

# TOWN OF SWANTON VERMONT



The Discovery Trail - Photo By/Credit Ken Sturm/USFWS

## 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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## SWANTON TOWN DIRECTORY

Meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm

### Select Board

Chair	Earl Fournier	38 Campbell Bay Rd, Swanton	582-8539
Vice-Chair	Steve Bourgeois	68 Maquam Shore Rd., Swanton	868-4447
	Nicole Draper	156 Hog Island Rd., Swanton	309-7892
	Cody Hemenway	437 St. Albans Rd., Swanton	782-3414
	Joel A. Clark	296 Maquam Shore Rd., Swanton	868-9034

### Town Clerk's Office

Town Clerk & Treasurer	Cathy L. Fournier	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-4421
Asst. Clerk & Asst. Treasurer	Tanya M. Dufresne	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-4421

### Town Administrator

Brian K. Savage	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-7418
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### Zoning Administrator

Amy Giroux	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-3325
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### Planning Commission

Meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday Monthly at 6:30 pm

Chair	Edward Daniel	11 Platt St., Swanton	868-4035
	Ross Lavoie	77 St. Albans Rd., Swanton	782-1925
	Andrew LaRocque	227 First St., Swanton	868-7203
	Heather Buczkowski	58 Grand Ave., Swanton	868-6258
	Oliver Manning	431 Bushey Rd., Swanton	393-0967

### Development Review Board

Meet on 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday Monthly at 6:00 pm

Chair	Spencer LaBarge	97 Canada St., Swanton	868-4427
	Harold Garrett	2014 Highgate Rd., Swanton	752-7138
	James Pratt	43 Sugar Maple Dr., Swanton	524-4404
	Reg Beliveau	13 Jones Court, Swanton	868-3936
	Jennifer Yandow	480 Bushey Rd., Swanton	343-0495

### Highway Department

Road Commissioner	Earl Fournier	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-7281
Road Foreman	Kevin Lapan	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-7281
	Patrick Loyer	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-7281
	Brandon Calderwood	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-7281
	Mike Bockus	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-7281

### Listers

Chair	David Horton	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-2232
	Amy Giroux	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-2232
	Kevin Nichols	PO Box 711, Swanton	868-2232

Animal Control Officer	Jim Benson	PO Box 711, Swanton	238-3246
Health Officer	Amber LaFountain	PO Box 711, Swanton	324-7674

## ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS

		TERM	EXPIRES
<b>MODERATOR</b>	Brian Savage	1 yr.	2024
<b>TOWN CLERK &amp; TREASURER</b>	Cathy L. Fournier	3 yrs.	2026
<b>SELECTBOARD</b>	Earl Fournier	3 yrs.	2024
	Nicole Draper	2 yrs.	2024
	Joel A. Clark	1 yr. unexp.	2024
	Cody Hemenway	2 yrs.	2025
	Steven Bourgeois	3 yrs.	2026
<b>TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC MONEY</b>	Nicholas Brosseau	3 yrs.	2024
	Brian K. Savage	3 yrs.	2025
	Cody Hemenway	3 yrs.	2026
<b>LISTERS</b>	David Horton	3 yrs.	2024
	Kevin Nichols	1 yr unexp.	2025
	Amy Giroux	3 yrs.	2026
<b>AUDITORS</b>	Joyce Bombardier	3 yrs.	2024
	Diane Larocque	3 yrs.	2025
	Amy Giroux	3 yrs.	2026
<b>CEMETERY COMMISSIONER</b>	Cody Hemenway	5 yrs.	2024
	John Kaczowski	4 yrs. unexp.	2024
	Macy Lavoie-Dupont	2 yrs. unexp.	2025
	Brian Savage	5 yrs.	2026
	Nicholas Brosseau	5 yrs.	2027
<b>LIBRARY TRUSTEES</b>	Richard Kelly	5 yrs.	2024
	Kathy Kneebone	5 yrs.	2025
	Rebecca Rupp	5 yrs.	2026
	Bianca Braman	4 yrs. unexp.	2027
	Sarah Garvey	5 yrs.	2028
<b>COLLECTOR OF DELINQUENT TAXES</b>	Betty Cheney	1 yr.	2024

## **JUSTICES OF THE PEACE**

### **2 Year Term to Expire 2025**

Tamar Bouchard  
Mike Bourgeois  
Randy Brock  
Nicholas Brosseau  
Donald “Don” Collins  
Edward F. Daniel  
Stephanie Gagne  
Steven Pike

Jeffery Raleigh  
Joseph Raleigh  
Brian K. Savage  
Alan Shannon  
Neal Speer  
Suzanne Washburn  
Matthew Walker

## **APPOINTED BOARDS AND OFFICIALS**

**Tree Warden**  
**Road Commissioner**  
**Health Officer**  
**Forest Fire Warden**  
**Animal Control Officer**

Frank Shumway  
Earl Fournier  
Amber LaFountain  
Jon Barrette  
Jim Benson

### **Planning Commission**

	<b>Term</b>	<b>Expires</b>
Heather Buczkowski	4 years	June 2024
Edward Daniel	4 years	June 2025
Andy LaRocque	4 years	June 2025
Oliver Manning	4 years	June 2025
Ross Lavoie	4 years	June 2026
Christina Candels, Secretary		

### **Development Review Board**

	<b>Term</b>	<b>Expires</b>
Reg Beliveau	4 years	June 2025
Spencer LaBarge, Chair	4 years	June 2026
Jennifer Yandow	4 years	June 2027
James Pratt	4 years	June 2027
Harold Garrett	4 years	June 2026
Christina Candels, Clerk		

### **Recreation Committee**

Betsy Fournier, Board Chair	Nicole Draper, Executive Director
Alicia Bourdeau, Treasurer	Jesse LeClair, Board Member
Lisa Wilda, Secretary	Jason Guyette, Board Member
Joseph Raleigh, Board Member	Jon Nielsen, Board Member
Sophie Vibert, Board Member	Nick Michaud, Athletic Director/Operations Manager

**TOWN OF SWANTON  
ANNUAL MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024**

The legal voters of the Town of Swanton, who are legal voters in Town Meeting, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Swanton Village Municipal Complex, First and Elm Streets, Swanton on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 7:00 a.m. to vote on the articles herein set forth. All articles are to be voted by the Australian Ballot system. The polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m.

**Article 1:** To elect from the legal voters of said Town the following officers:

Moderator, Town for a 1 year term  
One Selectperson for a 3 year term  
One Selectperson for a 2 year term  
One Selectperson for a 1 year unexpired term  
One Lister for a 3 year term  
One Lister for a 1 year unexpired term  
One Auditor for a 3 year term  
One Trustee of Public Money for a 3 year term  
One Library Trustee for a 5 year term  
One Cemetery Commissioner for a 5 year term  
One Cemetery Commissioner for a 4 year unexpired term  
Collector of Delinquent Taxes

**Article 2:** Shall the Town appropriate \$ 1,285,363.02 for the operation and maintenance of the Town Highway Department?

**Article 3:** Shall the Town appropriate \$ 296,216.00 for fire protection?

**Article 4:** Shall the Town appropriate \$ 475,057.00 to provide police protection to the residents of the Town of Swanton?

**Article 5:** Shall the Town appropriate \$ 814,927.61 for the Town General expenses?

**Article 6:** Shall the Town appropriate \$ 212,502.88 towards the maintenance & employee benefits of the Swanton Public Library?

**Article 7:** Shall the Town appropriate \$ 70,900.00 towards the operating budget of the Swanton Public Library?

**Article 8:** Shall the Town collect its real and personal property taxes to defray the expenses of the Town for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, by its actual receipt of payment (postmarks will not be accepted) at the Town Offices by 5 p.m. on October 15<sup>th</sup>, or if the 15<sup>th</sup> shall fall on a weekend or holiday, the following business day by 5 p.m., with an eight percent (8%) penalty and one percent (1%) interest per month (or portion thereof) due thereon for the first three months, and one and one half (1.5%) per month (or portion thereof) thereafter, to be charged for late payment of any installment?

**Article 9:** Shall the Town appropriate \$ 229,761.00 to provide rescue services to the residents of the Town of Swanton?

**Article 10:** Shall the Town appropriate \$ 149,562.97 towards the Operating and Maintenance Budget of the Recreation Department?



**Article 11:** Shall the Town establish a Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$25,000.00 annually for the future construction and maintenance of Town owned assets?

The legal voters of the Town of Swanton are further notified that an Informational Meeting will be held at the Swanton Village Complex, 120 First Street, Swanton, VT on Monday, February 26, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in person and via Teams for the purpose of explaining all budget items to the voters. Anyone desiring to participate and listen in on the meeting, join on your computer, mobile app or room device with Teams.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 259 095 769 866

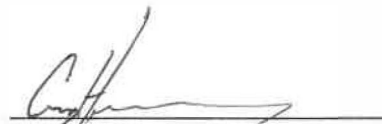
Passcode: TWmERr

Dated at Swanton, Vermont this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2024.

  
Earl Fournier, Chair

  
Nicole Draper

  
Steven Bourgeois

  
Cody Hemenway

  
Joel A. Clark

SELECTBOARD

Dated and filed this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2024

  
Attest: Cathy L. Fournier, Town Clerk



# **SELECTBOARD'S REPORT**

## **Preamble**

The Selectboard moving forward in 2024 will continue to work on plans for future growth, hopefully resolve future policing issues, continue to plan for recreational opportunities, and to seek ways for example, to take advantage of the LVRT rail trail. It is our goal to find an affordable way to accomplish these things.

The outcome of these issues will have a profound effect on Swanton's future. It is extremely important for Swanton residents to participate in the decision making to accomplish that which is best for Swanton. The board would like to thank all of our volunteers and the people of Swanton. Their commitment to the community makes Swanton a great place to live.

## **Notes of the Year**

The Selectboard worked many long hours this past year, working a variety of issues that affect the residents of the community in their daily lives. At the beginning of 2023, the selectboard consisted of Chair James Guilmette, Earl Fournier, Nicole Draper, Ed White and Steve Bourgeois. James decided not to seek re-election to the Board. We wish to extend our gratitude and thanks to James for his years of service to the people of the Town of Swanton and wish him well in his "retirement". Cody Hemenway, won election to the Selectboard on Town Meeting Day and is adjusting well in his role on the Board. We were surprised in early December when Selectboard member Ed White, Sr. resigned his seat due to personal reasons. This vacancy was filled with the appointment of Joel Clark, a former longtime Selectboard member. We welcome Joel back to the Board and extend a big thank you to Ed for his service to the Board. At Town Meeting this year, the voters will be deciding on three Selectboard seats. Voting will be at the Swanton Village Complex with the polls open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm. Absentee ballots are available by contacting the office of the Town Clerk at 802-868-4421.

Some of the more major items that your Selectboard worked on over the past year have been the Community/Recreation Center, a proposal to expand police coverage in the town and looking at options to promote growth in the Southern Growth District. We also began to update personnel policies and finance policies with the goal to bringing more transparency to local government. We have also continued to address major maintenance and repair issues at the Swanton Public Library building. During 2023 we discussed creating a capital reserve fund to set aside monies for future Town buildings repair. In an effort to plan for future needs in the area of on-going maintenance, you will notice on the Warning you are being asked to establish a Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$25,000.00 annually for the future construction and maintenance of Town owned assets. In our Highway Department we are hoping to do more resurfacing this year on a number of our roads and correcting the steep grade on the Swanton Hill Road. These are all extremely important items that are setting the course for the future of the community as well as the type of community that we will become. Your Selectboard needs your input as we go forward. We will be going into further details on these items as well as others in the report that follows. One of the major milestones was the development of the new JOINT town and village website that can be found at [www.swantonvt.gov](http://www.swantonvt.gov). We have had many compliments on the new format but like anything that is

new, we would like your suggestions to make the site even better. Please email and comments or concerns to the Town Administrator at [townadmin@swantonvermont.org](mailto:townadmin@swantonvermont.org) or give him a call at 802-868-7418.

The Selectboard also wishes to compliment Gordon and Deborah Winters on the work they have done in restoring the old Champlain Theater building on Canada Street. This along with their rehabbing the former Memorial Auditorium has provided a much needed “re-birth” to the downtown area. This redevelopment project shows what a public/private partnership can get accomplished. Future development will likely need to take a similar course going forward.

### **Highlights of the Year**

In 2022, the Selectboard opened the Town Highways located outside of the Village limit to the use of ATVs from April 1<sup>st</sup> to December 1<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 am to 9:00 pm. As there have been few, if any complaints received from the public on abuse of this practice, the Selectboard amended the ordinance to allow the use of ATV year-round with the hours still being from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm. Once again, this change has seen no complaints received thus far.

In 2023 we continued to do maintenance on our town owned buildings. This included doing some painting and repair on the exterior wooden surfaces on the Town Hall and painting and replacement of some windows on the Swanton Public Library Building. In addition, the library building is being studied on how to combat the icing problem it has had for years on the roof during the winter. We are finding out that there is not a simple solution and have Arnold and Scangas Architects working on a design to remedy the problem.

In the area of staffing, as the duties of the Town Administrator and the Zoning Administrator have grown it was decided in early 2023 to hire a full-time Administrative Assistant. In April, Christina Candels was hired for this position. Christina has fit very well in the role and is a real asset to the Town staff. Our longtime Lister, Jim Pratt announced his retirement after many, many years of devoted service. This created an opening on the Board of Listers and Kevin Nichols was appointed by the Selectboard to serve until Town Meeting at which time there will be an election to fill the unexpired term. The Highway Department remains fully staffed with Kevin Lapan, Highway Foreman, Patrick Loyer, Jeff King, Brandon Calderwood and our part-time employee, Mike Bockus.

In 2023 our Town Plan was updated with many hours of work put in by our Planning Commission. The Town had applied for and received a grant to facilitate this project from the State of Vermont. The Town hired Corey Parent of Leonine Associates to work with the Planning Commission in developing and writing the plan. Several public hearings were held both by the Planning Commission and the Selectboard. The plan was adopted and approved by the Selectboard and is now in place for 8 years when it will need to be updated once again. This next project that is being worked on is to update our Zoning By-laws to be “in sync” with the Town Plan. The Town of Swanton applied for a grant to assist with the cost of doing the revision, however it was unfortunately not approved. For this revision of our zoning by-laws, we are again using the services of Corey Parent of Leonine Associates.

In June of last year, discussion was held, including a Public Hearing, as to whether to continue work on the sidewalk on First Street from the village line to Missisquoi Valley Union High School. After much careful consideration of the question and the fact that the school district was no longer in a position to finish the sidewalk from First Street to the school building, the board voted to discontinue the sidewalk project at their meeting of June 20, 2023. The Town owns the plans that were developed during the process in the event that the project should be re-visited at a future date but did have to pay back some of the grant that was used to the State of Vermont, in the amount of \$70,287.60.

### **General Budget**

In 2023, the actual expenditures came in at \$828,953.85. Assuming all warned articles are approved, the proposed 2024 General Budget will be \$957,405.35 with \$814,927.61 to be raised by taxes. The largest single line item increase in the General Budget is an increase in the cost of the employee health insurance due to an increase in the number of employees taking our insurance coverage this year as well as a double-digit rate increase. In addition, there have been a variety of increases in election expense, as well as land use and development regulations due to the revision on our zoning by-laws. The Selectboard spends a considerable amount of time preparing the budget with Town staff and outside organizations. We feel it is realistic, fair and fiscally responsible. We look for every way possible to maximize your tax dollars. All Swanton voters should make an effort to study and understand the budget and the special articles on this year's ballot. Budget information will be posted on the Town's website. Please bring your questions and comments to the informational meeting on Monday, February 26, 2024 at the Swanton Village Municipal Complex at 7:00 p.m. Again, this year, the Town and Village will conduct a joint budget informational meeting, we look forward to seeing you and urge you to participate in the democratic process by voting on Town Meeting Day, Tuesday, March 5, 2024, the polls will be open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm at the Swanton Village Complex. You may also request an Absentee Ballot by contact the Town Clerk at 802-868-4421

### **Highway**

In 2023, the actual expenditures came in at \$1,252,107.93. Assuming all warned articles are approved, the proposed 2024 Highway Budget is \$1,477,363.02 with \$1,285,363.02 to be raised by taxes. As usual, the single largest expense in the Highway Budget is road resurfacing.

The following roads had resurfacing work done on them, Lakewood Drive, Campbell Bay Road, and Viens Road. Culverts were replaced on Campbell Bay Road, Viens Road, and Champlain Street. With the rising cost of asphalt, we had to be very selective on what roads received resurfacing and were not able to resurface all of the roads that we had planned on in 2023, leaving us behind schedule. We are allocating \$450,000.00 for resurfacing this year, which is \$100,000.00 more than budgeted last year, in an effort to get more of our roads resurfaced this year. We also have a culvert that needs to be installed on Brooklyn Street this year at an estimated cost of \$40,000.00. It is our hope to have this project approved for a grant of approximately \$20,000.00 from the State of Vermont. In any event, as it necessary to do the work to correct a situation that presently is not allowed by law, the work needs to be done.

Another long overdue project that your Selectboard has included in the proposed budget for 2024 is to correct and straighten the slope on Swanton Hill Road. The present road has been a hazard and the goal is to lessen the slope and straighten the curve for a safer road. It is the Selectboard's intent to have our Highway Department employees do as much of the work as possible, but there are engineering costs and blasting that needs to be done. There is an allocation in the budget this year of \$162,500.00 with the Board favoring to pay for the project over a two-year period. The Selectboard's goal is to maintain all Town roads in good condition because regular maintenance saves money in the long run

Last year, the Selectboard reported that Storm Water Permits issued by the State of Vermont needed to be renewed. The renewals come with additional requirements of compliance set by the State of Vermont. This has been a long process with the Town signing a contract with Ruggiano Engineering to do the permit work for Robin Hood Drive and Country Club Estates. Work is being concentrated on the permit involving Country Club Estates as residents are facing issues if they wish to sell their homes. Every effort is being made to get these permits renewed but it is unknown at this time to what extent it will cost the town, the homeowner's association or the individuals owning property to be in compliance.

Your Selectboard would like to recognize the efficiency of our Highway Department. The fleet is kept in excellent mechanical condition, the roads are well maintained summer and winter with the department showing sound fiscal management of its budget each year. It is through this efficiency that last year a new truck was ordered expected to be delivered this spring or early summer and it will be paid for from the carryover funds with no tax increase. Congratulations and thank you to Kevin, Patrick, Jeff, Brandon, and Mike for your hard work and dedication!

### **Recreation**

The Swanton Recreation Commission provides a wide variety of recreational activities for Swanton residents. It also maintains the John Raleigh Memorial Fields, Swanton Recreation Club House, and adjacent parking areas. It is noteworthy that the Recreation Commission raises much of the funding for its budget through registration fees, grants and other fundraising, additional details on personnel changes and new recreational activities can be found in the Recreation Commission's report elsewhere in the Town Report.

As was reported in last year's Town Report, the Selectboard has committed \$600,000.00 toward the engineering and construction of long needed Community/Recreation Center to be constructed in the "lower lot" adjacent to the Recreation fields on Jewett Street. This past year a feasibility study was commissioned by the Selectboard to determine if the center when built and operational will be self-sustaining. The study performed by Ken Ballard of Ballard and King of Highland Ranch, Colorado provided very useful information and did conclude that the facility would be financially feasible. The project management team now consists of the Recreation Commission Chair, Betsy Fournier, Recreation Director and Selectboard member, Nicole Draper, and Town Administrator Brian Savage. This team is in the process of finding a qualified grant writer who will search and apply for grants as well as conduct a fund-raising campaign that will fund a large share of the construction. Anyone who wishes to have a copy of the feasibility study may contact

Brian Savage at 802-868-7418 or [townadmin@swantonvermont.org](mailto:townadmin@swantonvermont.org) and he will see that you receive a copy.

