)	\$432,422	\$373,718	\$366,495						\$124,902
10.	Offsetting revenues	\$432,422	\$373,718	\$366,495						\$124,902
11.	Education Spending	\$2,417,775	\$2,788,447	\$3,029,959						\$3,684,817
12.	Pupils (eqpup FY22 - FY24, LTWADM FY25)	126.51	131.72	144.19						289.21
13.	Education Spending per Pupil	\$19,111.34	\$21,169.50	\$21,013.66						\$12,740.97
14.	<i>minus</i> Less ALL net eligible construction costs (or P&I) per Pupil pupil	\$576.92								
15.	<i>minus</i> Less share of SpEd costs in excess of \$66,446 for an individual (per pupil)	\$5.16	\$4.66	\$12.46						
16.	<i>minus</i> Less amount of deficit if deficit is SOLELY attributable to tuitions paid to public schools for grades the district does not operate for new students who moved to the district after the budget was passed (per eqpup)									
17.	<i>minus</i> Less SpEd costs if excess is solely attributable to new SpEd spending if district has 20 or fewer pupils									
18.	<i>minus</i> Estimated costs of new students after census period (per pupil)									
19.	<i>minus</i> Total tuitions if tutoring ALL K-12 unless electorate has approved tuitions greater than average announced tuition (per pupil)									
20.	<i>minus</i> Less planning costs for merger of small schools (per pupil)									
21.	<i>minus</i> Teacher retirement assessment for new members of Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2015 (per pupil)	\$33.89	\$42.58	\$52.33						
22.	<i>minus</i> Costs incurred when sampling drinking water outlets, implementing lead remediation, or retesting.	\$33.89	\$42.58	\$52.33						
23.	<i>plus</i> Excess spending threshold	\$18,789.00	\$19,997.00	\$22,204.00						\$21,193.00
24.	Excess Spending per Pupil over threshold (if any)	\$19,111	\$21,170	\$21,014						\$12,740.97
25.	Per pupil figure used for calculating District Equalized Tax Rate	168.873%	150.002%	136.072%						136.927%
26.	District spending adjustment (minimum of 100%)	based on year \$13,117	based on year \$13,314	based on year \$13,443						
Prorating the local tax rate										
27.	Anticipated district equalized homestead tax rate (to be prorated by line 30) [(\$12,740.97 + (\$9,171 / \$1.00))	\$1,6887	\$1,5900	\$1,3607						\$1,3893
28.	Act 127 tax cap (FY25 - FY29 eligible)									\$1,3893
29.	Percent of Newport Town pupils not in a union school district	80.90%	61.59%	65.57%						69.25%
30.	Portion of district eq homestead rate to be assessed by town (69.25% x \$1.39)	\$1,0284	\$0,9793	\$0,8922						\$0,9621
31.	Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)	106.04%	101.57%	90.00%						81.97%
32.	Portion of actual district homestead rate to be assessed by town (\$0.9621 / 81.97%)	\$0,9698	\$0,9642	\$0,9913						\$1,1737
33.	Anticipated income cap percent (to be prorated by line 30) [(\$12,740.97 + \$10,227) x 2.00%]	2.78%	2.65%	2.40%						2.49%
34.	Portion of district income cap percent applied by State (69.25% x 2.49%)	1.69%	1.63%	1.57%						1.72%
35.										
36.	Percent of pupils at North Country Sr UHSD #22	39.10%	38.41%	34.43%						30.75%

- Using the revised January 9th, 2024 Education Fund Outlook FY25 forecast, the FY25 education fund need results in a property yield of \$9,171 for every \$1.00 of homestead tax per \$100 of equalized property value, an income yield of \$10,227 for a base income percent of 2.0%, and a non-residential tax rate of \$1,452. These figures use the estimated \$13,000,000 surplus from the Education Fund. New and updated data will likely change the proposed property and income yields and perhaps the non-residential rate.

- Final figures will be set by the Legislature during the legislative session and approved by the Governor.
- The base income percentage cap is 2.0%.

NCSU Superintendent of Schools Annual Letter

I am writing to you in my 2nd year as NCSU’s superintendent of schools and 34th year working in Northeast Kingdom schools. I am proud of being a “homegrown” NEK native and feel very fortunate to be able to work with the NCSU students, staff, parents, administrators, 63 school board members, and community members.

We continue to frame our work with students by thinking about NCSU’s Design for Learning and our Work and Learning Plan. Both documents can be found on NCSU's website at <https://sites.google.com/ncsuvt.org/ncsu-learning-design/home>.

The big story of the 2023 – 2024 school year are the changes to education funding. There are three factors that work together to determine our tax rates. Those three things are:

1. Number of students and education spending

In the past, we have often talked about spending per equalized pupil. Due to Act 127 that went into law this year, this has changed to become a weighted pupil count. Students of poverty, sparsity, rurality, or students who are English Language Learners, count as more than one student. The Long-Term Weighted Average Daily Membership (LTW ADM) is the count of students including the weights. Our schools have many more weighted students than equalized pupils. When you divided the total amount of spending by the total of weighted students, you come up with how much the school is spending per weighted student.

Because the NEK traditionally spends much less than other districts in the state, when we divide our smaller budgets by this higher number of weighted students, we end up with an even smaller amount. Bcause we are spending less

per student, our taxing capacity is increased, and – in most towns – the cost to the taxpayer went down significantly.

Last year, the legislature added a spending cap to help districts who would be disadvantaged by the weights. AOE took our equalized pupil count from FY24 and converted it to LTW ADM. That smaller amount of spending per weighted student is the amount that is used to determine the 10% cap. In some cases, our NCSU schools are only spending 3% more in overall spending, but are over the 10% cap.

If a school goes over the 10% cap and chooses to bring this to voters, when the budget is passed, districts will be required to bring the budget to a review panel, consisting of 3 business managers, 3 superintendents, and the Secretary of Education. If the spending is determined to be justified, the school's tax rate will be frozen at 5% before CLA is factored in. If not, the rate will be whatever the increase figures out to be. However, districts whose tax rates are going down will not be required to go in front of the panel.

When districts are capped at 5%, the rest of the school districts will have to make up the difference between the 5% cap and the increase that they will be spending. If there are a lot of districts who are above the 10%, this may negatively affect the dollar yield, but only the legislature makes the decision about where the funds come from. They may choose a different revenue source or they may choose the dollar yield.

Educational spending is the ONLY factor that schools and school boards have any control over.

2. Dollar yield

Dollar yield is the amount the AOE determines the state ed funding will contribute towards educating each student. The difference between what the school is spending vs. the dollar yield contribution is how many tax dollars need to be

raised. The lower the dollar yield, the higher the tax rate.

Last year, the dollar yield was over \$15,000. This year, the dollar yield is at about \$9,100. Add in the school districts who may be frozen at the 5% tax rate and the dollar yield may continue to drop. The Tax Commissioner makes a recommendation about dollar yield on December 1st and the Legislature votes on what the dollar yield will be at the end of the legislative session. Usually, the Legislature's vote is similar to what the Tax Commissioner recommends. This year, because of more variables, we may have less of an idea about what the dollar yield will be, and our projections to taxpayers about tax rates may be more of a variable.

Only the Legislature can set the dollar yield, so this is a factor that schools and school boards have no control over.

3. Common level of appraisal

Every town has a group of listers. Listers are responsible for creating and maintaining the grand list, which contains each home's appraised value for tax purposes. The state reviews the grand list on a yearly basis and determines the common level of appraisal (CLA) by looking at what homes are appraised at on the grand list and how much homes are selling for. If every home was appraised at what they sold for, the CLA would be 100%. If homes were selling for less than their appraised value, the CLA would be more than 100% and taxes would decrease. We are all aware of the recent increase in the cost of homes and that most homes are selling for a lot more than they are appraised for. This causes the CLA to drop, and results in increased tax rates, essentially a tax penalty for not raising enough taxes at the local level.

For the budgeting season for FY25, we initially saw real benefits with the new weighting law. Even with the much

lower dollar yield, districts were seeing much lower projected tax rates. Then CLA came out and dropped even more than last year. This is resulting in significant increases and a very difficult budgeting season.

