

LEICESTER, VERMONT

2022 TOWN REPORT

January 2022 – December 2022

INFORMATIONAL HEARING:

MONDAY, MARCH 06, 2023 7PM

TOWN MEETING VOTE:

TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023 10AM – 7PM

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHANGES TO THE TOWN REPORT	1	ADDISON COUNTY HOME HEALTH	25
TOWN INFORMATION	2	ADDISON COUNTY PARENT CHILD CENTER	26
LEICESTER TOWN OFFICIALS.....	3	ADDISON COUNTY READERS	26
LEICESTER TOWN MEETING WARNING.....	4	ACRPC	26
NOTICE TO VOTERS.....	5	ACSWMD.....	27
LEICESTER FINANCIAL SUMMARY	6	AGE WELL FORMERLY CVAA.....	28
STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED	7	AMERICAN RED CROSS	29
BUDGET	8	BRANDON AREA RESCUE SQUAD.....	29
COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENT	13	BRANDON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY	30
AUDITORS' REPORT	13	COUNSELING SERVICE OF ADDISON COUNTY.....	31
DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT	14	ELDERLY SERVICES	32
DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR'S POLICY	14	FRONT PORCH FORUM	32
COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT TAXES	15	GREEN UP VERMONT	32
DELINQUENT TAX LIST.....	15	HOPE (ACCAG).....	33
RESTRICTED FUNDS	16	JOHN W. GRAHAM EMERGENCY SHELTER.....	33
SELECTBOARD REPORT	17	LAKE DUNMORE FERN LAKE ASSOCIATION.....	34
ROADS MAINTENANCE POLICY	18	MAPLE BROADBAND INFORMATION	34
DATES TO REMEMBER.....	18	OTTER CREEK NATURAL RESOURCES.....	36
CLERK & TREASURER REPORT.....	19	OCW (FORMERLY BLSG).....	36
VITAL STATISTICS.....	20	OPEN DOOR CLINIC.....	38
GRANT SPENDING	21	RSVP	38
DOG SUMMARY	21	RUTLAND COUNTY PARENT CHILD CENTER.....	39
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER REPORT	21	TRI-VALLEY TRANSIT (F/K/A ACTR)	39
NOTICE TO DOG OWNERS	21	VERMONT ADULT LEARNING	39
VSNIP	21	VERMONT CARES	40
2022 GREEN UP REPORT	22	VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING.....	40
ASSESSOR'S REPORT.....	23	VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	41
CEMETERY REPORT.....	23	VERMONT SECRETARY OF STATE.....	41
FIRE WARDEN'S REPORT	23	WOMENSAFE	42
HEALTH OFFICER REPORT	23		
LEICESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY.....	23		
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT	24		
2022 TOWN MEETING RESULTS	24		
ADDISON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	25		
ADDISON COUNTY RESTORATIVE JUSTICE	25		

RNESU/OVUUSD REPORTS

RNESU SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT	42
RUTLAND NORTHEAST SUPERVISORY UNION.....	44
OV UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT.....	45

CHANGES TO THE TOWN REPORT

Due to changes in legislation and the consolidation of the RNESU schools, the Leicester Town Report is separate from the School District Report. The Town Report is compiled and distributed by the Town, and the School District Report is compiled and distributed by the Otter Valley Unified Union School District (and RNESU).

The OVUUSD report will be distributed by the OVUU Board. They have asked that we include a few reports in our Town Report this year. These reports can be found at the end of this Town Report.

If you have questions regarding this change, or with the Town Report, please contact Julie Delphia, Town Clerk, at (802) 247-5961 x 3.

Town of Leicester
44 Schoolhouse Road
Leicester, VT 05733
WWW.LEICESTERV.T.ORG

TOWN INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS

TOWN CLERK & TREASURER

(802) 247-5961

TOWNCLERK@LEICESTERV.T.GOV

Monday 9:00am - 2:00pm
Tuesday 9:00am - 2:00pm
Thursday 9:00am - 2:00pm

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

(802) 465-4079

LISTER@LEICESTERV.T.GOV

Tuesday 9:00am - 12:00pm

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

(802) 465-4079 (OFFICE)

(802) 465-8098

ZONING@LEICESTERV.T.GOV

By Appointment

RECYCLING: 1st & 3rd Saturday of month 9:00am - 12:00pm at Town Garage

REGULAR MEETINGS

Held at Town Office

SELECTBOARD

1st & 3rd Monday of month at 6:30pm

PLANNING COMMISSION

2nd & Last Tuesday of month at 6:00pm
As required

ZONING BOARD

2nd & Last Tuesday of month at 6:00pm
As required

CEMETERY COMMITTEE (Apr - Oct)

2nd Thursday of month at 6:30pm

CONTACT INFORMATION

(AS OF 1/1/2022)

Julie Delphia
Town Clerk/Treasurer
(802) 247-5961

Arlan Pidgeon
Road Foreman
(802) 247-6361

Ricky Nicklaw
Fire Warden
(802) 247-8357

Diane Benware
Selectboard Chair
(802) 247-3786

Brad Lawes
Road Commissioner
(802) 465-8065

Chree Perkins
Health Officer
(802) 465-8335

Tom Barker
Selectboard Member
(802) 247-3160

Dianne Harvey
Assessor Assistant
(802) 247-5961

Keith Arlund
Zoning Administrator
(802) 465-8098

Brad Lawes
Selectboard Member
(802) 465-8065

Beth Ripley
Del. Tax Collector
(802) 247-0075

Robbie Devoid
Animal Control
(802) 349-6163

John Rouse
Selectboard Member
(802) 247-3135

Jeff McDonough
1st Constable
(802) 343-0788

Diane Randall
Selectboard Member
(802) 558-8885

Mike Rakowitz
2nd Constable
(802) 247-3281

LEICESTER TOWN OFFICIALS

ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

Term Expires

Auditors

Rolande Morrison	March 2023
Deb Miner	March 2024
Donna Pidgeon	March 2025

Delinquent Tax Collector

Elizabeth Ripley	March 2023
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Justices of the Peace

Cheryl Morrison	February 2025
Diane Benware	February 2025
Hilary Hatch	February 2025
Thomas Barker	February 2025
Greg Bernhardt	February 2025

Moderator

Richard Reed	March 2023
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Town Clerk

Julie Delphia	March 2023
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Town Treasurer

Julie Delphia	March 2023
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Selectboard

Diane Benware, Chair (3)	March 2025
Diane Randall (2)	March 2024
Brad Lawes (3)	March 2024
John Rouse (3)	March 2023
Thomas Barker (2)	March 2023

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Jay Michael (3)	November 2023
Donna Swingleton (3)	November 2025
Sarah Jane VonTrapp (3)	November 2024
Jeff McDonough (3)	November 2023
Bill Shouldice (3)	November 2025

Planning Commission

Jay Michael (3)	November 2023
Donna Swingleton – Chair (3)	November 2025
Suki Fredricks (3)	November 2024
Jeff McDonough (3)	November 2023
Bill Shouldice (3)	November 2025

HIRED TOWN OFFICIALS

Administrative Assistant to the Assessor

Dianne Harvey	Hired
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Road Foreman

Arlan Pidgeon	Hired
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Zoning Administrator

Keith Arlund	Hired
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Animal Control Officer

Robbie Devold	Hired
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APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS Term Expires

Cemetery Sexton

Donna Pidgeon	March 2023
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Emergency Management Coordinator

John Rouse	May 2023
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Energy Coordinator

Jeremy Gildrien	May 2023
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First Constable

Jeff McDonough	March 2023
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Forest Fire Warden

Richard C. Nicklaw	June 2023
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Regional Planning Representative

Diane Benware	June 2023
Tom Barker	June 2023

Road Commissioner

Brad Lawes	March 2023
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Second Constable

Mike Rakowitz	March 2023
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Solid Waste Representative

Richard Reed	March 2023
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Tree Warden

Arlan Pidgeon	March 2023
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Health Officer

Chree Perkins	August 2023
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A Drop Box is located under the bulletin board on the front of the Town Office. Payments and correspondence may be placed in the **Drop Box** at any time.

FRONT COVER: Brookside Cemetery, Leicester, VT *Photo by Julie Delphia*

LEICESTER TOWN MEETING WARNING

The legal voters of the Town of Leicester, Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the **Leicester Town Office** in said Town on **March 7, 2023**, between the hours of **10 AM and 7 PM** when the polls will be open to vote by Australian ballot, per H.42(b), on Articles 1-5 below.

The legal voters of the Town of Leicester, Vermont are further notified that the Leicester Selectboard will hold an Informational Meeting on Articles 1-5 on **Monday, March 6, 2023 at 7:00pm** at the Leicester Meeting House.

Article 1: To elect Town Officers for the ensuing year:

- A Moderator for a one (1) year term
- A Selectboard Member for a three (3) year term
- A Selectboard Member for a two (2) year term
- An Auditor for a three (3) year term
- A Delinquent Tax Collector for a one (1) year term
- A Town Clerk for a three (3) year term
- A Town Treasurer for a three (3) year term

Article 2: Shall the voters of the Town of Leicester vote to approve a sum of **\$798,561.66** to defray the necessary expenses and liabilities of the town for the ensuing year, divided as follows:

General Town Expenses	\$ 330,971.66	Amount to be raised by taxes: \$ 200,638.79
Highway Expenses	\$ 467,590.00	Amount to be raised by taxes: \$ 389,680.05

Article 3: Shall the Town of Leicester vote to raise, appropriate, and spend the sum of \$1,000 for the support of Addison County Economic Development Corporation to provide services to residents of the Town?

Article 4: Shall the Town of Leicester appropriate \$1,000 to the Turning Point Center of Addison County for the purpose of supporting its mission to assist persons, their families, and their friends in recover from substance use disorder and addictive behaviors?

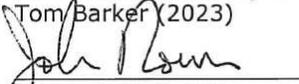
Article 5: Shall the voters appropriate funds to the Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control District (formerly known as the BLSG) to apply adulticide for the purpose of mosquito control?

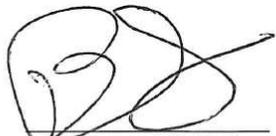
Leicester Selectboard:

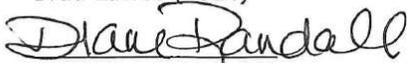

Diane Benware - Chair (2025)

January 30, 2023


Tom Barker (2023)


John Rouse (2023)


Brad Lawes (2024)


Diane Randall (2024)

NOTICE TO VOTERS

BEFORE ELECTION DAY:

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

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

REQUEST EARLY or ABSENTEE BALLOTS: You or a family member can request early or absentee ballots at any time during the year of the election in person, in writing, by telephone, email, or online at mvp.sec.state.vt.us. The latest you can request ballots for the Town Meeting Election is the close of the Town Clerk's office on **March 6, 2023**. (Any other person authorized by you who is not a family member must apply in writing or in person for a ballot for you.)

WAYS TO VOTE YOUR EARLY BALLOT:

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

ON ELECTION DAY:

If your name was dropped from the checklist in error or has not been added even though you submitted a timely application for addition to the checklist, you can fill out a new registration form.

- If the clerk or Board of Civil Authority does not add your name, you can appeal the decision to a superior court judge, who will settle the matter on Election Day. Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-VOTE (439-8683) for more information.

If you are a first-time voter who submitted your application to the checklist individually by mail and did not submit the required document, you must provide a current and valid photo identification, or a bank statement, utility bill, or government document that contains your name/current address.

If you have physical disabilities, are visually impaired or can't read, you may have assistance from any person of your choice. If any voters you know have disabilities let them know they can have assistance from any person of their choice.

If you know voters who cannot get from the car into the polling place let them know that ballot(s) may be brought to their car by two election officials.

If you have any questions or need assistance while voting, ask your town clerk or any election official for help.

NO PERSON SHALL:

- Vote more than once per election, either in the same town or in different towns.
- Mislead the board of civil authority about your own or another person's true residency or other eligibility to vote.
- Hinder or impede a voter going into or from the polling place.
- Socialize in a manner that could disturb other voters in the polling place.
- Offer bribe, threaten or exercise undue influence to dictate or control the vote of another person.

FOR HELP OR INFORMATION: Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-VOTE (439-8683). (Accessible by TDD)

If you believe that any of your voting rights have been violated, you may file an Administrative Complaint with the Secretary of State's Office, 128 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633.

If you believe you have witnessed efforts to commit any kind of fraud or corruption in the voting process, you may report this to your local United States Attorney's Office.

If you have witnessed actual or attempted acts of discrimination or intimidation in the voting process, you may report this to the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice at (800) 253-3931.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTERS using Australian Ballots

CHECK-IN AND RECEIVE BALLOTS: Go to the entrance checklist table. Give name and, if asked, street address to the election official in a loud voice. Wait until your name is repeated and checked off by the official. An election official will give you a ballot. Enter within the guardrail and go to a vacant voting booth.

MARK YOUR BALLOT: For each office listed on the ballot, you will see instructions to "Vote for not more than one, or Vote for not more than two, etc." To vote for a candidate, fill in the oval to the right of the name of the candidate you want to vote for. WRITE-IN candidate(s). To vote for someone whose name is not printed on the ballot, use the blank "write-in" lines on the ballot and either write-in the name or paste on sticker, then fill in the oval.

CHECK OUT: Go to the exit checklist table and state your name in an audible voice. Wait until your name is repeated and checked off by the official.

CAST YOUR VOTE by depositing your voted ballot in "Voted Ballots" box.

LEAVE the voting area immediately by passing outside the guardrail.

LEICESTER FINANCIAL SUMMARY

TOWN RECEIPTS

Balance, Jan. 1, 2022		68,477.14
Selectboard Loans	0.00	
Transfers	<u>164,708.04</u>	
Total Loans & Transfers		164,708.04
Current Taxes for Town & School	2,493,460.06	
Delinquent Taxes, Interest & Penalty	265,485.62	
Zoning Fees	2,525.00	
Licenses & Fines	2,587.57	
Tax Allocation	642,000.00	
Grants	8,747.00	
Tax Sale Income from fees	10,017.52	
Other	31,202.33	
Total Income		<u>3,456,025.10</u>
TOTAL TOWN RECEIPTS		3,689,210.28

TOWN DISBURSEMENTS

Loan Repayment	0.00	
Transfers to Restricted Funds	182,305.77	
Schools	2,541,882.76	
Tax Allocation for State	512,000.00	
Payments covered by Restricted Funds	12,056.77	
Selectboard Orders & Appropriations	<u>320,747.11</u>	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		3,568,992.41
Ending Balance Dec 31, 2022		<u>120,217.87</u>

LEICESTER HIGHWAY SUMMARY

HIGHWAY RECEIPTS

Balance Jan 1, 2022		25,426.58
Transfers	97,038.96	
Current Taxes for Highway	347,913.42	
Weight Permits	740.00	
State Aid - Highway	73,578.05	
Reimbursement Income & FEMA	0.00	
Grants	<u>4,106.00</u>	
Total Income		<u>523,376.43</u>
TOTAL HIGHWAY RECEIPTS		548,803.01

HIGHWAY DISBURSEMENTS

Transfer to Restricted Funds	40,000.00	
Selectboard Orders	<u>496,493.06</u>	
TOTAL HIGHWAY DISBURSEMENTS		<u>536,493.06</u>
Ending Balance Dec 31, 2022		12,309.95

STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED

Tax Rate:	Homestead		Non-residential	
Town	0.1344		0.1344	
Town Highway	0.1887		0.1887	
Veteran Exemption	0.0014		0.0014	
Education	1.3699		1.5716	
Total Tax Rate	1.6944		1.8961	
Grand List	1,843,444.00			
Taxes billed:				
Town	1,843,444.00	x	0.1344	247,759.02
Highway	1,843,444.00	x	0.1887	347,857.90
				595,616.92
Education Taxes:				
Veteran's Exemp.	1,843,444.00	x	0.0014	2,580.76
Homestead	809,186.00	x	1.3699	1,108,503.93
Non-Residential	1,038,469.99	x	1.5716	1,632,059.44
				2,743,144.13
Total Taxes Billed				3,338,761.05
Less State Rebates				331,765.74
Balance to be collected				3,006,995.31
Taxes Accounted for as Follows:				
2022 Current Taxes				2,838,843.08
2022 Payments from Previous Year				939.12
2022 Delinquent Collected				104,764.95
2022 Delinquents Outstanding				62,448.16
Total				3,006,995.31

**% of Property Tax Town vs. Education
Homestead Property Tax Bill**

	2022	2021	2020	2019
Town & Highway	19.1%	18.8%	19.9%	20.2%
Education Homestead	80.9%	81.2%	80.1%	80.7%