The site of the former Town Garage located on Fourth Street, slated for re-development for Recreation Fields has been delayed in an effort to obtain Brownfield funds to conduct further testing on the site as now required by the State of Vermont. It has been determined that this property is not eligible for funding under the Brownfields program, therefore the Selectboard has authorized the use of ARPA funds to have the required testing done by Atlas Engineering early this spring as soon as the weather permits. Based upon the results of that testing it will be determined what will need to be done, if anything, to remediate any potential hazard. The property will remain for future community use

Work on the LVRT trailhead, headed up by Joel Clark, is continuing. As you all may recall there had been scheduled a kick-off event for mid-July, however due to the devastating rains prior to the event it had to be cancelled. It is hoped that some sort of kick-off event will occur this year as much of the LVRT itself sustained substantial damage from the flooding. It is anticipated that construction on the trailhead will start this spring and be completed this summer.

More information on the Recreation Department's sports activities and events can be found on its website at [www.swantonrec.org](http://www.swantonrec.org) or by calling Recreation Director Nicole Draper at 802-868-2493.

### **Law Enforcement**

For the April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024 Swanton Village Police Department (SVPD) contract, the Town funded \$193,784.08 for the for police services and protection. The SVPD provides coverage of 8 hours per day, 7 days per week for a total of 56 hours per week for all 52 weeks in the year. For the April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025 contract period, the cost to the Town will be \$475,057.00. You will notice that this is a substantial increase. The contract this year will be for coverage of 10 hours per day, 7 day per week for a total of 70 hours per week for all 52 weeks of the year.

The police budget itself had several major increases for items such as the health insurance, the contribution to the retirement system, dispatching that has been provided by the Vermont State Police is now being handled by the St. Albans Central Dispatch at a cost versus the free service provided by the VSP. In addition, the number of hours of coverage was increased to provide better shift management coverage as employees of the police department work 10-hour shifts. In addition, the Village management conducted an analysis of the true cost of the service being provided and determined that the overall department runs between the town and village 30 hours of coverage per day. With the Town having 10 hours or 1/3 of the total hours that the all-in cost of the contract should be 1/3 of the total Village Police Department budget. There has been also discussion as to having the same level of coverage as the Village at some future point as our community grows. This will be an ongoing discussion going forward but for now the Selectboard supports the change to the 70 hours coverage per week and asks for your support.

### **Animal Control Officer**

Jim Benson continues as Swanton's Animal Control Officer. He can be reached by cell phone at 802-238-3246. He can also be contacted by email at swantonaco@gmail.com. **The ACO deals only with dog issues. The ACO does not accept dogs that are no longer wanted by their owners. Cats and other animals are not handled by the ACO.** All issues concerning wild animals should be directed to a state fish and wildlife warden by contacting the Vermont State Police at 802-524-5993. The ACO works cooperatively with a professional dog trainer. To view a copy of the Town's *Dog Ordinance*, please visit the ACO page on the Town's website. All dogs must be registered by April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year at the Town Clerk's Office. Dogs will be impounded by the ACO if not properly registered. Proof of rabies inoculation is required.

### **Health Officer**

The Town Health Officer is appointed by the Vermont Department of Health upon the recommendation of the Selectboard. Amber LaFountain has served since 2023 in this capacity and can be reached at 802-324-7674. The Town Health Officer's web page is on the town's website.

### **Economic Development**

The Selectboard along with the Town Administrator in conjunction with the Franklin County Industrial Development Corporation have been working tirelessly on economic development. One area that we are looking for more development is in our Southern Growth District. This area offers much potential but the major issue that needs to be addressed is access to water and sewer services. We are encouraged that the Agency of Transportation of the State of Vermont will be constructing their new district garage in this area that may assist in obtaining water to the vicinity.

We have also been awarded a "pass through" grant for engineering and planning for the redevelopment of the Abenaki Tribal Headquarters for the food shelf of the Maquam Bay of the Missisquoi on Grand Avenue and Laroe Street.

With the development of the LVRT Trailhead we will be working with local small businesses to develop a plan to market Swanton and their businesses to the travelers using the trail.

With so much land in our community either conserved or wetland it is a challenge to find suitable acreage for development. Nonetheless, we will continue to endeavor to work to find suitable development to expand our grand list.

### **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)**

During 2022, the Town of Swanton received a once in a lifetime appropriation of \$1,249,211.88 from the Federal Government under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

The following shows what has been received, committed and spent as of December 31, 2023:

<b><u>PROJECT</u></b>	<b><u>COMMITTED</u></b>	<b><u>EXPENDED</u></b>	<b><u>BALANCE</u></b>
Community/Rec Center	\$ 600,000.00	\$ 27,622.75	\$ 572,377.25
LVRT	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 47,909.33	\$ 42,090.67
Library	\$ 58,780.00	\$ 58,780.00	\$
Library	\$ 19,357.48	\$ 19,357.48	\$
Town Office	\$ 6,662.50	\$ 6,662.50	\$
Town Office	<u>\$ 7,250.55</u>	<u>\$ 7,250.55</u>	<u>\$</u>
Total:	\$ 782,050.53	\$ 167,582.61	\$ 614,467.92
Total ARPA received:	\$ 1,249,506.37		
Expended:	\$ 167,582.63		
Balance:	<u>\$1,081,923.74</u>		
Balance committed:	\$ 614,467.92		
Balance of ARPA funds:	\$ 467,455.82		



## **SWANTON TOWN ORDINANCES**

ENHANCED 911 ROAD NAMING, ROAD SIGN AND ADDRESSING ORDINANCE  
REGULATING, BURNING AND DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE  
CULVERT, DITCH, RIGHT-OF-WAY AND DRIVEWAY ORDINANCE  
DOG AND WOLF-HYBRID ORDINANCE  
SPEED LIMIT ORDINANCE  
STOP SIGN ORDINANCE  
PUBLIC INDECENCY ORDINANCE  
PARKING ORDINANCE  
CHILD SAFETY ORDINANCE  
LOCAL ENFORCEMENT OF SPEED LIMIT ON STATE HIGHWAY ORDINANCE  
NO PASSING ZONE ORDINANCE  
TRUANCY ORDINANCE  
ATV ORDINANCE

## **MY VOTER PAGE**

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 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>**

## ABSTRACTS OF THE 2023 TOWN MEETING

<b>TOTAL REGISTRERED VOTERS:</b>	<b>4735</b>
<b>TOTAL VOTES CAST:</b>	<b>736</b>
<b>TOTAL ABSENTEES:</b>	<b>187</b>

**Article 1:** To elect from the legal voters of said Town the following officers:

Moderator, Town for a 1 year term	Brian K. Savage	682
One Town Clerk for a 3 year term	Cathy L. Fournier	708
One Town Treasurer for a 3 year term	Cathy L. Fournier	694
One Selectman for a 3 year term	Steven Bourgeois	418
One Selectman for a 2 year term	Cody Hemenway	440
One Lister for a 3 year term	Amy Giroux	675
One Auditor for a 3 year term	Amy Giroux	666
One Trustee of Public Money for a 3 year term	Cody Hemenway	649
One Trustee of Public Money for a 1 year unexp. term.	Vacant	
One Library Trustee for a 5 year term	Sarah Garvey	664
One Library Trustee for a 4 year term unexp. term	Bianca Braman	654
One Cemetery Commissioner for a 5 year term	Vacant	
One Cemetery Commissioner for a 2 year unexp. term	Macy Lavoie-Dupont	509
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	Betty L. Cheney	684

**Article 2:** Shall the Town appropriate \$1,275,656.34 for the operation and maintenance of the Town Highway Department?

YES	336
NO	58

**Article 3:** Shall the Town appropriate \$278,225.00 for fire protection?

YES	345
NO	49

**Article 4:** Shall the Town appropriate \$196,784.08 to provide police protection to the residents of the Town of Swanton?

YES	320
NO	72

**Article 5:** Shall the Town appropriate \$663,450.42 for the Town General expenses?

YES	548
NO	113

**Article 6:** Shall the Town appropriate \$175,382.39 towards the maintenance & employee benefits of the Swanton Public Library?

YES	454
NO	205

**Article 7:**      Shall the Town appropriate an additional \$67,490.00 towards the Operating Budget of the Swanton Public Library?

YES    488  
NO     170

**Article 8:**      Shall the Town collect its real and personal property taxes to defray the expenses of the Town for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, by its actual receipt of payment (postmarks will not be accepted) at the Town Offices by 5 p.m. on October 15<sup>th</sup>, or if the 15<sup>th</sup> shall fall on a weekend or holiday, the following business day by 5 p.m., with an eight percent (8%) penalty and one percent (1%) interest per month (or portion thereof) due thereon for the first three months, and one and one half (1.5%) per month (or portion thereof) thereafter, to be charged for late payment of any installment?

YES    543  
NO     120

**Article 9:**      Shall the Town appropriate \$199,245.00 to provide rescue services to the residents of the Town of Swanton?

YES    577  
NO     92

**Article 10:**     Shall the Town appropriate \$123,247.24 towards the Operating and Maintenance Budget of the Recreation Department?

YES    522  
NO     149

**Dated at Swanton, Vermont this 31<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2023.**

**James Guilmette, Chair  
Earl Fournier, V. Chair  
Edward A. White, Sr.  
SELECTBOARD**

**Nicole Draper  
Steven Bourgeois**

**Dated and filed this 31<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2023  
Attest: Cathy L. Fournier, Town Clerk**

TOWN OF SWANTON		
TOWN TREASURERS REPORT		
12/31/2023		
RECEIPTS		
Balance on Hand - Regular Accounts January 1, 2023		\$ 1,345,087.50
Balance on Hand - Reserve Accounts January 1, 2023		\$ 960,122.03
Taxes Collected		\$ 10,864,016.80
School Tax Money		\$ (8,542,981.42)
Recording Fees		\$ 45,928.70
Digitized Records Fees		\$ 9,856.00
Restoration Fees		\$ 19,693.00
Zoning & Planning Fees		\$ 38,569.35
Marriage License Fees		\$ 435.00
Interest on Delinquent Taxes		\$ 24,028.41
Delinquent Taxes Collected		\$ 373,608.97
Interest Income - General		\$ 4,408.50
Interest Income/Reserve		\$ 9,316.40
Dog Licenses (Town Share)		\$ 5,846.00
Railroad Tax Revenue		\$ 8,472.12
Fish & Game Fees (Town Share)		\$ 10.00
Beverage Licenses		\$ 1,300.00
General Miscellaneous		\$ 4,535.92
Highway Misc		\$ 11,510.00
Health Ded		\$ 6,000.00
Land Use Fees		\$ 4,030.00
Re-Appraisal State		\$ 31,910.50
Grant Funds-		\$ 162,255.25
Highway Federal and State Aid/Grants		\$ 222,740.45
Highway Permits/Judicial Fees		\$ 4,380.50
Fish and Wildlife - Highway Funds		\$ 3,043.00
Capital Reserve		\$ 50,000.00
Capital Reserve Interest		\$ 159.41
Sinking Fund Interest		\$ 58.12
Library		\$ 213,098.00
		\$ 5,881,438.51
DISBURSEMENTS		
General Expenses & Ledger Entires		1,244,133.92
Library Expenses		198,513.88
Highway & Ledger Entries		1,717,230.95
Balance on Hand - Regular Accounts 12/31/23		1,649,903.67
Balance on Hand - Reserve Accounts 12/31/23		\$ 1,071,656.09
		\$ 5,881,438.51
Regular Accounts		
Checkbook Balance 12/31/23	\$ 1,649,903.67	
Cash on Hand	\$ 410.00	
ARPA Funds	\$ 1,081,923.74	
sub total	\$ 568,389.93	
Fish & Wild Life -Contingency Fund	\$ 3,043.00	
Contingency Fund carryover transfer	\$ 32,354.97	
New Truck Funds	\$ 200,000.00	
Library Carry-over for 2024 Budget	\$ 14,583.12	
Grant -Planning	\$ 13,500.00	
HW Funds/GNRL Fund to offset taxes	\$ 79,605.74	
Balance	\$ 225,303.10	
Accounts		
Reserve Accounts		
Reappraisal	\$ 602,446.06	
Town Highway Garage Capital Reserve	\$ 104,352.99	
	\$ 157,335.90	
Health Care Account	\$ 37,094.53	
Restoration Account	\$ 124,237.22	
Emergency Management/Civil Defense	\$ 7,382.36	
Repair Acocunt	\$ 3,500.00	
Total General Fund Reserve Accounts	\$ 1,036,349.06	
Highway Contingency	\$ 35,054.39	
Highway Capital Reserve	\$ 252.64	
Total Highway Fund Reserve Accounts	\$ 35,307.03	
Balance on Hand - Reserve Accounts 12/31/23	\$ 1,071,656.09	
Respectfully Submitted: Cathy L. Fournier, Town Treasurer		

## TOWN AUDITOR'S REPORT 2023

Balance Due Town 2022 Report	\$ 551,515.07
Received from Town Treasurer Delinquent 2023	<u>373,608.97</u>
<b>Amount Due Town</b>	<b>\$ 925,124.04</b>
 Deposited to Town Treasurer 2023	 (390,671.55)
Delinquent Taxes Collected in 2023 turned over to Town Jan. 2024	( 14,694.13)
Taxes Abated 2023	<u>( 3,361.51)</u>
<b>Total Outstanding Taxes</b>	<b>\$ 402,004.71</b>

### OUTSTANDING TAXES AS OF 12/31/23

	2017 - 2020	8,875.37
	2021	3,736.09
	2022	9,260.54
	2023	<u>109,917.98</u>
<b>BALANCE DUE TO TOWN</b>		<b>\$ 131,789.98</b>

### TOWN FUNDS

Balance on Hand 12/31/2023	\$ 225,303.10
Cash on Hand	410.00
Highway Contingency	32,003.75
Savings – Economic Fund	34,187.83
Mapping	2,872.88
Reappraisal Fund	602,446.06
Uncollected Taxes	131,789.98
Restoration Reserve Fund	124,273.22
Capital Reserve Highway	104,352.99
Digitized Computerized Records Fund	157,335.90
Town Garage Reserve Fund	252.64
Emergency Management Fund	7,382.36
Health Account	37,094.53
ARPA Funds	<u>1,081,923.74</u>
<b>Total Town Funds</b>	<b>\$ 2,541,628.98</b>

### TOWN DEBT

Town Debt Statement	
Town Garage	\$ <u>280,376.59</u>
<b>Total Debt</b>	<b>\$ 280,376.59</b>

We have verified the existence of the stated cash balances and investments and examined the accounts of the Town of Swanton. The financial Statement described above results in an incomplete presentation; the reports and disbursements referred to above present fairly the financial position of the year ended 12/31/23.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce D. Bombardier  
Amy E. Giroux

## COMPARATIVE GRANDLIST AND RATE

### Grand List

	<i>Town</i>	<i>Village</i>	<i>Total</i>
2019	\$5165783.00	\$1603429.00	\$6769212.00
2020	\$5238241.00	\$1624633.00	\$6863558.00
2021	\$5316509.00	\$1631716.00	\$6948225.00
2022	\$5413144.00	\$1650493.00	\$7063637.00
2023	\$5520254.00	\$1664546.00	\$7184800.00

### Tax Rate

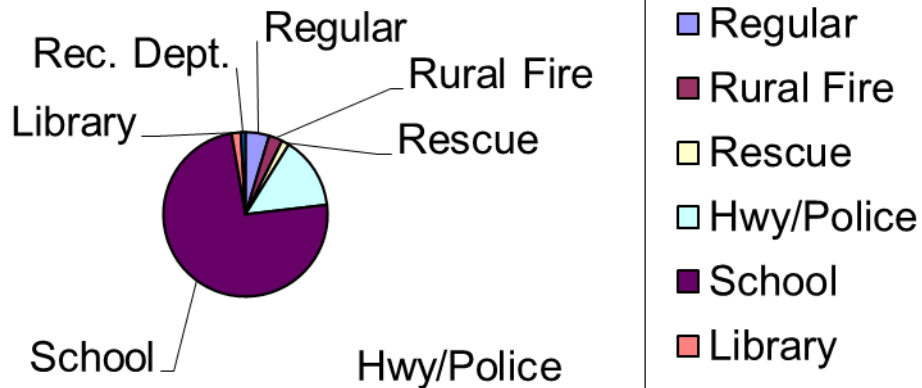
#### 2022

	<u>Town</u> <u>Resident</u>	<u>Town</u> <u>Non-Resident</u>	<u>Village</u> <u>Resident</u>	<u>Village</u> <u>Non-Resident</u>
Regular	0.0424	0.0424	0.0424	0.0424
Library	0.0076	0.0076	0.0076	0.0076
Library	0.0275	0.0275	0.0275	0.0275
Rescue	0.0278	0.2780	0.2780	0.2780
Recreation	0.0174	0.0174	0.0174	0.0174
Local Agreement	0.0039	0.0039	0.0039	0.0039
Highway / Police	0.2220	0.2220		
Fire	0.0487	0.0487		
School	<u>1.3036</u>	<u>1.5489</u>	<u>1.3036</u>	<u>1.5489</u>
Total	<b>1.7010</b>	<b>1.9463</b>	<b>1.3311</b>	<b>1.5764</b>

#### 2023

	<u>Town</u> <u>Resident</u>	<u>Town</u> <u>Non-Resident</u>	<u>Village</u> <u>Resident</u>	<u>Village</u> <u>Non-Resident</u>
Regular	0.0874	0.0874	0.0923	0.0923
Library	0.0094	0.0094	0.0094	0.0094
Library	0.0244	0.0244	0.0244	0.0244
Rescue	0.0277	0.0277	0.0277	0.0277
Recreation	0.0172	0.0172	0.0172	0.0172
Local Agreement	0.0038	0.0038	0.0028	0.0028
Highway / Police	0.2667	0.2667		
Fire	0.0504	0.0504		
School	<u>1.3849</u>	<u>1.5535</u>	<u>1.3849</u>	<u>1.5535</u>
Total	<b>1.8718</b>	<b>2.0404</b>	<b>1.5547</b>	<b>1.7233</b>

## 2023 Town of Swanton Tax Rate



### ACCOUNTS RESERVED FOR PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ECONOMIC FUND—2023

Beginning Balance 01/01/23	\$ 13,897.25
CD Transfer	38,142.98
Interest earned	67.60
Basement Repair	<u>-17,920.00</u>
Balance on Hand 12/31/23	\$ 34,187.83

### MAPPING ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance 01/01/23	\$ 2,868.58
Interest Earned	<u>4.30</u>
Balance on Hand 12/31/23	\$ 2,872.88

### HIGHWAY CONTINGENCY FUND

Beginning Balance 01/01/23	\$ 33,510.17
Interest Earned	58.12
2021 & 2022 Excise Tax	4,042.10
State Easement Money	1,000.00
Fish & Wildlife Money	3,043.00
New Massey Mower	<u>-6,599.00</u>
Balance on Hand 12/31/23	\$ 35,054.39

### 2023 DOG FUND

Receipts:	
Licenses Issued	\$ 5,846.00
Animal Control Expense	<u>8,618.26</u>
Net Loss End of 2023	\$ - 2,772.26