Common level of appraisal is a function of town government, and schools and school boards have no control over CLA.

Regardless of the financial pressures that we are all experiencing every day at the grocery store, the gas pump, and many other places, we still have a responsibility to educate NCSU's children. Our students need us now in ways that were not imagined 20 years ago: mental health supports, behavioral supports, and social supports. Although our work with students is challenging, it is our moral and legal responsibility. For many students, if we don't provide for the mental health, social emotional, and behavioral needs of our students in our community schools, there are no other agencies who will provide these services.

I want to express how proud and grateful I am of our NCSU students, families, and staff. Despite challenges, NCSU's community of students, families, and staff have rallied to keep our educational systems progressing. We consistently meet state requirements, and we are also continuing to strive for excellence and to exemplify our district's 4C's of Character, Competence, Creativity and Community. Thank you for your support and for the opportunity to lead the NCSU community.

Elaine Collins
Superintendent of Schools
North Country Supervisory Union



LEARNING BELIEFS

Learning takes place in a culture that fosters...

Growth Mindset ♦ Curiosity ♦ Perseverance ♦ Relevance
Mutual Respect ♦ Feedback & Reflection ♦ Instructional Access ♦ Equity
Diversity ♦ Personal Responsibility
Shared Leadership ♦ Individual & Collective Accomplishments
Community Partnerships

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Learners participate in experiences that/to...

Support Personal Pathways ♦ Include Problem-Based Projects
Are Academically Rigorous
Make Inter-Disciplinary Connections ♦ Contain Experiential Discovery
Utilize Transferable Skills ♦ Encourage Student Voice
Incorporate Technology ♦ Involve Physical Activity ♦ Create & Perform
Engage The Community ♦ Occur In The Natural World
Happen Anywhere & Any Time

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learners succeed by becoming...

Caring, Kind & Grateful ♦ Confident & Self-Directed ♦ Honest & Fair
Independent Thinkers ♦ Innovative Problem Solvers
Academically Accomplished ♦ Effective Communicators & Collaborators
Technologically Skilled ♦ Globally Aware ♦ Contributing Citizens
Respectful of Our Environment
Physically, Emotionally & Socially Healthy
Appreciative Of & Skilled In The Visual & Performing Arts



SUPERVISORY UNION WORK & LEARNING PLAN

Equity

- Advance equity principles and practices

Social & Emotional Learning

- Deliver research-based practices with consistency that advance positive attitudes, habits, and actions

Content Standards and Transferable Skills

- Implement curricula based on current content standards
- Implement curricula based on NCSU transferable skills
- Promote effective digital learning

Student Engagement

- Promote inquiry-based learning
- Support interdisciplinary instruction
- Create multiple pathways
- Foster personalization

Student Voice & Leadership

- Promote student contributions and leadership in their communities
- Include students in authentic decision making at all levels

Formative Assessment and Data

- Provide multiple opportunities for feedback and reflection
- Use technology to support assessment, reporting and reflection
- Students engage in goal setting in age-appropriate ways
- Use qualitative and quantitative data to guide the reflection and review of programs, practices, systems and structures

Approved by the NCSU Full Board December 2018

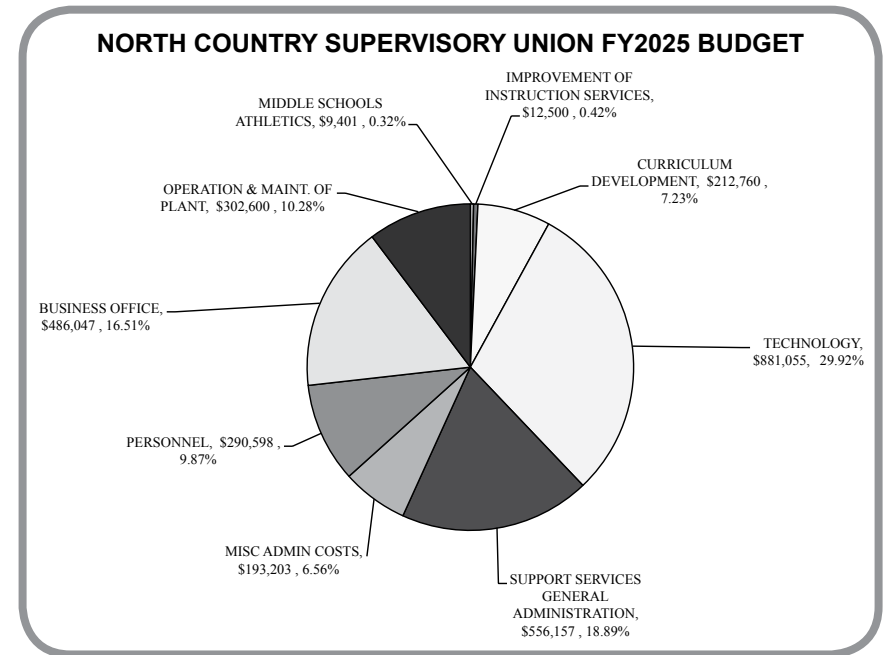
NORTH COUNTRY SUPERVISORY UNION FY2025 Board Approved Assessment Budget

	FY 2024 Adopted Budget 7/1/23-6/30/24	FY2025 Board Approved 7/1/24-6/30/26
DESCRIPTION		
<u>ASSESSMENT REVENUE</u>		
INTEREST		
INTEREST INCOME-CASH ACCOUNT	(\$ 15,000)	(\$ 25,000)
INTEREST INCOME-MONEY MARKET	(500)	(1,000)
INTEREST REVENUE	(15,500)	(26,000)
ASSESSMENTS	(1,935,357)	(2,843,321)
TOTAL TOWN ASSESSMENT	(1,935,357)	(2,843,321)
MISC OTHER LOCAL REVENUE		
INDIRECT COSTS REVENUE.....	(125,000)	(75,000)
TOTAL MISC OTHER LOCAL REVENUE.....	(125,000)	(75,000)
TOTAL ASSESSMENT REVENUE.....	(\$2,075,857)	(\$2,944,321)
<u>ASSESSMENT EXPENDITURES</u>		
MIDDLE LEVEL ATHLETICS		
SALARY MIDDLE LEVEL ATHLETICS	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,900
FICA.....	383	451
W COMP	42	50
PURCHASED SERVICE	1,000	1,000
SUPPLIES	2,000	2,000
TOTAL MIDDLE LEVEL ATHLETICS.....	8,425	9,401
IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION		
SP PROJECTS P SERV.....	6,000	6,000
SP PROJECTS SUPPLIES	1,000	1,500
SPEC.PROJ.-FOOD.....	3,500	5,000
TOTAL IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION.....	10,500	12,500
CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT		
DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM SALARY.....	50,602	116,948
WAGES CURRICULUM ADMIN ASST.....	22,324	25,431
BCBS.....	19,197	36,875
HRA.....	6,300	6,300
FICA.....	5,580	10,893
LIFE INSURANCE.....	90	186
MUN. RETIREMENT	1,395	1,780
WORKERS COMP	613	1,196
UNEMPLOYMENT	37	83
TUITION	1,229	2,712
DENTAL.....	724	1,315
LTD	226	441
TRAINING	750	4,000
TRAVEL.....	645	1,400