**% of Property Tax Town vs. Education
Non-Residential Property Tax Bill**

	2022	2021	2020	2019
Town & Highway	17.0%	16.4%	17.5%	17.1%
Education Non-Residential	83.0%	83.6%	82.5%	82.9%

BUDGET

TOWN OF LEICESTER

SELECTBOARD TOWN RECEIPTS

ACCOUNT	2021 ACTUAL	2022 BUDGET	2022 ACTUAL	2023 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Balance in General Fund	11,655.42	68,477.14	68,477.14	120,217.87	After receivables/payables
Loans and Transfers:					
Selectmen's Loans	25,000.00				Tax Anticipation Loan
Transfer from Restricted Funds	2,473.76		164,708.04		See Funds Page 16
Tax Account Allocation Refund	530,000.00		642,000.00		Allocated for State Ed pmt
Grants & State Direct Deposits					
Grant Income	22,914.00		8,747.00		See Grant Info Page 21
State DD Reappraisal Fund	6,689.50		6,689.50		See Funds Page 16
TOTAL LOANS AND TRANSFERS	587,077.26	0.00	822,144.54	0.00	
Fines, Fees & Licenses:					
Civil Fines from Sheriff Patrol	681.50		79.57		Register your dog by April 1st See report page 21
Dog Licenses / Fines	2,261.00	2,100.00	2,443.00	2,200.00	
License - Liquor / Junkyard	65.00	65.00	65.00	65.00	
TOTAL FINES, FEES, & LICENSES	3,007.50	2,165.00	2,587.57	2,265.00	
Taxes:					
Current Taxes - Town	289,275.26		247,683.50		
Current Taxes - Education	2,338,012.58		2,245,158.85		
Tax prepayments	939.12		617.71		
Current Use	11,911.00		10,443.00		
Delinquent Taxes, Interest, Penalties, Tax Sale Principal & Penalty Revenue	162,606.57		265,485.62		Penalty pays DTC, Tax Sale Principal & Penalty Included
Education Tax True-Up/Municipal Adj	5,269.00		2,904.31		
Tax Sale Charges Revenue			10,017.52		Offset Tax Sale Expense
Railroad Tax	381.61	350.00	381.61	350.00	
Fed Bureau Land Mgt - PILOT	7,989.00	7,000.00	8,181.17	7,500.00	
TOTAL TAXES	2,816,384.14	7,350.00	2,790,873.29	7,850.00	
Zoning:					
Zoning Permit Fees	2,325.00		2,525.00		Fees offset Zoning expense
TOTAL ZONING	2,325.00	0.00	2,525.00	0.00	
Other Income:					
Reimbursement: Insurance	1,618.00		1,001.00		
Interest on Checking	1,686.40		1,526.87		
Rental of Town Hall/Meeting House			35.00		
Other	66.45		39.87		
TOTAL OTHER	3,370.85	0.00	2,602.74	0.00	
TOTAL TOWN RECEIPTS	3,423,820.17	77,992.14	3,689,210.28	130,332.87	

TOWN OF LEICESTER

SELECTBOARD TOWN DISBURSEMENTS

ACCOUNT	2021 ACTUAL	2022 BUDGET	2022 ACTUAL	2023 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Loans:					
Loan Payments	25,000.00				Tax Anticipation Loan
Transfers:					
Transfer to Building Repair Fund	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	See Funds Page 16
Transfer to Clerk Education/Software	802.00		965.00		See Funds Page 16
Transfer to Cemetery Fund	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	See Funds Page 16
Transfer to Municipal Expense Fund			152,651.27		See Funds Page 16
Transfer to Professional Audit Fund	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	See Funds Page 16
Transfer to Reappraisal Fund	11,689.50	5,000.00	11,689.50	5,000.00	See Funds Page 16
Transfer to Records Restoration	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	See Funds Page 16
Allocated Funds:					
Transfer to Tax Account	642,000.00		512,000.00		State Education Tax Pmt
Payments covered by Restricted Fund Transfers:					
Audit			8,900.00		See Funds Page 16
Reappraisal	553.76				See Funds Page 16
Records Restoration	1,920.00		3,156.77		See Funds Page 16
LOANS AND TRANSFERS TOTAL	698,965.26	22,000.00	706,362.54	22,000.00	

TOWN OF LEICESTER

SELECTBOARD TOWN DISBURSEMENTS

ACCOUNT	2021 ACTUAL	2022 BUDGET	2022 ACTUAL	2023 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Auditing:		1,000.00		1,000.00	
Salaries	363.75		581.25		
AUDITING TOTAL	363.75	1,000.00	581.25	1,000.00	
Selectboard:		4,000.00		4,000.00	Rate set by Auditors
Diane Benware, Chair	1,000.00		1,000.00		
Brad Lawes	750.00		750.00		
Ron Fiske	750.00		750.00		
John Rouse	750.00		750.00		
Tom Barker	750.00		750.00		
Selectboard Secretary	2,160.00	2,200.00	2,160.00	2,200.00	
SELECTBOARD TOTAL	6,160.00	6,200.00	6,160.00	6,200.00	
Listing:		3,000.00		2,500.00	
Salaries	2,208.75		1,833.75		
Consulting	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	Contract with NEMRC
Tax Map Update	1,675.00	3,512.00	1,675.00	2,000.00	Update & Maintain Maps
LISTING TOTAL	9,883.75	12,512.00	9,508.75	10,500.00	
Recycling:					
Solid Waste	13,045.08	13,408.56	13,408.56	15,400.56	
RECYCLING TOTAL	13,045.08	13,408.56	13,408.56	15,400.56	
Buildings Expenses:		10,000.00		10,000.00	See Funds Page 16
Meeting House					
Town Office	150.00		172.00		
Town Hall					
Fuel:					
Meeting House	2,992.43	3,000.00	4,004.83	4,000.00	
Town Hall	1,144.10	1,000.00	1,092.58	1,100.00	
Grounds Care:					
Cemetery	5,450.00	6,000.00	5,950.00	6,000.00	
Office ,Town Green, Fern Lake Access	6,405.00	6,000.00	5,520.00	6,000.00	
TOTAL BLDGS & GRNDS EXPENSES	16,141.53	26,000.00	16,739.41	27,100.00	
<i>Note: Clerk fees for recording, vault usage, and licenses are set by State Statute. Depending upon the types of transactions, total fees collected can vary greatly year to year. These fees are paid by individuals or firms based on the statute fee schedule posted at the Town Office. Fees collected not otherwise identified in this report, were \$21,905.</i>					
Town Clerk / Treasurer / Assistant:					
Town Clerk, Julie Delphia	11,000.00	11,000.00	11,000.00	11,000.00	
Treasurer, Julie Delphia	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	
Clerk / Treasurer Training	198.00	1,000.00	35.00	1,000.00	See Funds Page 16
Assistant	1,653.75	4,250.00	1,886.25	4,250.00	
CLERK / TREAS / ASSIST TOTAL	24,851.75	28,250.00	24,921.25	28,250.00	
Office Expenses:					
Cleaning Services	549.00	600.00	599.00	600.00	
Cleaning Supplies	45.28	200.00	70.73	200.00	
Computer Tech Support / License	2,874.38	2,000.00	1,848.06	2,000.00	
Copier	1,565.40	1,500.00	1,287.60	1,500.00	
Office Supplies	2,968.72	3,000.00	2,963.10	3,000.00	
Postage	2,092.50	2,400.00	2,489.82	2,900.00	
Printing	2,565.00	2,500.00	2,539.62	2,500.00	
Town Web Page	570.00	600.00	790.00	800.00	
Disaster Recovery / Maintenance:					
NEMRC Annual Support	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	NEMRC Contract
NEMRC Disaster Recovery Contract	1,343.92	1,500.00	1,384.24	1,500.00	NEMRC Contract
Monthly IT Maintenance & Security	3,300.00	3,300.00	3,300.00	3,300.00	Annual Maintenance Contract
TOTAL OFFICE EXPENSES	22,874.20	22,600.00	22,272.17	23,300.00	

TOWN OF LEICESTER

SELECTBOARD TOWN DISBURSEMENTS

ACCOUNT	2021 ACTUAL	2022 BUDGET	2022 ACTUAL	2023 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Insurance:					
Property & Casualty	11,584.00	11,757.00	9,147.25	11,517.00	Figures are actuals for 2022
Workman's Comp	4,223.00	4,281.00	3,216.75	4,554.00	Figures are actuals for 2022
INSURANCE TOTAL	15,807.00	16,038.00	12,364.00	16,071.00	
Zoning:					
Zoning Administrator	1,635.00	1,500.00	2,070.00	1,500.00	Part/Offset by zoning fees
LHMP Match Fee		2,537.50		2,537.50	Town Match. See page 17
Recording Fees	480.00		345.00		
Printing	148.38	500.00	226.02	500.00	
Secretary	315.00	500.00	456.25	500.00	
ZONING TOTAL	2,578.38	5,037.50	3,097.27	5,037.50	
Utilities:					
Electricity	4,278.80	5,000.00	4,086.14	5,000.00	
Telephone	2,034.92	2,000.00	2,845.40	3,000.00	
UTILITIES TOTAL	6,313.72	7,000.00	6,931.54	8,000.00	
Public Safety:					
Addison County Humane Society	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	Annual Contract
Law Enforcement Expenses	121.26	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	
Animal Control	213.75	750.00	450.00	750.00	
<i>Dog Licenses - Tags</i>	146.84		149.86		<i>Covered by Dog Income</i>
<i>Dog Licenses - State Fees</i>	1,020.00		1,025.00		<i>Covered by Dog Income</i>
<i>Dog Licenses - Clerk Fees</i>	388.00		410.00		<i>Covered by Dog Income</i>
Fire Protection Contract - BFD	44,000.00	44,000.00	44,000.00	44,000.00	
Fire Warden - Richard Nicklaw	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	
Health Officers	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	46,939.85	46,800.00	47,084.86	46,800.00	
Other Expenses:					
Trash Removal - Bullock Rd		150.00		150.00	
<i>Delinquent Tax Collector - Beth Ripley</i>	9,733.41		18,325.14		<i>Covered by DTC penalty</i>
Elections / Payroll & Supplies	963.00	2,100.00	2,784.63	1,500.00	
Grants: Milfoil Grant to LDFLA	22,914.00		8,747.00		See Grant Info Page 21
Grant Administration	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	
Interest / Bank Fees	379.38				
Tax Sales Legal & Recording Fees			11,534.46		Offset by Tax Sale Income
Legal Fees	3,422.08	5,000.00	3,833.13	5,000.00	
Miscellaneous	1,686.21	200.00	106.25	200.00	
Town Moderator	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	
Payroll Liability:					
Payroll Tax Liability - FICA / Medicare	9,552.11	10,000.00	11,677.86	12,000.00	
Workshops / Training - Town Officers	48.00	500.00	0.00	500.00	
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES	49,348.19	18,600.00	57,658.47	20,000.00	
Assessments:					
Addison County Humane Society	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	Animal Holding Facility
Addison County Regional Planning	1,425.60	1,336.50	1,336.50	1,366.20	On per capita basis
Addison County Tax	9,390.95	10,636.00	10,426.00	10,874.32	County tax
American Red Cross	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	
Brandon Area Rescue Squad	5,125.00	19,800.00	19,800.00	19,800.00	
Brandon Library	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	
Green - Up Vermont	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	Reports can be found starting on page 25.
Otter Creek Watershed Insect CD	24,574.00	24,574.00	24,574.00	25,314.00	
Lake Dunmore / Fern Lake Assoc	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	
Vermont League of Cities & Towns	2,435.00	2,327.00	2,327.00	2,402.00	Municipal Assistance Center
TOTAL ASSESSMENTS	72,050.55	87,773.50	87,563.50	88,856.52	

TOWN OF LEICESTER

SELECTBOARD TOWN DISBURSEMENTS

ACCOUNT	2021 ACTUAL	2022 BUDGET	2022 ACTUAL	2023 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Appropriations					Requests on file at TC
Addison Country Restorative Justice	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	Reports can be found starting on page 25.
Addison Country Readers	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	
Addison County Home Health Care	1,138.00	1,138.00	1,138.00	1,138.00	
Addison County Parent/Child Center	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	
Addison County RSVP	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	
Addison County Transit Resources	1,885.00	1,885.00	1,885.00	1,885.00	
Agewell formerly CVAA	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.00	
Counseling Service of Addison County	1,050.00	1,050.00	1,050.00	1,050.00	
Elderly Services Inc.	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	
HOPE formerly ACCAG	1,300.00	1,300.00	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Hospice Volunteer Services	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
John W. Graham Emergency Shelter	725.00	725.00	725.00	725.00	
Open Door Clinic	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	
Otter Creek Natural Resources	113.08	113.08	113.08	113.08	
Rutland County Parent/Child Center	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	
Vermont Adult Learning	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00	
Vermont CARES - Aids Research	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	
VT Center for Independent Living	145.00	145.00	145.00	145.00	
Women in Crisis - Women Safe	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	12,956.08	12,456.08	12,456.08	12,456.08	
TOTAL GENERAL EXPENSES	299,313.83	303,675.64	320,747.11	308,971.66	
OTTER VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL	1,194,179.82		1,411,167.00		
STATE EDUCATION TAX	1,162,884.12		1,130,715.76		
TOTAL TOWN DISBURSEMENTS	3,355,343.03	325,675.64	3,568,992.41	330,971.66	

TOWN OF LEICESTER

SELECTBOARD HIGHWAY RECEIPTS

ACCOUNT	2021 ACTUAL	2022 BUDGET	2022 ACTUAL	2023 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Balance in Highway Fund	75,393.30	25,426.58	25,426.58	12,309.95	Includes Accts Receivable
Accounts Receivable - Highway Grant	155,372.36				Highway Grant Revenue
Transfers and Loans					
Transfer from Bridge/Culvert Fund			78,046.52		See Funds Page 16
Transfer From Equipment Fund					See Funds Page 16
Transfer from Highway Fund			18,992.44		See Funds Page 16
TOTAL TRANSFERS AND LOANS	155,372.36	0.00	97,038.96	0.00	
Agency of Transportation Highway Aid	72,645.09	63,000.00	73,578.05	65,000.00	
State Highway Grant	13,660.00		4,106.00		
Current Taxes to Highway Fund	296,946.70		347,913.42		
Reimbursement - Highway	1,777.00				
Road Permits	670.00	250.00	740.00	600.00	
TOTAL HIGHWAY RECEIPTS	616,464.45	88,676.58	548,803.01	77,909.95	

TOWN OF LEICESTER

SELECTBOARD HIGHWAY DISBURSEMENTS

ACCOUNT	2021 ACTUAL	2022 BUDGET	2022 ACTUAL	2023 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Loans and Transfers:					
Transfer to Highway Fund				20,000.00	See Funds Page 16
Transfer to Culvert/bridge	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00		See Funds Page 16
Transfer to Equipment Fund	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	See Funds Page 16
Allocate for Shed Roof & Furnace					
TOTAL TRANSFERS	40,000.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	