## 2024 GENERAL BUDGET

	2023	2023	2023	2024	%
	Budget	ACTUAL	VARIANCE	BUDGET	CHANGE
Selectboard Salaries	\$ 8,900.00	\$ 10,838.80	\$ (1,938.80)	\$ 8,900.00	0.00%
Lister's Salaries / Property Assessments	\$ 62,163.00	\$ 63,876.83	\$ (1,713.83)	\$ 65,000.00	4.56%
Auditors Salaries	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 1,200.00	0.00%
Employees Salaries	\$ 251,193.00	\$ 254,969.71	\$ (3,776.71)	\$ 260,487.14	3.70%
Adm. Assistant Salary	\$ 33,280.00	\$ 24,103.64	\$ 9,176.36	\$ 30,511.36	-8.32%
FICA/ Medicare	\$ 25,423.24	\$ 28,637.56	\$ (3,214.32)	\$ 30,000.00	18.00%
Retirement-VEMRs	\$ 21,104.00	\$ 19,991.47	\$ 1,112.53	\$ 22,000.00	4.25%
Health Insurance	\$ 38,894.16	\$ 39,481.82	\$ (587.66)	\$ 100,895.34	159.41%
Health Insurance Expense	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ -	\$ 6,000.00	0.00%
Unemployment & Training	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 3,490.07	\$ (690.07)	\$ 3,500.00	25.00%
Child Care Tax				\$ 1,486.00	100.00%
Office Supplies	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 7,759.16	\$ 2,240.84	\$ 10,000.00	0.00%
Postage	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 6,874.35	\$ 1,125.65	\$ 9,000.00	12.50%
Computer/Software Purchases	\$ 13,400.00	\$ 12,580.63	\$ 819.37	\$ 13,400.00	0.00%
Equipment Repair/Purchases	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 6,544.50	\$ 2,955.50	\$ 9,500.00	0.00%
Printing	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 5,073.58	\$ 126.42	\$ 5,500.00	5.77%
Election Expense	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,754.43	\$ 245.57	\$ 8,000.00	60.00%
Tax Appeals	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 144.28	\$ 1,855.72	\$ 2,000.00	0.00%
Meetings, Mileage & Ed. Expense	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 5,566.95	\$ 1,433.05	\$ 7,000.00	0.00%
Natural Gas/Heating Oil	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,477.25	\$ 522.75	\$ 3,000.00	0.00%
Electricity	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,378.73	\$ 121.27	\$ 2,700.00	8.00%
Water & Sewer	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,644.15	\$ (144.15)	\$ 1,650.00	10.00%
Telephone	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 4,251.27	\$ (51.27)	\$ 4,600.00	9.52%
Janitorial Supplies/Janitor/Trash	\$ 8,200.00	\$ 8,094.71	\$ 105.29	\$ 15,000.00	82.93%
Water & Dispenser	\$ 275.00	\$ 381.02	\$ (106.02)	\$ 300.00	9.09%
Parcel Mapping Updates	\$ 6,800.00	\$ 6,800.00	\$ -	\$ 6,800.00	0.00%
Auditing	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 16,060.00	\$ 1,440.00	\$ 17,500.00	0.00%
Legal Fees	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,580.92	\$ 2,419.08	\$ 5,000.00	0.00%
Computer Consulting	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,951.70	\$ 48.30	\$ 5,000.00	0.00%
Insurance	\$ 27,019.00	\$ 27,019.00	\$ -	\$ 28,916.00	7.02%
Animal Control	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 8,618.26	\$ 881.74	\$ 9,500.00	0.00%
Health Officer	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 4,500.00	0.00%
Civil Defense	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%
Town Office Complex Maintenance	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 14,991.05	\$ 5,008.95	\$ 20,000.00	0.00%
Interest Paid on Loans	\$ 2,500.00		\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	0.00%
Franklin County Tax	\$ 66,276.95	\$ 66,259.06	\$ 17.89	\$ 68,822.51	3.84%
Depot Maintenance	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 4,923.73	\$ 7,076.27	\$ 12,000.00	0.00%
Cemetery Maintenance	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ -	\$ 18,000.00	0.00%
Misc.	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,968.22	\$ (468.22)	\$ 2,500.00	0.00%
Website Maintenance	\$ 1,500.00		\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	0.00%
Fourth Street Testing	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 1,147.50	\$ 10,852.50	\$ -	-100.00%
PC & ZBA Salaries	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 6,555.00	\$ 645.00	\$ 7,200.00	0.00%
ZBA Clerk / PC Sec.	\$ 8,480.00	\$ 10,798.49	\$ (2,318.49)	\$ 12,480.00	47.17%
Z&P Supplies & Printing	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 4,742.31	\$ (1,242.31)	\$ 5,200.00	48.57%
Z&P Legal Fees	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 1,822.50	\$ 8,177.50	\$ 10,000.00	0.00%
Town Plan Exp	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 13,500.00	\$ (11,500.00)	\$ 2,000.00	0.00%
Land Use & Dev Regs		\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	100.00%
Memorial Day	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,600.00	160.00%
Franklin County Industrial Development	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 12,500.00	\$ -	\$ 12,500.00	0.00%
Economic Development Services	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	0.00%
Northwest Regional Planning Commission	\$ 7,773.00	\$ 7,773.00	\$ -	\$ 8,006.00	3.00%
Town Celebration-2019	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	0.00%
Vermont League Of Cities & Towns	\$ 9,940.00	\$ 9,940.00	\$ -	\$ 10,243.00	3.05%
<b>Total General &amp; Z&amp;P</b>	<b>\$ 812,221.35</b>	<b>\$ 783,865.65</b>	<b>\$ 28,355.70</b>	<b>\$ 911,397.35</b>	<b>12.21%</b>

## 2024 GENERAL BUDGET

<b>APPROPRIATIONS:</b>					
Abenaki Nation Pantry				\$ 3,000.00	100.00%
Watershed Mentoring	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%
Age Well	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	0.00%
Northwest Access Recording	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	0.00%
Franklin County Home Health	\$ 13,497.00	\$ 13,497.00	\$ -	\$ 13,497.00	0.00%
Franklin County Citizens Advocacy	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 250.00	0.00%
Foster Grandparent Program	\$ 375.00	\$ 375.00	\$ -	\$ 375.00	0.00%
Franklin Grand Isle Restorative Justice Ctr	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%
Vermont Green Up	\$ 250.00		\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	0.00%
Northwest Unit for Special Investigations	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%
Northwestern Counseling & Support SVC	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00	0.00%
Green Mountain Transit	\$ 2,625.00	\$ 2,625.00	\$ -	\$ 2,625.00	0.00%
MVU Graduation Celebration	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0.00%
Samaritan House	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0.00%
Friends of Northern Lake Champlain	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	0.00%
Missisquoi River Basin Association	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0.00%
Swan Care Maintenance	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	0.00%
CVOEO-NW Food Shelf	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%
VT CTR Independent Living	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0.00%
Franklin Grand Isle Book Mobile	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%
Swanton Enhancement Project	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	0.00%
Adult Learning	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0.00%
Laura's House	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	0.00%
Total Appropriations	\$ 37,297.00	\$ 37,047.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 37,297.00	0.00%
Previously Voted Article			\$ -		
Northwest Solid waste	\$ 8,041.20	8041.2	\$ -	\$ 8,711.00	8.33%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	\$ 857,559.55	\$ 828,953.85	\$ 28,605.70	\$ 957,405.35	11.64%
<b>ARTICLES</b>					
Missisquoi Valley Rescue	\$ 199,245.00	\$ 199,245.00	\$ -	\$ 229,761.00	15.32%
Swanton Library	\$ 67,490.00	\$ 67,490.00	\$ -	\$ 70,900.00	5.05%
Swanton Recreation	\$ 123,247.24	\$ 123,247.20	\$ 0.04	\$ 149,562.97	21.35%
Subtotal Articles	\$ 389,982.24	\$ 389,982.20	\$ 0.04	\$ 450,223.97	15.45%
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	\$ 1,247,541.79	\$ 1,218,936.05	\$ 28,605.74	\$ 1,407,629.32	12.83%
		Grant Received	\$ 13,500.00		
	Cost	Reserve Acct	\$ 42,105.74		
Restoration Cost/ Funds Saved	\$ 20,892.50	\$ 20,892.50			
Health Insurance Deductible	\$ 4,305.37	\$ 4,305.37			
<b>ANTICIPATED GENERAL RECEIPTS</b>					
License & Recording Fees			\$ 53,500.00		
Zoning & Planning Fees			\$ 38,400.00		
Town Share Railroad Tax			\$ 8,472.00		
Balance on Hand			\$ 42,105.74		
<b>TOTAL:</b>			\$ 142,477.74		
Proposed	Tax Rate				
To Be Raised By Taxes	0.1130		\$ 814,927.61		
Total Budgeted			\$ 957,405.35		
To Be Raised For Articles					
Missisquoi Valley Recuse	0.0320		\$ 229,761.00		
Library Budget	0.0099		\$ 70,900.00		
Swanton Recreation	0.0210		\$ 149,562.97		
2024 Projected General Town	0.1759				
2023 Tax Rate	0.1454				
Proposed Increase	0.0311				

## 2024 HIGHWAY BUDGET

	2023	2023	2023	2024	% Change
	Budget	Actual	Variance		
Salaries	\$ 278,733.62	\$ 261,725.78	\$ 17,007.84	\$ 284,465.36	2.06%
Part Time Employee	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,603.00	\$ (603.00)	\$ 15,555.00	3.70%
Fica/Medi	\$ 21,500.00	\$ 20,512.75	\$ 987.25	\$ 21,500.00	0.00%
Retirement-VEMRS	\$ 18,500.00	\$ 17,181.91	\$ 1,318.09	\$ 20,700.00	11.89%
Health Insurance	\$ 68,064.72	\$ 71,277.87	\$ (3,213.15)	\$ 79,977.66	17.50%
Unemployment & Training	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 2,770.62	\$ 729.38	\$ 4,000.00	14.29%
Child Care Tax				\$ 1,318.00	100.00%
Natural Gas	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 6,788.85	\$ 211.15	\$ 8,000.00	14.29%
Electricity	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,898.46	\$ 1,101.54	\$ 4,000.00	0.00%
Street Lights	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 2,440.52	\$ 159.48	\$ 2,600.00	0.00%
Telephone	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,132.51	\$ 367.49	\$ 2,500.00	0.00%
Uniforms	\$ 5,400.00	\$ 7,569.72	\$ (2,169.72)	\$ 6,000.00	11.11%
Trash Removal	\$ 700.00	\$ 627.12	\$ 72.88	\$ 1,000.00	42.86%
Legal Fees	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 182.50	\$ 1,317.50	\$ 1,500.00	0.00%
Insurance	\$ 30,158.00	\$ 30,603.00	\$ (445.00)	\$ 28,147.00	-6.67%
Stones	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 11,593.97	\$ (3,593.97)	\$ 11,000.00	37.50%
Sand	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,120.00	\$ (120.00)	\$ 17,000.00	13.33%
Chloride	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 4,687.80	\$ (3,687.80)	\$ 3,000.00	200.00%
Salt	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,145.57	\$ (145.57)	\$ 33,000.00	10.00%
Hot/Cold Patch	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 626.04	\$ 473.96	\$ 1,100.00	0.00%
Culverts & Signs	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,869.35	\$ (869.35)	\$ 4,000.00	0.00%
Road Line Paint	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 7,402.52	\$ 4,597.48	\$ 12,000.00	0.00%
Road Resurfacing	\$ 350,000.00	\$ 402,784.45	\$ (52,784.45)	\$ 450,000.00	28.57%
Garage Maintenance	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 8,749.80	\$ (4,749.80)	\$ 6,000.00	50.00%
Janitorial Supplies	\$ 500.00	\$ 71.78	\$ 428.22	\$ 500.00	0.00%
Parts Supplies Repairs	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 54,276.56	\$ (24,276.56)	\$ 30,000.00	0.00%
Gas, Oil & Grease	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 35,154.70	\$ 9,845.30	\$ 45,000.00	0.00%
Equip Rental/Purchase	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 33,866.40	\$ (5,866.40)	\$ 28,000.00	0.00%
Tool Upgrade/Rental	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 276.24	\$ 1,723.76	\$ 2,000.00	0.00%
Tree Service	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 8,400.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 10,000.00	0.00%
Storm Water Permits	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 3,611.40	\$ 26,388.60	\$ 30,000.00	0.00%
Route 78 Sidewalks	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 12,090.83	\$ 27,909.17	\$ -	-100.00%
Road Improvement Projects	\$ 250,000.00	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 162,500.00	-35.00%
Employee Training	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%
Road Side Disposal	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 769.91	\$ 230.09	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%
Interest On Loans	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	0.00%
Town Garage Loan	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	0.00%
Misc. Expense	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,623.54	\$ 376.46	\$ 2,000.00	0.00%
Beautification Project	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	0.00%
Brooklyn Street Stormwater Issue				\$ 40,000.00	100.00%
RT 78 Grant		\$ 68,973.46			
Engineering Service	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,699.00		\$ 2,000.00	0.00%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	\$ 1,340,756.34	\$ 1,162,107.93	\$ 178,648.41	\$ 1,387,363.02	3.48%
<b>Previously approved articles</b>					
Capital Reserve/Equip	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	0.00%
Town Garage	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	0.00%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 90,000.00	0.00%
<b>ARTICLES</b>					
Fire Protection	\$ 278,225.00	\$ 278,225.00	\$ -	\$ 296,216.00	6.47%
<b>Police Protection</b>	\$ 196,784.08	\$ 186,898.02	\$ 9,886.06	\$ 475,057.00	141.41%
<b>Total Articles</b>	\$ 565,009.08	\$ 555,123.02	\$ 9,886.06	\$ 861,273.00	52.44%
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	\$ 1,905,765.42	\$ 1,717,230.95	\$ 188,534.47	\$ 2,248,636.02	17.99%
Route 78 Balance			\$ 71,320.50		
Campbell Bay-Paving			\$ 10,000.00		
Sub total			\$ 269,854.97		
New Truck 2024			\$ 200,000.00		
Contingency Fund carryover			\$ 32,354.97		
Balance on hand to lower taxes			\$ 37,500.00		
<b>ANTICIPATED HIGHWAY RECEIPTS</b>					
Highway State Aid		\$ 150,000.00			
Judicial Fees/HW Permits		\$ 4,500.00			
Balance on Hand		\$ 37,500.00			
<b>TOTAL:</b>		192,000.00			
Projected	Tax Rates				
To Be Raised By Taxes	0.2328	\$ 1,285,363.02			
Budget Regular		\$ 1,477,363.02			
Fire Department	0.0537	\$ 296,216.00			
Police Protection	0.0861	\$ 475,057.00			
2024 Projected HW Rate	0.3726				
2023 Tax Rate	0.3171				
Proposed Increase	0.0555				

## Swanton Public Library Town Report 2023



The Swanton Public Library (SPL) has had a busy and hard-working 2023, providing books, information, technical assistance, computer and WiFi access, and many programs, activities, and workshops for the public. The library gained 307 new patrons in 2023; and library-goers this year collectively checked out about 16,000 books. The library also obtained about \$26,000 in grants this year. We've also collaborated with numerous organizations, among them the NCSS, Franklin County Caring Communities, United Way, SASH, the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi, the Swanton Recreation Association, the Swanton Enhancement Project, the Swanton Arts Council, the Swanton Historical Society, and the Swanton public schools.

The library had an interior overhaul this year, with an interior paint job, curtains and a carpet for the King's Daughter's Room, and the installation of a glass partition between the children's room and the main library, with a Where-the-Wild-Things-Are-themed mural thanks to the talented Dave Winchester and Nicole Gadouas. The partition was partially funded by an Educational Facilities grant from the state of Vermont.

The library participated in Operation Happiness; sponsored Casper's Attic, a Halloween costume giveaway program; hosted Swanton's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Art Show; and passed out nearly 500 books at Halloween in the Park for our annual Trick-or-Treat for Books. The library also distributed dozens of children's take-home craft kits, with the help of funding from the Swanton Arts Council; and handed out fifty treat bags for kids on St. Nicholas Day. Over 150 kids participated in the SPL's 2023 Summer Reading Program.

Forty kids attended the library's annual celebration of Harry Potter Night, the theme of which was "A Day at Hogwarts," complete with magic classes, House points and prizes, and a banquet.

We provide a weekly Toddler Time Playgroup and a Story Time for young children; a learn-and-play group for local homeschoolers; a monthly Teen Night; and numerous after-school activities for kids, including craft workshops and a Magic the Gathering Club. The library hosts two adult and one children's book clubs, along with a writer's group, Zumba and Bone Builders classes, a Golden Beats program for seniors; and a weekly Coffee & Community Leaders get-together. This year we also provided over a dozen arts and crafts workshops for adults and a four-week Christmas in July craft program, as well as hosting a Poetry Slam, a book-publishing workshop, a Poems Around Town project, and a get-together for local writers.

For kids this year, the library provided a Robotics program for grades 2-4, funded by a grant from the Vermont Academy of Science and Engineering, a Book Art Club for grades 1-6, a

week-long History Camp including a visit from the Planetarium Lady; a spring vacation Olympic Camp, summer Fairy Tale STEAM and Into the Wild Camps; and day-long Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and The Witches Camps, these last two with funding help from Franklin County Caring Communities.

We also hosted World Oceans Day with Kathy Kneebone; programs on Bigfoot and Vermont Bats; a BEE Curious program with beekeeper Darci Benoit; “Turtles to Toads” from the Southern Vermont Museum of Natural History; and a “Reptile Meet and Greet” from the Vermont Herpetofauna and Natura Center, attended by over 90 people.

You’ll notice that the Town Meeting Day ballot once again has two budget items for the library, which may seem confusing. The library staff members are town employees and the building is owned and maintained by the town. The first budget item covers staff salaries and building maintenance costs. Library employees are the lowest paid town employees; in the past, the SPL Board of Trustees and the Town Selectboard had agreed to bring the wages up to a point comparable to other town employees over a period of 3-4 years. We are now in the second year of this plan, which explains nearly all the proposed increases.

The second budget item is for the library’s internal operating expenses, collection development (mostly books), and programming, which the library staff and trustees control. Nearly all library services and programs are provided free of charge to library patrons. Many years ago the library received generous donations to be held in an endowment account, now totaling about \$600,000. The terms of the donations prevent us from using these funds for ordinary operating expenses, though the interest earned is used in its entirety for building improvements, collection development, community giveaways (such as our Halloween Trick-or-Treat for books), and as matching funds for various grants.

Many thanks to all the people and groups who have donated to help the library fulfill our mission: Creative HeART Counseling, Bees on Broadway, Vision Nutrition, Swanton House of Pizza, the Methodist and Holy Trinity Churches, Franklin County Caring Communities, Rene J. Fournier Farm Equipment, Tuttle’s, Scampers, Church of the Rock, the Tyler Place, Peoples Trust Company, Friends of the Missiquoi Wildlife Refuge, the NCSS, the Eloquent Page, the Children’s Literacy Foundation, Shaggy’s Pizza, Rich McVicker, George E. Spear, and Sylvia Dubrowski.

Congratulations to Director Abbey Gaudette, who earned a Vermont Certificate of Librarianship this year!

SPL Board of Directors: Becky Rupp, Rich Kelley, Sarah Garvey, Bianca Braman, Kathy Kneebone

SPL Staff: Abbey Gaudette, Hilarie Santiago, Darla Blondo, Barb Switzer, Mel Berthiaume, Jodi Stone de Rodriguez, Allie Chapple.