	FY 2024 Adopted Budget 7/1/23-6/30/24	FY2025 Board Approved 7/1/24-6/30/25
CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT CON'T.		
SUPPLIES	1,200	1,200
BOOKS & PERIODICALS	500	500
CONF & DUES	2,000	1,500
TOTAL CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT	113,412	212,760
TECHNOLOGY		
DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY	102,000	106,080
NETWORK/TECH SUPPORT WAGES	135,904	215,219
BCBS	68,555	113,754
HRA	8,400	15,400
FICA	18,198	24,579
LIFE INSURANCE	300	300
MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT	16,654	27,265
WORKERS COMP	1,998	2,699
UNEMPLOYMENT	208	208
TUITION	1,800	1,800
DENTAL	2,000	2,755
LTD	738	996
PURCHASED SERVICE	183,500	339,000
TRAVEL	3,500	5,500
ROOMS & MEALS	400	500
SUPPLIES	2,500	3,500
SOFTWARE	3,500	3,500
EQUIPMENT	5,500	10,000
DUES & FEES	2,000	8,000
TOTAL TECHNOLOGY.....	557,655	881,055
SUPPORT SERVICES - GENERAL ADMIN		
SUPERINTENDENT SALARY	139,984	145,583
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT SALARY	-	125,000
COMMUNICATIONS COORD/ADMIN ASSISTS WAGES	99,988	112,959
BCBS	52,511	86,536
HRA	10,900	15,000
FICA	18,354	29,340
LIFE INSURANCE	226	246
MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT	6,249	7,907
WORK COMP	2,016	3,222
UNEMPLOYMENT	125	125
DENTAL	1,875	2,050
LTD	744	1,189
AUDIT NCSU	10,500	10,500
LODGING & MEALS	1,500	2,000
TRAVEL	3,000	3,000
VSA DUES	5,000	5,000
PROF DEVELOPMENT-SECRETARY	200	500

	FY 2024 Adopted Budget 7/1/23-6/30/24	FY2025 Board Approved 7/1/24-6/30/25
SUPPORT SERVICES - GENERAL ADMIN CON'T.		
PROF DEVELOPMENT-SUPERINTENDENT	5,000	6,000
TOTAL SUPPORT SERVICES - GENERAL ADMIN.	358,172	556,157
MISC ADMIN COSTS		
MAINTENANCE CONTRACT ADS	15,000	15,000
LEGAL SERVICES	5,000	5,000
STIPEND TREASURER'S	1,050	1,050
PURCHASE SERVICE	7,600	15,000
EQUIP MAINT	4,000	5,000
MACHINE LEASES & RENTALS	10,000	15,000
CONSOLIDATED INSURANCE	20,000	30,653
TELEPHONE	7,000	8,000
POSTAGE	12,000	12,000
INTERNET	45,000	45,000
MISC TOWNS ADVERTISING	750	-
ADVERTISING	5,000	7,500
MISC FOOD MEETINGS	8,000	8,000
MISC TOWN INVOICES	500	-
OFFICE SUPPLIES	12,000	20,000
BOOKS	500	500
FURNITURE	2,500	2,500
MISCELLANEOUS DUES/FEES	3,000	3,000
TOTAL MISC. ADMIN. COSTS	102,700	158,900
PERSONNEL		
PERSONNEL COORDINATOR SALARY	-	78,938
PERSONNEL SUPPORT WAGES	117,014	103,356
PERSONNEL BCBS	17,555	53,547
PERSONNEL HRA	4,400	6,600
PERSONNEL FICA	8,952	18,041
PERSONNEL LIFE INS	52	96
PERSONNEL RETIREMENT	7,313	16,509
PERSONNEL WORKERS COMP	983	1,531
PERSONNEL UNEMPLOYMENT	83	125
PERSONNEL TUITION	5,760	5,760
PERSONNEL DENTAL	600	1,680
PERSONNEL LTD	363	565
PURCHASED SERVICE PERSONNEL	600	2,750
PERSONNEL TRAVEL	100	100
PERSONNEL CONF/DUES	550	1,000
TOTAL PERSONNEL.....	153,838	164,325
BUSINESS OFFICE		
SALARY DIRECTOR BUSINESS	70,403	72,062
WAGES FINANCE ASSISTANTS	86,541	91,733

	FY 2024	FY2025
	Adopted Budget	Board Approved
	7/1/23-6/30/24	7/1/24-6/30/25
BUSINESS OFFICE con't.		
WAGES BUSINESS ADM ASST	36,590	-
WAGES COURIER.....	2,200	2,200
SALARY STAFF ACCOUNTANTS	42,547	78,969
WAGES GRANTS ASSISTANT	-	31,599
BCBS BUSINESS OFFICE	96,834	112,715
HRA	18,000	18,000
FICA BUSINESS OFFICE	18,753	22,064
LIFE INS BUSINESS OFFICE.....	225	225
RETIREMENT BUSINESS OFFICE	16,444	20,035
WORKERS COMP BUSINESS OFFICE	2,041	2,423
UNEMPLOYMENT BUSINESS OFFICE	200	200
TUITION BUSINESS OFFICE	2,000	2,712
DENTAL BUSINESS OFFICE	2,425	3,375
LTD DIRECTOR BUSINESS	753	887
PROF DEV BUSINESS OFFICE.....	500	6,500
TRAVEL BUSINESS OFFICE.....	5,000	5,000
ROOMS & MEALS BUSINESS OFFICE	500	2,500
DUES & FEES BUSINESS OFFICE	1,500	1,000
TOTAL BUSINESS OFFICE	380,184	410,307
OPERATION & MAINT. OF PLANT		
FACILITIES COORDINATOR WAGES	99,500	65,255
CUSTODIAN WAGES	19,053	18,142
FACILITIES COORDINATOR & CUSTODIAL BENEFITS		-
17,544		
OPERATION AND MAINT PURCHASE SERV	5,000	10,000
CUSTODIAN PURCHASES SERVICE	17,688	18,909
RUBBISH REMOVAL	2,400	2,750
STORAGE RENTAL SPACE	2,020	1,000
CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES.....	3,500	4,000
TOTAL OPERATION & MAINT. OF PLANT	149,161	137,600
OPERATION & MAINT. OF PLANT		
RENT	145,000	165,000
TOTAL OPERATION & MAINT. OF PLANT	145,000	165,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$2,075,857	\$2,944,321



Newport Ambulance Service, Inc.

Newport Town 2023 Report

With the Completion of our new Troy Station Newport Ambulance has become one of the largest regional ambulance services in the state of Vermont. Newport Ambulance employs over 60 employees and has 4 stations covering 16 towns, 5 Gores and Grants and 786sq miles. Our call volume increased from 4500 calls in 2022 to 5300 calls in 2023.

Newport Ambulance's facilities are located at 830 Union St in Newport, 8437 RTE 111 in Morgan, 6719 RTE 100 in Troy and 62 Wilson Rd in Johnson.

Currently Newport Ambulance has 6 crews providing 24/7 service. Newport Ambulance has 10 ambulances and a Paramedic first response car that are stocked and available to respond at the Advanced Life Support level at any time.

Newport Ambulance's Newport station houses two crews that are available to respond 24/7, serving Newport City, Newport town, Derby, and part of Coventry.

In 2023 Newport Ambulance responded to 130 emergency calls in the Town of Newport and transported 36 Town residents from North Country Hospital to receive care in other facilities. We have also responded to a total of 51 calls for mutual aid.

In 2023 Newport Ambulance secured a Vermont state education grant that will help cover the cost of 6 current members to advance their education and acquire their Paramedic certification. This certification has an estimated cost of over \$20,000 per student. Newport Ambulance will also use these funds to help with continuing education of our other EMS providers.

Newport Ambulance Service thanks you for your support and looks forward to serving you and your community.

Respectfully
Jeffrey J. Johansen,
Executive Director
Newport Ambulance Service Inc

Newport Center Volunteer Fire Department Report

To the Residents of Newport Town,

Once again, Newport Center Volunteer Fire Department would like to thank everyone for the continued support. This past year has brought some changes to the Department and the Town. In late March, the Department was able to replace our 1982 4x4 mini pumper with a 2001 Ford F550 4x4 mini pumper that has more pumping capability than the previous truck. We were able to purchase this truck with the equipment funds that were put away from previous years. This truck is a huge upgrade and will serve the department and town for many years to come.

Also late fall a pond was started to take form thanks to the ARPA committee and the Town selectman. This pond is located on town land across from the baseball field on Vance Hill. For many years the Fire Department has struggled especially in winter months to gain water access for any type of fires that would occur in the center of town. Not really having a good water source to draw from and would have to drive miles to obtain water from other towns to continue to fight fires in our town. With this new pond it will give us a fantastic water supply to draw from in our town.

