

# Town of Franklin Vermont

## FY2023 Annual Report

Fiscal Year End  
June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## GILBERT DEWING

It is with sincere appreciation that we dedicate Franklin's 2023 Annual Report to Gilbert A. Dewing.

Gilbert was born in Franklin in 1930 attending school in Franklin and graduating from Franklin High School in 1947 at the age of 16. In 1953, Gilbert married Elizabeth (Betty) Benjamin and they raised two children together. Gilbert participated in his children's lives and instilled in them his values of hard work, family and community. He and Betty took countless trips across the United States, often accompanied by their children and grandchildren.

His education led him to a variety of endeavors and jobs spanning from farming and raising chickens, becoming a master electrician working at the Pulp Mill, installing bulk tanks for Andy Bonneau, owner and operator of Benjamin and Dewing Lime/Manure Spreading Service, F. W. Webb Co., Bourbeau International Parts Department and then onto Dewing Industries and craft shows! He was an active and committed member of the Franklin community serving on many boards including the Select Board, Auditor, Town Grand Juror, Ballot counter, Treasurer of the East Franklin Cemetery, the Franklin Homestead Board and most notably over 20 years as a Franklin Town Lister and Justice of the Peace.

Because of Gilbert's wealth of knowledge, many town officials and community members sought his opinion and expertise on town matters. He was able to provide solutions to many town issues and shared with town officials his vision on future town endeavors, many of which are still instrumental to the town today.

Gilbert was well respected by his Franklin friends, neighbors and the community. He will be missed at town meetings and gatherings in the community. One of his favorite "sayings" that he often shared and believed to be true was: "There's No better place to live than in the Lake Carmi Valley"! Gilbert left his mark on our little town of Franklin and his legacy of character and innovation will live on forever.



# AUDITORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the

TOWN OF FRANKLIN  
VERMONT

For the Fiscal Year Ending  
June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Printed by Authority**

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450 Weaver Street  
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**\*\* RESULTS OF MARCH 7, 2023 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING \*\*\***

Moderator Timothy Magnant called the Franklin Town meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Eric Bushey. The Moderator reviewed the Roberts Rules of Order with those present.

**ARTICLE 1**

Elected Timothy Magnant as moderator for the ensuing year.

**ARTICLE 2**

Accepted the reports of the town officers.

**ARTICLE 3**

Appropriated \$5,000 for the Franklin Homestead Inc. to support Carriage House's residential service fees.

**ARTICLE 4**

Appropriated \$886,241 for the Municipal/Highway Budget.

**ARTICLE 5**

Shall the elected Town Officers be voted on by Australian ballot, vote NO.

**ARTICLE 6**

Elected the following town officers:

- A. Lisa Larivee Town Treasurer for a three-year term.
- B. David Bennion selectperson for a three-year term.
- C. Justin Rainville selectperson for a two-year term.
- D. Jean Richard lister for a three-year term.
- E. Michaela Bushey lister for an unexpired two-year term.
- F. Wendy Sargeant auditor for a three-year term.
- G. Pierrette Bouchard auditor for an unexpired two-year term.
- H. Lisa Larivee trustee of public money for one-year.
- I. Kimberly Gates Maynard trustee of Haston Library Fund for one-year.
- J. Melissa Richard and Brenna Sturtevant Library Trustees each for three-year terms.
- K. Deb Grennon Library Trustee for an unexpired one-year term.
- L. Johanna Crane-Godin delinquent tax collector for one-year.
- M. Burt Maynard constable for one-year.
- N. John Cote and Emma Gerrard Franklin Homestead Board of Directors for a three-year term.

**ARTICLE 7**

Elected Howard Vanselette, Nancy Wilson, Jennifer Dewing and Dwight Tatro as cemetery commissioners for one year.

**ARTICLE 8**

Authorized the payment of taxes to be paid to the treasurer by October 16, 2023 before close of business.

**ARTICLE 9**

Voted NOT to publish delinquent property taxpayer names as of December 31, 2023.

**ARTICLE 10**

Elected Allison Franklin to fill an unexpired term of Haston Library Trustee until 2024.

**ARTICLE 11**

Wayne Laroche - looking for a new location for the Franklin County Field Days.

George Godin - tax assessment organizations asking for money need to come to town meeting to explain their need.