LIBRARY

	2023	2023		2024	% Change
	Budget	Actual	Variance	Budget	
<b>Financial Expenses</b>					
Bookkeeping	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,099.00	\$ (99.00)	\$ 2,500.00	150.00%
Audit	\$ 3,500.00	\$ -	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	0.00%
Total	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 1,099.00	\$ 3,401.00	\$ 6,000.00	33.00%
<b>Building &amp; Grounds Expense</b>					
Cleaning	\$ 9,280.00	\$ 10,612.00	\$ (1,332.00)	\$ 10,400.00	12.00%
Trash	\$ 600.00	\$ 669.00	\$ 69.00	\$ 700.00	17.00%
Unifirst	\$ 210.00	\$ 216.00	\$ (6.00)	\$ -	-100.00%
Capital Reserve	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	0.00%
General Upkeep	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,674.00	\$ (174.00)	\$ 1,400.00	-6.00%
Total	\$ 14,090.00	\$ 15,671.00	\$ (1,443.00)	\$ 15,000.00	-77.00%
<b>Operating Expenses</b>					
Cleaning Supplies	\$ 600.00	\$ 925.00	\$ (325.00)	\$ 900.00	50.00%
Collection Development	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 11,257.00	\$ (2,257.00)	\$ 9,000.00	0.00%
Community Giveaway Books	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	-100.00%
Programs	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 8,571.00	\$ (5,071.00)	\$ 3,500.00	0.00%
GMLC	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,535.00	\$ (35.00)	\$ 1,500.00	0.00%
Insurance	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 2,600.00	\$ -	\$ 2,800.00	8.00%
Advertising	\$ 200.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	-50.00%
Office Supplies	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 3,213.00	\$ (1,213.00)	\$ 2,500.00	25.00%
Software	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,239.00	\$ (39.00)	\$ 2,500.00	14.00%
Postage/Courier	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,178.00	\$ 22.00	\$ 1,000.00	-17.00%
Tech Support	\$ 600.00	\$ 119.00	\$ 481.00	\$ 600.00	0.00%
Printer Contract	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,325.00	\$ (425.00)	\$ 900.00	0.00%
Total	\$ 25,800.00	\$ 34,562.00	\$ (8,762.00)	\$ 25,300.00	-2.00%
<b>Staff Expenses</b>					
Memberships	\$ 400.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 330.00	\$ 400.00	0.00%
Training	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	0.00%
Trustee Stipends	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 4,200.00	\$ (1,200.00)	\$ 3,000.00	0.00%
Total	\$ 3,900.00	\$ 4,270.00	\$ (370.00)	\$ 3,900.00	0.00%
<b>Utility Expenses</b>					
Electric/Water/Sewer	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 9,505.00	\$ 2,495.00	\$ 12,000.00	0.00%
Natural Gas	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 4,501.00	\$ (401.00)	\$ 4,800.00	17.00%
Telephone/Internet	\$ 3,100.00	\$ 4,252.00	\$ (1,152.00)	\$ 5,400.00	74.00%
Total	\$ 19,200.00	\$ 18,258.00	\$ 942.00	\$ 22,200.00	16.00%
<b>TOTAL:</b>	\$ 67,490.00	\$ 73,860.00	\$ (6,232.00)	\$ 72,400.00	7.00%

## LIBRARY

<b>Revenue</b>					
Book Sales		\$ 767.00			
Copier		\$ 879.00			
Donations		\$ 4,679.00			
Library Programs		\$ 2,196.00			
SHS Rent		\$ 250.00			
Room Rent		\$ 350.00			
Grants					
Webster Trust					
Webster Principal		\$ 15,954.00			
Vera Cline Trust		\$ 7,767.00			
<b>Town</b>					
<b>TOTAL REVENUE:</b>		\$ 32,842.00			
On Hand		\$26,472.00			



**2023 ANNUAL REPORT  
TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC MONEY**

	<b>Cemetery Fund</b>	<b>Barney Fund</b>	<b>Skeels Fund</b>
Balance as of 12/31/23	\$160,356.75	\$20,000.00	\$8,995.44
Interest Earned	279.42	61.24	11.84
Interest Paid	(279.42)	(61.24)	(11.84)
	<u><b>\$160,356.75</b></u>	<u><b>\$20,000.00</b></u>	<u><b>\$8,995.44</b></u>
Savings	4550.00		
CD—PTC	155,806.75	20,000.00	
CD—PU			8,995.44
	<u><b>\$160,356.75</b></u>	<u><b>\$20,000.00</b></u>	<u><b>\$8,995.44</b></u>
	<u><b>\$160,356.75</b></u>	<u><b>\$20,000.00</b></u>	<u><b>\$8,995.44</b></u>

**VITAL STATISTICS**

Due to concerns of privacy, confidentiality and potential for fraud, the Town of Swanton has decided not to publish vital records in the Town Report. Below is a statistical list indicating only the numbers of births, deaths, and marriages recorded in 2023.

**Births: 35 Females  
44 Males**

**Marriages: 36  
Deaths: 67**

## SWANTON CEMETERY COMMISSION

Cash on Hand 12/31/2022 \$77,592.56

### 2023 Transactions

#### Receipts:

Sale of Lots	\$6,000.00
Grave Openings	\$1,950.00
Town of Swanton Allocation	\$18,000.00
Interest:	<u>\$1,144.96</u>
Total Received:	<u>\$27,094.96</u>
Total on Hand and Received:	\$104,687.52

#### Disbursements:

Grounds Maintenance	\$18,000.00
Grave Openings	\$600.00
Tree Removal	\$1,950.00
Vault Repair and Restoration	\$13,430.00
Misc.	<u>\$4,974.64</u>
Total Disbursed:	<u>\$38,954.64</u>
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023	\$65,732.86

In 2023, the Cemetery Commission appointed John Kaczowski to fill the vacancy caused by Andrew Centabar not seeking re-election. John is appointed until the 2024 Town Meeting when the voters will fill the position for the remainder of the unexpired term. In 2023, after many years of neglect, the Commission had the storage vault repaired and restored. It is no longer used for a winter storage but will be used for general storage for the cemetery supplies. Also we had ground penetrating radar conducted this past summer to determine if there were unmarked graves in the cemetery. That information is still be reviewed by the Cemetery Commissioners. In 2024 we are planning to remove dead trees from the Church Street Cemetery and repair the rear fence that has been crushed over the years.

Nicholas Brosseau  
Jon Kaczowski  
Cody Hemenway  
Macy Lavoie-Dupont  
Brian Savage  
Cemetery Commissioners

## Swanton Zoning Office and Development Review Board Report

### PLEASE CALL THE ZONING OFFICE FOR ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING IF A PERMIT IS NEEDED FOR BUILDING OR OPERATING A BUSINESS.

There were **106** zoning applications received and processed by the Zoning Administrator during **2023**. When complete applications are received by the ZA for processing they are issued, denied or referred to the Development Review Board for further action. Among the applications approved were permits for **22** new dwellings, **0** condo's, **1** duplex, **5** sign permits, **1** Use Permit, **1** mudroom, **6** carports, **4** porches, **2** lean-to's, **19** sheds, **12** garages, **2** barns, **6** pools, **13** decks **5** additions, **1** patio, & **3** Accessory dwelling units. Also issued were **109** Letters of Compliance and **25** Certificates of Occupancy.

The Development Review Board held **58** hearings for the following requests: **4** Minor Residential Subdivisions, **4** Major Residential Subdivisions, **5** Site Plan Reviews, **8** Boundary Line Adjustments, **25** Conditional Use Review, **4** Variance Reviews, **8** Conditional Use Less 30% Reviews and **2** Appeals.

Items exempt from a zoning permit are entry stairs, handicap ramps, fences or walls that do not exceed six feet in height (that don't extend into or obstruct the public right-of-way), temporary docks or one detached accessory structure not to exceed one hundred square feet or ten feet in height that meets the front yard setback requirement. Also accepted agricultural uses and structures, silviculture and forestry uses. **Although these items are exempt from a permit, a permit application and plat plan must be submitted to the Zoning Administrator for approval.**

These 2023 Zoning and Development requests generated \$38,569.35 of revenue, not including recording and map fees, which were deposited to the Town General Account.

<b>Development Review Board Members</b>	<b>Planning Commission Members</b>
Spencer LaBarge, Chairman	Edward Daniel, Chairman
Harold Garrett	Ross Lavoie
Reggie Beliveau	Andy LaRocque
James Pratt	Heather Buczkowski
Jennifer Yandow	Oliver Manning
Christina Candels, Administrative Assistant	Christina Candels, Administrative Assistant

**The Development Review Board** meets monthly on the 4th Thursday of each month at the Swanton Town Office at 6:00 P.M. Dates are posted and published.

**The Planning Commission** meets monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at the Swanton Town Office at 6:30 P.M. or upon request of Board or public. Dates and agendas are posted.

**THE FEE SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE DURING THE YEAR PER ACTION OF THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE BODY.**

#### **Zoning Administrator**

**Zoning Office Hours are Monday's, Tuesday's & Thursday's 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

**Tel. 802-868-3325; Email: [swanza@swantonvermont.org](mailto:swanza@swantonvermont.org).**

**For notices, agendas and minutes visit: [www.townofswantonvermont.weebly.com](http://www.townofswantonvermont.weebly.com)**

## SWANTON ZONING AND PLANNING FEE SCHEDULE

### ZONING PERMITS NOT REQUIRING PUBLIC HEARING:

**NOTE: 1005 ADDITIONAL FEE ASSESSED FOR PERMITS “AFTER THE FACT” (as of 1/17/06)**

<b>ADDITIONS:</b> To Garage or Storage Shed	\$35.00 + \$.15/sq ft
<b>ADDITIONS:</b> To Residence	\$65.00 + \$.15/sq ft
<b>BARNs</b> (agricultural) No waiting period, must meet setbacks	No Charge
<b>BARNs</b> additions (agricultural) No waiting period, must meet setbacks	No Charge
<b>COMMERICAL/INDUSTRIAL CONSTRUCTION</b> – Minor – less than 1,000 sq ft	\$200.00 Min
<b>COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL CONSTRUCTION</b> - \$.20/sq ft for all other construction	
<b>ACCESSORY PERMITS (TENNIS COURTS, DECKS, PORCHES, GARAGES, CARPORTS, LEAN-TOS, RESIDENTIAL GREENHOUSES, STORAGE SHEDS AND PERGOLAS)</b>	
– Up to 300 sq ft	\$50.00
Over 300 sq ft	\$30.00 + \$.15 sq ft
<b>POOLS</b> – Above Ground	\$50.00
Inground	\$75.00
<b>SIGNS</b> – Minor (Home Occupation)	\$40.00
Major (All Others)	\$50.00
<b>RESIDENTIAL</b>	\$.15/sq ft
<b>Certificate of Occupancy</b>	\$10.00
<b>Certificate of Compliance</b>	\$30.00

### ZONING PERMITS REQUIRING PUBLIC HEARINGS:

<b>AMENDMENTS</b> to Zoning Regulations	\$700.00
<b>COMMERICAL/INDUSTRIAL*</b> (Site Plan Review) each hearing	\$220.00
<b>SKETCH PLAN*</b> \$85/lot <b>PRELIMINARY PLAT APPROVAL</b> \$85.00/lot <b>FINAL PLAT</b> \$85.00/lot	
<b>APPEAL</b> – Decision of Administrative Officer (To Development Review Board)	\$165.00
<b>CONDITIONAL USE</b>	\$200.00
<b>INTERPRETATION OF ZONING ARTICLE</b>	\$95.00
<b>VARIANCE &amp; LESS THAN 30% CONDITIONAL USE</b>	\$110.00

**FEE SCHEDULE WILL BE WAIVED**-In the event of destruction by fire. All structures shall be rebuilt Within one year by the same landowner.

\*An applicant who requests a withdrawal of any zoning permit that requires a public hearing will not receive A refund of their application fee and will be required to pay the full amount of the application fee when they Reapply. The applicant will not be charged if the application is postponed or tabled by the DRB.

Approved by Joint Legislative Body on September 2, 2003, Effective January 1, 2004

Amended by Joint Legislative Body on October 17, 2006 for 100% additional fee matter; effective 10/18/06

Amended by Joint Legislative Body on September 5, 2017; effective January 1, 2018

Amended by Joint Legislative Body on August 20, 2019; effective January 1, 2020

## Report of Swanton Planning Commission for 2023

The year 2023 has been a very busy, yet productive year for your Planning Commission. We began the year with the Vermont State review of our Municipal Plan with the removal of items of redundancies which were found throughout the Plan. We removed many environmental items which fall under Vermont State Programs such as environmental programs. The dam in the center of the Village is one of the items that we view as a Historical item and the State views as an environmental hazard and they have raised the question of removal numerous times.

We are concerned about the loss of HOME Day Care centers due to new laws and regulations and the importance of Historic sites and structures and we should have a compatibility with nearby communities. Examples would be the Airport project on Route 78, Human resources and IT communications. We must all be sure that our by laws are user friendly and compatible with our surrounding communities such as land trust, which does not slow down development, and we are expected to construct approximately 7600 household units in the next 20 years. Examples are Regional has 26 items, Swanton has 19 maps of the Airport area and we have different maps of River corridors, forest fragmentation and a Hazard Mitigation Plan.

We must review new Vermont laws for density of municipalities along with water sources, road construction and sewer capabilities.

We have retained the services of Corey Parent of Leonine Public Affairs of Montpelier to review our current Bylaws. We have commenced the reading and review and the purpose of each item in the Bylaws of the Swanton Zoning Ordinances and propose to change many items that were written in the 1970's and many of us reaction with the same explanation of "who wrote that".

We appreciate the support and interest of the citizens of Swanton, the Town Planning Director Ms. Amy Giroux, the Town Administrator, Mr. Brian Savage and Administrative Assistant Christina Candles, Town Clerk Ms. Cathy Fournier & Assistant Town Clerk, Tanya Dufresne.

I would also like to thank the members of the Planning Commission, Vice Chair Ross Lavoie, Andrew LaRocque, Heather Buczkowski and Oliver Manning.

Ed Daniel, Chair of the Swanton Planning Commission



# NORTHWEST REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

## Swanton Village Report - 2023

Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) is a multi-purpose governmental organization created by the municipalities of Franklin and Grand Isle Counties. NRPC implements a variety of projects and programs tailored to local, regional and statewide needs. All municipalities in the region are entitled to equal voting representation by two locally appointed members to the Board of Commissioners.

### 2023 SWANTON VILLAGE PROJECTS

- Updated the locally adopted Emergency Management Plan for the Town and Village.
- Served as local liaison to Village public safety officials for the State Emergency Operation Center during the July floods and February cold weather event.
- Provided planning and zoning technical assistance and technical assistance relating to possible stormwater projects.
- Completed the resource mapping and documentation required by VTrans for the First Street sidewalk construction project.
- Healthy Roots Collaborative delivered gleaned produce and Everyone Eats meals to the Abenaki Self-Help Association Food Shelf on a weekly or bi-monthly basis. Healthy Roots also delivered gleaned produce to the Swanton Community Food Shelf and the Swanton NOTCH and NOTCH pharmacy.
- Healthy Roots worked with the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi to grow out traditional Abenaki crops at a local farm. The crops were cleaned by a school group and returned to the Abenaki Nation.
- Healthy Roots delivered Northwest Farmacy CSAs to the NOTCH Primary Care and St. Albans Health Center.
- Supported the Northwest Communications Union District, in which Swanton Village is a member.
- Participated in and assisted with Swanton Energy Committee projects including outreach events.
- Completed a consultation of the municipal planning program.
- Provided over \$60,000 in Brownfields funding to complete assessments and clean up alternatives at the 6 South River property in Swanton Village.
- Provided up to \$31,000 in Brownfields funding to complete a clean-up assessment at the 124 First Street property.

This year the Commission will assist our member municipalities with maximizing local, state and federal infrastructure funds, water quality project implementation, Municipal Roads General Permit compliance, local energy and climate planning, zoning bylaw modernization, emergency preparedness, brownfields redevelopment and other needed services. NRPC will help promote the Missisquoi and Lamoille Valley Rail Trails, support local farm and food businesses through its Healthy Roots Collaborative, assist the Northwest Communications Union District in expanding broadband access in the region, and coordinate Housing For All, a three-year housing development campaign. The Commission has no regulatory or taxing authority; however, each year we do request a per capita assessment in support of local and regional activities and to provide matching funds for state and federal programs.

Your continued support for NRPC is greatly appreciated. We are your resource - please call on us for assistance with planning, zoning, transportation, project management, mapping or other needs.

**Swanton Village Regional Commissioners** - Heidi Britch-Valenta & Neal Speer

**Transportation Advisory Committee** - Reg Beliveau, Jr.

### **NRPC Projects & Programs**

Municipal plan and bylaw updates, technical assistance for local permitting

Brownfields site assessments, clean-ups and redevelopment plans

Transportation planning and project management

Bike and pedestrian planning and project management

Emergency preparedness, disaster recovery and resilience

Energy conservation, renewable energy plans and projects

Water quality planning and project management

Regional plans for growth and development

Geographic Information System maps and data

Downtown and village revitalization and community development

Grant writing and administration

### **Associated Projects & Programs Managed by NRPC**

Healthy Roots Collaborative

Northern Vermont Economic Development District

Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail

Northwest Vermont Regional Foundation, Inc.

Clean Water Service Provider: Missisquoi and Lamoille River Basins

**Address:** 75 Fairfield Street,  
St. Albans, VT 05478

**Phone:** (802) 524-5958

**Fax:** (802) 527-2948

**Website:** [www.nrpcvt.com](http://www.nrpcvt.com)



FRANKLIN COUNTY  
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION

FCIDC Annual Report for 2023

The Franklin County Industrial Development Corporation (FCIDC) was established in 1971 when our region was experiencing double digit unemployment levels. We have come a long way since then to the point where Franklin County has one of the strongest economies in the State. With that said, it is important to note that if we cannot start to fill job vacancies in all sectors of our economy then we will begin to take steps backwards. Recently we learned that Kaytec located in Richford will be closing their doors in 2024. Kaytec produces vinyl siding and it is recognized as a quality product in the construction industry. The company has been struggling to find employees for a couple of years now and they were forced to operate at less than half of their capacity. In addition to the workforce issues dairy prices remain stagnant in the \$23.00 per hundredweight area and the price continues to be less than the cost of production for many farms.

The workforce shortage is probably the number one issue that all businesses are faced with. It doesn't matter if it is manufacturing, agriculture, Main St., retail or the service industry there are help wanted signs everywhere. On average 50% of graduating seniors choose not to go on to the trades or college. Now is the prime time for high school students and graduates to begin developing their work resumes. Businesses, unlike 10 years ago, are much more flexible with part-time employees and their work schedule needs. In addition to the job flexibility, the pay scale has never been higher. So, encourage your kids to find a job and start supporting our local economy. FCIDC has been collaborating with our five county high schools to educate our students as to what employment opportunities exist for them. We will be coordinating business tours in 2024.

FCIDC has been active in the redevelopment of the Perley Block located at 366 Main Street in Enosburg. The retail space on the first floor was vacant for more than five years. The building has eight apartments upstairs and there was an attached cold storage warehouse on the backside of the building. FCIDC invested \$1.9 million to purchase and renovate the existing building and convert the back warehouse into office space and hopefully soon to be four more apartments on the second floor. The building now has two retail businesses, Healthy Nutrition and B's Flowers, and 4000 square feet of office space that is mostly occupied by Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union also has two offices being rented by Northwestern Counseling and Support Services. This project took about 18 months to complete and has been a great addition to downtown Enosburg. If you have a chance please stop in to support the two retail businesses. This project would never have happened had it not been for the vision and leadership of Jim Cameron and Green Dolphin Construction.

In addition to the Perley Block renovation we have also been busy in FCIDC's St. Albans Town Industrial Park. We sold three acres to Purpose Energy in April and since then the company has broken ground on constructing an anaerobic digester. Their mission is to capture millions of tons of food waste flowing from our local value added food producers (i.e. Ben & Jerrys, Franklin Foods etc) and convert it to renewable energy, clean water and healthy soil amendments. With the construction of the Purpose Energy facility our industrial infrastructure is that much stronger as waste will be diverted from our waste stream while energy is produced. FCIDC has had multiple conversations with other interested parties regarding the purchase of lots in the Park and we are optimistic for additional sales in 2024.

P.O. Box 1099

St. Albans, Vermont  
05478-1099

(802) 524-2194  
Fax: (802) 524-6793

E-mail: [info@fcidc.com](mailto:info@fcidc.com)  
[tim@fcidc.com](mailto:tim@fcidc.com)  
Web Site: [fcidc.com](http://fcidc.com)

Respectfully submitted by

  
Timothy J. Smith



## LISTER'S REPORT 2023

The Lister's for the Town and Village of Swanton would like to take this opportunity to thank you, the taxpayers, for your cooperation.