Early winter we were given the opportunity to purchase an ARGO off road machine. The ARGO can and will be used for any ice water rescues, snowmobile accidents, ATV accidents or any other emergencies that may occur that we need off road capabilities. This was purchased from Derby Line Fire Dept and was purchased with money from our Fundraisers.

Our members continue to train as much as possible with monthly trainings within the department and also trainings that are offered to us.

This year for appropriations we will be asking for \$40678.13 this is to cover operations and dispatching. \$30,000 for our equipment fund to continue to be able to replace trucks and equipment without putting a bigger burden on taxpayers.

Once again I want to thank everyone for the continued support.

Respectfully Submitted
Jason Willis
Chief
Newport Center Volunteer Fire Department



**NEWPORT CENTER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
YEAR END FINANCIAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 2023**

OPERATING ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance 1/1/2023.....	\$ 35,141.42
Deposit - Newport Town 2023 Town Meeting	37,000.00
Deposit – from fundraising for BBQ.....	908.76
Expenses 2023:	
Alert All	339.00
Building Maintenance	1,163.00
Dispatch Software	3,611.74
Electricity	1,696.00
Equipment Maintenance.....	9,547.83
Dues	400.00
Gear.....	2,293.48
Gas/Diesel Fuel	2,751.61
Heat	5,292.86
Internet/Phone	2,038.74
Licenses	1,140.00
Office Supplies	145.43
Postage	115.36
Misc. for station	1,515.95
Rubbish Removal	112.00
Glover's Market	111.90
Training/memberships	1,050.00
Member appreciation.....	935.34
Travel.....	381.25
Tools	217.08
Signs.....	531.99
Fund Raising Expenses.....	980.68
Equipment	9,863.76
Supplies Halloween	187.73
Water/Sewer.....	800.01
Total Expenses	\$ 47,222.74
Ending Balance 12/31/2023.....	\$ 25,827.44

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT FUND

Beginning Balance 1/1/2023.....	\$ 47,216.87
Deposits – interest.....	15.27
Deposit - Newport Town 2023 Town Meeting	30,000.00
Deposit – Sale of Truck	5,432.00
Expenses:	
Withdrawal truck.....	40,000.00
HSE – Gear	2,702.80
Payment	20,747.94
Ending Balance 12/31/2023.....	\$ 19,213.40

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance 1/1/2023.....	\$ 1,250.84
Deposit interest.....	3.27
Deposit from town dispatching	3,611.74
Deposit	750.00
Ending Balance 12/31/2023.....	\$ 5,615.85

FUND RAISING ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance 1/1/2023.....	\$ 17,065.96
Deposits for 2023	14,392.37
Expenses:	
Deluxe deposit slips.....	77.35
Bar B Que.....	908.76
City of Newport water	695.00
Truck Payment	5,728.30
Guns for raffle.....	6,263.10
Ending Balance 12/31/2023.....	\$ 17,785.82

Newport Center Volunteer Fire Department Members

Officers

Chief Jason Willis
Asst. Chief Larry Percy
Captain Steve Roberts
Captain Pedro Grondin
Lieutenant Shane Marquis
Lieutenant Cody Glover

Firefighters

Madison Mosher	Josh Royer
Jim Warman	Noreen Roberts
Skye Wetherall	Lydia Pouliot
Camden Willis	Skylar Morse
Jeff Young	Israel Sanville
Jon higgins	Chris Coderre
Kyle Mead	Chris Lowery
Roland Coderre	Eli Roberts
Shayne Morse	Bryant Tuller
Christina Young	Harlee Hannux
Paul Tetreault	

Goodrich Memorial Library

The Goodrich Memorial Library is a community library that depends on the goodwill of the people using it for support. Without this vital support, the library could not continue to function as a free source for reading material, life-long learning, programs, meeting spaces and so much more. Now more than ever, it is crucial that we all keep informed and educated about local as well as world events.

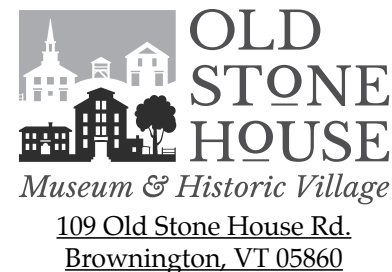
Currently, there are 662 families from Newport Center registered as borrowers at the Goodrich Memorial. On behalf of all these families we request the sum of \$25,000.00 (Twenty-five thousand) be included in the Newport Center budget for 2024 to help maintain the level of service your residents have come to expect.

Thank you for your continued support,

Joanne Pariseau, Director
director@goodrichlibrary.org

GOODRICH MEMORIAL LIBRARY BY THE NUMBERS

1st Wednesdays	AARP TAX PREPARATION
6 programs	6 sessions
With 134 participants	with 104 people served
AUTHOR VISIT	BOOK CLUB
1 program	12 meetings
With 17 attending	with 26 participants
CHILI COOK-OFF	CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE
Served approximately 250 people	194 people attended
CLASS VISITS	CRAFT WORKSHOP
2 different schools	2 separate events
With 69 children & teachers attending	with 9 people attending
CUB SCOUT VISITS	MAIN STREET TRICK OR TREATING
2 separate visits	782 people came through our doors
With 48 scouts & leaders attending	
MAYORAL CANDIDATE FORUM	STORIES IN THE PARK
1 event	6 programs
With 40 people attending	95 children and 35 adults attending
STORY TIME	WRITING GROUP
27 programs	7 sessions
61 children and 46 adults attending	with 26 participants
Board Members:	Staff:
James Johnson, President	Joanne Pariseau, Director
Steve Edgerley, Treasurer	Sarah Rose Ciaccio
Melissa Pettersson	Trudy Lyon
Secretary Paul Monette	Caitlin Patten
Steve Mason	Nicole Johnson
Keith Richards	
Denise Daigle	



Dear Neighbors,

History enriches our lives. It infuses meaning into the places we care about and helps build stronger communities. Since 1925, the Old Stone House Museum & Historic Village, known also as the Orleans County Historical Society, has preserved and shared the rich history of our corner of the world. The museum has grown to include eight historic buildings and 75,000+ artifacts that illustrate our regional history.

The Old Stone House attracts nearly 5,000 visitors to Orleans County per year, bringing essential business and money directly into the region. Grant-funded projects inject money into the local economy employing contractors, tradespeople, suppliers, and professional services in the preservation of local history.

The Old Stone House provides jobs for seven permanent staff members as well as up to five seasonal employees. In the summer of 2023, three local middle schoolers worked on staff. In 2024, the middle school program will continue with added opportunities for high school students.

Daily tours, events, research, education programs and recreational opportunities make the Old Stone House a vital cornerstone to Orleans County life and culture. Hundreds of children, families and adults participate annually in the wide variety of programs offered. We are proud of our year-round, onsite educational programming, and this year, we added in-school and after-school heritage programs doubling our outreach.

We are dedicated to preserving and sharing history, enriching the culture of our community, and serving as an economic driver for our region. To do this, we rely on support from the towns we most directly serve. With this in mind, we ask that you support the Old Stone House Museum & Historic Village this year. We appreciate your ongoing partnership.

Sincerely,
Molly Veysey, Executive Director
Old Stone House Museum & Historic Village

Orleans County Sheriff's Department

2023 REPORT – TOWN OF NEWPORT

The Orleans County Sheriff's Department has been honored to provide patrol services to you this past year. The enclosed chart shows the total incidents, total arrests and traffic violations for your town from January 1st, 2023 through December 31st, 2023.

This past year has been a busy one for the Orleans County Sheriff's Department. The OCSD was able to send two (2) Deputy's to the Level III full-time Police Academy in Pittsford, VT which is an intense sixteen (16) week program. When a law enforcement officer is level III there are no restrictions on their certifications with the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council. Congratulation Deputy Andrew Gonyaw and Deputy Jeremy Cotnoir we are all very excited to see where your career with OCSD will take you.

The Orleans County Sheriff's Department has collaborated and worked cases once again this past year with the United States Marshal's, ATF (Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms) DEA (Department of Drug Enforcement), United States Border Protection/Customs, Homeland Security Investigations, and the Vermont Drug Task Force in an effort to make our community a safer place to live and a pleasurable place to come and visit.