TOWN OF LEICESTER

SELECTBOARD HIGHWAY DISBURSEMENTS

ACCOUNT	2021 ACTUAL	2022 BUDGET	2022 ACTUAL	2023 BUDGET	COMMENTS
Equipment Repairs:		10,000.00		10,000.00	
Loader	775.59		264.88		
Plow & Wing - Shoes/Blades/Parts	10,283.96		30.95		
Sander	123.16		473.24		
Chains & Miscellaneous Parts			1,933.48		
Truck	205.08		186.23		
TOTAL EQUIPMENT REPAIRS	11,387.79	10,000.00	2,888.78	10,000.00	
Highway Purchases:					
Loader					
Fenders	2,390.00				
TOTAL HIGHWAY PURCHASES	2,390.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Highway Grants:					
OJR Bridge/Culvert	8,383.48		53,671.40		See Funds Page 16
Haybale Shredder	7,300.00				
TOTAL HIGHWAY GRANTS	15,683.48	0.00	53,671.40	0.00	
Equipment Rental:		105,000.00		115,000.00	
Other	1,034.29		1,170.00		
Arlan Pidgeon	90,826.00		116,853.00		
TOTAL EQUIPMENT RENTAL	91,860.29	105,000.00	118,023.00	115,000.00	
Materials:		95,000.00		95,000.00	
Chloride	11,359.32		6,545.00		
Sand, Stone & Gravel	14,309.95		25,801.89		
Salt	30,992.83		42,959.41		
Winter Sand	18,843.54		16,022.98		
TOTAL MATERIALS	75,505.64	95,000.00	91,329.28	95,000.00	
General Highway Expenses:					
MRPG Annual Fee	1,350.00	1,590.00	1,350.00	1,590.00	Annual Fees
Bridge Drain Cleaning	250.00	250.00	0.00	250.00	
Culverts	2,190.00	2,500.00	14,886.15	2,500.00	
Fuels, Oil, Antifreeze - Loader	832.02	2,000.00	3,765.77	3,000.00	
Green-up Removal	600.00	600.00	575.00	600.00	
Miscellaneous	3,007.05	1,000.00	2,475.67	2,000.00	beavers, mulch, etc.
Fuel Surcharge			3,617.75	4,000.00	
Resurfacing	273,551.55	100,000.00	118,992.44	100,000.00	
Roadside Mowing	8,050.00	8,900.00	8,497.00	8,900.00	
Signs	6,877.48	1,000.00	811.82	1,000.00	
Town Shed Furnace Fuel	2,306.74	2,000.00	2,633.19	2,500.00	
Town Shed Repair		250.00	1,890.00	250.00	
Town Shed Repair / Electricity	647.83	1,500.00	701.31	1,000.00	
TOTAL GENERAL EXPENSES	299,662.67	121,590.00	160,196.10	127,590.00	
Payroll:		65,000.00		80,000.00	
Arlan Pidgeon	24,575.00		32,012.50		
Scott Pidgeon	19,488.00		23,076.00		
Steven Morrison	4,181.00		2,360.00		
Richard LaPorte			140.00		
Terry Muzzy	3,472.00		2,970.00		
Cameron New			8,690.00		
Richard Malinowski Jr			260.00		
Robert Charbonneau	960.00		120.00		
Tom Barker	1,872.00		756.00		
TOTAL PAYROLL	54,548.00	65,000.00	70,384.50	80,000.00	
TOTAL HIGHWAY DISBURSEMENTS	591,037.87	436,590.00	536,493.06	467,590.00	

COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	TOWN		HIGHWAY	
	1/1/2022	12/31/2022	1/1/2022	12/31/2022
ASSETS:				
Checking	68,477.14	120,217.87	25,426.58	12,309.95
Total Delinquent Taxes	177,602.99	84,555.75		
Restricted Funds	420,301.26	601,109.66	424,570.09	368,381.70
Allocated Funds	642,000.00	512,000.00		
Equipment			202,505.00	202,505.00
Buildings & Improvements	94,402.00	94,402.00	51,975.00	51,975.00
Land & Improvements	605.00			
Highway/Culverts/Bridges			4,696,066.00	4,812,386.00
TOTAL ASSETS	1,403,388.39	1,412,285.28	5,400,542.67	5,447,557.65
 ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATIONS				
Equipment			93,245.00	115,746.00
Buildings	31,000.00	33,444.00	32,107.00	32,663.00
Highways/Culverts/Bridges			3,108,924.00	3,338,838.00
	31,100.00	33,444.00	3,234,276.00	3,487,247.00
Assets less Depreciation	1,372,288.39	1,378,841.28	2,166,266.67	1,960,310.65
 LIABILITIES:				
Loans, short term	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Loans, long term	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Payroll Liabilities	12,382.52	10,707.07	0.00	0.00
Accounts Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	12,382.52	10,707.07	0.00	0.00
 TOTALS	 1,359,905.87	 1,368,134.21	 2,162,982.39	 1,960,310.65

AUDITORS' REPORT

We, the elected Auditors for the Town of Leicester, in accordance with VSA 24 § 1681, have examined the accounts and records of the Town for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. To the best of our knowledge and belief, these records present a fair and accurate accounting of Leicester's financial activities.

As in previous years, the Auditors wish to express our appreciation to Julie Delphia for her assistance in making this examination possible and for the energy she puts into compiling nearly all the information that you see in this Town Report. The detailed and accurate manner in which the Town's financial records are kept makes our job much easier.

Deb Miner, Chair
Donna Pidgeon
Rolande Morrison

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

In April, we held a multi parcel tax sale that was very successful in reducing our outstanding delinquent taxes. It's important to remember that delinquent taxes cause shortfalls in Town revenue which can create the need to borrow money to pay for Town expenses.

With the full support of the Selectboard, I will be looking to do future tax sales to minimize our delinquent taxes. Taxes over 6 months delinquent may be considered for a tax sale. If you are currently delinquent, please take this into consideration and contact me to make acceptable payment arrangements at (802) 247-0075.

If you are struggling to pay your delinquent taxes, please contact the Vermont Housing Financing Agency's Vermont Homeowner Assistance Program (vhfa.org or (833) 221-4208) to see if they can help you.

Please contact me with any questions or to make payment arrangements at (802) 247-0075.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Swington Ripley, Delinquent Tax Collector

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR'S POLICY

Town of Leicester

1. All payments made on or before November 15 will be timely. After November 15, they will be considered delinquent and subject to interest and fees.
2. It is requested that all back taxes be paid before current taxes are paid.
3. **Partial payments will be taken at the tax collector's discretion, and the payment must be large enough to pay off the delinquent tax before the next current tax is due. Payments will be applied to interest and fee first, and the remainder on the tax.**
4. Bills will be sent out on a monthly basis.
5. No post-dated checks will be accepted.
6. All bad checks will be prosecuted, if not made good in ten (10) days.
7. **Accounts 6 months delinquent can be sold at a tax sale at the discretion of the delinquent tax collector.**
8. All payments must be paid to the delinquent tax collector or the treasurer.
9. All taxpayers must notify the town of a change of address, in state or out of state, in a timely manner.
10. No mobile home can be sold or moved unless all taxes are paid and a transfer filed at the town office. The owner and mover can be fined.

COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT TAXES

<u>Year</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Penalty</u>	<u>Tax</u>	<u>Total</u>
2013	291.49	22.66	283.22	597.37
2014	271.18	33.21	298.32	602.71
2015	1,286.49	156.16	2,576.18	4,018.83
2016	4,810.29	540.84	6,901.38	12,252.51
2017	5,178.42	831.64	10,347.60	16,357.66
2018	5,213.04	990.09	12,375.91	18,579.04
2019	3,538.83	939.60	11,745.03	16,223.46
2020	2,239.04	1,063.40	13,219.37	16,521.81
2021	3,900.06	5,347.37	56,763.37	66,010.80
2022	1,156.31	8,400.17	104,764.95	114,321.43
TOTAL	27,885.15	18,325.14	219,275.33	265,485.62

DELINQUENT TAX LIST

Atwood, Duane
 Carroll, Richard & Veronica
 Carroll, Veronica
 Clark, Timothy
 Corbett, Helen
 Cram, Leonard & Sandra
 Cram, Walter
 Currier, Florence
 Currier, Scott Estate
 Davidman, Marilyn
 Disorda, Jess & Johanna
 Fitzgerald, Suzanne
 Foley, Dakota
 Foley, Jacqueline
 Forrest, Leon
 Fyles, Michelle
 Gearwar, David & Melissa
 Hector, Eric
 Isabelle, Barbara Estate
 Jackson, William
 Johnson, Tammy
 Lafave, Scott
 Lanpher, Larry
 Lanpher, Larry Jr
 Lopez, Juan
 Lounsbury, Daniel
 Maranville, James
 Marcille, Roger & Joan
 McAtee Brenda

Michaels, Christopher
 Newton, Nora
 Orum, Samantha
 Pizzi, Samantha
 Quenneville, Matthew & Erica
 Severy, Robert
 Skidmore, William M
 Statewide Corporation
 Sumner, Christopher & Jessica
 Taylor, Jess & Tina
 Thompson, Melissa
 Witherbee, Michelle

*Per Vermont Statute 32 V.S.A. § 3102.
 Confidentiality of tax records, we are no
 longer able to publish individual tax
 amounts owed in the Town Report.*

**Total Delinquent Taxes:
 \$84,555.75**

**Total Delinquent Interest:
 \$11,165.47**

**Total Delinquent Penalty:
 \$6,781.03**

**Total Delinquent Due:
 \$102,502.25**

RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance 01/01/22	Deposits 2022	Interest 2022	Withdrawn 2022	Balance 12/31/22
TOWN					
Savings:					
American Rescue Act Fund (5)	162,316.83	162,393.38	0.00	152,651.27	172,058.94
Building Repair Fund (1)	7,183.62	5,000.00	14.46	0.00	12,198.08
Cemetery Fund (1)	41,385.24	5,300.00	83.49	0.00	46,768.73
Clerk Training & Software (1)	15,243.51	965.00	30.53	0.00	16,239.04
Glebe Land Fund	6,426.86	0.00	12.87	0.00	6,439.73
Honor Roll Fund	115.43	0.00	0.23	0.00	115.66
Lister Education Fund	2,944.77	0.00	5.89	0.00	2,950.66
Municipal Expense Fund (5)	0.00	152,651.27	0.00	0.00	152,651.27
Professional Audit Fund (1)(6)	11,704.59	2,000.00	23.32	8,900.00	4,827.91
Reappraisal Account (1)(2)(3)	130,060.82	11,689.50	260.55	0.00	142,010.87
Record Rest/Maint Fund (1)(4)	42,356.68	5,000.00	84.82	3,156.77	44,284.73
Solid Waste Fund	562.91	0.00	1.13	0.00	564.04
Town Total	257,984.43	344,999.15	517.29	164,708.04	601,109.66
HIGHWAY					
Savings:					
Culverts	2,696.95	0.00	5.39	0.00	2,702.34
Ditching Fund	14,371.83	0.00	28.77	0.00	14,400.60
Equipment Fund (1)	137,277.10	20,000.00	275.13	0.00	157,552.23
Land/building Acq - Garage	58,433.86	0.00	116.98	0.00	58,550.84
Road/Highway Fund (7)	69,778.46	0.00	424.30	16,980.55	53,222.21
- Bridge/Culvert Reserve (1)	140,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	78,046.52	81,953.48
- Paving Reserve (7)	2,011.89	0.00	0.00	2,011.89	0.00
Highway Total	424,570.09	40,000.00	850.57	97,038.96	368,381.70

Explanation of changes to Restricted Funds:

- 1 Transfer budget/budget balance from GF
- 2 Transfer State reappraisal payment
- 3 Offset Reappraisal cost
- 4 Offset RecordHub cost & Maintenance
- 5 The Selectboard has worked diligently with the advice of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns to use American Rescue Plan Act funds in a way to best benefit the Town. The Selectboard used funds in 2022 to cover payroll. This allowed for the creation of a Municipal Expense Fund in an equal amount. The Municipal Expense Fund will allow the Town to plan for future expenses without having a direct effect on taxes.
- 6 Professional Audit
- 7 Paving costs above budget

SELECTBOARD REPORT

The keyword for 2022 was patience. The Christmas weekend storm called for patience as we awaited the resumption of electricity and for roadways to be cleared of trees and debris. Residents on the west side of town needed to exercise patience as they awaited the re-opening of Old Jerusalem Road. Supply chain issues and having to wait for improving weather delayed the anticipated opening. The road officially opened on November 7, after over a month of delays.

As we think of Town Meeting for 2022, the Selectboard has planned an in-person informational meeting for Monday evening, March 6, at the Leicester Meeting House, to discuss items on the Warning. Australian ballot voting for the budget for the 2023 town and the highway expenses as well as voting for candidates for town office and new petition requests will occur the next day, Tuesday, March 7, from 10 am to 7 pm at the Town Office.

Using local funds, paving was done this year, on Swington Hill Road, from the town line to the junction with Leicester Whiting Road. For 2023, we plan to pave on Fernville Road and possibly resurfacing the paved portion of Old Jerusalem Road.

We continue to seek grant funds from AOT, handled by ACRPC, to replace culverts make road improvements, on Hooker Road, under the State's Municipal Roads General Permit.

A delinquent tax sale was conducted in 2022, the first in years, with the full support of the Selectboard. Legal costs associated with the sale were offset by penalties and fees associated with the delinquent taxes. See pages 14-15 for further details about delinquent taxes.

As we worked on budget details, the board has attempted to balance the needs of the community while dealing with rising costs. The Meeting House is in serious need of maintenance; sills and storm windows need replacement. The Selectboard will be investigating if there are any grant sources to assist with meeting the costs.

A subcommittee comprised of Selectboard members Diane Benware and Brad Lawes, as well as DRB member Donna Swington and Jeremy Gildrien is updating the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, with the assistance of Andrew L'Roe, of ACRPC. This update is required every five years. In addition, the DRB and the Planning Commission will be meeting to review and update our Zoning Bylaws and Town Plan to make sure the bylaws and regulations meet or exceed standards needed to continue to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program. This is part of a long-awaited update of Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM). All of the above is necessary if the town is to receive the maximum reimbursement from FEMA, in the event of a disaster.

In order for the town to function effectively, a great deal of work goes on behind the scenes. Town Clerk, Julie Delphia, is the key figure in keeping things running smoothly. The Selectboard is deeply indebted to her for her commitment to this town, her pleasant manner, and attention to detail. She compiles the Town Report for your review, with assistance from the auditors. In 2022 Diane Randall joined the Selectboard, replacing Ron Fiske. Our former Animal Control Officer, Jahnu Gibbs, has been replaced by Robbie Devoid of Salisbury, who serves as Animal Control Officer for both towns. Sandy Trombley is the Selectboard secretary. We are grateful for their support.

Arlan and the road crew work under varying, and sometimes challenging, conditions, to keep the roads clear and safe for travel. We deeply appreciate the efforts of the road crew.

In 2022, 100% of Leicester's roads were cleaned up for Green Up Day, one of the few towns in the area to have such a record. We are hoping for a repeat of the efforts in 2023. Green Up Day this year is Saturday, May 6, 2023. A free luncheon for volunteers will be held that day from 11:30 to 1:00 at the Senior Center, to be followed by a raffle. To become involved, or for more information, contact Diane at 802-458-7234.

We continue to seek land upon which to build a new town shed and covered sand/salt pile that meets state expectations. If you, or someone you know, has land for sale that might meet our needs, please contact a Selectboard member.

The Selectboard meets the first and third Monday of each month at the Town Office, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Diane Benware, Chair
John Rouse

Tom Barker
Brad Lawes

Diane Randall

ROADS MAINTENANCE POLICY

The Town of Leicester attempts to keep town roads safe and clear for traffic all year. Winter road maintenance can be a challenge. The practice is to keep roads passable and clear if at all possible. One challenge involves the placement of objects within the Town's Right of Way. In most cases, the road in front of a property is a public highway in which the town owns an easement, a right to use the land for highway purposes. This easement is a public Right of Way (ROW) that is typically 3 rods wide (49.5 feet). The town has a Right of Way that extends 24 feet 9 inches on either side of the center line of the highway. In the Town of Leicester, road Right of Ways can vary in width from 2 to 5 rods, (33 to 82.5 feet). The Selectboard ultimately controls this ROW.

Within this Right of Way, the Town may do work without having to ask landowner permission. Work may include, but not be limited to, trimming or removing trees or brush, repairing and expanding road shoulders, grading lawn edges to maintain road width, work on the shoulder of the road.

Legally, a resident must receive permission from the Town if one plans to build or place something in the ROW. Title 19, chapter 11, section 1111 of the Vermont Statutes "prohibits the encroachment of the Town ROW without prior approval from the Selectboard."

The Leicester Selectboard warns that objects in the ROW are placed there at the owner's risk and the Town assumes no responsibility for damage to objects placed in the Town's Right of Way. This may include, but is not limited to trees, fences, flower boxes/pots/beds, mailboxes, etc. Further, the Town will pursue recovery of damage to Town equipment that may occur during road maintenance practices due to the placement of objects in the ROW.

Warned Dec. 3, 2012 Initial Adoption Dec. 17, 2012 Formally Adopted with Revisions Jan. 7, 2013

DATES TO REMEMBER



- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| MARCH 01, 2023 | OVUUSD INFORMATIONAL MEETING.
<i>CONTACT RNESU FOR INFO</i> |
| MARCH 6, 2023 | TOWN MEETING |
| MARCH 7, 2023 | TOWN MEETING VOTE TOWN OFFICE 10AM - 7PM |
| MARCH 21, 2023 | RABIES CLINIC \$20 TOWN OFFICE 5-6PM |
| APRIL 1, 2023 | DOG LICENSES DUE (SEE PAGE 20) |
| MAY 6, 2023 | GREEN UP DAY |
| NOVEMBER 15, 2023 | TAXES DUE |

CLERK & TREASURER REPORT

2022 was another very busy year for the Clerk/Treasurer's Office.

We had three elections which all went well. I am super fortunate to have well trained and responsible election officials. I cannot thank them enough for all their hours of dedications and hard work.

The Old Jerusalem Road Bridge project took on a life of its own. Weather and supply chain issues lead to unforeseen delays in its opening, but the new bridge looks fantastic! Thanks to everyone for their unending patience during all the delays.