Some highlights, among others, of the duties of Lister's are as follows: Maintaining the Town Grand List, which includes complete and accurate listing and assessing of property information-old and new-including recording, collecting and assessing all permits and property tax transfer returns within the Town and Village.

Duties also include maintaining many records such as: Homestead and House-site values, Veteran's Exemptions, Agricultural Current Use, Business Personal Property, Exempt Properties, maintaining and sending Change of Appraisal Notice, holding Grievance hearings and mailing results of Grievances in order to file the Final Grand List with the Town Clerk by August 4.

**To be considered timely, both Homestead Declarations (HS-122) and State Property Adjustments (HI-144) must be filed on or before April 15, 2024.** Filing after this date results in penalties. In the event that you are **filing an extension for your income taxes, please** be aware that your Homestead Declaration needs to be filed independently of your Income Tax Return, no later than April 15, 2024. Beginning in February, you may also easily file online at <http://tax.vermont.gov>

A Homestead is defined as the principal dwelling and parcel of land owned by a resident individual on April 1 and occupied as the individual's domicile. If the homestead is rented on April 1, it may still be declared as your homestead if you occupy it for at least 183 days out of the calendar year.

Tax booklets are no longer automatically distributed. To order booklets/forms please call 802-828-2515 or go <http://tax.vermont.gov/all-forms> to print forms directly. Photocopies cannot be processed and may be returned

**REMINDER: IT IS REQUIRED THAT YOU FILE FOR HOMESTEAD DECLARATION & PROPERTY TAX CREDIT CLAIM (FORMS HS-122 & HI-144) ANNUALLY.**

Your Lister's make every effort to run an efficient, as well as a transparent operation and are ready and willing to work with our taxpayers on any and all questions they may have.

Respectfully submitted,

David Horton, Amy Giroux, Kevin Nichols  
Swanton Town Listers

# The Vermont Property Tax Credit

The Vermont Property Tax Credit assists many Vermont homeowners with paying their property taxes. You may be eligible for a property tax credit based on your 2023/2024 property taxes if your property qualifies as a homestead and you meet the eligibility requirements described in this fact sheet. The maximum credit is \$5,600 for the education property tax portion and \$2,400 for the municipal property tax portion. This fact sheet outlines who can file, how to file, and frequently asked questions.

## Who is Eligible to File a Claim

In order to file a Vermont Property Tax Credit Claim, you must meet all of the following eligibility requirements:

- Your property qualifies as a homestead, and you have filed a Homestead Declaration before the October 15, 2024, filing deadline.
- You were \*domiciled in Vermont for the entire 2023 calendar year.
- You were not claimed as a dependent of another taxpayer for 2023.
- You occupy the property as your homestead as of April 1, 2024.
- Your Household Income did not exceed \$128,000 in 2023. [See Household Income on page 2.](#)

\* Domicile is a legal concept that has implications for Vermont income tax, the statewide education tax, and property tax credit. For the definition of “domicile,” see [Vermont Regulation § 1.5811\(11\)\(A\)\(i\) \(https://tax.vermont.gov/sites/tax/files/documents/15811.pdf\)](https://tax.vermont.gov/sites/tax/files/documents/15811.pdf).

**The Property Tax Credit Claim for 2024 is due on April 15. There is a \$15.00 late fee after April 16. Generally, claims cannot be accepted after October 15, 2024.**

## What is a Homestead

A Homestead Declaration (Form HS-122) must be filed each year so that you are correctly assessed the homestead tax rate on your property. A “homestead” is the principal dwelling and parcel of land surrounding the dwelling. It is your responsibility as the property owner to claim the property as a homestead if you meet, or expect to meet, the following requirements:

- You are a Vermont resident.
- You own and occupy a homestead as your domicile as of April 1, 2024.

Note: If you meet these requirements, except that your homestead is leased to a tenant on April 1, 2024, you may still claim it as a homestead if it is not leased for more than 182 days in the 2024 calendar year.

## What Forms Are Needed to File

You need the following two forms to file a claim:

- Form HS-122: Section A: Homestead Declaration and Section B: Property Tax Credit Claim
- Schedule HI-144: Household Income

## How to File Each Form

### Homestead Declaration, Form HS-122, Section A

When filing this form, you need to have available the following:

- The property's School Property Account Number (SPAN) which can be found on your property tax bill; and
- Your Social Security Number

#### Important reminders:

- If you are filing an income tax extension, be sure that the Homestead Declaration is still filed by the April due date.
- Sign the Homestead Declaration at the end of section B on the reverse side of the form.
- Declarations received after the April due date may receive a penalty of up to 8% of the education tax owed. This penalty is assessed by your municipality.
- Only one Property Tax Credit Claim is allowed per household per year.

### Property Tax Credit Claim, Form HS-122 Section B

When filing a claim, you need to enter the following information from your 2023/2024 property tax bill:

- Housesite Value
- Housesite Education Property Tax
- Housesite Municipal Tax

#### Important reminders:

- You must answer the eligibility questions and enter household income information from Form HI-144 before the claim can be processed.
- For claims received after the April due date, a \$15 late filing fee is deducted from the property tax credit.
- Generally, claims cannot be accepted after the October due date. Incomplete adjustment claims are considered not filed.
- Other information and forms may be needed, if applicable to your situation, such as:
  - Form LRC-147, Statement of Rent for Mobile Home Park Lot Rent, Co-ops, and Land Trusts (provided by lot owner)
  - Property Tax from Contiguous Property
  - Ownership Interest (percentage of ownership). For example, if there is an owner who doesn't reside in the home on April 1, enter the percentage of ownership of the owner(s) who does reside there.

### Household Income, Schedule HI-144

Household income is different from the income reported on income tax forms. It includes all sources of income of any persons living in your household, including children, for any period during 2023. It includes both taxable and nontaxable income, such as the following:

- Social Security
- Veterans' benefits
- Some nontaxable pensions
- Support money

Here's a short checklist of what you need:

- Names and Social Security Numbers of all persons who lived with you and had income
- All sources and amounts of income of those persons while living with you
- Any allowable adjustments from the federal income tax return

## **Exceptions Applying to A Spouse or Civil Union Partner**

The income of a spouse or civil union partner must be included in household income, even if the person does not live with you in the same home. Here are a few exceptions:

If your spouse or civil union partner is at least 62 years old and permanently living in a nursing home or other care facility with no reasonable prospect of returning home, you may exclude that person's income from household income.

### **Legal Separation or Divorce**

If at any time during the tax year, you have become legally separated or divorced from your spouse or civil union partner by a signed judge's decree and the person does not live with you in the same home, you may exclude that person's income from household income. If, however, the spouse or civil union partner still lives with you in the same home, you must include that person's income in household income.

### **Protective Order**

If you have a protective order against your spouse or civil union partner by a signed judge's decree in place before filing a Property Tax Credit Claim, you may exclude that person's income from household income. You may wish to consult a tax professional regarding limitations to these claims in the case of separation or divorce.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What if I lease my home on April 1, 2024, and it ends up being leased for more than 182 days in 2024?**

You must withdraw your Homestead Declaration and your Property Tax Credit Claim using paper form HS-122W, Vermont Homestead and/or Property Tax Credit Withdrawal.

### **What happens when a homeowner dies before April 1, 2024?**

If the claim was filed by a single owner, the claim must be withdrawn using paper Form HS-122W. If the property has not sold or is not being rented, the law does allow the estate to claim Homestead only for one year after the death of the homeowner, however the estate may not file for the property tax credit.

## What can I do if I make a mistake when filing HS-122?

You may amend the following lines on the HS-122:

- Housesite Value
- Housesite Education Tax
- Housesite Municipal Tax
- Ownership percentage

For all other errors, please contact the Vermont Department of Taxes for instructions.

## What happens if I jointly own my home with my spouse, make a claim, and my spouse owes money to a Vermont state agency?

If your property tax credit was used to pay money owed to a Vermont state agency, the Department will notify you. You have 30 days from the date of the notice to submit an “injured spouse” claim. You may receive a portion of the credit equal to the percentage of your ownership of the homestead. For more details, see [Injured Spouse Claims \(https://tax.vermont.gov/individuals/injured-spouse\)](https://tax.vermont.gov/individuals/injured-spouse).

## Resources

- [Chapter 154: Homestead Property Tax Credit And Renter Credit - https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/32/154](https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/32/154)
- [How to Determine Household Income - https://tax.vermont.gov/individuals/household-income](https://tax.vermont.gov/individuals/household-income)
- [myVTax - https://myvtax.vermont.gov](https://myvtax.vermont.gov)
- [Property Tax Credit - https://tax.vermont.gov/property/tax-credit](https://tax.vermont.gov/property/tax-credit)
- [Understanding Your Property Tax Bill - https://tax.vermont.gov/property/tax-bill](https://tax.vermont.gov/property/tax-bill)

## Contact Us

If you have questions about the Vermont Property Tax Credit, please send an email to [tax.individualincome@vermont.gov](mailto:tax.individualincome@vermont.gov) or call (802) 828-2865 or (866) 828-2865 (toll-free in Vermont).

## **DOG LICENSES**

Dogs six months or older must be licensed by April 1<sup>st</sup> each year to avoid a penalty.

License fees are as follows:

	<b>By April 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>After April 1<sup>st</sup></b>
<b>Spayed or Neutered</b>	<b>\$14.00</b>	<b>\$18.00</b>
<b>Not Spayed or Neutered</b>	<b>\$18.00</b>	<b>\$24.00</b>

You will need to bring a copy of your dog's current rabies vaccination and certificate of neutering or spaying if applicable to the Town Clerk's Office to license your dog.

**If you lose your dog or find a lost dog please contact  
Jim Benson, Animal Control Officer at 802-238-3246**

*According to Swanton's Dog Control Ordinance, any impounded domestic pet or wolf-hybrid not redeemed within four (4) business days may be destroyed, sold or given up for adoption.*



16 Jewett Street ~ PO Box 332, Swanton, VT 05488

802-868-2493

[swantonrecreation@gmail.com](mailto:swantonrecreation@gmail.com)

The Swanton Recreation Commission would like to take this opportunity to thank all our coaches, instructors, parents, volunteers, sponsors, donors, umpires, refs, regional partners, Village and Town Representatives, Missisquoi Valley Union High School Athletes, students and staff for their dedication and commitment throughout the past year.

This past year we served over 1,600 community members through our various programs. For those who are not familiar with our services, we encourage you to visit our website [www.swantonrec.org](http://www.swantonrec.org) or follow us on Facebook, Instagram. We work hard on keeping our community up to date on all our latest news and events. Please feel free to contact us with suggestions and ideas.

### **2023 in Review**

**Participation in youth athletics at the recreational level (Ages 5-12 years old) still continues to grow in our community. In 2023 we had 10 Baseball/Softball teams, 3 Tee-ball teams, 10 Basketball teams, 9 Soccer Teams, 2 Football Teams, 1 Field Hockey team, and 1 Track and Field Team. With increased participation comes increased use of our space and more creative ways to manage facility usage. We are always looking for more dedicated volunteers.**

**We offered Third-Space/ Out of School programs during Winter and Spring School Vacation. These day camps provided a safe welcoming space for our young people to stay active with lots of outside play, art and crafts, indoor games, and healthy snacks. Summer vacation was jam-packed with NOTCH Day camp offering half day programming during the month of July, and Super Summer Days offering day camp opportunities in the afternoons in July and full days in August.**

**We also supported our youth by offering Teen Leadership opportunities, Community Service opportunities, Teen Nights, nutrition education, The Art of Tinkering, Outdoor Survival Skills, Dungeons and Dragons club, and Fun Fridays. We also continue to support MVSD by being a community liaison for the Vermont Youth Project as well as the project lead for the local Youth Council.**

**We have been working with the selectboard on developing the concept of a community recreation center located at our facility at 16 Jewett St. In the coming months we hope to build on that more with engaged community discussions, development of a fundraising**

**committee, hiring a dedicated grant writer for the project so that we can continue on our mission of developing diverse, affordable, recreational programs and activities for the community in a safe and welcoming environment.**

Our loaner equipment library is growing, we now have snowshoes, hiking poles, ice cleats, kayaks (+paddle), stand up paddle boards (+paddle), portable disc golf baskets w/ discs, pickleball equipment, yard games, fishing poles w/ tackle all for the community to use at no cost.

We continue to build essential partnerships with local stakeholders and community organizations to offer a wide variety of programs, networking opportunities and resources to Swanton. Please check our website regularly for new programs and resources. Making a member account is FREE!

If you have any questions or suggestions please feel free to contact us at **swantonrecreation@gmail.com** or by calling **868-2493**. We thank you for your continued support and look forward to another successful year.

**Respectfully Yours,** Betsy Fournier, Board Chair ~ Alicia Bourdeau, Treasurer ~ Lisa Wilda, Secretary ~ Joseph Raleigh, Board Member- Sophie Vibert, Board Member ~ Jason Guyette, Board Member ~ Jon Nielsen, Board Member ~ Jesse LeClair, Board Member,~ Nicole Draper, Executive Director ~ Nick Michaud, Athletic Director/Operations Manager

#### **SWANTON RECREATION COMMISSION**

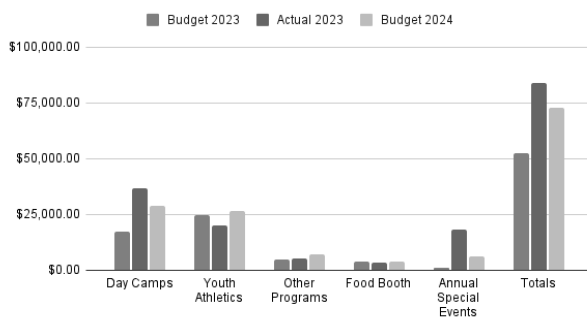


SCAN THIS QR CODE WITH YOUR CAMERA FOR MORE ABOUT RECREATION  
IN SWANTON

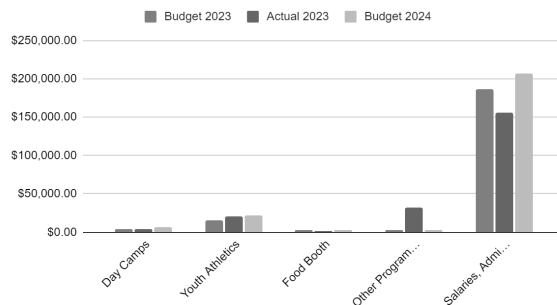


Revenue	Budget 2023	Actual 2023	Budget 2024
Day Camps	\$17,500.00	\$36,861.00	\$29,000.00
Youth Athletics	\$24,850.00	\$20,200.00	\$26,750.00
Other Programs	\$4,770.00	\$5,140.00	\$7,100.00
Food Booth	\$4,000.00	\$3,570.00	\$4,000.00
Annual Special Events	\$1,200.00	\$18,021.00	\$6,000.00
Totals	\$52320.00	\$83792.00	\$72850.00

Revenue



Expenses



Expenses	Budget 2023	Actual 2023	Budget 2024
Day Camps	\$4550.00	\$3951.80	\$6500.00
Youth Athletics	\$15900.00	\$20075.53	\$22100.00
Food Booth	\$2250.00	\$1708.35	\$2250.00
Other Programs/Annual Special Events	\$3250.00	\$32137.09	\$3100.00
Salaries, Administrative Facility Operating	186552	155288.84	206,570.00
Totals	212502.00	213161.61	240520.00

Total Funds Requested \$ 167,670.00

Minus Carryover from 2023 \$ 18,107.03

Actual Funds Requested for 2024 \$ 149,562.97

\*For a more detail budget by line item please visit our website at [www.swantonrec.org](http://www.swantonrec.org)



# ABENAKI NATION OF MISSISQUOI

*St. Francis/Sokoki Band*

100 Grand Ave, Swanton, VT 05488

Ph: (802) 868-6255

## Maquam Bay of Missisquoi Food Pantry

In our Native American/Indigenous Tradition- we are taught to care for our community- our friends, family, and neighbors whether they are members of our band or not.

Being human means being there to provide assistance, to lend a caring hand in times of need, when a little bit of assistance can go a long way.

Our food pantry was launched in 2015 due to the critical need among the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi people. Our overall mission through our nonprofit arm: Maquam Bay of Missisquoi is to help fight food insecurity in our tribal community and in our surrounding communities. All are welcome to access our pantry.

We partner with The Vermont Foodbank, and the Feeding America Program.

This program enables us to pick up from area grocery stores. We work closely with Costco's, St Albans Hannaford's, Maplefields, Dollar General, Food City and our newest partner Price Chopper.

Our client numbers have tripled, and our donations have not. We survive solely on grants and donations.

In 2023 we fed 6,544 clients which is 1,855 families. These numbers do not include the 68 Thanksgiving boxes and 52 Christmas boxes we passed out.

Unfortunately, due to the high cost of groceries and living expenses we expect our numbers to increase by up to 20 percent.

We encourage you to stop by for a tour of our pantry and we'll answer any questions you may have.

We kindly and humbly thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Dubois Lavoie

Food Pantry – Office Manager

## Swanton Enhancement Project

The Swanton Enhancement Project (SEP) is a non-profit group of community stakeholders who are *working together to make Swanton a place where people want to live, work, learn and play.*

Our steering committee includes representatives of the Village of Swanton, Town of Swanton, Missisquoi Valley School District, Swanton Recreation, Swanton Library, Swanton Chamber of Commerce, Swanton Historical Society, Swanton Arts Council and Community Members. SEP holds open meetings every other month, special events and an annual meeting to elect officials and present the Kilburn-Lambert Community Service Award. In 2023, Mr. Reginal “Reggie” Bellevue was the recipient of this prestigious award.

The November meeting focused on priorities for 2024. After some very substantive discussion members decided on two:

1. **Social Emotional Health (substance misuse, engagement, family)**
2. **Economic Health**

These priorities will be worked through four task forces:

1. **Beautification**
2. **Healthy Communities**
3. **Community Communications and Engagement**
4. **Economic Development**

Some of the highlights for 2023:

### **Healthy Communities Task Force**

Collaboration with local youth coalitions such as; Swanton Rec, library, Vermont After School, & Franklin County Caring Communities, to influence more healthy spaces for youth, to make more connections physically, mentally & environmentally.

Presentation on youth local impact data from the 2021 YRBS youth risk survey. Summarizing behavior data of physical, mental & emotional & how it affects behaviors that may lead to poor decision & health in our youth.

### **Beautification Task Force Report**

Thanks to generous donors and the dedicated work of volunteers, we had a successful first year in 2023 of a seven-year plan to enhance the visual beauty of Swanton’s landscape. We planted nine streetside trees, five streetside hydrangeas and added colorful gardens and planters in the Village green, Veterans Memorial Park, the bridge and other spots in the Village center.

We could not have accomplished this without the devotion of citizen volunteers

who cared for all flower planters and beds. We appreciate the generous financial assistance of citizen donors, the Village Trustees and Selectboard. Dean Ryan, Village Public Works Director, installed water pipes to the bridge flower boxes and flower beds on the village green.

Tentative plans for 2024 include planting ten streetside trees and new flower beds and window boxes at the Town Office Building and the Village complex. We hope to increase hanging baskets on Grand Avenue and expand plantings at Veterans Memorial Park. We are exploring options for erecting murals and welcoming signs at the entrances to the community.

We would be glad to welcome more citizen volunteers to help with the ongoing care of plants from May to October.

Thank you for your support in making Swanton a more beautiful community.