The OCSD hired a new Deputy, William Kulakowski who brings over eight (8) years of law enforcement experience with him. Deputy Kulakowski stepped up and became a valuable instructor in the area of Use of Force along with Deputy Gonyaw, which is extremely beneficial to this agency and our community.

The OCSD has hired Deputy Daniel Locke who is a trained Drug Recognition Expert who travels throughout the counties assisting local and state law enforcement with interactions involving individuals believed to be operating under the influence of drugs. This expertise has and will continue to benefit Orleans County and our surrounding counties to assist in keeping our roads a safer place for travel. Deputy Locke is also a Field Training Officer and Firearms Instructor which has already benefited the OCSD.

The OCSD continues and will continue to work with supporting our Child Advocacy Center with a Deputy investigating crimes against our children as well as working with the States Attorney's Office with a grant that we currently hold.

Deputy Doug Morrill is assigned to Lake Region Union High School as the School Resource Officer and continues to build strong positive relationships with our young people. This position has and continues to prove so valuable to our community. We are all very lucky Deputy Morrill cares so much for this population of young people and does a wonderful job of being a positive role model for them.

The OCSD actively participates in grants through Governor Highway Safety as well as Operation Stone Garden which help to supplement patrol throughout Orleans County to enhance the safety of our residents.

We continue to maintain a "Drug Take-back" box in our lobby at the Sheriff's

Department. The Department has collected approximately 255.4lbs of prescriptions in 2023. We also participate with Wal-Mart and Kinney Drugs in Derby on National Drug Take Back Day. Each year this program, in cooperation with the DEA, is responsible for getting hundreds of pounds of drugs out of medicine cabinets and off the street and properly disposed of by incineration.

In December the Sheriff's department celebrated the 16th anniversary of "Operation Santa". We received generous, overwhelming support from many local area businesses and community members. Thank you! The program helped bring a happy holiday season to approximately 358 children in our community. Dispatcher Tammy LaCourse has always been someone who has been a big part of helping our community, whether it is supporting youth sporting events, organizing food drives and items to help our local high schools with their community closets to Operation Santa. Tammy works so hard on this, keeping track of all the donations that come in from our community members is a full time job in itself. Tammy stays after her regular work hours, comes in on weekends to make sure that everything is where it needs to be so no child goes without, this is all done on her own time. I personally am so grateful for her dedication and hard work that she puts into all of these events yearly. Thank you Tammy!!

It is an honor to work and live in Orleans County. Working with the local select-boards to meet the needs of each town is a rewarding part of my job. Keeping the lines of communication between the select boards by both attending in person meetings, and sending monthly reporting system statistics helps keep our communities needs at the forefront of our services.

again thank our own Tammy Lacourse who works tirelessly all year to make this a success. If you know of a family or child (children) in need throughout the year with clothing or other needs please contact your school to let them know, if not please contact the Orleans County Sheriff's Department to see if we can help.

***Orleans County Sheriff's Department Administration Office Hours:
8-4 pm Monday – Friday.***

***Patrol Hours Day/Evening Hours Seven (7) days a week
call 802-334-3333 and press 1 to speak to Dispatch***

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer L. Harlow, Sheriff

TOWN OF NEWPORT - TOTAL LAW INCIDENT REPORT	
Nature of Incident	Total Incidents
Agency Assist	18
Alarm	2
Animal Problem	4
Citizen Assist	9
Citizen Dispute	2
Civil Process	28
Crash - Property	5
Directed Patrol	4
Found/Lost Property	1
Illegal Dumping	3
Juvenile NICS Check	4
Lockout	1
Motorist Assist	1
Motor Vehicle Complaint	13
Parking Problem	1
Public Speaking	1
Speed Cart	3
Subpoena Service	5
Suspicious	4
Threats/Harassment	1
Theft of Service	1
Traffic Stop	72
Trespass	3
TRO/FRO Service	2
Vandalism	1
Vin Verification	4
Welfare Check	3
Total Incidents for Town of Newport	196

TOWN OF NEWPORT - TOTAL ARREST REPORT	
Arrest on In-State Warrant	1
Driving with a Criminally Suspended License	2
Drugs - Depressant, Stimulant and Narcotic Possession	1
Eluding A Police Officer	1
Excessive Speed	2
Grossly Negligent Operation	1
Reckless Endangerment	1
Resisting Arrest	1
Unlawful Trespass	2
Violation Of Conditions Of Release	6
Total Arrests(by count) for Town of Newport	18
Total Arrests (by person) for Town of Newport	11

TOWN OF NEWPORT - TOTAL TRAFFIC VIOLATION REPORT	
Total Traffic Tickets	46
Total Warnings	26



NORTHEAST KINGDOM HUMAN SERVICES, INC. (NKHS)
 181 Crawford Road – Derby, P. O. Box 724, Newport, VT 05855 • 802-334-6744 or 800-696-4979
 2225 Portland Street, P. O. Box 368, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819 • 802-748-3181 or 800-649-0118
Emergency Crisis Line 802-334-6744 – 24 hours a day/7 days a week
www.nkhs.org

Thank you, **Town of Newport** voters, for your appropriation support at your Town Meetings. Annual appropriations are a vital funding source to provide needed services to residents who cannot otherwise afford care. The 2024 appropriation request of **\$3188** is the same amount voted on at the 2023 Town Meeting. This represents 3.31% of appropriation requests from 48 towns. We offer supportive, confidential program services for Emergency/Crisis Services, mental health, addiction, and developmental/intellectual disabilities. Our mission is to empower individuals, families, and communities by promoting hope, healing, and support.

Summary Activity Report July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023:

- **3800** individuals of all ages in our service area utilized support services.
- **77** individuals from the **Town of Newport** accessed supportive care at NKHS.
- Employees provided **over 300 hours** of community consultation, education, and outreach in community meetings, events, and trainings in NKHS offices, area schools, and businesses at no cost to participants. We offered QPR (Question, Persuade, and Refer) suicide awareness and prevention trainings, Youth Mental Health First Aid, and other educational opportunities to at least 700 Northeast Kingdom community members.
- 416 total dedicated professional employees, **14 from the Town of Newport**, support community members in the Derby or St. Johnsbury offices, the satellite office in Hardwick, telehealth, homes, schools, and throughout Northeast Kingdom communities.

Good mental health is important for everyone. As a Designated Agency serving Vermont's system of care, NKHS is responsible for assuring that a comprehensive range of services are available regardless of an individual's ability to pay. A sliding fee scale is available for those in financial need. NKHS is asking the Town of Newport voters to consider helping neighbors, family members, and friends receive the supports they need to live a happy, fulfilling life and be an active and contributing member of your community.

Thank you so much for your support!

Respectfully submitted,
 Kelsey Stavseth, Executive Director
 Board of Directors
 Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.



Activity Report for Newport Town
Fiscal Year 2024 – July 2026 – June 2024
Town Appropriation Request: \$2,200

Since 1976, Umbrella has ensured that communities in Caledonia, Orleans and Essex counties have access to services that cultivate a Northeast Kingdom where all people thrive free from abuse and oppression. Umbrella operates 4 multifaceted, client-centered programs and plays a crucial role in decreasing the incidence and impact of domestic and sexual violence. Services offered include:

Social Change focuses on prevention education and initiatives in schools and in the community that aim towards preventing gender-based violence, and creating a community where abuse and oppression are acknowledged and addressed. One of our strategies is to provide pathways for girls to work within this social change and prevention field through the Youth in Power Program. In FY23, we provided 2,613 youth with educational workshops throughout our 18 school partners. We provided 387 adults with educational programs through 20 workshops.

Advocacy Program serves survivors of domestic and sexual violence, stalking, teen dating violence, as well as violence related to gender or sexual orientation - which in total we characterize as gender-based violence. In our work, the client leads and we support them in any way they need us to including legal advocacy, housing advocacy, support with parenting after trauma and more. In FY23, 750 individuals received direct advocacy, 81 people were housed in our emergency shelters as a result of fleeing domestic or sexual violence and 15 were housed in our Transitional Housing program.