## **WARNING FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

The legal voters of the Town of Franklin are hereby warned and notified to meet in the Franklin Town Hall on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at **ten o'clock** in the forenoon to transact the following business:

1. To elect a moderator for the ensuing year.
2. To receive and discuss the reports of the town officers.
3. Will the voters of the Town of Franklin appropriate a sum of \$5,000 to Franklin Homestead Inc. to be used in support of the Carriage House's residential service fees?
4. Shall the voters authorize the Town to borrow a sum not to exceed \$238,000 and to be repaid over a term of not more than five (5) years, to purchase a highway plow truck?
5. Shall the voters authorize total fund expenditures for operating expenses, deficit reduction, and debt repayment of the town, as indicated in the proposed municipal budget of \$892,703?
6. To elect the following town officers:
  - A. One selectboard member for a term of three years. (by ballot)
  - B. One selectboard member for a term of two years. (by ballot)
  - C. One lister for a term of three years. (by ballot)
  - D. One auditor for a term of three years. (by ballot)
  - E. A trustee of public monies for a term of one year.
  - F. A trustee of the Haston Library Fund for a term of one year.
  - G. Three Haston Library trustees for a term of three years.
  - H. A collector of delinquent taxes for a term of one year.
  - I. A constable for a term of one year.
  - J. One representative to serve on the Franklin Homestead, Inc. Board of Directors for a term of three years.
7. To elect a person, or persons, to act as cemetery commissioner(s) to care for the cemeteries in town where there is no one responsible to act in such a capacity.
8. Will the voters set the date of payment of property taxes paid to the treasurer to be October 15, 2024 before close of business?
9. To elect any town officers to fill any town office that may be vacant at this time.
10. Non-binding article to discuss use of ARPA funds for relocation/expansion of the Town offices.
11. To transact any other non-binding business thought proper when met.

### **Franklin Selectboard**

*David Bennion*

*Sam Gervais*

*Brooks Sturtevant*

*Justin Rainville*

*Andrew Godin*

Adopted and approved at a regular meeting of the Selectboard of the Town of Franklin, at which a quorum was present, duly called, noticed and held on January 24, 2024.

**ATTEST:** *Lisa A. Larivee*, Town Clerk

**PLEASE NOTE:** Special accommodations will be made for all handicapped persons requesting an accommodation at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting. Please call 285-2101 for more information.

### **ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS**

Moderator	..... Timothy Magnant .....	Elected Annually
Town Clerk	..... Lisa A. Larivee .....	Term Expires 2025
Town Treasurer	..... Lisa A. Larivee .....	Term Expires 2026

### **SELECTBOARD**

Sam Gervais	.....	Term Expires 2024
Andrew Godin	.....	Term Expires 2024
Brooks Sturtevant	.....	Term Expires 2025
David Bennion	.....	Term Expires 2026
Justin Rainville	.....	Term Expires 2026

### **LISTERS**

Paulette Tatro	.....	Term Expires 2024
Michaela Bushey	.....	Term Expires 2025
Jean Richard	.....	Term Expires 2026

### **AUDITORS**

Jean Richard	.....	Term Expires 2024
Pierrette Bouchard	.....	Term Expires 2025
Wendy Sargeant	.....	Term Expires 2026

### **TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC MONEY**

Lisa A. Larivee	.....	Term Expires 2024
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### **TRUSTEE OF HASTON LIBRARY FUND**

Kimberly Gates Maynard	.....	Term Expires 2024
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### **HASTON LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

Deb Grennon	.....	Term Expires 2024
Victoria Jacobs	.....	Term Expires 2024
Allison Franklin	.....	Term Expires 2024
Jennifer Raynak	.....	Term Expires 2025
Corinna Stanley	.....	Term Expires 2025
Melissa Richard	.....	Term Expires 2026
Brenna Sturtevant	.....	Term Expires 2026

**DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR**

Johanna Crane-Godin ..... Term Expires 2024

**CONSTABLE**

Burt Maynard ..... Term Expires 2024

**FRANKLIN HOMESTEAD INC.**

Jean Richard ..... Term Expires 2024

Patricia Whittemore ..... Term Expires 2025

John Cote ..... Term Expires 2026

Emma Gerrard ..... Term Expires 2026

**CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS**

Nancy Wilson ..... Term Expires 2024

Jennifer Dewing ..... Term Expires 2024

Howard Vanselette ..... Term Expires 2024

Dwight Tatro ..... Term Expires 2024

**MISSISSQUOI VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT-FRANKLIN REPRESENTATIVES**

Devin Bachelder ..... Term Expires 2024

Peter Magnant ..... Term Expires 2025

Joanne Johnston ..... Term Expires 2026

**JUSTICES OF THE PEACE**

George Godin  
Pauline Gadbois

Peter Magnant  
Kimberly Gates Maynard



## **APPOINTED TOWN OFFICERS**

### **ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK & TREASURER**

Dawn Fournier-resigned	.....	Term Expires 2024
Jordan Bushey-appointed	.....	Term Expires 2024

### **WATER COMMISSION - 3 YEAR TERM**

Marshall Ploof	.....	Term Expires 2024
Brooks Sturtevant	.....	Term Expires 2025
Michael Lawyer	.....	Term Expires 2026

### **PLANNING COMMISSION - 3 YEAR TERM**

Daniel Larivee	.....	Term Expires 2024
Bryce Bachelder	.....	Term Expires 2024
Cyrus Grennon	.....	Term Expires 2024
Robert Irish	.....	Term Expires 2025
Rolland Rainville	.....	Term Expires 2025
Dianna Benoit Kittell	.....	Term Expires 2025
Peter Kittell	.....	Term Expires 2026

### **ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT - 3 YEAR TERM**

Pauline Gadbois-resigned	.....	Term Expires 2024
Irene Robear-appointed	.....	Term Expires 2024
Robert Irish	.....	Term Expires 2024
James Piviotto	.....	Term Expires 2025
Wesley Kempton	.....	Term Expires 2025
Paulette Tatro	.....	Term Expires 2026

### **ZONING ADMINISTRATOR**

Wendy Sargeant	.....	Term Expires 2024
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### **RECREATION DEPARTMENT - 2 YEAR TERM**

Laura Larose	.....	Term Expires 2024
Lissy Bachelder	.....	Term Expires 2024
Stephanie Ho	.....	Term Expires 2024
Stacy Godin	.....	Term Expires 2025
Paula Tremblay-resigned	.....	Term Expires 2025
Dianna Benoit-Kittell	.....	Term Expires 2025

### **OTHER OFFICERS**

Service Officer	.....	Pauline Gadbois
Health Officer	.....	David Bennion
Road Commissioner	.....	Sam Gervais
Road Foreman	.....	Jeremy Barnum
Animal Control Officer	.....	Dennis Demar
Fire Warden	.....	Burt Maynard
Tree Warden	.....	Jeremy Barnum
Keeper of Street Lights	.....	Donald Gates
Keeper of Town Clock	.....	David Bennion
Emergency Management Coordinator	.....	Town Office
Regional Planning Commission	.....	Yvon Dandurand
	.....	Wesley Kempton
E911 Coordinator	.....	Town Office
Transporation Advisory Committee (TAC)	.....	Peter Magnant
Energy Committee	.....	Irene Robear
Northwest Solid Waste District	.....	Brooks Sturtevant
Clean Water Advisory Committee (CWAC)	.....	Yvon Dandurand

### **AUDITORS' REPORT**

We have examined the town accounts as herein reported. We meet on a regular basis to review all Selectboard, Library, Water District, Recreation Department, Lake Carmi Project, Cemetery and ARPA warrants and also reconcile their bank statements which provides for segregation of duties. Annually, we review the accounts and reports from organizations not handled by the Town Treasurer, which the town has allocated monies.

We would like to thank Lisa Larivee; and Dawn Fournier who will be missed and welcome Jordan Bushey, the new assistant. Also, we express appreciation to all the other board members and treasurers who submit their information to us for review and inclusion in the town report. Working with them to bring you a comprehensive overview of Franklin is our goal. We appreciate your input and cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Jean Richard*  
*Wendy Sargeant*  
*Pierrette Bouchard*

## **SELECTBOARD REPORT**

Another eventful year comes to a close in Franklin. The year started out with informational meetings about the new village well. A bond vote was held and approved to secure funding for this project. Although the preliminary work of drilling the well was done in March of 2022, the process of securing the necessary state permits is ongoing. With luck the well will be connected to our village system this coming spring.