Gratefully, the Swanton Beautification Committee:

Cindy Alvarado	Hank Lambert	Gene Alvarado	Frances Luce
Anna Boardman	Jackie Quilliam	Cory Boardman	Shelley Robtoy
Julie Charland	Frank Shumway	Chevon Cooper	Jean Simard
Saundra Dubois	John Simon	Sarah Foisy	Laura Simon
Marie Frey	Lauriette Winters	Sandy Kilburn	Linda Wirts

### **Economic Development Task Force**

Continued activities on the Village Green to include Farmers' Market and Food Truck Sundays.

Held another Small Business Saturday promoting local shopping.

Began formation of a business association to promote local businesses and economic growth.

We welcome all community members to get involved. **Join a Task Force and Be a Positive Influence for the Swanton Community.**

The Swanton Enhancement Project (SEP) looks forward to working with residents, municipal officials and staff, and regional partners in 2024 and beyond.

We want to end with a special thanks to Debbie Winters for her years serving as Co-Chair. Her insight and hard work were a key to SEP's success.

Sincerely,

Betsy Fournier, Chair [betsy.fournier@gmail.com](mailto:betsy.fournier@gmail.com)

Crystal Lampman [crystal.fcccp@gmail.com](mailto:crystal.fcccp@gmail.com)

# Swanton Arts Council

*Mission: to establish an artistic presence and develop the artistic community in Swanton*

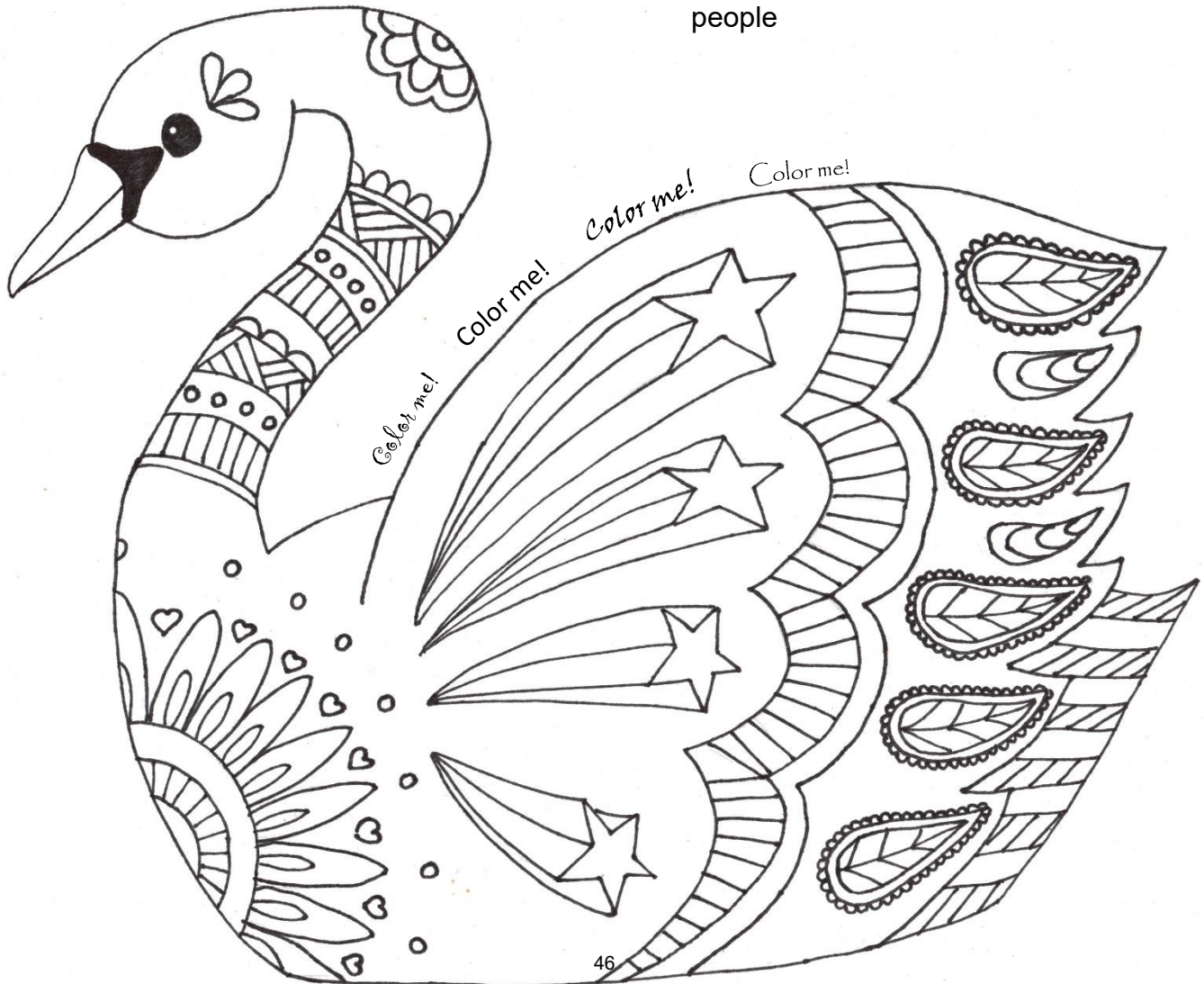
We meet the first Wednesday, 6pm at the Swanton Public Library

Come join us and:

- ❖ Be creative
- ❖ Create public art
- ❖ Meet other artsy folks
- ❖ Lead a project

In 2023:

- ☆ We held 53 events, including a variety of art classes, a poetry slam, and Make Music Day
- ☆ We funded take-and-make art kits through the library
- ☆ We provided awards, such as the Emerging Artist Award and the Edwin Church Award for Local Writers
- ☆ Our events were attended by 875 people



**2024 Swanton Historical Society  
Annual Report of the President and the Trustees**



Winter: During the winter we resumed an annual tradition at the Ron Kilburn Transportation Museum, “Holiday Trains”. This is always a good chance for our volunteers to open up the building to families with young children. We were open three days between Christmas and New Years and the community took advantage of our programming.

Spring: With the approaching warm weather, we prepared the Depot for reopening and resuming regular hours. As the cold temperatures departed, the village proceeded with the much anticipated “Hotel Riv” demolition. The Historical Society teamed with students from MVU and used 3D cameras to electronically preserve the final condition of the building. After it came down the SHS organized a public forum where MVU students talked about receiving final tours of the interior. The “Riv” finally met its fate in April and the Historical Society was there to record the event.

Summer: The Historical Society Depot Museum was open all summer. Terry Tuck and Larry Rochon volunteered their time nearly every weekend between mid-May and late October. Without them generously donating their time, the summer availability would not be such a success. With continued use of the Rec Trail, we enjoyed another phenomenal season which brought a good number of travelers to our location on the west bank of the Missisquoi River. Heavy summer rains impacted the availability of the SHS Research and Archive Room in the basement of the library. There was enough water damage in the room to prompt a public discussion about the basement being the best place to display all of the artifacts from Swanton’s History. Also, the library's interest in the space put the SHS volunteers in a difficult position. At present the SHS has been guaranteed use of the basement long term until a better home location can be investigated. Despite this situation, the Historical Society has enjoyed a bit of a youth movement over the last several months. Younger people have been increasingly fascinated with Swanton’s history and graciously offered to serve on the SHS Board of Trustees. Some have filled terms of a year and departed, but their service is much appreciated. Others have become very active on the board and have expanded our volunteer hours at the Depot.



Fall: The SHS extended the summer hours through most of the fall. We are proud that the Depot and the walking bridge are such popular locations. As with all things that need to be preserved, we discovered that the old Missisquoi Bridge Toll House Building needed extensive repairs.

Thanks to a generous bequest from the estates of two special brothers from Swanton, Don and Earl Taylor, funds became available for some urgent structural and cosmetic preservation. The Historical Society employed Steve and Sam Wunsch whose work maintained the historic accuracy of the structure and preserved it for future use. The Historical Society also hosted a series of talks by Fred Wiseman on Abenaki history, Native history, and model trains.

**Officers: President, Jason Barney**

**Vice-President & Treasurer, Glen Gurwit Secretary & Trustee, Mike Barkyoub Trustees: Caleb Ladieu (1st Term, ending in 2024)**

**Nick Brosseau (1st Term, ending in 2024) Zoe Brosky (1st Term, ending in 2024)**

**Mike Barkyoub (1st Term, ending 2025) Heather Lavoie (1st Term, ending in 2025)**

**Cody Hemenway (1st Term, ending in 2025) Bruce Spaulding (2nd Term, ending in 2026)**

**Mason Landry (1st Term, ending in 2026) Rich Kelley (3rd Term, ending in 2026)**

**Ron Kilburn (Lifetime Trustee) Jahnessa Ryea (Member at Large)**

**Curator/Membership Chair: Open**

Volunteer Opportunities: If you are interested in volunteering with the Swanton Historical Society, please contact Jason Barney at [Jason.Barney@mvsdschools.org](mailto:Jason.Barney@mvsdschools.org)

Once again, we would like to thank Frances Hopkins for all of her hard work. Aside from Terry Tuck and Larry Rochon at the Depot, Fran is our primary volunteer. Much of our collection of ephemera and artifacts in the Research and Archive Room has been organized by her. She does exceptional work for the SHS.

Once again, we would like to thank Frances Hopkins for all of her hard work. Aside from Terry Tuck and Larry Rochon at the Depot, Fran is our primary volunteer. Much of our collection of ephemera and artifacts in the Research and Archive Room has been organized by her. She does exceptional work for the SHS.

Community Resources: The Ron F. Kilburn Transportation Museum hosts the Railroad Depot, the Missisquoi Bay Bridge Toll House, and the popular Walking Bridge across the Missisquoi River. It is located at 58 South River St. To request information about Swanton's history, please contact 1-802-370-4883 (Jason Barney) The Society also maintains a Research and Archive Room in the basement of the Swanton Public Library. This space is currently unavailable due to repairs on the building. Our facilities are fully accessible and open to the public by appointment. Visit our website at [www.swantonhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.swantonhistoricalsociety.org)

Swanton is a unique place. It has a long history. We have much to share and learn from each other. We welcome interested individuals to join our Society and help us preserve and appreciate this town's amazing heritage. I am proud of this area, and love the unique history of the region. I am honored to be a part of the Historical Society. We try to serve the community well and keep history alive.

Jason Barney  
President

**MISSISQUOI VALLEY RESCUE, INC.**  
**2023 ANNUAL REPORT**

<b><u>TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE:</u></b>	<b>1,723</b>
SWANTON:	966
HIGHGATE:	359
TRANSFERS:	211
INTERCEPTS:	8
<b>MUTUAL AID:</b>	<b>179</b>
-ST. ALBANS	108
-ALBURGH	40
-FRANKLIN	16
-FAIRFIELD	6
-ISLE LA MOTTE	3
-GEORGIA	2
-RICHFORD	2
-ENOSBURGH	1
-SHELDON	1
 <b><u>TOTAL MEMBERSHIP:</u></b>	 <b>30</b>
PARAMEDIC / PARAMEDIC IN TRAINING:	4
A-EMT / A-EMT IN TRAINING:	9
EMT / EMT IN TRAINING:	11
VEFR:	5
CPR/DRIVER:	1

From all of us at Missisquoi Valley Rescue (MVR), THANK YOU! We are proud to be a part of and serve such a great community. 2023 was yet again a busy year with a total of 1,723 calls, very similar to 2022. We continue to see a significant number of responses to surrounding communities (mutual aid). Our mutual aid responses remain substantially elevated over the 5 year running average. We provided mutual aid 179 times this year and we required mutual aid 89 times.

Our CPR training center certified over 627 people in CPR/First Aid across Northwest VT. If you are interested in a CPR course please call our station to set one up! Please feel free to stop by for a free vitals signs check or to just say hi! We wish you all the best in the year ahead!

Respectfully Submitted,

Joshua W. Ramsdell

Manager

Missisquoi Valley Rescue, Inc.



Missisquoi Valley Rescue, Inc									
Yearly Comparison and Budget Report									
For the year ending December 31, 2023									
									Proposed
									Budget
									Budget
Receipts:		2021	2022		Actual		Budget		2024
					2023		2023		
Donations/Subs/Memorials		24,990	36,373		22,202		20,000		25,000
Interest		240	160		6,554		200		7,000
Billings Received		549,379	346,470		536,598		505,000		575,000
Community Support		289,637	292,117		278,470		285,800		318,610
Training		4921	4,956		7,553		4,000		4,000
Miscellaneous		69,670	1,983		7,302		2,000		2,000
Total Receipts		938,837	682,059		858,679		817,000		931,610
MISSISQUOI VALLEY RESCUE, INC.									
Yearly Comparison and Budget Report									
For the year ending December 31, 2023									
									Proposed
									Budget
									Budget
									2024
Disbursements:		2021	2022		Actual		Budget		
					2023		2023		
Payroll & Payroll Taxes		499,394	503,082		580,872		555,100		644,500
Contract Labor		1,560	2,520		4,425		2,000		2,000
Office Supplies		3,732	3,406		1,335		3,000		3,000
Advertising and P.R.		4,448	3,065		3,795		5,000		5,000
Gas and Diesel		13,023	24,286		21,789		24,000		20,000
Training		6,939	7,373		9,716		7,000		7,000
Insurance		47,216	64,148		62,892		54,000		60,000
Communications/Telephone		4,726	18,049		10,546		6,500		6,500
Oxygen		1,143	1,437		1,712		1,200		1,500
Medical Supplies/Equipment		63,729	26,313		48,197		27,000		30,000
Ambulance Payments		56,520	41,520		112,493		50,000		30,000
Heavy Rescue Building		1,165	1,298		1,264		1,500		1,500
Bay Rent & Utilities		6,102	5,991		6,400		6,500		6,500
Maintenance & Janitorial		13,026	16,909		24,910		13,500		18,000
Uniforms and Accessories		5,842	4,453		3,163		3,500		3,000
Ambulance Assessment tax		12,610	13,518		17,894		18,000		19,000
Professional Services		31,427	35,200		31,096		37,200		72,110
Miscellaneous		2,580	1,871		1,932		2,000		2,000
New Station					37,112				
Total Disbursements		775,182	774,439		981,543		817,000		931,610
Net Receipts over (under) Disburse		163,655	-92,380		-122,864		0		0
Beginning Account Balances		222,467	386,122		293,742		170,878		170,878

Other ins/outs			0							
Ending Account Balances	\$386,122	\$293,742	\$170,878	\$170,878	\$170,878					
** Professional fees :		2023 Budget	Bank Acct Balances	10/2023						
Billing fees		25,000.00	Peoples Trust	\$2,701						
Dispatching		46,110.00	M&T Muni cking	31,096						
Legal/other fees		1,000.00	Payroll Acct.	6,102						
		72,110.00	LiveOak	100,581						
				140,480						
MISSISQUOI VALLEY RESCUE, INC.										
Community Support Request										
For the year ending December 31, 2023										
Breakdown Swanton and Highgate Community Support for the year ending December 31, 2023										
Swanton		\$229,761								

# SWANTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

**Established 1889**

The Swanton Fire Department had a record year for car accidents with the bulk of these accidents occurring on Interstate 89, the Woodhill and Route 207 intersection, Route 207, and Route 78 in West Swanton.

We responded to 264 calls in 2023, with a call breakdown as follows: 109 vehicle accidents, 4 vehicle fires, 36 fire alarms, 7 structure fires, 3 trash/rubbish, 2 brush/grass fires, 5 gas leaks, 4 burn complaints, 7 road hazards, 12 carbon monoxide incidents, 33 medical assists, 11 good intent, 13 mutual aid requests, 8 boat rescues, 7 smoke investigations, and 3 ice water rescues.

	2023	2022
Vehicle Accident	109	96
Vehicle Fire	4	7
Fire Alarms	36	18
Structure Fire	7	13
Trash/Rubbish	3	4
Brush/Grass	2	11
Gas Leak	5	2
Burn Complaint	4	10
Road Hazard	7	23
C.O. Incident	12	7
Hazmat	0	1
Med Assist	33	42
Good Intent	11	7
Mutual Aid	13	22
Boat Rescue	8	4
Smoke Invest	7	12
Ice Water Rescue	3	0
	264	279

The Fire Department members have a deep appreciation towards the tremendous responsibility of serving and protecting the entire community of Swanton and we humbly look forward to continuing to provide a professional level, dedicated volunteer service to this great community.

Our fully volunteer membership has three honorary members and twenty-seven active firefighters, twenty-three of whom are fully state certified as Level 1 or 2 Firefighters. Through regular, high-level training, we strive to strengthen our skills to meet the needs of this community with resolute public servants, with an unwavering, steadfast emergency response approach.

You may have noticed our boat, Swanton Marine 1, on the water this summer during holidays and other busy weekends. This is a new program, proactively staffing our fireboat to ensure quicker response time to all areas of the lake and rivers. All hours spent on the water were volunteered by the membership. We will be continuing this program again in 2024 and look forward to seeing everyone out enjoying the sunshine.

Due to the rising costs of equipment, fuel, and insurance the proposed budget increase for 2024 is 6.5%.

Effective January 1, 2024, there was a change of leadership as Chief Jason Cross had to step away from his role as chief. Jason will continue to serve in the department as the Fire Safety Officer. The Village Trustees appointed me, Daniel R. Chevalier, to the position of Chief. Prior to that appointment I was serving as the Assistant Chief.

The goals for the Fire Department in 2024 are to continue with the trainings necessary to ensure that the best qualified emergency responders are arriving to manage any situation, while at the same time reengaging in community events and supporting the public in other areas outside of the normal first response duties.

The Fire department membership would like to thank its other team members, Swanton Town employees, the Swanton Police Department, Swanton Village Electric and Swanton Village Public Works with helping whenever called upon to assist the Fire Department.

## Swanton Fire Department Roster, Effective January of 2024

### Fire Department Members:

Fire Chief Daniel Chevalier, Deputy Chief Troy Campbell, Lieutenant Lawrence Bouissey, Lieutenant Matt Depatie, Lieutenant Keesy Jaring. Fire Fighters: Chris Albertson, Kody Bruyette, Jordan Campbell, Jason Cross, Daryl Domina, Andre Fontaine, Sierra Francalangia, Cody Giroux, John Greer Jr, Justin Hazard, Cole Heyman, Gary Longe, Avery Mitchinson, Shayne Mott, Josh Packard, Kenneth Phaneuf, Lyndsay Potter, Matt Walker, Bruce Whalen, Kayleigh Williams, Barry Wood, and Caleb Vanslette.

**Honorary Members:** Jason Butler, Tim Girard and Pete Prouty.

**Cadets:** Jaylin Sweat, Linh Doan, Uriah Neabour, and Kadence Richard.

**Ladies Auxiliary Members:** Ashley Chevalier, Hannah Mott, Ashley Dufresne, Michelle Dufresne, Nicole Heyman, and Alyssa Fontaine.