Family Based Services focuses on child-care and strengthening family relationships. *Kingdom Child Care Connection (KCCC)* assists families in the Northeast Kingdom to receive subsidized child care, appropriate child care referrals and specialized childcare placement support. *The Family Room* offers supervised visitation for families throughout the Northeast Kingdom. In FY23, KCCC served 801 families and the Family Room worked with 63 families.

Economic Empowerment serves women with significant barriers to employment in Orleans and Northern Essex Counties. Our *Cornucopia* program, and our social enterprise, *Dolcetti* each wrap around women to support them in building job readiness skills while helping them to address challenges in their lives so they are able to move towards financial self-sufficiency. In FY23 as part of the skill-building program, participants packaged and prepared 39,509 meals for homebound seniors through Meals on Wheels.

Given that some services are provided anonymously, it is difficult to provide each town with a precise number of people served by Umbrella. However, at least 33 households in the Town Of Newport were served by Umbrella in Fiscal Year 2023 and the community as a whole benefited from prevention and outreach programs in schools, as well as training and consultation for human service and law enforcement professionals.

Community support is critical to sustain our programming and to discover innovative approaches to the work Umbrella does. We are deeply grateful for Newport Town's support.

Respectfully,
Amanda Cochrane,
Executive Director

Rural Community Transportation

Thank you for your continued support for Rural Community Transportation. Your support is felt in our communities daily. Rural Community Transportation, Inc. (RCT) is a private nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation that has provided public transportation services throughout Lamoille, Caledonia, Orleans, and Essex Counties. RCT operates fare-free shuttle and commuter bus routes, microtransit, and emergency relief transportation facilitating connections between towns in our region and the ability to travel throughout Vermont and beyond. RCT also provides demand-response transportation services under several programs, such as Medicaid, the Older People & People with Disabilities program, and Rides 2 Recovery.

RCT runs four commuter routes to enhance access to employment, connecting Morrisville to the towns of Barre and Waterbury and St. Johnsbury to Montpelier and to Littleton. We operate three shuttle routes tying Morrisville, Newport/Derby, and St. Johnsbury/Lyndonville residents and nearby Vermonters to essential locations, from grocery stores to medical centers. Shopping routes provide similar services spanning Morrisville and Stowe in the west, Newport and surrounding towns in the north, and Lyndon to New Hampshire in the east. Our neighbors, who utilized over 130,000 rides in FY2023, have expressed their gratitude and noted their dependence on our services.

RCT operates with federal and state funding; however, our funding sources typically require between 20% and 50% locally matched dollars. All town appropriations received are used to provide the required local match and are crucial to RCT's operations. Your generosity allows RCT to transform your funding into the ability to thrive, grow, and provide your community with reliable, quality transportation service.

Thank you for your consideration and continued support,

Caleb R. Grant
Executive Director
Rural Community Transportation





On behalf of the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging, we are writing to ask for an appropriation from the town of Newport Town to support our work with older Vermonters living in your community. Your support is vitally important as we continue to face challenges due to the increased costs for food and fuel, and the increasing need to protect and feed elder Vermonters.

The NEK Council on Aging serves as a central guide for older Vermonters to gain services and assistance in their communities. In FY2023 the Council aided over 4,796 residents of the Northeast Kingdom and with our congregate and home-delivered meals program, delivered 209,379 meals.

We also offer a Helpline; Medicare counseling and Bootcamp; exercise and mobility programs; specially-trained staff who help people develop long-range planning as they age; family and caregiver support programs and grants; case management for those who need a bit more support with aging in place; as well as support to apply for fuel, food, and pharmacy programs. Our nutrition programs partially fund 14 meal sites and home delivered meals under the guidance of our registered dietitian. Working with RCT and Legal Aid, we provide for the complex challenges people face while living in a rural community. Our work is supplemented by over 400 volunteers who serve as home-delivered meals drivers, wellness program leaders, and home-based caregivers.

As a private, 501c (3) non-profit corporation, we have been serving older Vermonters for over 44 years. This year, we are requesting the amount of \$1000 from the residents of the town of Newport Town. We have enclosed a brief letter in support of this request for inclusion in your town report and a copy of our 2023 Annual Report.

Suggested wording for the warning article for town meeting follows: "Shall the town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1000 to assist the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging in providing services to older Vermonters in the ensuing year."

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

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

Meg Burmeister
Executive Director
www.nekcouncil.org

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



ConnectABILITIES

"The pull of the future is stronger than the push of the past."
Pir Vilayat

Exciting news! OCCA has reinvented itself and is now called ConnectABILITIES while still supporting community members in Orleans County with developmental and intellectual disabilities. The years of COVID isolation and the disappearance of community volunteers over the last years has caused OCCA to rebrand itself to meet the needs of the disability community at this time.

We are proud to be celebrating our 36th anniversary and still a vibrant entity in the community. ***ConnectABILITIES Mission is to create and support relationships between community volunteers and people with differing abilities so that all are heard, empowered and fully included in the community. We strive to engage all of these people in opportunities that enhance their quality of life, and we seek to provide whatever support we can feasibly provide towards helping them to achieve their life goals. In doing so we keep our hearts and minds open to all who seek our help, regardless of their particular situations.***

To this end ConnectABILITIES has accomplished in 2023:

- The rebranding of OCCA to become known as ConnectABILITIES
- Consultations with outside contractors to determine future direction for OCCA
- Recruited and added new Board Members
- Recruited and hired Consultants who demonstrate subject matter expertise.
- Increased connection with community resources and worked in partnership with NKHS
- Provided a 6-week summer program for exploring the arts, for socializing, and to meet community members. An Ice Cream Social was held for all members. Transportation is provided to events
- Ongoing outreach and support to advocates (community volunteers) and partners (community members with disabilities)
- Launched our 888 # Helpline to provide support and referrals for callers needing assistance in reference to their disability needs.
- Developed resource referral database for Federal, State and local public agencies
- Maintaining social media sites, and a website

Intentionally ConnectABILITIES operates with a small budget. We do not receive funds from Federal or State agencies, nor United way. Our funding comes from Town Appropriations across Orleans County and local donors. Your generosity on Town Meeting Day when you vote to support ConnectABILITIES and the disability community is greatly appreciated. The pull of the future towards support and sustainability for this vulnerable community in our midst is of the utmost importance.

Please call 888-635-6222 for more information, with questions or referrals. We welcome our connection with you.

In solidarity.

Ann Stannard, Board Co-Chair



Dear NEK Neighbors,

We are pleased to present our 2023 Annual Report to all 56 towns in the NEK. As you know, we are the Communications Union District (CUD) for Northeastern Vermont - the municipal, non-profit organization whose mission is to build high-speed, fiber internet infrastructure to unserved and underserved communities in the NEK. As a resident of one of NEK's 56 towns, you have a voice through your town's representative to our Governing Board. To see who that is, please visit our website, nekbroadband.org and go to the Member Towns page.

Our 2023 Annual Report shows the significant progress we've made in working towards our ambitious goals and we hope you enjoy reading it.

AND we know there is more work to be done. The two questions most often asked are "When are you coming to me? And how much will it cost?" To answer the 'When' we have to take into consideration multiple factors such as technical challenges, availability of grant funding, local interest and customer base, and material costs. All of these factors help us determine the most cost effective, efficient way to build a network that will need 2700 miles of fiber optics to reach everyone in the Kingdom. The easiest way to know when service will be available to you is to pre-register at get.nekbroadband.org and stay up to date with messages and notifications.

We also know that affordability of high-speed internet is a critical issue to many living in our region. That's why we include a free router and free aerial installation up to 400 ft for every customer. NEK Broadband also participates in the ACP (Affordable Connectivity Program), helping to create affordable pricing for 27% of households in the district that are eligible. This federally funded program provides a discount of \$30 per month toward internet service for eligible households. As of today, this program will run out of funds by mid April.