Our five year audit went great. The audit firm audited the 2020 books which included all the craziness of COVID and the multitude of COVID grants we received. Everything looked great, and they signed off with no issues or concerns. Audit documents are available at the Town Office for anyone that would like to see them.

We supported Beth Ripley, the Delinquent Tax Collector, in facilitating the first tax sale in several years and it was a huge success! The sale was able to make significant headway in minimizing our outstanding delinquents.

Properties in Town have been selling far above their assessments. This is having a direct impact on our CLA. Given that and the fact that we've had an influx of new landowners over the past couple years, I decided to do some FAQs again.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. How does the town calculate my taxes?

A: Taxes are determined by several factors. Town/Highway taxes are based on the budget and account for less than 20% of your total tax bill. The remainder is education tax. This rate is provided by the state based on state education calculations, the school budget, your homestead status, and the Common Level of Appraisal (CLA). The state education rate and the town/highway rates are calculated against your assessment and your tax bill is created.

Q. What is Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)?

A: CLA is a calculation that determines whether the town is over or under appraised. This calculation is based on qualifying sales for the prior three-year period and affects the education tax rate accordingly. Contact the Assessor's Office for more information.

Q: What if I think my assessment is wrong?

A: If you think your assessment is incorrect, you should contact the Assessor's Office. They can give you more information on the criteria that can be considered and the timeline for filing grievances.

Q: When do taxes become delinquent? How is the penalty and fee determined? When do they go in the Town Report?

A: Taxes become delinquent at midnight on November 15th. We do not accept postmarks. The delinquent taxes are then turned over to the Delinquent Tax Collector who assesses an 8% penalty and 1% interest. They then receive another 1% interest on the base amount on the 15th of every month they continue to be delinquent. Taxes that are still delinquent at midnight on December 31st go into the town report. For more information, contact the Delinquent Tax Collector, Beth Ripley, at 802-247-0075.

Q: What if I can't make it in during office hours?

A: If you can't make it in during regular hours and need to drop something *off*, please use the **drop box** located under the bulletin board. If you need to come in the office, you can make an appointment that better suits your schedule. Call me and we'll work out a time.

Q: Do I need a permit for? What's the zoning regulation for?

A: If you have a question regarding fire permits, please contact Ricky Nicklaw, Fire Warden at 247-8357. If you have a question regarding zoning ordinances or permits, please contact Keith Arlund, Zoning Administrator, at 802-465-8098 or zoning@leicestervt.gov to set up an appointment.

Q: Why did you mail me my ballot when I didn't ask you to?

A: The Town did not mail general election ballots, the Secretary of State's office did. This was directed by a change in statute. If you have questions, please contact your state representatives.

Q: I need a copy of my deed, tax bill, _____. What do I have to do?

A: We have copies of all recorded land records. A vast number of our records are available online. If you go to our website, leicestervt.org, clicking "HERE" under the yellow highlighted line will bring you to our research page. You can find tax bills, lister cards, indexes, daybook, etc. We also provide a link to RecordHub, an online system to access our land records. If you are unable to find what you need there, or just hate technology, give me a call and we'll make an appointment for you to come in and search at the office.

If you have questions, please send me an email or give me a call.

As always, I am grateful to have the opportunity to serve such an amazing Town filled with even more amazing people!

I WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY AND HEALTHY 2023!

Julie Delphia

Town Clerk & Treasurer
(802) 247-5961 x 3
townclerk@leicestervt.gov

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday
9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Check us out at www.leicestervt.org

VITAL STATISTICS

DEATHS

Mary Ruth Boyer
Burton Daniel Cole
Lyudmila V Cushing
Richard Henry Janoski JR
Deborah Ann Muscato
Stephen Sidney Oliver
Michael Roy Shackett
James Holly Sherwin
Harold A. Smith
Kathy Marie Stiffler
Nancy L. Sutton
Richard Lloyd Tatro SR
Shirley A. Trombley

BIRTHS

Sasha Kochendoerfer Fox
Remi Josephine Gravell
Mayzie Alonna Keefe
Jaelynn Gray Socinski
Eliana Grace Stannard
Maple Janet Lakshmi Tessaro

MARRIAGES

Charles Goodrich
& Lani Nichols

Daniel Jennings
& Brittni Racine

Daniel Cummings
& Marissa Heannings

GRANT SPENDING

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation issued \$8,747 of an awarded \$14,578 Milfoil grant (2021). The money was directed to the Lake Dunmore Fern Lake Association.

The Municipal Roads Grant in Aid issued \$4,106 of a \$4,106 award for work on hydrologically connected road segments.

The Vermont Tax Department issued the following grants funds to the Town during 2021: Equalization - \$787; Hold Harmless - \$10,443; Reappraisal - \$6,689.50.

The Town spent \$53,671.40 as a 5% match for work done on the VT Agency of Transportation culvert/bridge replacement project on Old Jerusalem Road. BO 1445(37) Bridge 4

DOG SUMMARY

Female Spayed	\$535.00
Male Neutered	\$491.00
Female	\$70.00
Male	\$276.00
Fines	\$0.00
Late Fees	\$46.00
Total Income	<u>\$1,418.00</u>



ALL dogs must be registered by April 1, 2023 Spayed/Neutered \$11 Unspayed/Unneutered \$15
--

Animal Control	\$450.00
Clerk Fees	\$410.00
State Fees	\$1,025.00
ACHS Contract	\$600.00
Dog tags/Paper/Badge	\$149.86
Total Expense	<u>\$2,634.86</u>

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER REPORT

If you have questions or concerns regarding animal control, please contact Animal Control Officer Robbie Devoid at (802) 349-6163 or rdevoid@msn.com.

NOTICE TO DOG OWNERS

Please be a responsible dog owner. Fines and consequences for non-compliant dogs can be severe. Failing to comply with State registration requirements can hold fines of up to \$500.00 per violation or result in the unregistered dogs being destroyed. Failure to comply with the Dog Ordinance can incur significant fines and/or result in the dogs being removed and/or destroyed.

To avoid the potential of fines or consequences, please register your dog(s) by April 1st and comply with the dog ordinance. For a copy of the dog ordinance, please contact the Town Office. Dog licenses may be obtained at the Town Office during office hours or by placing an envelope containing a copy of the rabies certificate and a check for the appropriate fee (see above) in the Town Office Drop Box or mailing the information to: Leicester Town Office, 44 Schoolhouse Road, Leicester, VT 05733

VSNIP

The VT Spay Neuter Incentive Program (**VSNIP**), under the VT Department of Children & Families, is administered by VT Volunteer Services for Animals Humane Society. **Funded by a \$4.00 fee added to the licensing of dogs, this monetary resource is limited by the number of dogs licensed, which is required**

by law by six months of age. Puppies and kittens can have the first rabies vaccination after 12 weeks of age. If unable to schedule an appointment with a veterinary office for this vaccination, Tractor Supply Stores hold monthly clinics as well as humane societies during the month of March. Call for their schedules. After the vaccination, contact your town clerk and provide proof of the rabies vaccination to license your dog.

Rabies IS in Vermont and it IS deadly.

Licensing a dog:

- 1) Helps identify your dog if lost.
- 2) Provides proof your dog is protected from rabies in the event your dog is bitten by a rabid animal (but still needs immediate medical attention).
- 3) Protects your animal if they bite another animal {or person – which could result in the quarantine of your dog or possibly euthanized in order to test for rabies if not currently vaccinated}.
- 4) Pays for this necessary program addressing the population situation in VT.

For an Application for VSNIP and a List of Participating Offices, send a S.A.S.E. (a 9" Self-Addressed, Stamped Envelope) to: VSNIP, PO Box 104, Bridgewater, VT 05034. Or, to download and print, go to: VSNIP.VERMONT.GOV Indicate if it's for a cat, dog or both. Once *fully* completed, you will mail it back. If approved, you will receive your Voucher and instructions.

The cost for the surgery to you is only \$27.00, providing there are no complications. Fellow Vermonters pay the balance of your account from funds collected at the time of dog registration. Please be SURE your cat or dog is completely flea and tick free **before** the visit. Animals left UN-neutered are more prone to forms of cancer.

Thank veterinarians for their participation in this important program. If your veterinarian is not a participant, please encourage them to join. Several veterinarians have retired, leaving a reduced number of participating offices. VSNIP offices are accepting less reimbursement than what they would usually charge for their services. We NEED them :) Let them know you appreciate the difference they've made in our state over the years when euthanasia was the means of animal over-population control. Those days are behind us ~ let's keep it that way!

Sue Skaskiw, Administrator 1-800-HI VSNIP (1-844-448-7647)

2022 GREEN UP REPORT

In 2022 Leicester met the Green Up goal of cleaning 100% of its roadways!

We had the dubious distinction of having the largest amount of tires collected of all the small towns in Addison County, as well as nearly two tons of trash. A small band of dedicated individuals, some children included, scoured the roadsides to pick up the trash and debris left behind from winter. Thank you to Lem Palmer for seeing that all the trash collected gets to the transfer station.

We would like to try the same for 2023 and your help is needed. Some of our volunteers, myself included, are finding it harder each year to climb down into the ditches to retrieve items. We need some younger help. Consider involving your entire family or form a team with the neighbors on your road to assist us in the effort.

As usual, a free lunch (hot dogs, soda or water, cookies and brownies) for volunteers will be held at the Four Corners on Green Up Day, May 6, 2023 from 11:30 to 1:00. All volunteers can sign up for the Green Up Day raffle. The costs for the raffle are underwritten by the Leicester Historical Society and by Brad Lawes of Lawes Ag. Prizes include gift cards to local restaurants, maple syrup, and other gift bags of prizes.

Green Up bags and some gloves are available at the Town Office the week of Green Up if you wish to begin the cleanup a little early. For more information, or to volunteer, contact Diane Benware at 802-247-3786.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

It was a busy year in the Lister's office as far as property transfers go. We had a total of 71 Property Transfers from 4/1/2021 to 3/31/2022.

We had 48 change of appraisals and heard four grievances at our hearing held on July 12, 2022.

We now have the Lister Cards available online for easy access. But if anyone would like any other information, the Lister's office is open Tuesdays from 9am to Noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Harvey,
Admin Asst to the Assessor

CEMETERY REPORT

The Cemetery Committee works to maintain and improve Leicester's Brookside Cemetery. We meet the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30pm from April to October.

Respectfully submitted: Thomas Barker, Donna Pidgeon, Donna Swingleton, Pam Gates

FIRE WARDEN'S REPORT

If anyone wishes to burn in the winter – if there's snow on the ground, you don't need a permit. In the summertime, you do. I can be reached at my home at 247-8357 or my cell at 558-9031.

Richard C. Nicklaw – Fire Warden

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT

The Town Health Officer is responsible for investigating and addressing public health concerns in town. In consultation with the Vermont Department of Health, the officer is to take steps necessary to enforce orders issued pursuant to 18 VSA Chapter 3. For water testing kits and info, call 1-800-660-9997. For Rental Housing concerns, issues call 1-802-864-0099.

The Town Health Officer is Chree Perkins. She can be reached at 802-465-8335 or 802-377-1991.

LEICESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Leicester Historical Society seeks old photos and related information that could be used to create an on-line resource for community members and others interested in town history. If you have old photos/documents we could borrow to scan, they would be promptly returned to you. Contact Diane at 802-247-3786 for more information.

Members of Leicester Historical Society look forward to once again sponsoring Prize Bingo at the Senior Center the second Saturday of each month, Sept to Dec and April to June. Refreshments are served. All are welcome and we appreciate the support.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The Leicester Unified Zoning Regulations were updated and approved in February 2017 and are posted on the town website: leicestervt.org. You will also find a downloadable application form there.

Please remember that if you plan any kind of development within 250' from shoreline, you will need to consult with the Shoreland Protection Division of the Vermont Environmental Commission. (See full definition of "development" in the Regulations on line).

The administrator for Lake Dunmore and Fern Lake is Laura Dlugolecki. Her email address is: laura.dlugolecki@vermont.gov. She can answer any questions you have about shoreland development.

Applications which require action by the Development Review Board (DRB) may take several months before final approval is given and the time for appeals has passed. A completed application must be submitted three weeks before a hearing in order to allow for warning periods.

As another reminder, almost all land development in Vermont requires town and/or state permits. It is the responsibility of the landowner, **not the contractor**, to apply for them. Please contact the Zoning Administrator before beginning any project.

The Zoning Administrator is Keith Arlund. He can be reached at 802-465-8098 or at zoning@leicestervt.gov. Zoning hours are by appointment.

2022 TOWN MEETING RESULTS

Article I: The election of Town Officers for the ensuing year:

A Moderator for a one (1) year term	RICHARD REED
A Selectboard Member for a three (3) year term	DIANE BENWARE
A Selectboard Member for a two (2) year term	DIANE RANDALL
A Delinquent Tax Collector for a one (1) year term	BETH RIPLEY
An Auditor for a three (3) year term	DONNA PIDGEON
An Auditor for the remaining one (1) year of a three (3) year term	ROLANDE MORRISON

Article II: Shall the voters of the Town of Leicester vote to approve a sum of **\$762,265.64** to defray the necessary expenses and liabilities of the town for the ensuing year ...: YES 90 NO 20

Article III: Shall the voters of the Town of Leicester authorize cannabis retailers and integrated licensees in town pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 863? YES 53 NO 56

ADDISON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Addison County Economic Development Corporation (ACEDC) is Leicester's economic development resource, serving the community for over 25 years. ACEDC respectfully requests that support in the amount of \$1,000 be included on the ballot for the Town of Leicester for fiscal year 2024. Since this is our first ballot request, the requisite petition signatures are enclosed.

We offer expertise and resources to businesses throughout Addison County. We not only serve businesses located in your community, we also serve the businesses in neighboring communities where your citizens work or may own a business. Our mission is to create an entrepreneurial and innovative environment, nurturing businesses to launch, grow, and thrive. We do this through direct assistance and through our networks of partners and collaborators locally and at the state and federal levels. To view our FY22 Impact Map, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/ACEDCMap>.

ACEDC also provides services to municipalities to advance economic and community development. These services include information and application assistance for state and federal grant programs and convening action groups to address issues such as housing, workforce development and childcare. In addition, we are constantly working with the entrepreneurs of Addison County in our efforts to increase the number and quality of available jobs.

If you have questions, need additional information, or would like our assistance with economic or community development projects in Leicester, please do not hesitate to contact me at fkenney@addisoncountyedc.org or (802) 388-7953.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely, Fred Kenney, Executive Director

ADDISON COUNTY RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

ACRJP provides a community restorative justice response focusing on the "balanced approach" in meeting the needs of the victim, the community and the program participant. The goal is to help the program participant develop empathy and accept responsibility while providing compensation of loss for the victims, and compensation of resources for the community. Anyone given the opportunity to participate in our programs is supported to take responsibility for their actions, connect with the community in a positive way, and learn from their experience so as not to reoffend and cause harm to yet another person.

We have expanded our programs beyond Court Diversion and the Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program to include the Driving with License Suspended Program, Safe Driving Program, Reparative Restorative Panels, Reentry Navigation and Circles of Support and Accountability for those reentering the community from incarceration, and Pretrial monitoring and Tamarack for those community members who have committed a crime and have a mental illness or substance abuse problem. All Programs have the goal for the participant of instilling a sense of belonging and commitment to contribute to the Addison County Community as positive, proactive member and to not create any more victims, essentially decrease crime in the county.

The following is a breakdown of the number of individuals from the Town of Leicester who were provided services through our agency in FY 21-22.

Court Diversion Adult:	2
Court Diversion Youth:	2
Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program:	0
Reparative Restorative Panels:	1
COSA:	0
Reentry Navigation:	1
Driving With License Suspended:	0
Pretrial Services:	1
Tamarack:	1
Reparative Pretrial:	0
Safe Driving	0

Thank you for your continued support. Our website: www.courtdiversion.com

ADDISON COUNTY HOME HEALTH

Addison County Home Health and Hospice (ACHHH) is a community-focused non-profit home health care and hospice care agency that has been providing care for Addison County residents for more than fifty years. We provide an array of services that help our neighbors receive care in their own homes where they are most comfortable and where they often experience

the best quality of life. Our services are offered to all Addison County residents who need them, regardless of their ability to pay. To ensure the future of these vital programs, we turn to our community for support.

Our clinicians provide skilled nursing; medical social work; rehabilitative therapies including occupational, speech and physical therapy; hospice and palliative care; maternal-child health care; IV therapy; Telemonitoring; Chronic Care Management and care of complicated wounds. During the Covid- 19 pandemic we have opened an Outpatient Therapy Practice, providing speech language pathology, physical therapy and occupational therapy services for our community members close to their homes. Our Personal Care Attendants and Homemakers help patients with activities of daily living such as bathing, dressing and cooking.