*Sincerely,  
Daniel Chevalier  
Fire Chief*

**Swanton Village  
General Fund  
Income Statement  
For The Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2023**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>			
<b>PROPERTY TAXES</b>			
Property Taxes	\$87,861	\$87,871	\$88,480
PILOT	<u>1,922</u>	<u>3,265</u>	<u>2,205</u>
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES</b>	\$89,783	\$91,136	\$90,685
<b>OTHER OPERATING REVENUES</b>			
Other Revenues	\$0	\$600	\$0
Town Fire Assessment	278,225	278,225	296,216
Revenues from Merch. Jobbing & Contract Work	0	10,573	0
Interest & Dividend Income	600	4,135	2,000
Grant Income	<u>0</u>	<u>3,676</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL OTHER OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<u>\$278,825</u>	<u>\$297,209</u>	<u>\$298,216</u>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES</b>	\$368,608	\$388,346	\$388,901
<b>OPERATING MAINT EXPENSES</b>			
Fire Salaries	\$40,000	\$33,230	\$40,000
Tools Expense	1,000	0	1,000
Department Supplies	<u>1,500</u>	<u>3,599</u>	<u>1,500</u>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING MAINT EXPENSES</b>	\$42,500	\$36,828	\$42,500
<b>ADMIN &amp; GENERAL EXPENSES</b>			
Uncollectible Accounts	\$0	\$4,500	\$0
Office Supplies	550	410	550
Telephone & Internet	5,735	4,603	5,735
Postage	165	192	190
Subscriptions	0	0	0
Outside Services Employed	2,600	4,074	2,935
Accounting	2,990	2,988	3,750
Dispatching	20,520	20,520	21,546
Property Insurance	7,350	7,020	8,995
Workers Compensation	4,040	3,813	3,920
General Advertising Expenses	0	131	0
Miscellaneous General Expenses	100	141	100
Dues	1,200	777	1,200
Conventions, Meetings and Training	2,000	1,270	1,500
Annual Report	550	528	550
Fire Prevention	500	620	500
Rent	25,160	25,157	26,095
Transportation Expenses	39,000	58,248	44,500
Transportation Expenses - Labor	500	578	500
Shop Tools	<u>0</u>	<u>513</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL ADMIN &amp; GENERAL EXPENSES</b>	\$112,960	\$136,082	\$122,566

**Swanton Village  
General Fund  
Income Statement  
For The Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2023**

	<b>2023 BUDGET</b>	<b>2023 YTD</b>	<b>2024 BUDGET</b>
Social Security Taxes	\$3,060	\$2,771	\$3,060
Child Care Contribution	0	0	90
Truck Payment	119,788	119,788	118,385
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>			
Equipment	\$15,500	\$14,865	\$15,500
Equipment Replacement Fund	55,000	55,000	70,000
Radio Equipment	1,800	2,041	1,800
Personal Protective Equipment	<u>18,000</u>	<u>18,026</u>	<u>15,000</u>
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>\$90,300</u>	<u>\$89,931</u>	<u>\$102,300</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>\$368,608</u>	<u>\$385,402</u>	<u>\$388,901</u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	\$0	\$2,944	\$0

## SWANTON VILLAGE POLICE REPORT

The Swanton Village Police Department continued to work hard toward ensuring public safety for the citizens of Swanton in 2023. We are lucky to be one of two fully staffed police departments in the State of Vermont in 2023, but at the same time, we are minimally staffed. We have just enough officers to cover every shift except two open day shifts on the weekend that are covered by full-time officers on overtime or reserve officers. We are asking the community to support a budget with the addition of one more full-time officer and a full-time civilian staff person to assist with daily administrative requirements.

Our Police Department consists of 8 full-time officers that include: The Chief, 2 Sergeants, 1 Administrative Officer, 3 Patrol Officers, and 1 Student Resource Officer (SRO) at MVU. Swanton Village Police Department has 6 part-time officers who assist in filling the two open shifts per week, special details associated with the Governor's Highway Safety Details, Operation Stonegarden, and Extra Duty jobs.

We have engaged in a lot of community outreach participating in 10 Village Open House events during 2023 to allow the community to learn about the Village and the 8 departments: Police, Fire, Electric, Department of Public Works, Front Office, Hydro, Wastewater, and Water. There have been great discussions during the Open Houses including questions regarding grant-funded details like Stonegarden and Governor's Highway Safety, as well as extra duty jobs. Officers participate in grant-funded and extra-duty jobs outside their regular 40-hour work week and these details are fully compensated through grant funding or contracts hiring officers for specific jobs such as security at MVU hockey games.

There has been a lot of discussion regarding the proposed new public safety facility. The proposal is designed to accommodate all 5 departments that currently work out of the Municipal Complex. There is a pressing need to address deficiencies in the police department facility and I encourage anyone with questions to stop by the police department and have a conversation with me to answer any questions.

Swanton Village Police Department is positioned to be a model for regional policing. The vision is that if enough communities are interested in full-service community-oriented police services we could expand our agency to meet the need. For example, if Swanton Town were to expand coverage to mirror the Village, Village taxpayers would realize an economy of scale, reducing the cost of police services and all residents in the Town and Village would share equally in the cost of public safety. If more communities were interested in police service additional cost savings would be realized for taxpayers spreading the cost through the Grand List.

Swanton Village Police handled a total call volume of 2,759 incidents in 2023, an increase of approximately 17% from 2,352 in 2022 and down approximately 4% from 2884 in 2021. As discussed in last year's report this decrease was followed by an almost equal increase in call volume, which may be due to the new Computer Aided Dispatch / Records Management System



and the adjustment to slightly different call type nomenclature. Additionally, officers were very busy addressing drug activity in Swanton with a record number of search warrant incidents.

We responded to 1,839 incidents in the Village, an increase of approximately 41% from 1307 in 2022, and 920 incidents in the Town of Swanton, an increase of approximately 27% from 725 in 2022. We had 446 traffic stops total, an increase of approximately 11% from 401 in 2022, stopping 143 vehicles in the Village issuing 136 warnings and 65 tickets, and stopping 200 vehicles in the Town issuing 169 warnings and 77 tickets. We wrote \$31,103 worth of traffic tickets with \$11,862 worth of traffic tickets in the Village and \$13,314 in the Town. Swanton Village Police Officers made 22 arrests for Operation after Suspension or Revocation of License, commonly referred to as DLS. There were 13 arrests for DLS in the Village and 7 arrests for DLS in the Town. We also made 22 Driving Under the Influence arrests, commonly referred to as DUI. There were 6 arrests for DUI in the Village and 11 arrests for DUI in the Town. Approximately 10% of traffic stops resulted in an arrest, given 446 traffic stops resulted in 45 total arrests.

Officers made a concerted effort to focus on drug enforcement. Swanton Village Officers continue to espouse a philosophy of assisting individuals with substance use disorders by linking them with treatment services. However, SVPD will not allow drug distribution to lie fallow and has aggressively addressed persistent problems through criminal enforcement. During 2023 most of the property crime and fraud in Swanton had a direct nexus to individuals suffering from substance use disorder.

The Swanton Village Police Department had 53 search warrant incidents throughout 2023 which led to criminal charges and the recovery of evidence related to drug trafficking, fraud, and property crime. Although all of these incidents may not directly correlate with the execution of search warrants, the volume is indicative of the great investigative work by SVPD officers. The norm for SVPD over the past decade has been approximately 5 search warrants per year. Most of the search warrants in 2023 were associated with drug activity in the community. Some examples of the investigative work performed by SVPD officers are:

In January the first warrant was executed on a motor vehicle registered in New York and officers recovered \$5,000 cash in the vehicle.

Also in January, a second warrant was executed on a motor vehicle after an officer was called to a residence in the Village for a trespassing issue. Upon the officer entering the residence, a male suspect dove out of the window of the home. The officer surveilled the residence to investigate further and observed a different suspect loading firearms into a vehicle. When the officer followed the vehicle from the scene the vehicle fled at a high rate of speed and was eventually seized. The search warrant yielded 57 grams of cocaine base and 5 firearms.

A second search warrant was executed on the residence associated with the same investigation resulting in additional evidence related to firearms being recovered. The individual who dove out of the window was identified as Zaquikon Roy from Brooklyn, NY. Roy was eventually arrested in Maine for committing a homicide in Leicester, VT on June 4, 2023.

Also in January, officers executed a search warrant at a residence in Enosburgh related to a burglary that occurred in the Village. Officers arrested two subjects from Taunton, MA seizing 41 grams of cocaine base, \$6032 in cash, recovering 5 firearms including the stolen firearm from the burglary in the Village as well as multiple firearm parts including 2 machine gun conversion devices.

In March, officers executed a search warrant in Highgate just outside of the Village related to drug distribution. During this warrant officers arrested two males from Springfield, MA for distributing narcotics and recovered 13 grams of cocaine, 73 bags of fentanyl, and \$1850 in cash.

Also in March, officers executed a search warrant related to drug distribution on Covey Drive. During the execution of this search warrant, officers encountered two Blood gang members who were on federal probation out of Jersey City, NJ. Their federal probation was revoked.

In May, officers engaged in an interdiction stop related to drug distribution and seized 520 bags of fentanyl and .5 gram of cocaine base arresting a St. Albans resident. A search warrant was subsequently executed on this vehicle resulting in officers locating 29 Suboxone strips and crushed pills.

In July, officers executed a search warrant on a vehicle they seized during a traffic stop at the end of June, locating 2 grams of cocaine base, 2.4 grams of fentanyl, several pills, LSD, a firearm, and drug paraphernalia resulting in the arrest of a St. Albans resident.

In August, an interdiction stop on South River St. resulted in officers seizing 18 grams of cocaine base, and 20 bags of fentanyl resulting in the arrest of a St. Albans resident who was being investigated for federal drug trafficking and firearms violations. This suspect fled the area upon release and was arrested in January of 2024 by the U.S. Marshals.

In September a search warrant was executed on a residence in Alburgh related to a drug distribution investigation resulting in officers recovering 25 grams of cocaine, 13.8 ounces of marijuana, and drug paraphernalia. The Alburgh homeowner was arrested.

In September, officers executed a search warrant on the vehicle seized in the traffic stop on South River St. in August recovering 4.1 grams of cocaine base and a stolen firearm.

In October, officers applied for multiple warrants associated with electronic devices related to drug investigations.

In November, officers executed a search warrant on a residence in the Town yielding residual amounts of narcotics associated with an investigation of individuals from Pennsylvania.

In November, officers executed a search warrant on a residence on Grand Avenue associated with an aggravated assault that occurred on the Rail Trail at Robin Hood Drive where a gun was discharged. Officers recovered evidence at the residence.

In December, officers executed a search warrant on a rental vehicle that was seized after the operator was found in possession of cocaine.

In sum, most of the above investigative work is related to drug distribution activity in Swanton Village and Town. It is noteworthy that three of the individuals associated with these investigations were involved in homicides, with one individual who was a target of drug trafficking in Swanton, Khalif Jones being one of the victims in the double homicide in Burlington that occurred on November 12, 2023.

Generally, the volume of crime and disorder is consistent. The sample size in burglaries is not statistically significant with a 25% decrease (from 4 to 3 in 2023), a 4% decrease in theft (aggregating all types of theft from 52 to 50), an 11% increase in vandalism (from 9 to 10), a 53% decrease in family disturbances (from 51 to 24), and a 17% decrease in motor vehicle complaints (from 146 to 121).

We provided SVPD officers with contemporary training in defensive tactics, firearms, and law. We expanded our training budget from \$2,600 per year in 2022, to \$6,100 in 2023, to provide Swanton Village with high-quality law enforcement service which requires well-trained officers.

I continued to review Swanton Village Police Department policies and procedures and officers reviewed new policies regarding: Body Worn Cameras, Use of Force, Vehicle Pursuit and Emergency Operation. Although I have not yet had the opportunity to make our policies available to the public online, Swanton Village and Town have a new website [www.swantonvt.gov](http://www.swantonvt.gov). The new website has allowed SVPD to create a Police Blotter listing all incidents Swanton Village Police respond to organized by year and month.

Sergeant Gagne of the Swanton Village Police Department organized the 2023 National Night Out Event. The event was very successful again with a great turnout from the community and we thank all community members, sponsors, and volunteers for their participation and support.

The Swanton Village Police Department continues working to integrate a full Community Oriented Policing Strategy. The Police Department is here to serve the community. We strongly believe crime control must be augmented with community-based strategies that help prevent neighborhood crime, reduce fear, and enhance the quality of life in Swanton. When community members work together in partnership with law enforcement, we can identify underlying causes and create proactive methods to solve local problems. Crime can spread through a community, changing neighborhoods, and can negatively impact the entire community. We need to address crime and disorder before serious problems occur. Community policing requires community trust and engagement through clear communication built on a foundation of mutual respect. The Swanton Village Police Department embraces a philosophy of collaboration with community members to problem solve. We are looking for community members to assist us in addressing the drug problem in Swanton and ask anyone with information to contact the police department.

We can be found on the web at [www.swantonvt.gov](http://www.swantonvt.gov) or check out our Facebook page.

As always, if you have any questions, please call or stop by the Police Department, we are here to help you. We can be reached by phone at 868-4100.

***Respectfully Submitted,  
Matthew Sullivan, Chief of Police***

**Swanton Village  
General Fund  
Income Statement  
For The Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2023**

	<b>2023 BUDGET</b>	<b>2023 YTD</b>	<b>2024 BUDGET</b>
<b>POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>			
<b>PROPERTY TAXES</b>			
Property Taxes	\$852,990	\$853,086	\$998,967
PILOT	<u>11,295</u>	<u>16,094</u>	<u>14,490</u>
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES</b>	\$864,285	\$869,180	\$1,013,457
<b>OTHER OPERATING REVENUES</b>			
Rent	\$8,800	\$8,067	\$8,800
Miscellaneous Income	5,000	18,319	5,000
School Resource Officer	83,635	70,856	98,750
Town of Swanton Police Contract	179,150	186,898	405,489
Fines	200	121	200
Fingerprint Center	16,000	29,716	16,000
Interest & Dividend Income	3,400	3,305	3,400
Grant Income	68,088	203,030	12,000
<b>TOTAL OTHER OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<u>\$364,273</u>	<u>\$520,311</u>	<u>\$549,639</u>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES</b>	\$1,228,558	\$1,389,491	\$1,563,096
<b>OPERATING MAINT EXPENSES</b>			
Police Salaries	\$724,925	\$786,039	\$844,685
Tools Expense	0	0	1,000
Uniforms	3,500	3,532	4,600
Electricity	715	824	715
Department Supplies	20,000	34,521	12,000
Police K-9 Expenses	<u>500</u>	<u>583</u>	<u>500</u>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING MAINT EXPENSES</b>	\$749,640	\$825,499	\$863,500
<b>ADMIN &amp; GENERAL EXPENSES</b>			
Office Supplies	\$4,000	\$4,143	\$10,000
Telephone & Internet	14,550	14,026	15,000
Postage	240	192	240
Subscriptions	768	0	768
Travel & Meals	1,500	2,726	1,500
Outside Services Employed	11,860	9,301	11,860
Accounting	2,990	2,988	3,750
Dispatching	0	0	65,000
Property Insurance	28,925	27,130	31,520
Workers Compensation	45,130	47,327	35,500
Employee's Retirement	58,025	63,306	84,215
Employee's Health and Insurance	159,940	161,766	237,345

**Swanton Village  
General Fund  
Income Statement  
For The Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2023**

	<b>2023 BUDGET</b>	<b>2023 YTD</b>	<b>2024 BUDGET</b>
Employee's Dental Insurance	7,610	7,475	9,875
Life and Disability Insurance	2,160	2,160	2,425
General Advertising Expenses	500	131	500
Miscellaneous General Expenses	500	496	500
Dues	1,500	1,521	1,500
Conventions, Meetings and Training	6,100	2,327	20,000
Annual Report	550	528	550
Rent	9,505	9,504	9,860
Transportation Expenses	31,015	44,305	45,000
Transportation Expenses - Labor	0	241	0
Police Boat Expenses	<u>0</u>	<u>44,998</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL ADMIN &amp; GENERAL EXPENSES</b>	\$387,368	\$446,590	\$586,908
Social Security Taxes	55,455	59,413	64,620
Unemployment Compensation	1,100	795	1,100
Child Care Contribution	0	0	1,860
 <b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>			
Lease Expense	\$26,695	\$26,696	\$20,108
Equipment	0	102,931	10,000
Equipment Replacement Fund	<u>8,300</u>	<u>8,300</u>	<u>15,000</u>
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>\$34,995</u>	<u>\$137,926</u>	<u>\$45,108</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>\$1,228,558</u>	<u>\$1,470,223</u>	<u>\$1,563,096</u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>(\$80,731)</u>	<u>\$0</u>

***Swanton Emergency Management***

P.O. Box 711  
Swanton, VT 05488

The 2023 summer floods did not affect Swanton as horribly as the rest of the State, in this case we are fortunate. It's another reminder that the weather patterns are changing, and being prepared and informed is more important than ever. Changes in climate can be quick and unpredictable. Registering for VT Alert is a great way to keep yourself informed in the event of emergencies. Another good tool is the National Weather Service in Burlington VT website. These two means of communication and information gathering can be important in preparation for you and your families.

This summer, Assistant Emergency Manager Jason Butler and I attended the Vermont Emergency Preparedness Conference. The conference is a great way to hear from experts in the field of Emergency Preparedness. It also offers us an opportunity to learn about newer technologies in communications and preparedness strategies. In addition, being able to speak and learn from other Emergency Managers from other parts of the State is invaluable as well. Be prepared, be aware, be kind.

Respectfully submitted,

Reginald R Beliveau Jr  
Swanton Emergency Management Director

Jason Butler  
Swanton Emergency Management Coordinator

**STATE OF VERMONT  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
VERMONT STATE POLICE**



**St. Albans Field Station**  
140 Fisher Pond Rd  
St. Albans, VT 05478

January 5th, 2024

On behalf of the Vermont State Police, St. Albans Barracks, we are providing our 2023 Annual Report. This report will provide our mission, identify specialty services provided by the Troopers assigned to the St. Albans Barracks, and provide data for your respective town.

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Vermont State Police is to individually and collectively serve and protect by providing the highest quality of professional law enforcement services. The mission of the Troopers assigned to the St Albans Barracks is to protect the citizens of Franklin and Grand Isle Counties. By working together, we can educate, empower and foster trust within our community. We will strive to reduce crime and enforce the laws of our roadways through criminal investigations and aggressive motor vehicle enforcement.

**Specialty Services Provided by Troopers assigned to the St Albans Barracks**

In addition to their field primary responsibilities, many of the troopers assigned to the St Albans Barracks are members of special response teams that provide expert response capabilities in a variety of areas to address critical needs throughout Vermont.

The breakdown of these responses is as follows:

1 Trooper – Drug Recognition Expert (DRE)

5 Troopers – on the Tactical Services Unit (TSU)

1 Trooper – on the Critical Action Team (CAT)

1 Trooper – on the Search and Rescue Team (SAR)

1 Trooper – on the Bomb Squad (EOD)

1 Trooper – on the CLAN lab team

2 Troopers – on the Crash Reconstruction Team (CRT)

1 Trooper – on the Crisis Negotiation Unit (CNU)

**“Your Safety Is Our Business”**

Annual Crime Statistics for the St. Albans Barracks:

Total Cases: 6066

Total Arrests: 456

Total Tickets Issued: 337

Total Warnings Issued: 1070

Fatal Accidents: 7

Total Burglaries Investigated: 48

Total DUI's: 50

Local Community Report for Swanton:

Total Cases: 550

Total Arrests: 37

Total DUI's: 6

Total Accidents – Property Damage: 59

Total Accidents – Injury: 12

Total Vandalisms: 0

Total Alarms: 40

Total Burglaries: 5

Total Tickets: 44

Total Warnings: 166

We will continue to make our communities safer through enforcement, prevention, and community outreach. It is our privilege to serve the citizens of this community. Together, we will get through these challenging times.