Last year we also started a program that gives NEK residents the opportunity to lend a hand to their low-income neighbors. For those customers who choose our 500/500 Mbps service, \$30 of their monthly payments will go towards giving a fellow low-income NEK resident an equivalent \$30 discount per month. For those who choose our 1 gig/1 gig service, their monthly payment will help 3 of their low-income NEK neighbors with an additional discount of \$30/month each. We have decided to use these funds to subsidize to the same level if the ACP shuts down.

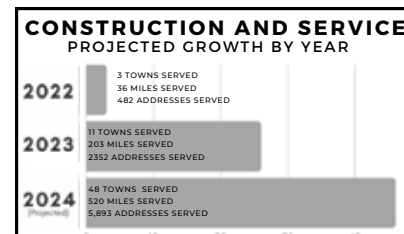
At NEK Broadband, we continue to search for and create ways to make it easier for all of our neighbors to get access to high-speed internet because In today's inter-connected world, access to online resources is essential for participating in various aspects of life, including education, employment, healthcare, and civic engagement. We are proud to work to bridge the gap and increase these opportunities for all of our neighbors in the NEK.

The NEK Broadband team

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

DELIVERING ON OUR PROMISE

In 2023, NEK Broadband put in place the additional staff, funding and infrastructure needed to continue delivering on its promise to bring high-speed, reliable internet to unserved and underserved communities in the NEK. We've made significant progress in building the "backbone" of our network throughout the region. This "backbone" of interlocking fiber optic cable will provide extra reliability for our internet service. We received a USDA ReConnect grant of 17.5 million to cover most of Essex County, thus freeing up more funds to expand our network build in the rest of the NEK. This year, we also increased our construction capacity and our ability to purchase and store more materials so that we can increase the speed of our buildout.



2352 **SERVICE AVAILABLE**
WE NOW OFFER SERVICE TO 2352 ADDRESSES IN THE NEK.

179 **CUSTOMERS SERVED**
IN 2023, WE OVER DOUBLED THE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS SERVED.

203 **MILES SERVED**
AT THE END OF 2023, WE NOW HAVE 203 MILES OF FIBER NETWORK SERVED THROUGHOUT THE NEK.



GRANTS & FINANCING

- We were awarded a USDA ReConnect grant of \$17,474,000 that will cover most of the addresses in Essex county and Eastern Orleans and Caledonia counties.
- The Vermont Community Broadband Board (VCBB) approved an additional \$17.94 million in construction funding, bringing the total investment in NEK Broadband to \$38.9 million to date.
- Our 2022 financials were given an unqualified "clean" opinion (evaluation) by our auditors.

BUILDING CAPACITY

- We are up to 6 full-time staff.
- We now have active warehouses in Danville, St. Johnsbury and Brighton for the storage of construction materials.
- We are working with state and vocational partners to train and increase the workforce in the NEK to help build our network.

BUDGET SUMMARY

OVER \$15,876,591 HAS BEEN INVESTED IN NEK COMMUNITY-OWNED BROADBAND.

	2023 BUDGET TO ACTUAL (PROJECTED)	2024 PROPOSED BUDGET
	Budget	Actual 2023 (Projected)
Administrative Grant Revenue	\$2,252,718	\$996,599
Operations Revenue	\$747,767	\$222,790
Capital Grant Revenue	\$28,785,288	\$10,311,347
Total Cash In	\$31,785,773	\$11,530,536
Administrative Cost	\$1,847,194	\$852,862
Operational Cost	\$596,601	\$235,395
Construction Cost	\$28,785,288	\$10,311,347
Total Cash Out	\$31,219,083	\$11,399,604
Annual Net Cash Flow	\$662,205	\$131,132
Increase in Capital Assets	\$28,785,288	\$10,311,347
Projected Surplus from 2023		\$355,546
Administrative Grant Revenue		\$2,564,532
Operations Revenue		\$852,455
Capital Grant Revenue		\$36,200,196
Total Cash In		\$39,617,183
Administrative Cost		\$1,885,621
Operational Cost		\$678,912
Construction Cost		\$36,200,196
Total Cash Out		\$38,764,729
Annual Net Cash Flow		\$852,455
Increase in Capital Assets		\$36,000,196

ABOUT NEK BROADBAND

We are a Communications Union District (CUD), a municipal entity representing our 51 member communities in Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties, plus Wolcott in Lamoille County. Our district is building high-speed broadband internet infrastructure for underserved communities in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom.

SIGN UP FOR UPDATES

To order our service, get updates, or sign up for our newsletter, fill out the form at get.nekbroadband.org.



Orleans Essex VNA and Hospice, Inc.

SERVICE REPORT FY 2023

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

SUMMARY OF SERVICES:

Total Agency Visits FY 2023	36,449
Total Visits FY 2023 -Town of Newport.....	1,319

During Fiscal Year 2023, home based services were provided to 65 individuals in Newport Center for a total of 1,319 multi-disciplinary visits. 16 residents received services through Agency-sponsored wellness programs.

Appropriation Request for 2024.....	\$4,200.00
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Members of your community are in need of services daily and they receive them from the dedicated staff of the Orleans Essex VNA and Hospice, seven days a week, 24-hours a day. The funds your community appropriates to our Agency allow us to continue providing much needed care to individuals without third party insurance and those unable to pay, and provide special programs open to all community members. The Orleans Essex VNA & Hospice is supported by donations, service fees, and the generosity of communities who realize that in order to continue providing high quality home health services to their family members, friends, and neighbors, appropriations are desperately needed.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyne B. Limoges, MSN, RN
Executive Director



GREEN UP
VERMONT

www.greenupvermont.org

Green Up Day
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. We are requesting level funding for 2024.

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

NVDA

The Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) serves Newport as a regional advocate for stronger communities and vibrant local economies. NVDA is the regional planning commission and economic development organization for Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties, so we are uniquely suited to effectively serve municipalities and businesses.

This year, we are again requesting annual dues from our member communities. These funds are critical, as they allow us to provide direct technical assistance to the 50+ municipalities and the many businesses in our region. Municipal contributions also allow us to leverage additional state and federal funds that benefit our region.

Local governance has become increasingly complex in recent years, and our staff remains available to assist your community in multiple capacities:

- Land use planning and regulation;
- Transportation studies and project planning;
- Digital mapping and GIS services;
- Grant writing and administration;
- Direct business support, referrals, and lending to employers in our region;
- Energy planning and water quality planning to help communities meet evolving statutory requirements;
- Planning for natural hazards and local emergency response;
- Brownfield assessments and remediation assistance;
- Economic development activities to grow and strengthen businesses in our region;
- Training for local officials.

The July flood brought new challenges to local governments and businesses already navigating post-pandemic realities. In addition to our regular services, we participated directly in flood response. We also began helping our communities meet the requirements of Act 47 (the HOME Act) to alleviate the housing crisis. We continued to aid in regional pandemic recovery through assistance with ARPA funding, as well as other state and federal recovery resources such as the Municipal Energy Resilience Program and the Municipal Technical Assistance Program.

How have we served your community recently? In 2023, NVDA staff reported Newport road damage to Vermont Emergency Management following the July flood. We updated Newport's Local Emergency Management Plan, which has been adopted by your Town and accepted by Vermont Emergency Management. NVDA also assisted businesses in your community.

NVDA dues are just \$0.85 per capita, with a maximum of \$3,965 and a minimum of \$565. We take great pride in serving the communities and businesses of the NEK. This additional contribution allows us to continue providing a high level of professional service. We take pride in keeping communities aware of new opportunities through our e-newsletter and social media. Contact us at tgonyaw@nvda.net to receive our e-newsletter and like us on Facebook.

Sincerely,
David Snedeker
Executive Director

2024 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
SATURDAY, MAY 11	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Ryegate Transfer Station
SATURDAY, MAY 18	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Peacham Transfer Station
SATURDAY, JUNE 1	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Derby Recycling Center
SATURDAY, JUNE 8	8:00 a.m. – 12:00p.m.	Brunswick Town Office
SATURDAY, JUNE 22	8:00 a.m. – 12:00p.m.	Newport Center Town Garage
WEDNESDAY, JULY 10	3:00 p.m. – 7:00p.m.	Barnet Transfer Station
SATURDAY, AUGUST 3	8:00 a.m. – 11:00a.m.	Greensboro Recycling Center
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14	1:00 p.m. – 5:00p.m.	Lunenburg Transfer Station
SATURDAY, SEPT. 28	8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Lyndon Recycling Center

The NEKWMD reserves the right to terminate any collection early in the event that we are at storage capacity. Please limit HHW disposal at listed events to 30 gallons. If you have more than 30 gallons, please call our office to schedule an appointment at our Lyndonville facility, May 2 – Oct. 3, 2024.