ACHHH serves many patients who are coping with chronic illnesses such as congestive heart failure, COPD and diabetes. Some patients face life-limiting illnesses including cancer, ALS and Alzheimers. ACHHH strives to help patients and families enjoy the best quality of life possible, in all life stages. We serve patients from birth to end-of-life.

Through the Covid-19 pandemic, not one of our employees said "I will not go" when asked to visit a patient who tested positive for the disease. They have continued to provide kind, compassionate care as they have for more than fifty years.

We appreciate the long-time support from the Town of Leicester. Your financial support makes it possible for our expert team to provide high-quality compassionate care to ALL of our patients and families.

Best Regards, Maureen Conrad, Director of Development

Number of Vermont towns served: 24

Total number of people served: 1584

Total number of Leicester residents served: 36 individuals/912 visits

Route 7 North. PO Box 754. Middlebury, VT 05753. (802) 388-7259. www.achhh.org

ADDISON COUNTY PARENT CHILD CENTER

The mission of the Parent/Child Center is to provide support and education to families and assure that our community is one in which all young children get off to the right start, with the opportunity to grow up healthy, happy, and productive. The Center provides parenting education classes and workshops (on site and in neighboring communities), community playgroups, home visits, pregnancy prevention programs, job training, academic classes, transportation, and childcare.

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF TOWN OF LEICESTER RESIDENTS THAT REC'D OUR SERVICE 25

Our website: www.addisoncountypcc.org

ADDISON COUNTY READERS

Free Books For Young Children. A local organization, Addison County Readers, Inc., through the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program, is helping families have more books at home that their children love to look at and have their parents read. Preschoolers who are registered for the program have a free book mailed to their homes each month. There is no cost to the family and the books are the children's to keep. Any child (birth to five years of age) living in Addison County can participate. 27 Leicester preschoolers are currently enrolled.

Pick up a registration brochure at the school or Town Office or you can enroll online at: www.addisoncountyreaders.org.

ACRPC ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Annual Report –Year End June 30, 2022

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) provided the following technical assistance and planning to the Region during its 2022 fiscal year:

Regional and Municipal Planning and Mapping

- Worked with Cornwall, Salisbury, Orwell and Vergennes on Municipal Planning Grants
- Worked with Bristol, Lincoln and Shoreham on Bylaw Modernization projects focused on housing.
- Represented the Region in Act 250 and Section 248 hearings.
- Assisted municipalities in applying for Village Center Designation: Salisbury, 2021
- Updated and readopted the Population and Housing section of the Regional Plan.

Educational Meetings and Grants

- Hosted educational workshops on planning topics, including housing, planning essentials and community septic.
- Wrote or provided information and support to communities and organizations to secure grant funding.

Emergency Planning

- Worked with Addison County’s Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC) and Vermont Emergency Management staff to assist with municipal emergency planning and training.
- Assisted communities in completing Local Emergency Management Plans to maintain ERAF status.
- Updated Mutual Aid agreements for Public Works Departments.
- Led an emergency exercise at the Hannaford Career Center
- Received two Flood Resilient Communities Fund (FRCF) grants
- Received one Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant

Energy Planning:

- Assisted Waltham, Whiting, Shoreham, and Starksboro in developing their enhanced energy plans.
- Worked with Ferrisburgh and Vergennes to relaunch local energy committees.
- Worked with Efficiency Vermont and municipalities to implement enhanced energy plans.
- Provided energy scorecards for municipalities to track progress on state and local energy efficiency goals.
- Developed an online map of renewable energy resources and siting.

Transportation Planning

- Supported the Addison County Transportation Advisory Committee’s regional priorities and studies.
- Supported Tri-Valley Transit/ACTR by providing leadership and technical support.
- Worked with municipalities to reduce road erosion from local roads.
- Assisted Towns with bike and pedestrian, Better Roads and stormwater grants.
- Served as a Municipal Project Manager for a sidewalk construction projects in Middlebury and Vergennes and a culvert replacement project in Bridport.
- Sponsored town transportation planning studies.
- Conducted traffic and pedestrian studies for towns.
- Hosted the regional Walk/bike council meetings and a statewide Bike/Ped Summit in Middlebury.
- Sponsored a Planning and Environmental Linkages Study for the City of Vergennes and surrounding communities

Natural Resources Planning

- Actively supported the efforts of the Addison County River Watch Collaborative.
- Worked with municipalities to support conservation commissions.
- Prepared to serve as the Clean Water Service Provider for the Otter Creek Basin
- Provided educational outreach supporting the Otter Creek Tactical Basin Plan update.
- Assisted in stormwater planning projects and Ecosystem Restoration Program grants.

Addison County Regional Planning Commission, 14 Seminary Street, Middlebury, VT 05753
www.acrpc.org Phone: 802.388.3141 Fax: 802.388.0038

ADDISON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

The Addison County Solid Waste Management District is a union municipal district formed in 1988 to cooperatively and comprehensively address the solid waste management interests of its 21 member municipalities: Addison, Bridport, Bristol, Cornwall, Ferrisburgh, Goshen, Leicester, Lincoln, Middlebury, Monkton, New Haven, Orwell, Panton, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham, Starksboro, Vergennes, Waltham, Weybridge and Whiting. The District is governed by a Board of Supervisors (Board) comprised of one representative and one alternate appointed by each of the member municipalities. The Board regularly holds virtual meetings on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7 PM, and the Executive Board meets monthly 8 days prior to the Board meeting at 4:30 PM. All meetings are open to the public.

District Mission

To seek environmentally sound & cost effective solutions for: (1) Promoting **waste reduction**; (2) Promoting **pollution prevention**; (3) Maximizing **diversion** of waste through reuse, recycling and composting; and (4) Providing for **disposal** of remaining wastes.

District Office and Transfer Station

Telephone: (802) 388-2333	Fax: (802) 388-0271	Website: www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org
E-mail: acswmd@acswmd.org	Transfer Station Hours: M-F, 7 AM–3 PM & Sat, 8 AM–1 PM	
Office Hours: M-F, 8 AM–4 PM	HazWaste Center Hours: M-F, 8 AM–2 PM & Sat, 8 AM–1 PM	

The District Office, Transfer Station and HazWaste Center are co-located at 1223 Rt. 7 South in Middlebury. The Transfer Station accepts large loads of waste and single stream recyclables for transfer to out-of-District facilities. District residents and businesses may drop off a variety of other materials for reuse, recycling and composting. A complete list of acceptable items and prices can be found on the District’s website.

2022 Highlights

COVID-19. District staff have been working diligently toward maintaining the solid waste management and collection system within its 21 member municipalities during these challenging times. Despite the disruption of COVID-19, the District Transfer Station remained open to commercial haulers and area businesses and continued to provide access to essential services without service interruptions. Despite challenges of supply shortages, vendor staffing difficulties, and rising operational costs in 2022, District staff were creative and committed to keeping the District efficient in managing the solid waste generated.

Thank you to our residents and businesses for your support, as well as your individual and collective efforts toward meeting the District's goals of waste reduction, reuse, recycling and composting!

New Organics Equipment. In 2022, the District was able to purchase new equipment for the management of food scraps at the Transfer Station, using \$40,000 of a Materials Management Implementation Grant awarded by the VT Department of Environmental Conservation in 2021. Items included: a 15-cu.yd., heavy-duty, sealed roll-off container with a rolling lid; a customized food scrap toter tipper; a portable toter washing system; a pickup truck/trailer for moving the toter washing system; and extra food scrap toters. The District was also awarded a grant from the VT League of Cities & Towns PACIF toward the toter tipper. These purchases enabled the District to more efficiently and safely operate a food scrap collection system at the Transfer Station.

Regional Residential Drop-off. The District is in the process of designing and permitting a new regional residential transfer station on Campground Road, off of Rt. 7. The facility is intended to provide an option for residents to drop off bagged trash and recyclables, along with food scraps and leaf & yard waste. The facility, to be built in 2 phases, will eventually accept scrap metal, tires, and special wastes (E-Waste, fluorescent light bulbs, books, and film plastic).

Financials. The District anticipates CY2022 total operating expenses of \$4,121,923, with operating revenues of \$3,927,234. CY2021 surplus revenues rolled over to the General Fund will make up the difference. Vendor price increases, fuel surcharges, equipment maintenance and other operational cost increases are beyond budgeted levels this year. Combined with increasing recycling processing fees charged by the recycler, price increases at the Transfer Station are inevitable in CY2023.

Illegal Burning/Disposal. The District contracted with the Addison County Sheriff's Department in 2022 to enforce its Illegal Burning & Disposal Ordinance. The District served again as County Coordinator for Green-Up Day, assisting the many area volunteers who organized collection of roadside litter, and providing bags and gloves. The District subsidized the disposal of 10.94 tons of roadside trash, 5.59 tons of tires, and various other items, for a total economic benefit to its member towns of \$2,483.

2023 Annual Budget

The District's adopted CY2023 Annual Budget differs from the proposed budget, due to a recent and unforeseen drop in recycling market prices, The Transfer Station tip fees will increase to \$145/ton (\$9 minimum fee) for MSW and C&D. The rate for Single Stream Recyclables will increase to \$125/ton. Rates on a few other items will have nominal increases. **There will be no assessments of member municipalities in CY2023.** For a copy of the full 2022 Annual Report and Adopted CY2023 Annual Budget and Rate Sheet, please call (802) 388-2333, or visit the District website at www.AddisonCountyRecycles.org.

AGE WELL Formerly CVAA

For nearly 50 years, Age Well has provided services and support that allow aging Vermonters to stay independent, and remain healthy at home, where they want to be. We excel at integrating community resources, health services, and wellness programs to enhance and improve the quality of life for older adults. We continue to see an increased demand for our wrap-around services, supporting older Vermonters during the CO VID-19 pandemic and beyond.

We are writing to request support from the Town of Leicester in the amount of \$1,100.00. Just in the last year in Leicester, we have served 25% more residents, from 31 in FY21 to 39 in FY22. As Vermont's population continues to age, we anticipate the number of older adults needing access to our free services to rise. As a non-profit, our services are provided at no charge, and your support ensures that we are able to continue to provide our services to those in need.

Thanks to the generous support from towns in our service area, we have been able to offer care & service coordination, Meals on Wheels, Grab & Go meals, community meals, wellness programs, social activities, transportation services, expertise on Medicare, insurance, long and short-term care options, and the Helpline to Leicester residents.

Vermont is ranked as the third "oldest" state in the country and our aging population is only expected to grow exponentially, nearly doubling in the next fifteen years. Older adults living in rural areas have less access to healthcare, including specialized healthcare, and the services tend to be more costly than those provided in metropolitan areas. Overwhelmingly, Vermonters want to grow old in their own homes, Age Well provides the services and support to ensure that is a possibility.

Age Well, formerly CVAA, are the leading experts and advocates for the aging population of Northwestern Vermont. We believe that health happens at home and focus on lifestyle, happiness and wellness—not on age. Since 1974, we have been part of Vermont's Area Agencies on Aging, coordinating services and care for Addison, Chittenden, Franklin and Grand Isle Counties.

Committed to helping individuals age well, we reduce barriers by providing access to healthy meals, in-home care and community resources. Delivered by staff members and over 1,000 incredible volunteers, our sought-after services are designed to meet the diverse needs of our clients, their families and caregivers.

We do not charge for services provided. As a nonprofit, we rely on donations and encourage clients to contribute if they are able to do so.

MISSION: To provide the support and guidance that inspires our community to embrace aging with confidence.

Last year, Age Well served 39 people from Leicester, services included:

- 14 calls to the Helpline
- 45 hours of Care & Service Coordination

- 161 Grab & Go meals served
- 438 Meals on Wheels delivered
- 52 Congregate Meals served
- 20 hours of Options Counseling

8 Leicester residents volunteered over **536** hours

Impact:

1 Year of Meals on Wheels equals roughly the same cost as one day in a hospital.
89% of Meals on Wheels clients notice an improved quality of life.
93% say it helps maintain social distancing during COVID-19.

Sincerely, Sara Wool, Director of Development & Planned Giving

P 802-865-0360 F 802-865-0363 Helpline: 800-642-5119 76 Pearl Street, Ste. 201 Essex Junction, VT 05452

AMERICAN RED CROSS

As we look ahead to the new year, we take a moment to reflect on our profound gratitude to the municipal partners who help us deliver our lifesaving mission in our community. With your support, we are able to ensure the health, safety, and preparedness of our friends and neighbors throughout Northern New England.

Last year, our staff and volunteer workforce provided an array of services throughout the region:

- We made **576 homes safer** by installing smoke detectors and educating families about fire safety and prevention through our Home Fire Campaign.
- Trained **34,765 people** in first aid, CPR, and water safety skills. (training data for county level)
- We collected over **132,000 units of blood**. Hospitals throughout Northern New England depend on the American Red Cross for these collections.
- In our region, over **3,900** service members, veterans, and their families received supportive services through our Service to the Armed Forces department.

Your American Red Cross remains committed to providing relief and support. We do this with the help of our incredible volunteers and donors, including you, our friends in Leicester. *This year, we respectfully request a municipal appropriation of **\$500.00**.* These funds will directly benefit individuals and families right here in our region, who benefit from our unique services at no cost.

Warmly,

Lauren Jordan, Development Coordinator

New Hampshire Headquarters: 2 Maitland Street, Concord. NH 03301 • 1-800-464-6692
 Vermont Headquarters: 32 N Prospect Street, Burlington, VT 05401 • 802-497-5995 www.redcross.org/nne

BRANDON AREA RESCUE SQUAD

Brandon Rescue responded to 53 calls for help during fiscal year 2021/2022. Below you will find a detailed breakdown. We strive to remain a mainly volunteer run organization which currently saves the community over \$300,000 per year. Those volunteers have given more than 25,000 hours of their time over this past year to help ensure emergency medical coverage for Leicester and surrounding towns. As needs and availability of volunteers change, we've added additional paid staff to our roster to supplement our volunteer staff. We currently have 25 volunteer providers and 6 paid staff. As always, if anyone is interested in the medical field, we always have room and need for more.

Thank you for your continued support and if there are any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,
 Andrew Jackson, Chief of Operations
 Brandon Area Rescue Squad
 802-247-3231
andy@brandonrescue.org

BRANDON AREA RESCUE SQUAD, INC.	
Calls by Type	
2022	
	Calls
Transports	
911 Transport	23
Transports Total	23
No Transports	
Not Entered	9
Evaluated and Released	9
Patient Refused	4
Transferred Care	2
Deceased Patient	2
Canceled	2
Treated and Released	1
Assist Others	1
No Transports Total	30
Grand Total	53

BRANDON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The mission of the Brandon Free Public Library is to provide a friendly and safe environment in which patrons of all ages may enrich their lives through the benefit and pleasure of learning and discovery. The BFPL pledges quality service, demonstrating respect for all individuals and our community.

A little under half of the BFPL's annual operating budget is from voter-approved appropriations from the towns of Brandon (including Forest Dale), Goshen, Leicester, and Sudbury, our service towns. Each year we must meet the remaining budgetary needs through several fundraisers, donations from the non-profit Friends of the Library, direct donations from our patrons, grants, apartment rents, and, when needed, distribution from an endowment.

At the 2023 Town Meetings, our towns' voters will be asked to approve their town's appropriation for the Library. Appropriations are critical, and without them the BFPL would not be able to operate anywhere near the level it presently does.