Respectfully,



Lieutenant Michael Filipek  
Station commander



## Northwest Vermont Solid Waste Management District

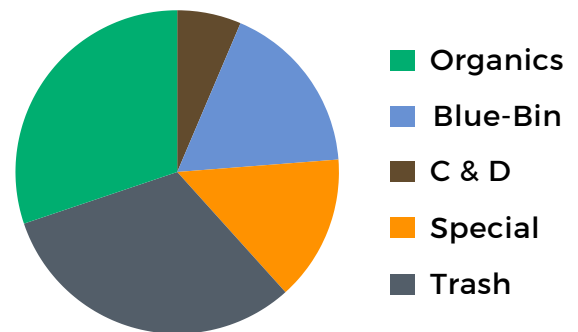
158 Morse Drive, Fairfax, VT, 05404  
802.524.5986 | [nswsd.org](http://nswsd.org) | [info@nswsd.org](mailto:info@nswsd.org)

# 2023 SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

NWSWD is a legislatively chartered Municipal Corporation charged with planning, implementing, and regulating waste management strategies for our 19 member communities. The District's mission is to provide for the efficient, economical, and environmentally-sound reduction, reuse, recycling, and disposal of solid waste. Some of our 2023 highlights include:

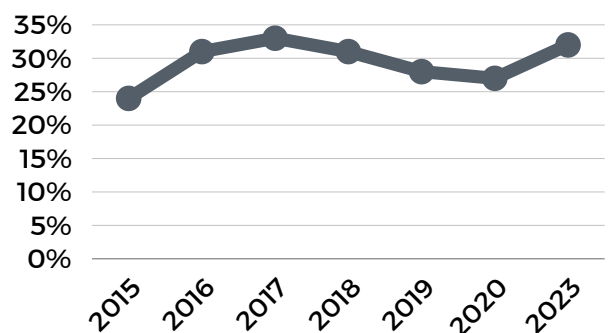
- Services used over 50,000 times
- Increased diversion rate to 32%
- Composted 773 tons of food scraps
- Collected 46 tons of HHW material from 1,825 residents and 43 businesses
- Expanded online presence to reach over 5,000 people on social media
- Provided outreach to more than 50 businesses and 20 schools

Waste Generation and Diversion  
From District Services, 2023



NWSWD is excited to share news about our plans for the upcoming year. The District will be updating all facility signage in next year and expects to begin renovations of our Georgia Recycling Facility at the end of 2024. These projects will improve public drop-off to make it more efficient and safe!

District Diversion Rate, 2015-2023



**Facebook**/Northwest Vermont  
Solid Waste Management District

**Instagram**/northwest.vt.zerowaste

**Newsletter sign up**/[nswsd.org](http://nswsd.org)

**807 TONS  
LANDFILLED**



**1,799 TONS  
RECYCLED**





**GREEN UP VERMONT**  
[www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org)

**Green Up Day**  
**May 6, 2023**



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

Support from your municipality is essential to our program. Funds help pay for Green Up Day supplies, promotional outreach, and educational resources including activity books, contests for kids, and a \$1,000 scholarship. We are requesting level funding for 2024.

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

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

Your donations make a huge impact and can be made on Line 23 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form or online at [www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org).

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

# Local Health Office Annual Report: 2023

St. Albans Local Health Office | 27 Federal St, Suite 201, St. Albans, VT  
802-524-7970 | [AHS.VDHStAlbans@Vermont.gov](mailto:AHS.VDHStAlbans@Vermont.gov)

Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the Vermont Department of Health. The St Albans Local Health Office provides essential services and resources to towns in Grand Isle and Franklin counties. Some highlights of our work in 2023 are below. For more information, visit [HealthVermont.gov/local/st-albans](https://HealthVermont.gov/local/st-albans)



## Children, Youth and Families

- In 2023, our **Women, Infants & Children (WIC) program** had an average monthly participation of 1,181 participants from Grand Isle and Franklin counties.
- Our staff helped WIC families access **over \$220,000 in fruits and vegetables**.
- Our office is helping over 60 participants in our Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program **learn how to breastfeed confidently**.



## Community Health and Safety

- This year, our office administered 275 vaccines. These included **vaccines for Mpox, as well as routine ones like flu, COVID, and tetanus**.
- We work closely with Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteers to **provide wound care and foot checks** every Thursday at Martha's Kitchen in St. Albans.
- Our office **distributed free water test kits** to people affected by the historic summer flooding. During specific times, residents can also bring their Health Department water test kits to our office. The office will then return the kits to the State's lab.
- Our experts carefully **watch for illnesses spread by mosquitoes**, such as West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE).



## Working Together

The **Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi** and the **St. Albans Local Health Office** work together to hold vaccination clinics. These clinics take place at the Swanton tribal offices on the last Monday of every month. During the summer of 2023, MRC volunteers started providing wound care and foot checks at these vaccination clinics.



**THE VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING #03-0271000**  
**TOWN OF SWANTON**  
**SUMMARY REPORT**

**Request Amount: \$500.00**

For over 44 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'23 (10/2022-9/2023) 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 **140** individuals to help increase their independent living skills and **4** peers were served by the AgrAbility program. VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) assisted **178** households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; **115** of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) provided **73** individuals with information on assistive technology; **41** of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. **379** 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 **17** people and provided **7** peers with adaptive telecommunications enabling low-income Deaf, Deaf-blind, Hard of Hearing and individuals with disabilities to communicate by telephone.

VCIL's central office is in downtown Montpelier (although we are working from home as our office (along with so many others) was devastated in the July flood and we have four branch offices in Bennington, Chittenden, Rutland and Windham Counties. Our PACs and services are available to people with disabilities throughout Vermont.

During FY'23, **20** residents of **Swanton** received services from the following programs:

- Home Access Program (HAP)  
(\$26,100.00 spent on home modifications)
- Meals on Wheels (MOW)  
(\$1,400.00 spent on meals for residents)
- Peer Advocacy Counseling Program (PAC)
- 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](http://www.vcil.org).



## Friends of Northern Lake Champlain Annual Report 2023

[www.friendsofnorthernlakechamplain.org](http://www.friendsofnorthernlakechamplain.org)

The Friends of Northern Lake Champlain (FNLC) is a non-profit organization that acts to clean the waters of northern Lake Champlain and its watershed by collaborating with citizens, businesses, farmers, and government in order to reduce land-use pollution

### Swanton Town Beach Stormwater Project

Since the completion of the FNLC/LCBP Swanton Stormwater and Shoreline Erosion Assessment, a grant for 100% design and implementation for a bioengineered project at the Town Beach and along North Maquam Shore road has been granted by LCBP. Construction is expected to occur in Fall 2024, if the Historical Assessment is completed in a timely fashion.



### Basin Water Quality Councils (BWQC)

FNLC has a seat and alternate on the Missisquoi and North Direct Lake Basin Water Quality Councils and will be working with the municipality and village to apply for Clean Water Service Provider funding on non-regulatory projects to assist implement of Stormwater Best Management Practices. As always, we invite more project suggestions from our members and local residents.

### **Collaborating with Agricultural Partners**

For over a decade, FNLC has been collecting water samples on the Rock River in Highgate and aided in developing one of the most comprehensive datasets for an isolated watershed. In the coming year, we will report on a newly identified source of legacy phosphorus that is washing out from farm field drainage ditches.

In February, we hosted our annual producer meeting with UVM Extension and the Farmer's Watershed Alliance to bring new field techniques to local farms and to view best management practices on good conservation farms in the water basin.

### **Lake Lessons**

In September, FNLC brought complementary water quality organizations together to bring Lake Lessons to over 500 Swanton, SATEC, Georgia, St. Albans City, Highgate, and Fairfield fourth graders, faculty, and parents. Presenters were from St. Albans Museum, the Agency of Agriculture Foods and Marketing, Lake Champlain Basin Program, Missisquoi River Basin Association, Franklin County Natural Resource Conservation District, USDA-NRCS and Northwest Regional Planning Commission.

### **Educational Fundraisers and Athletic Events**

Thanks to the public for participating in FNLC's athletic and education fundraising events. We combine meeting with statewide lake leaders, legislators, state, and federal agency leaders and FNLC members in the community oriented social settings of the Mill River Brewing Fishing Derby, Bike for the Lake, Gravel Forty Bike Ride, and the Tyler Place Family Resort Dinner Event which will be renewed next September.

Kiersten Bourgeois represents Swanton on the FNLC Board of Directors.

Thanks for your continued support!



Dear Swanton Selectboard members and Residents of Swanton,

The Missisquoi River Basin Association (MRBA) had another great year working to protect and improve water quality throughout our region. As always, our successes come directly from the dedicated volunteers, donors, landowners, and towns that support the work we do with and at our schools, public parks, roadways, farms, private homes, and anywhere water flows.

MRBA Projects and Programs:

**Ecological restoration, invasive species, and river clean-up efforts:** During 2023, as in most years, MRBA volunteers assisted with tree plantings (an additional 950 trees were planted along streams and the river during 2023!), helped pull trash from our riverbanks, collected water quality samples from 12 locations within our watershed, and assisted with our continued study of non-chemical ways to combat Japanese knotweed.

**Assisting farmers and landowners:** In addition to implementing projects (tree plantings, invasive species work, etc.), we also conducted several site assessments this year, some in partnership with the Stream Wise program. These are designed to help landowners understand what water may be doing on their property, and some ways to mitigate or improve their relationship with runoff.

**Educational programs:** We are always excited to connect with our younger watershed residents, and enjoy providing hands-on educational opportunities to students through our watershed model, rainfall simulator, Bugworks program, and by hosting high school summer interns. In 2023, we continued to assist several watershed schools with Winds, Waves, and Variables: a year-long educational experience, and played an integral role in Lake Lessons. We were very pleased to host Swanton 4th graders during this fun water-focused field trip, and are looking forward to next year!

We respectfully request the Town's support of MRBA through a \$500 donation so that we may continue to serve our community with these programs. Your appropriation will help us continue to provide programs, assist landowners, and will help us continue expanding and increasing the skills of our team, so that we may better serve our watershed towns.

Your support of our organization in past years is so greatly appreciated and the funds have been put to good use. We thank you very much for your consideration of our 2024 request.

Sincerely,



John Little, MRBA President

TOWN OF SWANTON  
ANNUAL REPORT OF BETTY L CHENEY  
SWANTON DELINQENT TAX COLLECTOR  
JANUARY 1, 2024

The following list represents tax balances effective for the year end December 31, 2023. These balances change frequently as payments are received.

There are a number of payment plans which have been established. I continue to work with taxpayers to bring their accounts current. Collections have been positive and look promising for the coming year. Tax sale proceedings are forthcoming. Several individuals have paid but those who do not pay will proceed to tax sale.

If there are any questions regarding this report, I can be reached at 802-310-0522 (if I am unable to answer, please leave a message and I will respond) or via email ([bettycheney8@gmail.com](mailto:bettycheney8@gmail.com)).

Year(s)	Balances	Abated	Collected	Balance 12/31/2023
2023	\$360,514.89		\$250,596.91	\$109,917.98
2022	\$103,284.37	\$ 1,058.37	\$ 92,965.46	\$ 9,260.54
2021	\$ 26,786.37	\$ 699.76	\$ 22,350.52	\$ 3,736.09
2017-2020	\$ 18,174.83	\$ 1,603.38	\$ 7,696.08	\$ 8,875.37
Totals	\$508,760.46	\$ 3,361.51	\$373,608.97	\$131,789.98

Total 2023 Real Estate Taxes Collected: \$373,608.97

Total 2023 Interest Collected: \$ 23,696.54



Town of Swanton Tax Administration  
Outstanding Principal Report

Owner Name	Tax Year	Principal Due
1 DEPOT STREET LLC	2023	1,644.03
12 BLAKE STREET LLC	2023	2,781.41
12 J REALTY LLC	2023	885.02
AUSTIN BETTY	2023	2,040.90
AUSTIN STUART EST OF	2023	116.30
BABCOCK STEVE	2023	77.53
BENOIT BARBARA	2023	2,704.85
BESSETTE ERIC	2021	7.34
BESSETTE ERIC	2022	126.46
BESSETTE ERIC	2023	132.63
BLOW STANLEY REBECCA	2023	452.76
BRANON EUGENE DESIREE	2021	242.01
BRAULT MICHEL	2023	136.70
CHILCOTE DENAE	2023	9.52
CHRISTOPHER AUSTIN	2023	499.90
CLEMENT JASON JONELLE	2023	108.15
CLEVELAND JOHN BETH	2023	138.75
CLOUTIER TODD	2023	61.22
CODY'S RESTAURANT	2023	14.26
CORRON DAVID	2021	114.98
CORRON DAVID	2022	112.84
CORRON DAVID	2023	118.34
COVILLON CHRISTOPHER / COSTELLA K	2022	1,319.27
COVILLON CHRISTOPHER / COSTELLA K	2023	2,836.16
CRITCHLOW TYLER WHITNEY	2023	324.75
CROSS BRENDA	2020	67.51
CROSS BRENDA	2021	109.02
CROSS BRENDA	2022	107.00
CROSS BRENDA	2023	112.22
CROSS STEVEN THERESA	2023	10.82
CROWLEY TIM AND STEPHANIE	2023	71.41
CUSHING ASHLEIGH	2023	61.22
DANIELS WILLIAM JR	2023	1,454.81
EDE SARAH / RIVERS JULIE	2023	692.56
ELWOOD RANDY	2023	155.07
FELISKO CINDY	2023	36.72
FITZPATRICK KAREN	2023	510.10
FLOWER GEORGE	2023	161.20
FOWLER SARAH-MARIE	2023	523.88
FOXWORTH NATHAN	2023	915.37
FRANCIS CHYANNE	2023	108.15
FRANKLIN FOODS	2023	33.51
GABREE RAYMOND KIM	2023	1,545.68
GAGNER RAYMOND	2023	208.12
GARCEAU ANNE	2023	153.03
GERAW PETER	2023	1,061.01
GERAW PETER	2023	81.62
GERO TIMOTHY	2023	2,277.09
GREENIA CHRISTOPHER	2023	1,035.64
GREENIA LISA	2023	989.60
GREENIA MICHAEL	2023	1,309.45

Town of Swanton Tax Administration  
Outstanding Principal Report

Owner Name	Tax Year	Principal Due
HARVEY JESSICA	2023	245.20
HEMINGWAY ROBBY/ FERNANDEZ ITZIA	2023	2,621.14
HOULE DEBBIE JEAN	2023	116.30
HOWRIGAN DAVID PEGGY	2023	4,105.28
INGHAM DAN	2023	218.32
JARVIS, CHRISTINE	2023	8.67
JERRY RICHARD	2023	430.53
JOHNSTON TRAVIS	2023	175.47
JOYCE STEPHANIE	2023	452.98
LAFLAM KAREN	2023	387.68
LAGUE SYLVAIN	2023	16.53
LAMOTHE NORMAN MONIQUE LIFE EST	2023	4,664.35
LAROSE CODY DONNA	2023	150.99
LEVESQUE DANIEL EST OF	2023	3,433.99
LIMOGE KEITH	2023	138.75
LIMOGE KENNETH TINA	2023	146.91
LUNEAU MATTHEW ILZE	2023	3,071.02
LYKENS PATRICIA / BELLIMER RONALD	2021	199.07
LYKENS PATRICIA / BELLIMER RONALD	2022	190.92
LYKENS PATRICIA / BELLIMER RONALD	2023	196.46
MANY JENALEE	2023	174.38
MANY JERIKA / SMITH EDWIN	2021	118.93
MANY JERIKA / SMITH EDWIN	2022	116.73
MANY JERIKA / SMITH EDWIN	2023	122.42
MARSHALL TIMOTHY	2022	79.76
MARSHALL TIMOTHY	2023	83.65
MAYER RICHARD	2023	908.16
MCGILLIS SHANNON	2023	93.86
MIDNIGHT SEW WHAT!?	2023	24.79
MILLER JUSTIN	2023	102.95
MILLER LINNIE	2023	99.98
MOBBS JAMES	2023	114.27
MORRIS JAMES	2020	174.80
MORRIS JAMES	2021	172.46
MORRIS JAMES	2022	169.25
MORRIS JAMES	2023	177.51
MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT	2023	2,052.45
MP 9 FERRY ST LLC	2023	2,273.04
NELSON JAMIE	2023	1,469.09
NELSON JEREMIAH	2023	1,432.36
NUTTING BRIAN E	2022	8.49
NUTTING BRIAN E	2023	3,450.32
NUTTING BRIAN E	2023	3,272.74
ONEILL MICHAEL	2023	46.93
PAQUETTE DANA / LAMPMAN ANNE	2020	110.87
PAQUETTE DANA / LAMPMAN ANNE	2021	216.53
PAQUETTE DANA / LAMPMAN ANNE	2022	207.67
PAQUETTE DANA / LAMPMAN ANNE	2023	213.69
PAQUETTE SHAYNE	2023	61.22
PARKS JR RICHARD A AND TAMMY JO	2023	1,187.52
PHILLIPS ANTHONY	2023	6.97

Town of Swanton Tax Administration  
Outstanding Principal Report

Owner Name	Tax Year	Principal Due
QUINTIN EUGENE	2022	110.90
QUINTIN EUGENE JR	2023	116.30
RAMSDELL SUE GREGORY	2023	1,962.84
RICHARD CAREY	2023	114.27
ROBINSON RALPH	2019	263.58
ROBINSON RALPH	2020	1,004.60
ROBINSON RALPH	2021	991.15
ROBINSON RALPH	2022	972.75
ROBINSON RALPH	2023	1,020.20
ROGERS PATRICK	2023	118.34
RSE & B PROPERTIES LLC	2023	6,360.70
RUGGIERO CHARLES / CHRISIKOS LAUR	2023	6,030.94
SNIDER BRUCE JR HEATHER	2023	234.03
ST FRANCIS LORENZO ROBERT	2023	2,793.48
STETSON ALYSSA / FONTAINE ANDRE	2023	278.19
STETSON CHRIS	2022	317.12
STETSON CHRIS	2023	332.58
STOUGH DAWN	2022	121.04
STOUGH DAWN	2023	130.58
SWANTON HOUSING ASSOC	2023	9,209.43
SWEETSER MIKAYLA	2023	279.54
T & M CONSTRUCTION & DEV CORP	2023	3,144.25
TATRO DAVID	2023	132.63
THERRIEN ROBERT CHRISTINE	2023	632.67
THOMLINSON WILEY CODY	2023	124.46
THOMPSON JAMIE	2023	41.15
THORNTON JAMES	2022	643.96
THORNTON JAMES	2023	675.37
TR STRIPING & PROPERTY MAINTENANC	2023	3,132.96
TRACTOR SUPPLY COMPANY NORTHEAST	2022	2,842.54
TRAHAN KEVIN	2020	1,223.11
VINCELETTE JEFFREY EST OF	2017	1,434.59
VINCELETTE JEFFREY EST OF	2018	1,493.37
VINCELETTE JEFFREY EST OF	2019	1,518.27
VINCELETTE JEFFREY EST OF	2020	1,584.67
VINCELETTE JEFFREY EST OF	2021	1,564.60
VINCELETTE JEFFREY EST OF	2022	1,500.62
VINCELETTE JEFFREY EST OF	2023	1,544.08
WESCOTT CARRIE	2022	313.22
WESCOTT CARRIE	2023	328.50
WESTCOTT ROBIN	2023	132.63
WHEEL R J	2023	138.75
ZORN JOSEPH JR	2023	4,368.78

\*\*\* Total outstanding principal \*\*\* 131,789.98



## **SWANTON**

### **Town Forest Fire Warden**

**Jon Barrette**

Home Phone: 802-868-7097

Cell Phone: 802-233-4260

Work Phone: 802-868-3327

### **Deputy Town Forest Warden**

**Tim Girard**

Cell Phone: 802-582-9547

By state law, if you wish to burn natural wood or debris outdoors, you must obtain a burning permit form the Town Forest Fire Warden. The warden in your town will be able to advise you on local burning regulations and current conditions. Remember, "Only YOU can prevent forest fires!"



# TOWN OF SWANTON

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE  
FOR MORE CONTACTS & INFORMATION

<https://www.swantonvt.gov>

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Town Administrator

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Town Clerk & Town Treasurer

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**TANYA M. DUFRESNE**

Asst. Town Clerk & Asst. Treasurer

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KEVIN NICHOLS, Listers**

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**KEVIN LAPAN**

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Delinquent Tax Collector

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Animal Control Officer

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**AMBER J. LAFOUNTAIN**

Health Officer

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Email: [swantontho@gmail.com](mailto:swantontho@gmail.com)

**JON BARRETTE**

Fire Warden

Phone: (802) 868-3327

(802) 868-7097