Not going to be able to make any of these dates? NOT A PROBLEM! The NEKWMD will be accepting these materials by appointment at our Lyndonville facility from May 2, 2024 to October 3, 2024. Due to regulatory handling requirements, hazardous wastes will not be accepted without an appointment. Scheduling ahead ensures that a qualified individual will be on-site ready to accept your hazardous waste.

****HHW Collections are free and open to residents of all DISTRICT TOWNS****

What are *Household Hazardous Products*? They are consumer products that contain ingredients that **may be:**

Toxic- poisonous if eaten, breathed, or absorbed through the skin

Corrosive- can burn or destroy living tissue if spilled on skin

Reactive- creates fumes, heat, or explosion hazards if mixed with certain materials such as water

Explosive- can explode with exposure to heat or pressure

Flammable/Ignitable- can easily be set on fire

To determine if a product in your home is hazardous, check the label for the following words:

Danger indicates that the substance is extremely flammable, corrosive, or toxic.

Poison means that the substance is highly toxic.

Caution/Warning is put on all other hazardous substances that are a somewhat lesser hazard, but are still dangerous if the directions are not followed closely.

Conditionally Exempt Generator businesses can also use the Lyndonville collections for the actual cost of the disposal of their materials. Please call ahead for pricing and an appointment.

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

The NEKWMD hazardous waste collection program is made possible in part by a grant from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. This year's grant totaled \$74,074.31

Acceptable HHW Materials

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

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

GARDEN SUPPLIES

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

GARAGE

- ANTIFREEZE
- BRAKE FLUID *
- CORROSIVES

- CAR WAXES AND CLEANERS

GARAGE (CONTINUED)

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

* ALSO ACCEPTED AT OIL AND BATTERY STATIONS YEAR ROUND

PLEASE DO NOT BRING:

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

CONTACT THE NEKWMD IF YOU HAVE ITEM'S YOU CANNOT IDENTIFY

802-626-3532 or 800-734-4602 or www.nekwmd.org

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Newport Center Recycling and Waste Disposal Guide

The Old Town Garage, Route 105. Wednesdays, 1:00pm—5:00pm & Saturdays, 9:00am — 1:00pm

SORT ITEMS	
MIXED PAPER Newspapers, catalogs, telephone books, glossy inserts, paperback books, colored & white paper, wrapping paper and junk mail. Any color or type of paper. NO brown Kraft bags, boxboard, coffee cups, ice cream cartons, or metallic wrapping paper.	CORRUGATED CARDBOARD, BOXBOARD, & BROWN KRAFT BAGS All Cardboard and Boxboard food packaging. Remove excess tape. Staples are OK. NO wax-coated cardboard, cardboard soiled with food, coffee cups, ice cream cartons, or Styrofoam. *BOXES MUST BE FLATTENED*
TIN CANS Labels are OK. Flattening not required. Separate from aluminum cans. Tin is magnetic. *MUST BE RINSED*	ALUMINUM CANS, FOIL AND FOOD TRAYS Labels OK. Flattening not required. NO snack bags, candy wrappers, coffee bags. *MUST BE RINSED*
GLASS BOTTLES & JARS *Rinse, Remove Lids (recycle with tin) * NO porcelain, Pyrex, windows, crystal, light bulbs, lids, metal or wood.	BATTERIES All types including primary and rechargeable batteries. Please bag similar types together and bag damaged batteries separately.
PLASTIC CONTAINERS #1 – #4 & #5 Food Containers REMOVE CAPS / MAX. SIZE- 2 Gallons / NO BLACK PLASTIC / *MUST BE RINSED* Includes food containers, health/beauty product, and cleaner containers. #5 included <i>if it's a food container</i> . NO plastic bags or films, black plastic, screw-top caps, motor oil bottles, pesticide bottles, vinyl siding, toys, CD cases, VHS tapes, Styrofoam, syringes, or medical devices.	
 NO DIRTY OR UNRINSED ITEMS NO BLACK PLASTIC CONTAINERS NO CONTAINERS larger than 2 GALLONS	

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS:

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

SPECIAL WASTES: Electronics (TVs, computers, radio/stereos, gaming systems, telephones), automotive batteries, metal aerosols cans, hard cover books, fluorescent bulbs.

HOUSEHOLD TRASH: Newport Center does not accept residential trash. Residents can contract with private haulers for curbside collection, find our Licensed Hauler List at <http://www.nekwmd.org/pdf/haulerlist.pdf>.

Residents can bring household trash directly to the Coventry landfill.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE – May to October in Lyndonville **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**, and special events throughout the District June – September. Call for details.

In addition to services provided at this location, district residents have access to disposal services at the Lyndonville Recycling Center, 224 Church St, Lyndonville.

Recycling, Food Scraps, Scrap Metal, E-waste, Waste Oil, Batteries, Fluorescent Bulbs, Freon-Containing Appliances (Refrigerators, Freezers, A/C units, and Dehumidifiers), Stump Dump, all free of charge, and Tire Disposal, fees apply, available at the Lyndonville Recycling Center.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS – CONTACT THE NORTHEAST KINGDOM WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (802) 626-3532 or (800) 734-4602. www.nekwmd.org, e-mail outreach@nekwmd.org
Updated 12/2021



List of Items **NOT ACCEPTED** for Recycling
Please put the following items in your trash unless otherwise stated

Unacceptable Plastics Include:

Any **black** plastic containers

Screw-top Caps
Motor oil, gas containers
Pesticide containers
Styrofoam of any kind
Planting pots and trays
Plastic furniture
Plastic Toys
Coffee Makers
Coat hangers
Vinyl Siding
Maple Tubing
CDs, DVDs, VHS, and cases
Water line pipes and plastic tubing of any size
Hard, rigid plastic (if it shatters, it's not accepted)

Unacceptable Plastic Bags and Films

Any type

Unacceptable Aluminum

Chip Bags, Snack Wrappers, Pop tart Wrappers
Aluminum Flashing (recycle with scrap metal)
Coffee Bags

Unacceptable Tin

Recycle these with Scrap Metal

Frying Pans
Large Pieces of Metal
Nails, Screws, Fasteners
Any tin that is a non-food container

Unacceptable Cardboard

Pringles containers
Milk and Juice Cartons of any kind
Ice cream and waxy or plastic frozen food boxes
Cardboard with metallic interior
Single-use coffee cups
Soiled Cardboard
Waxy Cardboard

Unacceptable Paper

Kraft brown paper bags (recycle with cardboard)
White or Brown Boxboard (recycle with cardboard)
Shiny, glossy, or metallic papers
Paper plates, cups, bowls
Single-use cups
Napkins, paper towels, tissue paper

Unacceptable Glass

Crystal
Incandescent light bulbs
Automotive lights
Pyrex
Porcelain

Unacceptable Food Scraps

PLU Stickers (sticks on fruits, vegetables)
"Biodegradable" cutlery, bowls, plates, utensils
Food utensils
Plates, bowls, cups
Plastic bags
Styrofoam
Keurig cups

Vital Statistics - 2023

Births..... 14
Marriages..... 8
Deaths 22

All vital records are public information and are available at the Town Clerk's office. Recent privacy concerns and the ability to steal identities led us to omit the names from the report.

2024 Vaccine Clinics



The Animal Doctor

56 Eastern Avenue, Newport Center, VT

802.334.1503

**All Wednesdays in March
10am-12pm**

**Curbside vaccines available for
all dogs and cats!**

Rabies, Distemper, Lepto, Bordetella - \$20 EACH
Feline Leukemia and Canine Influenza - \$25 EACH
Lyme \$45

**Please bring previous vaccine records
for your pets if you have them.**