After very difficult challenges during Covid, and a local security threat last summer that disrupted services, we are back at full operations, serving our community. The BFPL is a busy place, with an average door count of 200 people/day; here are some things that our friendly and helpful Librarians do for you:

General Services

- Books, DVDs, magazines, newspapers, audio CDs, interlibrary loan, myriad programming, Grief Group, Meditation Circle, Junior Librarian Program, monthly book discussions

Children's/Teen's Services

- Books, teen area, DVDs, audio CDs, magazines, summer program every July/August, story hour on Thursdays, Crazy8s Afterschool Club, monthly Game Night, Teen Advisory Group, and a safe space for kids after school

Outreach Services

- Tables at local events (Harvest Fest, Spooksville)
- Personalized visits to homebound patrons
- Everybody Wins! participation at local elementary school

Building as a Resource

- The Library building is used by a wide variety of community groups including the Brandon Planning Commission, DBA, school tutors, Farmer's Market, Republican/Democratic caucuses, Estabrook Award, Child Care Providers, French club, PTO, homeschoolers, Pins & Needles, Brandon Publishing Club, Forget- Me-Not grief group, and more
- Local artists- we have a "pop-up gallery" monthly showing off local talent

Computer/Digital Services

- We offer 8 public computers and laptops, 3 iPads, 4 preloaded Kindles, 3 preloaded kids' tablets, 3 programmable robots, 1 Android tablet. Librarians assist patrons and offer tech help/solutions and assistance with job applications, unemployment, insurance applications, and other critical needs
- The Brandon Library pays membership fees for patrons to access Vermont Online Library, Listen-Up Vermont e-lending, and Universal Class, all free to our patrons
- Print, air-print, copy, scan, fax for public use
- 3-D printer
- Personalized computer help: free sessions by appointment and scheduled digital literacy workshops
- Free Wi-Fi in and out of the building

Non-traditional Services

- The BFPL Seed Library offers free seeds and sustainability education
- The Library is an outlet for community service and volunteer opportunities
- Free/reduced-price passes available for Vermont museums and parks
- Weekly free bread distribution site
- Mitten tree provides free mittens and hats
- Free COVID tests

Library of Things

- Snowshoes, moisture meter, projector, backup power supply, sewing machine, serger, Cricut, games, ukuleles, microphone

Elderly Services

- Extensive Large Print selection
- Home delivery for housebound patrons. The Library is often one of the few links someone might have to our community
- Various programming for older populations
- Free rides to the polls
- Digital Literacy classes

Community Partnerships

- Recreation Department- Quiz night, Trivia Championship, Spooksville, Harvest Fest, Spring Swing
- Neshobe PTO- Crazy 8s
- Neshobe School- Resource sharing, 2nd grade visit
- Brandon Town Hall- Masquerade Ball, Summer Reading Finale
- Brandon Area Toy Project- Pete the Cat Story Time

As you can see, the BFPL is about much more than books, and really is a Community Center for all! Appropriations from Brandon, Sudbury, Leicester, and Goshen that YOU approve will allow all of these valuable services to continue.

It is critical for citizens to vote "Yes" for Library appropriations, and we thank you in advance for supporting one of Brandon's gems- your local Library. Check us out at the corner of Franklin and Park Streets. 802-247-8230 or brandonpubliclibrary.org

Thank you!!

BFPL Board of Trustees: David Roberts, President; Cristy Harding, Treasurer; Carol Fjeld, Recording Secretary; Jeff Haylon; Nancy Iwanicki; Beate Jensen; Harry McEnery; Gary Meffe; Bruce Ness; John Peterson; and Cecil Reniche- Smith

COUNSELING SERVICE OF ADDISON COUNTY
89 Main Street, Middlebury, VT 05753

Counseling Service of Addison County (CSAC) helps people seeking mental health, substance use, and developmental, and emergency services – people of all ages, income, and abilities such as your neighbors, your friends, and yourself.

CSAC staff strive to understand and individual's life experience from multiple perspectives, including mental status, oppression, poverty, and other social determinants. We prioritize helping the people who face significant barriers realize their rights, utilize their voice, and find empowerment to foster their resilience and recovery. We help people feel safe voicing their experiences and believe that CSAC has a responsibility to prevent and eliminate all forms of discrimination.

In FY22, CSAC served 2,057 individuals, totaling 1,139,386 service hours. The Town of Leicester accrued 49,304 service hours.

Requests for behavioral, developmental, and 24/7 emergency services continue to be high. CSAC's commitment to Addison County is not just important but vital.

Thank you, Rachel Lee Cummings, Executive Director

www.csac-vt.org

Phone: 802-388-6751

ELDERLY SERVICES

*The Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Center for Elderly Services
112 Exchange Street, PO Box 581
Middlebury, Vermont 05753*

Elderly Services Report to the Town of Leicester for 2023 Town Meeting

Elderly Services thanks all Leicester residents for 40 years of support at Town Meeting Day. Many residents of Leicester have attended Project Independence, taken ESI classes, or received eldercare counseling from Elderly Services.

Located at 112 Exchange Street in Middlebury, Elderly Services offers you eldercare and aging support including:

- Project Independence medical/ social adult day center providing a closely supervised therapeutic environment for people living with stroke, chronic illness, advanced age, dementia, or social isolation.
- Eldercare consultations, advice and counselling for family members who care for a loved one.
- ESI College Lifelong Learning classes.
- Caregiver support and education.

Please call us at 388-3983 if we can be of help to you or your family.

FRONT PORCH FORUM

Neighbors are talking on Front Porch Forum

Have you joined our local Front Porch Forum? FPF helps neighbors connect and build community by hosting a statewide network of online local forums. One-third of Vermont households participate with thousands more joining every month. People use their FPF to find lost animals, offer assistance to neighbors in need, organize local projects, draw crowds to events, highlight small businesses, share crime reports, seek contractor recommendations, and much more. Started 10 years ago, FPF is a free service and it's based in Vermont.

Learn more at <http://frontporchforum.com>

GREEN UP VERMONT

P.O. Box 1191 Montpelier, Vermont 05601-1191

(802)229-4586, or 1-800-974-3259

greenup@greenupvermont.org, www.greenupvermont.org

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

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

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

Green Up Vermont is a private nonprofit organization that relies on your town's support to execute the tradition of cleaning up our roads and waterways, while promoting civic pride, and community engagement.



Thank you for your support of this crucial program that takes care of all our cities and towns.

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

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

Green Up Day, May 6, 2023

HOPE (ACCAG)

John V. Craven Community Services Center
P.O. Box 165 282 Boardman Street Middlebury, Vermont 05753
Phone: (802) 388-3608 Fax: (802) 388-0756

HOPE seeks to assist individuals and families in identifying and obtaining the resources that will help them meet their own basic needs. HOPE provides significant goods and services to people in need, including food, clothing, housing, and heating fuel, medical items, job-related needs and more. We work to assist people in accessing information and developing new skills in order to become more empowered and have healthier and more stable lives.

HOPE operates one of the largest food shelves in the state and has a thriving partnership with area farmers that allows us to salvage excess or unsaleable produce which is then available at HOPE and shared with dozens of other charitable food sites around the region.

Now that we are emerging from two years of pandemic, and government assistance programs have ended, we are seeing a large increase in the number of people coming to us for assistance. This along with continued supply chain problems and significant price increases, causes us concern regarding the ability to keep sufficient food inventory ready for those who need it.

During the year ended December 31, 2021, HOPE assisted 2,013 people. We expect that by the end of 2022 the number will be significantly higher.

HOPE respectfully requests that the voters of the Town of Leicester allocate the sum of \$1,300 to help defray the costs of providing assistance to town residents in the coming year. Thank you for your consideration.

JOHN W. GRAHAM EMERGENCY SHELTER

John Graham Housing & Services (JGHS) has provided emergency shelter, affordable housing, and essential services to individuals and families in Addison County for over 40 years. The JGHS mission is strengthened by intensive service coordination at three critical access points—homeless prevention, eviction prevention, and rapid rehousing.

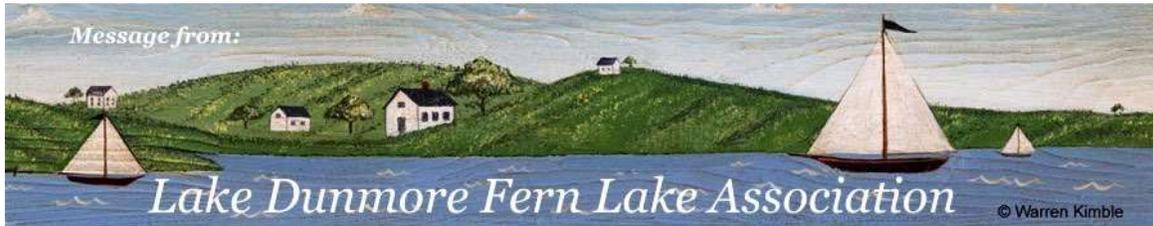
With eight properties spread across the county the people we serve include those impacted by domestic violence, substance use and mental health disorders, economic hardship, and physical illness.

It is our hope that the Town of Leicester will partner with JGHS again in our effort to end homelessness in Addison County, Vermont, for the following reasons:

- Our greatest challenge is that housing stock in Addison County has fallen to one third of what it was in the 1980s
- Addison County has a vacancy rate of less than one percent (1%)
- On the annual homeless Point-In-Time (PIT) count on January 26, 2022, 2,780 Vermonters were homeless—an increase of 189 persons compared to 2021 (Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness 2022)
- A recent announcement that the State of Vermont Emergency Rental Assistance Program (VERAP) will be phased out by the end of 2022 means that, as winter approaches, more families in Addison County will need emergency shelter

We are requesting the same \$725.00 from the voters of Leicester as we have in the past, despite the increased needs. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely, Susan Whitmore, Executive Director



**LAKE DUNMORE FERN LAKE ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 14, Salisbury, Vermont 05769**

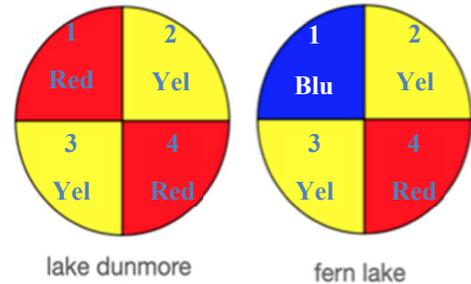
The Association's mission is "to protect and enhance the natural vitality of Lake Dunmore and Fern Lake while preserving the recreational and lifestyle interest of the Lake's community. In so doing, the Association protects the Lake's value as a public recreational facility and respects the interests of property owners and the public." Membership in the Association is open to anyone who supports the mission and goals of the Association. We encourage all those who visit the lakes to become members.

Invasive species control is by far the largest program operated by the Association. The uncontrolled spread of Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) can limit or make impossible boating, fishing and swimming. The results of our EWM control program in 2022 were very positive; we think our recent efforts are showing signs of success. Our lakes are in the much better shape this fall than just five years ago. This past season we removed 679 total bushels of EWM from our 2 lakes. However, this is an increase from the 337 bushels collected in 2021. Although there was an increase from 2021, Lake Dunmore was described by our consultant as "sparsely scattered." EWM was found scattered throughout Fern Lake, with a slight increase from last year as well. This was the third growing season since the application of ProcellaCOR herbicide in the spring of 2020. We will watch the numbers carefully in 2023 with hope of avoiding another expensive application of herbicide until the 2024 or 2025 season. We look forward to continued success in the coming years as we determine the best strategies to mitigate its spread.

The milfoil control program costs and funding for 2022 were \$137,190. Which was less than the two previous years (2021 - \$173,751, 2020 - \$225,374).

These costs were met as follows:

VT DEC Aquatic Nuisance Grant	\$ 8,747
Lake Champlain Basin Greeter Grant	\$ 15,000
Town Support – Leicester	\$ 25,000
Town Support – Salisbury	\$ 25,000
LDFLA Operating Fund	\$ 63,443



Watershed Quality Initiative - From Pristine to Poor & Back Again!

The VT Lake Score Card data is shown above: 1 Nutrient Trend, 2 Shoreland & Lake Habitat, 3 Mercury, 4 Invasive Species as blue-good, yellow-fair, red-poor ~ we are committed to being **BLUE!!**

- From our Watershed Action Plan, two projects, the shoreland restoration and stormwater improvements at Branbury State Park and at the Magoon Boat Launch are moving forward funded by grant awards from the state of Vermont.
- The LDFLA is actively seeking public funding to implement additional projects in the plan.
- We are working with Green Mountain Power to better understand the nutrient inputs from the upper watershed, and have been awarded an LCBP grant to monitor and study this phenomenon.

The benefits to the Town of Leicester are twofold: First, the preservation of a wonderful, natural recreation area available to the public. Second, the preservation of property values around the lakes which are an important and substantial portion of the Town's Grand List.

Respectfully submitted, Jeffrey Schumann, President

MAPLE BROADBAND INFORMATION
2022 Annual Report October 17, 2022

Maple Broadband is a Communications Union District (CUD) based in Addison County. Maple Broadband's mission is to enhance the economic, educational, and medical well-being of the communities it serves by providing a reliable and affordable high-speed fiber internet network, supported by premium-grade customer service, to the households and businesses in its member towns.

Throughout 2022, Maple Broadband's focus has been on preparing to build and launch service on our fiber-optic network, as well as on obtaining the necessary grant funding to pay for the initial portions of the network. Grant funding available through the State of Vermont, while substantial, will not cover all the costs of building fiber throughout Addison County. Every grant

dollar raised reduces the amount of loans (and corresponding interest) that Maple Broadband must incur, which results in lower prices for subscribers.

Maple Broadband has also continued building its organizational capacity to deliver on our ambitious goals.

Fundraising

- Applied for and were awarded a construction grant of \$8.7 million from the Vermont Community Broadband Board (VCBB). This grant award will allow Maple Broadband to build approximately 180 miles of fiber network beginning in 2022 and continuing into 2023;
- Applied for and were awarded an additional \$635,000 of pre-construction grant funds from the VCBB;
- Applied for and were awarded \$781,284 from the VCBB for the purchase of materials;
- Applied for and were awarded a \$30,000 USDA grant that will support capacity building efforts; and
- Solicited and received \$165,000 town ARPA contributions in 2022. At its October 3, 2022 meeting, the Vermont Community Broadband Board approved a policy that will match all past and future town ARPA contributions on a dollar-for-dollar basis. This will result in \$380,000 of new grant funding based on contributions to date. Every additional dollar raised from town ARPA contributions will increase grant funding to Maple Broadband by an equal amount.

Network Pre-Construction, Construction, and Preparation for Service Launch

- Worked with our engineering firm, Vantage Point Solutions (VPS) to complete a detailed engineering design and construction bid specifications for the initial build area (Phase 1);
- Ordered \$1.2 million of network construction materials in order to begin construction in 2022 and established materials warehousing and management services with network operator Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom (WCVT);
- Submitted pole applications to Green Mountain Power for the Phase 1 build area. Make-ready work must be performed prior to network installation on telephone poles;
- Performed a competitive bid process and awarded initial construction work to Syracuse Utilities;
- Performed a competitive bid process and awarded construction oversight services to Vantage Point Solutions;
- Initiated development of marketing materials and strategies for service launch in early 2023;
- Procured and configured an online subscriber management system, CrowdFiber, which enables prospective subscribers to register interest; and
- Collaborated with network operator WCVT to refine the customer onboarding process and customization of back-end systems.

Operational Capacity Building

- Held bi-weekly meetings of the Executive Committee, which is composed of members of Maple Broadband's Governing Board who possess expertise in a wide variety of technology and business professions;
- Following a thorough search, hired an Executive Director to support the overall direction of Maple Broadband and to execute Executive Committee initiatives;
- Performed a competitive bid process and awarded marketing services contract to Pivot Group, to help inform the community about Maple Broadband and promote subscriber sign-up; and
- Engaged an auditing firm, Batchelder Associates, PC, and completed Maple Broadband's first audit.

Plans for 2023:

- Complete approximately 200 miles of fiber network construction;
- Prepare a detailed design package for Phase 2 construction;
- Procure materials for Phase 2;
- Add and support subscribers in newly constructed areas.

Construction Sequence

While Maple Broadband would love to deliver high speed broadband service everywhere as soon as possible, the reality is that it will take years to complete Maple Broadband's mission.

As a new organization, Maple Broadband is reliant on grants and donations to fund the network construction. Most of grant funding comes via the VCBB, and this grant funding stipulates that priority must be given to areas that are underserved. Under the constraints of this grant funding, some areas are ineligible for construction. For residents of these areas, this is understandably frustrating, but once Maple Broadband is able to borrow funds to continue construction, it will no longer be bound by grant constraints, and will return to offer broadband service to those previously excluded areas.

Business and Organizational Challenges

In the coming months, Maple Broadband will continue to face significant challenges related to availability and increasing cost of construction labor and materials both related to its own network construction, and upstream with the make-ready work that must happen before we can install our network on telephone poles. This could have a profound effect on construction activities. Maple Broadband aims to anticipate and mitigate these challenges, to the degree possible, wherever encountered as it gains construction management experience.

The energy and time required to manage Maple Broadband necessitates engagement of paid professionals who can complement the hours of work performed by our small group of volunteers. Success in fulfilling our mission depends on support from member towns, through the contributions of delegates' time, energies and expertise, and through town ARPA fund contributions.

Submitted by the Maple Broadband Governing Board:

Executive Committee: Steve Huffaker (Chair), Carl Siebecker (Vice Chair), Nancy Cornell, Shannon Haggett, Dan Sonneborn
Executive Director: Ellie de Villiers (ex officio) Chief Financial Officer: Magna Dodge (ex officio) Treasurer: Cy Tall (ex officio)
Clerk: Adam Lougee (ex officio)

Governing Board Delegates: Addison (Paul Nikolich), Bristol (Dan Sonneborn), Bridport (Rick Scott), Cornwall (Magna Dodge), Ferrisburgh (Steve Huffaker), Leicester (vacant), Lincoln (Kate McGowan), Middlebury (Ross Conrad), Monkton (Mark Boltz-Robinson), New Haven (Ellie de Villiers), Orwell (James Robinson), Panton (Howard Hall), Ripton (Billy Sneed), Salisbury (Paul Vaczy), Shoreham (Carl Siebecker), Starksboro (Nancy Cornell), Vergennes (Shannon Haggett), Waltham (Andrew Martin), Weybridge (Spencer Putnam), Whiting (vacant)

About Maple Broadband:

Maple Broadband is composed of 20 member towns in Addison County, forming one of nine tax- exempt Communications Union Districts (CUDs) serving the state of Vermont. CUDs are non-profit, municipal entities formed with the single goal of delivering high-speed fiber broadband service to every unserved and underserved address in their member towns. CUDs cannot tax their member towns or the residents of those towns. A CUD must fund its operations by grants, debt, and donations.

Maple Broadband's Governing Board is comprised of one Delegate from each member town. Representatives are appointed by the town Selectboard and serve for one-year terms. The Executive Committee consists of five voting members and four non-voting ex officio members. Meeting times, agendas and minutes are posted on the [website](#).

OTTER CREEK NATURAL RESOURCES

The **Otter Creek Natural Resources Conservation District** contracts Riparian Plantings in priority watersheds paid for with the Trees for Streams Program, holds public and sector meetings for the Lake Champlain Direct watershed Plan, and the Otter Creek Tactical Plan, sponsors a Tree Seedling Sale and maintains a listing of local contractors. The District supports scholarships for up to 6 area students to attend Green Mountain Conservation Camp, supports Envirothon and continues that outreach at Addison County Fair and Field Days and the Addison County Tour and Annual District Meeting. Otter Creek NRCD also supports the Otter Creek Tactical Basin Plan with agricultural progress reports. The Long-Range Plan addresses continuing to support all existing programs, expanding them where feasible and supporting the capacity needed to do that.

In 2023 Otter Creek NRCD is moving into improving aquatic organism passage in streams through voluntary barrier removal. We are also documenting P agricultural Phosphorus reduction to Lake Champlain. The District will be looking to continue to support outreach and education around ways to get to water quality, tactical basin planning as pertains to agriculture and more tree planting.

Green Stormwater Infrastructure remains important. Rain gardens and other practices will recharge groundwater and reduce stormwater surges in streams and rivers following storm events. They are planted with a variety of flowering shrubs, bulbs, and perennials. It is construction that has measurable water quality benefits. See the Rain Garden at Marbleworks and at St. Stephen's Church on the Green in Middlebury installed in 2006 with renovations begun in 2013; the Robbins' residence installed in 2008, and 8 installed in 2009 in Middlebury, Bristol, Ripton and Starksboro. Cornwall and Bridport School have installed rain gardens with the support of OCNRCD and United Ways Days of Caring.

4 Leicester residents purchased fruit and shade tree seedlings from the Annual District Tree Sale.

The OCNRCD Annual Meeting was not held as we are in Phase 2 for Covid-19. We have yet to award the OCNRCD Conservation Farmer of the Year.

The Otter Creek District created a scholarship to remember Middlebury resident and District Pond Consultant, Robert C. Collins. This scholarship is awarded to high school students continuing their education in agriculture or conservation of the working landscape.

Envirothon is an opportunity for high school students to test their knowledge of conservation issues and compete in Vermont and nationally. OCNRCD supports this effort with funding.

Meetings are the second Tuesday at the Farm Service Center meeting room on Exchange Street in Middlebury.

OTTER CREEK WATERSHED INSECT CONTROL DISTRICT OCW (formerly BLSG) P.O. Box 188, Brandon, VT 05733

2022 End of the Year Report

This spring and summer the level of biting insect activity within the Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control District (OCW) was well above average. The number of adult mosquitoes captured in light traps and net sweeps far exceeded treatment thresholds in all member towns and in Proctor throughout most of the summer. Numbers declined significantly in early September.

The OCW staff did weekly surveillance of historical mosquito breeding wetlands starting in May. While an aerial larvicide application early in the spring might have reduced the numbers of adults that subsequently hatched, the OCW Board of Trustees judged the cost of an aerial treatment (\$37/acre this year) to be more than the budget could stand. That judgement proved accurate, as the OCW came close to a negative checkbook balance in July because of intense efforts to control mosquito populations coupled with steep price inflation for larvicide, adulticide, and other supplies.

With pesticide prices not expected to decline next year, the OCW budget will be increased by 5% for the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2023 (FY 24). The algorithm that is used to equitably apportion OCW expenses among member towns was updated with 2020 census data this year. Reviewing the updated algorithm output, the Board became concerned that the relationship between town assessments and mosquito control operations in each town was substantially out of alignment, i.e., would no longer be equitable. An ad hoc committee was formed to review that issue. That committee consisted of one representative from each member town plus one representative from Proctor (who contracts for insect control services with the OCW). The committee developed a new algorithm, which uses the following factors and weights for determining each town's assessment: equalized education grand list (33.3%), acres of Class 2 wetlands (10.3%), number of dwelling units (28.2%), and adulticide spray routes road miles (28.2%). The Board voted to use the new algorithm for determining town assessments for the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2024 (FY 25). The apportionments used in 2022 (i.e., without updated census data) were used to determine town assessments for next year (FY 24).

Continuing a pattern begun last year, the OCW staff applied adulticide once a week along all seventeen of our published spray routes when light trap counts and other surveillance justified the treatment. Based on considerable Select Board and citizen feedback, that weekly program seemed to keep the nuisance level under control.

The Vermont Pesticide General Permit (PGP) is renewed by the US Environmental Protection Agency every 5 years... and 2022 was a renewal year. For the OCW to continue pesticide operations under the new PGP, a Notice of Intent (NOI) and Pesticide Management Discharge Plan (PDMP) were submitted to the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) on August 1st. Those documents were approved by the DEC on October 11th. In conjunction with preparing the PDMP, the Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) and the Rutland County Regional Planning Commission (RCRPC) were asked to determine, using the DEC database, the acreage of wetlands in the six towns that the OCW serves. Previously, 6,000 acres was believed to be the approximate number. Turns out that there are somewhat over 16,000 acres of Class 2 wetlands in the district suitable for mosquito breeding, with Brandon having 5,491, Leicester having 3,517, Salisbury having 3,278, Goshen having 731, Pittsford having 2,923, and Proctor having 407.

On Town Meeting Day in March Salisbury community members voted to fully fund their portion of the OCW budget for the fiscal year that started July 1, 2022. However, the consequence of their March 2021 vote was that only larvicide treatment would have been done in the town between April (the start of the "season") and June 30th of this year. Recognizing that the lack of adult control efforts would negatively impact their members, the Lake Dunmore Fern Lake Association donated money to the OCW to cover the April thru June adulticide spraying costs for roads in Salisbury immediately adjacent to Lake Dunmore.

The OCW received 406 calls from district residents requesting nuisance mosquito control: 92 from Brandon, 125 from Leicester, 80 from Salisbury, 9 from Goshen, 84 from Pittsford, and 16 from Proctor. That number of service requests represents a 43% decrease from last year. Eighty-seven owners opted out of adulticide spraying adjacent to their property: 15 from Brandon, 10 from Leicester, 36 from Salisbury, 10 from Goshen, 7 from Pittsford, and 9 from Proctor. That number of no spray requests represents a 36% increase from last year.

A reminder: No Spray requests must be renewed annually and should be submitted to the OCW no later than April 15th. Requests received after April 15th will be honored, but there could be a delay between receipt of the request and marking the property, which could result in the property being sprayed. If a No Spray Zone request was submitted for the preceding year AND there have been no changes in ownership, contact information, or property boundaries, an email sent to the OCW containing the 911 address and requesting No Spray Zone status again for the current year will suffice. The OCW email address is: ocwicd@gmail.com. If a No Spray Zone request was NOT submitted for the preceding year and/or there have been changes in ownership, contact information, or property boundaries, a letter must be submitted listing the name(s) of the property owner(s), his/her/their contact telephone number(s), the 911 address of the property, and include a property map which clearly shows the property boundaries along the public or private road(s). The OCW mailing address is: PO Box 188, Brandon, VT 05733. For additional details please visit: <https://ocwicd.com/adulticide-program>.

Kudos again to Will Mathis, the OCW Operations Coordinator, and to Jeremy New and Kerry White for their long hours this season keeping nuisance mosquito populations at tolerable levels. All three employees have day jobs but often were driving double spray routes until 2 o'clock in the morning. As mentioned in last year's report, additional part-time staff would be most welcome. For job particulars please contact Will, who can be reached via the OCW call center (802-247-6779) or the email address above.

At the Annual Meeting on 18 November, Doug Perkins (Leicester) was re-elected as Chair, Jeff Schumann (Salisbury) was re-elected as Vice-Chair, Brad Lawes (Leicester) was re-elected as Treasurer, and Steve Belcher (Pittsford) was re-elected as Secretary of the Board of Trustees. The Board is composed of two representatives and one alternate from each member town, appointed by each town's Select Board. Currently, there are openings on the OCW Board for the towns of Brandon and Salisbury. Anyone interested in serving as an OCW representative should contact their Select Board.

Thank you for your continued support of biting insect control in the Otter Creek watershed.
Respectfully submitted, Doug Perkins, Chair, OCW Board of Trustees

OPEN DOOR CLINIC

The Open Door Clinic (ODC) is requesting an allocation of \$300.00 from the Town of Leicester for the fiscal year 2023-2024 to be included in the Town Warning for the 2023 Annual Town Meeting. The location will be used to provide free health care to uninsured and under-insured residents of Leicester and Addison County in general. We are grateful for your past and generous support of our clinic and hope that you will renew your commitment to the ODC once again this year.

Our Mission: The Open Door Clinic provides access to free, quality health care services to those who are uninsured or under-insured in a compassionate, respectful, and culturally sensitive manner until a permanent healthcare provider can be established.

YTD Report: Between 1/1/22-11/22/22, the clinic provided 1,637 medical and dental visits to 1,050 distinct patients, including 265 new patients! We have served 4 Leicester residents, providing 7 medical visits and 10 case management and consultation visits. In addition, 1 Leicester resident received help from our health insurance navigator, learning about options available to them through Vermont Health Connect.

Outreach and Services: Over the course of this year, our time in the field performing outreach resulted in Covid and flu vaccines being offered to 34 farms and orchards throughout the county. In addition, we continue to offer 8-10 in-person medical and dental clinics each month through which patients receive comprehensive chronic and acute care and referrals to a variety of specialists when needed. New this year, we piloted a 9-week women's support group in Spanish and expanded our mental health services with a second Spanish-speaking therapist.

Volunteer Based: As a free clinic, we cannot charge for any of our services and rely entirely on the expertise and efforts of many volunteers to care for our patients. Our volunteers include our medical director, dental director, nurse practitioners and physicians, nurses, EMTs, PTs, nutritionists, pharmacists, medical interpreters, and others who provide general support.

Help with Health Insurance: Through mid-November of 2022, our incredibly knowledgeable insurance navigator has helped 241 individuals learn about health insurance plans and has enrolled 121 individuals in plans through Vermont Health Connect. She is the only navigator remaining in Addison County, is available to meet with any member of our community and her services are free!

It was another busy and fruitful year made possible by our extraordinary staff and volunteers who remain deeply committed to providing health care and comprehensive wrap-around services to individuals in need across Addison County.

-
Heidi R. Sulis, MPH, Executive Director

RSVP

Brief Description of RSVP:

RSVP of Addison County is a volunteer management program which offers individuals the opportunity to share their experience, professional skills, and time by volunteering for local non-profit organizations. RSVP considers volunteering to be a key solution in responding to Addison County's most pressing challenges. Needs are met in critical areas such as human services, elder care, health and education.

RSVP also oversees several free community outreach programs that benefit local residents. These include free Bone Builders health and osteoporosis prevention classes offered twice per week at many locations in Addison County; the Green Mountain Foster Grandparent Program which places volunteers in our schools; the Warm Hearts Warm Hands initiative which distributes clothing items to local schools, hospitals, nursing homes, social service agencies; the RSVP/AARP Tax Program which provides income tax return services to low income residents; and the Peaceful Packs Program which provides essential items to children/families in crisis. These programs strengthen communities through service and volunteering and allow Addison County residents to stay healthy, engaged and financially stable.

Services Provided to Leicester Residents:

In FY'22, RSVP Leicester residents took advantage of RSVP programs our free health/osteoporosis prevention classes and our free income tax preparation services. In Addison County 295 residents benefited from attending remote Bone Builders classes and 380 residents received remote income tax services. Over \$440,000 in federal and state refunds and credits was returned to the Addison County community as a result of volunteer tax preparers working with individuals and families. During the winter months, more than 400 warm clothing items were given to Addison County community members in need and volunteers helped provide essential items to children and families in crisis.

In addition, RSVP volunteers also donated thousands of hours to support the community. Many Leicester residents who received assistance from a local service organization benefited from the work RSVP volunteers do throughout the area. Examples include community members at risk of hunger who received free nutritious meals from RSVP volunteers who assisted with meals, or residents who received free transportation services from volunteer drivers. In total, RSVP volunteers provided 28,600 hours to local social service agencies, health care organizations, schools and other nonprofit organizations. This equates to \$856,000 in donated labor to our community.

The monies we are requesting this year will be used to help continue to defray the financial impact of COVID on our organization along with the cost of providing volunteer placement, support, transportation, and recognition. On behalf of our volunteers and nonprofit partners, we would like to thank the residents of Leicester for their continued support of RSVP. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about our programs, please feel free to call us at 388-7044.

Sincerely, Lynn Bosworth, Program Coordinator

RUTLAND COUNTY PARENT CHILD CENTER

The Rutland County Parent Child Center is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to removing the barriers that perpetuate poverty for children and families throughout Rutland County. RCPCC provides many services to the community, including: two Early Childhood Education Centers (ECE), Early Developmental Assessments and Interventions (CIS), educational opportunities and enrichment for at-risk youth (Learning Together and Sevens Club), family navigation services (Parenting Classes, Playgroups, etc.), and food security support (Food Pantry). All services are provided at no cost or with substantial financial assistance for working families. Overall, we have served over 800 parents/caregivers, and over 1200 children in Rutland County in 2022. We are expecting the need to only grow in 2023.

As is true everywhere, the COVID-19 pandemic has continued to heighten the needs of families in Rutland County, and we will continue to increase our capacity and scope of services. Our food pantry continues to be one of the largest in the state, by volume and clients served. Additionally, we are set to break-ground on our long dreamt project at One PCC Place. This is a 6,000 sq. ft. 2Gen Campus on Chaplin Avenue in Rutland City where we will deliver quality whole-family programming in newly renovated space. With all the reverence RCPCC is requesting a continuance of last year's total of \$300.

Thank you so much for your continued support, and furthering the assistance that we strive to achieve within the entirety of our community.

--
Matthew Bravo CFO

TRI-VALLEY TRANSIT (F/K/A ACTR)

Thank you for the Town of Leicester's generous support last year. During the past four years, your support helped us provide an annual average of **1,195 free Dial-a-Ride** for Leicester residents either by volunteer drivers or on wheelchair accessible vehicles, including TVT owned vehicles operated by Elderly Services, Inc. TVT's Dial-a-Ride and Shuttle Bus Systems provided a total of 158,302 rides for the year. All of TVT's transportation programs enable community members to maintain their independence, gain and keep employment and access critical healthcare and quality-of-life services.

Dial-a-Ride Programs – Focus on specialized populations including elders, persons with disabilities and low-income families/individuals who are unable to access the bus system. **In Leicester, Dial-a-Ride offers direct access from home to: medical treatments, meal site/senior programs, adult day care services, pharmacies, food shopping, social services, vocational rehabilitation, radiation & dialysis and substance abuse treatment.**

Bus System – Promotes economic development, energy conservation, mobility independence and quality of life. **Leicester residents have direct access at the Town Offices to the Rutland Connector shuttles, connecting them to Middlebury and Rutland 6 days a week.**



The state and local grants through which we provide these services require us to raise up to 20% "local match" dollars. TVT's requests from towns account for approximately 5% of the 20% requirement. Our website: www.trivalleytransit.org

VERMONT ADULT LEARNING

Vermont Adult Learning (VAL) offers a variety of learning opportunities to help adults achieve their educational goals and enhance their quality of life. We work with each student to develop an individualized learning plan that includes a transition to further education or employment. We offer GED testing, programs for completing a high school diploma, basic skills instruction in reading, writing, and math and classes for English Language Learners (ELL). Instruction is also available to students who need skill preparation for college or employment purposes.

In addition, we are contracted by the Vermont Department of Children and Families to place and support Reach-Up participants in unsubsidized work experiences. Our programs are free and confidential.

We are grateful to the townspeople of Leicester for supporting the services we provide.

282 Boardman Street, Middlebury, Vermont 05753 (802) 388-4392 Fax: (802) 388-4396 www.vtadultlearning.org

VERMONT CARES

Vermont CARES: Annual Report to the Town of Leicester for FY2023

Vermont CARES has been providing support services to Vermonters living with HIV/AIDS and their family members for more than 35 years thanks to support from the Town of Leicester. Vermont CARES also works to prevention new HIV infections by educating and training Vermonters on how to stay safe and reduce their risks. So much of the foundational programming we've built over the last five years have allowed for our mobile outreach services to truly flourish. We were able to build new community partnerships to serve even more Addison County community members in 2022 and continued collaborations are in the works. An appropriation from Leicester could help us continue focused excellent service for people living with HIV/AIDS, those in need of syringe service programs, and increase access to free rapid-result HIV tests.

Vermont CARES' Programming for People Living with HIV/AIDS:

- * Emotional support for HIV care ranging from diagnosis to persistent medical and related issues
- * Advocacy with doctors, landlords and other social service organizations
- * Residential facility in Colchester, plus additional subsidized apartments across Vermont
- * Transportation to and from medical appointments, the pharmacy & grocery store
- * Emergency financial assistance for food and nutrition, housing, and utilities, and other critical financial needs
- * Support groups and social events

Vermont CARES Programming for People at Risk of HIV/AIDS:

- * Rapid HIV tests, including risk reduction planning and counseling around HIV prevention medication (called "PrEP")
- * Community education events for high schools, colleges, community groups, first responders, and employers
- * One on one education and support to reduce future HIV risks
- * Syringe exchange services based out of our Rutland, Addison, Franklin, Grand Isle, Washington, Caledonia, Orange, Chittenden, Lamoille, and Orleans Counties, now including two mobile vans which provide all these services by appointment. These services include free naloxone kits, test strips to determine the presence of possible fentanyl, and other life-saving materials

A continued contribution of \$350 would help support Vermont CARES' programming in aid of all those we work with both living with HIV and at risk.

Such funds help Vermont CARES return to Leicester's residents improved quality of life and essential services for residents who are living with HIV or AIDS. Additionally, Vermont CARES provides Leicester area residents with a spectrum of free (largely mobile) HIV-prevention services which are critical in helping to prevent new infections and stem new illness.

If you need any additional information about the services we provide, please feel free to contact me at 802/863.2437, ext. 1.

We appreciate your consideration of this request, and the Town of Leicester's ongoing kind support.

Sincerely, Theresa Vezina, Executive Director

VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

For over 43 years, The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) has been teaching people with disabilities and the Deaf how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. VCIL employees (85% of whom have a disability) conduct public education, outreach, individual advocacy and systems change advocacy to help promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities into community life.

In FY'22 (10/2021-9/2022) VCIL responded to thousands of requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information, referral and assistance and program services for individuals living with a disability. VCIL Peer Advocate Counselors (PACs) provided one-on-one peer counseling to **158** individuals to help increase their independent living skills and **6** peers were served by the AgrAbility program. VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) assisted **172** households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; **80** of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) provided **91** individuals with information on assistive technology; **39** of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. **454** individuals had meals delivered through our Meals on Wheels (MOW) program for individuals with disabilities under the age of 60. Our Vermont Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (VTEDP) served **29** people and provided **16** peers with adaptive telecommunications enabling low-income Deaf, Deaf-blind, Hard of Hearing and individuals with disabilities to communicate by telephone. Due to the pandemic VCIL was able to start a new (temporary) program, Resilience and Independence in a State of Emergency (RISE) which served over 600 people in the 2 years it was funded. The Rise Program helped provide an array of items or services if the needs were directly related to the Covid-19 epidemic.

VCIL's central office is located in downtown Montpelier and we have five branch offices in Bennington, Chittenden, Franklin, Rutland and Windham Counties. Our PACs and services are available to people with disabilities throughout Vermont.

During FY'22, **3** residents of **Leicester** received services from the following programs:

- Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF)
- Information Referral and Assistance (I,R&A)

To learn more about VCIL, please call VCIL's toll-free I-Line at: **1-800-639-1522**, or, visit our web site at **www.vcil.org**.

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Local Health Office Annual Report 2022

Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the Vermont Department of Health. Your district office is at the address and phone number above. We provide essential services and resources to towns across Addison County in order to protect and promote the health and well-being of people in Vermont. For example, in the past year and beyond, the Middlebury Local Health Office:

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

Worked to prevent and control the spread of disease: In collaboration with community partners, since COVID-19 response efforts began, we hosted over 60 COVID-19 vaccination clinics and provided over 8,780 COVID-19 doses. Since August 2021, all local health offices have also documented and helped manage 8,125 COVID-19-related situations, including 1,271 COVID-19 outbreaks.

Ensured local preparedness for future emergencies: We worked with partners like schools, hospitals, and emergency personnel to ensure effective pandemic response and support preparedness to distribute medicine, supplies, and information during public health emergencies. This year, we responded to the emergence of human monkeypox virus by sharing information and providing vaccine to community members. As of November 15, 2022, 13 hMPXV vaccine doses have been administered.

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

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

Provided WIC services and resources to families and children: Provided WIC nutrition education and support to 907 individuals between July 1, 2021 and June 31, 2022, while enabling them to save on groceries so they can have more to spend on other things their family needs. WIC also empowers families with breastfeeding/chestfeeding support and provides referrals to other health and nutrition services. Learn more at www.healthvermont.gov/wic.

Supported student health and youth empowerment: According to the Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey, only 64% percent of students in Addison County agree or strongly agree that they "believe they matter to people in their community." This is higher than the state average of 58%. Regionally, efforts like mentoring and after-school enrichment programs help to ensure youth feel valued and included.

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

Learn more about what we do at <https://www.healthvermont.gov/local/Middlebury>

VERMONT SECRETARY OF STATE

By using the My Voter Page, a registered voter can:

- ✓ Check registration status;
- ✓ View information on upcoming elections;
- ✓ Access voter specific elections information, including directions to a polling place and polling hours;
- ✓ View a sample ballot;
- ✓ Request and track an absentee ballot;
- ✓ and much more.

We encourage voters to log into their My Voter Page to learn more.

Registered Voters can log in at: <http://mvp.sec.state.vt.us> Online registration can be found at: <http://olvr.sec.state.vt.us>

WOMENSAFE

Elyssa Boisselle, Executive Director

24-hour Hotline: 802-388-4205

Business: 802-388-9180

info@womensafe.net

www.womensafe.net

In the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022* **WomenSafe** staff and volunteers provided the following total services:

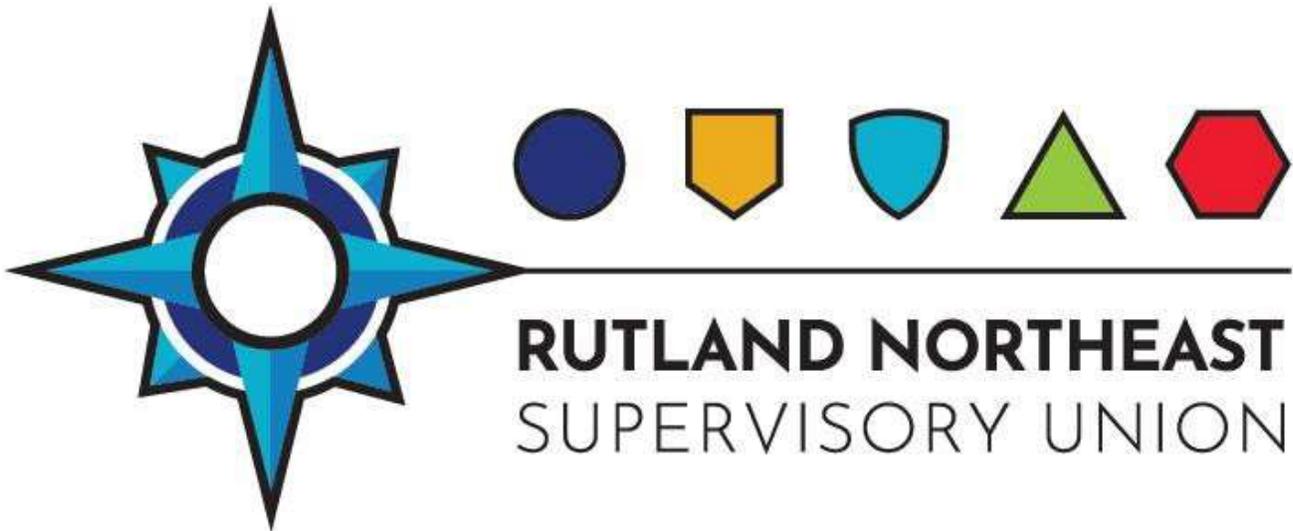
- o 544 total adults and children served through advocacy and supervised visitation services.
- o 7,872 in-person meetings and phone calls through the advocacy program.
- o 234 supervised visits and orientation meetings for 13 families including 21 children.
- o Worked with the parents/caregivers of a total of 328 children exposed to violence.
- o Prevention programming reached 4,180 youth and adults through 568 presentations and outreach events.
- o 63 volunteers donated 7,088 hours of services.

**Numbers are unaudited*

LEICESTER

In Leicester, WomenSafe provided advocacy services to at least **5*** residents, including the parents/caregivers of **3** children.

** For safety, some people do not share their town of residence.*



RNESU SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dear Residents of Brandon, Chittenden, Goshen, Leicester, Mendon, Pittsford, Sudbury, & Whiting:

I am pleased to write this report to capture RNESU, Otter Valley Unified Union and Barstow Unified Union activities for 2022. Although each town and school within our system is unique, we are committed to supporting OVUU and BUU working together toward achieving RNESU's vision and mission of educating every child in our eight towns.

In my first year as the RNESU Superintendent, I feel a deep sense of pride in this great district and what we have collectively accomplished in providing an excellent education experience for each and every learner at all grade levels. Although we were all hopeful that COVID was behind us, the 2021-2022 school year was one that challenged all of us with unknowns and transitions back to the school

buildings. In and out of masks and with evolving guidance from state and national leaders, students continually acknowledged the circumstances put in front of them by the ongoing pandemic... and yet they persisted. As we worked together as a community and state to make sense of the world around us, we also explored opportunities to innovate and maintain a sense of purpose amidst the challenges. We are grateful for our staff, students, families and community partners – all of whom stood up to the challenges and engaged in the hard work of becoming comfortable with discomfort and figuring it out together. Some of the lessons we learned were not easy, and others were not flattering, but I deeply believe that this is a community that is committed to doing what is best for our students and our schools.

Despite staffing shortages, rising costs, and the looming threat of a pandemic turned endemic, RNESU continues to thrive in many ways. From new bleachers at OV, to modular units to support space needs, our facilities are in good shape and under the direction of a new Coordinator, Rich Vigue. Veteran Superintendent of Schools, Jeanne Collins, departed the District and we welcomed a new Curriculum Director, Tyler Weideman to the team. We said goodbye to long-time Principal Jim Avery and AP Geoffrey Lawrence and welcomed a new Principal, Michael Ruppel and a new Assistant Principal, Patrick Binder. Otter Creek Academy’s Principal Thom Fleury retired, and we welcomed a former instructional coach, Brian Crane into the role. Although change is hard in many ways, it also presents us with new opportunities to create strong schools and build connections with the community. In addition to changes in leadership, we saw many instructional and support staff changes as well. Without these individuals, our buildings could not operate. Thank you to everyone who has continued to step up and step forward to keep our schools open and thriving, prioritizing student learning and well-being.

Finally, I want to thank this outstanding community for such strong and consistent support, which has enabled us to be the district we’ve been throughout the pandemic and beyond. The last several years haven’t been easy. When together we support the work, we’re able to keep moving through hard times. Together, let’s continue to re-imagine the possibilities and commit to what we want RNESU schools to look like, for students, staff and families. Thank You.



Respectfully,
Kristin Hubert, Superintendent
RNESU



Please read the full Otter Valley Unified Union School District Annual Report provided separately via mail and available online at www.rnesu.org.



**RUTLAND NORTHEAST SUPERVISORY UNION
BOARD ANNUAL REPORT**

The Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union (RNESU) Board has been busy this year making sure that our two school districts (Barstow and Otter Valley) have the resources they need to continue to educate our children. The most important work we did this year was to hire our next Superintendent upon the retirement of Jeanne Collins in June 2022. After two rounds of advertising and interviews, we were successful in hiring our very own Curriculum Director, Kristin Hubert. We are super excited to have her with us, as she already knows our district and what our goals are. She will lead us well into the future! Kristin was successful in hiring Tyler Weideman as our new Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Director. Welcome Kristin and Tyler!



**OTTER VALLEY
UNIFIED UNION
SCHOOL DISTRICT**



The Board has been managing the use of over \$10 million in ESSER and COVID monies over the last three years. We have used this money to provide more support staff in our schools to help our students get back on track with their learning. We have also used some of those funds to buy three modular units to alleviate space issues at OCA-Leicester, Neshobe and Otter Valley. We have the use of these funds for one more year and are already looking at how we will continue to educate our children once these funds are no longer available. We are calling this the ESSER Cliff, and will need to make some hard decisions about what is most beneficial to our kids and how to fund those needs going forward.

We were able to complete successful Negotiations for new three-year contracts with our Teacher and Para/Bus Driver Unions. This will allow for stability of staff and hopefully allow us to attract new staff to our ranks. We are currently hiring for bus drivers and paraprofessionals, so if you or someone you know is looking for a rewarding position, check us out!

The other important work of our board was creating the budget for Special Education, Technology, Central Office, and Transportation. We are committed to a 1:1 device initiative for our students. This means that all students will have a chromebook to help with learning. This year our budget reflects a 10.41% increase in spending. We are changing our Curriculum, Instructions & Assessment Director to an Assistant Superintendent. Essentially this means that we are not hiring new staff, but giving Tyler more responsibilities and will allow him to do his job more effectively. We have made no significant changes in programming.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jacob Powsner for his tireless work on behalf of the RNESU Board, as he is not seeking re-election. Thank you for your support of our schools, staff and students! We look forward to continuing our mission of educating life-long learners. If you should have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact a board member or use the Let's Talk button on any school website.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Bertrand
RNESU Board Chair



OV UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD'S LETTER

Hello!

Another year has come and gone. I wish that I could finally say that COVID-19 is in our rearview window. Unfortunately, that isn't the case. We are still seeing the impact of the pandemic in many ways. Our administration, teachers and staff are doing their very best to keep the learning going in our classrooms and schools. We have been dealing with a staffing shortage which has hampered our ability to provide the very best to our students. However, I am happy to report that we were able to complete successful Negotiations with our Teachers and our Para/Bus Drivers. We are hopeful that this new three-year deal will provide stability in our staffing and attract additional staff to our district. To that end, if you or someone you know are thinking about a career change, we are currently hiring bus drivers and paraprofessionals. Come join the team!

The OVUU Board has taken this year to further define what our End Goals are for our students. What does this mean? We determined that we want Otter Valley Graduates to have Academic Proficiency, Communication Skills, Critical Thinking & Problem Solving skills, be Global Citizens, be Lifelong Learners, and have Mental Well-Being by the time they leave our halls. Our hope is that these skills will allow our students to be successful as they move on to the next phase of their lives.



With the help of the RNESU School Board ESSER Funds (Federal Grant Funds), the OVUU district has been able to obtain three new modular units to help with space issues at Otter Creek Academy at Leicester, Neshobe School and Otter Valley Middle/High School. At the time of this writing, the modular units at Otter Creek and Neshobe have been placed and are almost ready for use! The Otter Valley Unit is currently under order and should be ready for use by the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year.

We are also excited to notify everyone that we have reopened the Sudbury School! It is being used for elementary students who need a quieter, less stimulating environment to access their learning. Students receive intensive wrap around services that teach self-regulation skills to allow them to return to one of our larger school settings.



The Board would like to welcome our new School Administrators, Michael Ruppel, High School Principal and Patrick Binder, Associate Principal at Otter Valley. We would also like to welcome our new Otter Creek Academy Principal, Brian Crane.

Thank you for your support of our kids, staff and schools! As always, feel free to contact a Board Member with any questions you might have, or use the Let's Talk App on any school website. We look forward to hearing from you!

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Bertrand OVUU Board Chair