Once again Lake Carmi water quality was high on the list of issues. The decision was made to conduct a feasibility study around the use of alum to help eliminate the cyanobacteria blooms in the lake. This study will be used to make decisions about next year's course of action.

The culvert project on Route 236 has met various delays, including a shortage of firms able to do the work due to their being occupied with flood damage in other parts of the state. The Pidgeon Hill culvert project has also been delayed, primarily by cost increases. We have been able to secure additional grant funds, so the project should be completed next year.

Town Meeting returned to in-person participation this year. It was nice to be able to discuss the town's business and connect with our neighbors. It was also an opportunity for people to see and vote on the new signs for the village. The new signs were installed and the feedback about them has been very positive.

The intersection at the north end of the village has been a concern for many years, but the State's reluctance to change has delayed improvements. We finally have a design which should help make this intersection safer, and the State has approved the plan. The changes should take place in the spring.

The sidewalks on the west side of Main Street from Square Road north will be replaced next year with grant funds we have secured. The required match will be from the sidewalk fund.

As often happens, we have had some employees and volunteers step down, but as usually happens, others have stepped up. Dawn Fournier resigned from Assistant Clerk for personal reasons, but we have hired Jordan Bushey to fill the void. Jenessa Gervais stepped down from her role as Recreation Coordinator, and we hired Ashley Flood as her replacement. Volunteers are an important part of making a town work for its citizens, and we thank all who volunteer.

Many thanks to Town Clerk, Lisa Larivee, for all she does to keep the town running smoothly and efficiently and for making the Selectboard look good. Many thanks to the Franklin Fire Department, Franklin Town Road crew, as well as the members of all the Boards and Committees, who work hard to help the Franklin Selectboard keep Franklin a vibrant and thriving community.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Franklin Selectboard  
*David Bennion, Brooks Sturtevant,  
Andrew Godin, Sam Gervais, Justin Rainville*

## **ROAD COMMISSIONER REPORT**

This was the first full year for Jeremy Barnum and Tim Fournier to work together. Tim has fit in nicely with his past experience, which is key for a (2) man crew. There were not many major events for this year, but some items we completed were:

- 1) Gained traction on re-working signage and painting at the North end of town intersection.
- 2) Re-did intersection of Gallup/Richard road.
- 3) Paved Moses Line Rd to Pidgeon Hill Rd.
- 4) Paved Swamp Road (also reduced speed limit to 40MPH).
- 5) Multiple culverts and ditching on Stanley Rd.
- 6) Culvert and ditching on Gallup Rd.

In 2023 you can expect to see some or all of the following to happen:

- 1) Rte 236 Culvert Replacement.
- 2) Pidgeon Hill Rd Culvert Replacement.
- 3) Normal ditching maintenance.
- 4) Dewing Shore Erosion (pending grants).
- 5) Town Well and Water project at the Highway Garage lot.

Please remember if you are doing work in the town right-of-way or have damaged a town road, please contact the Highway Foreman or the Town office.

To conclude, I would like to thank all the members of our great community, as well as the Town Office, Selectboard and Highway Crew for making my job easier than it has to be! Please feel free to reach out to me anytime with questions or concerns.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Sam Gervais*  
*Road Commissioner*

## **TOWN EQUIPMENT AND REPAIR/MAINTENANCE COSTS**

	<b><u>FY22</u></b>	<b><u>FY23</u></b>	<b><u>FY24 YTD</u></b>
2016 International 7600 Highway Plow Truck	\$6,003.67	\$42,885.07	\$5,093.06
2021 International HV613 Highway Plow Truck	3,432.55	3,616.57	1,664.59
2018 Case 521G Loader	571.58	691.53	3,737.56
1983 Caterpillar Grader (traded 5/2022)	23,570.28		-
2022 John Deere Grader	-		-
2009 Massey Ferguson 583 Tractor with mower	-		761.93
2015 Aquamarine H5-200 Plant Harvester w/ trailer	171.30	10,658.44	
Kabota compact/Toro Zero-turn mower	756.96	447.96	22.83

## **PAVING PROGRESS REPORT/PLAN**

### **2013**

- Riley Rd; (hill) resurfaced 725.15 tons @ \$77.99 = \$56,554.45
- Hanna Rd; resurfaced 433.60 tons @ \$77.99 = \$33,816.46
- Strip in front of Dick Wright's and Franklin Telephone Co. 50 tons @ \$77.99 = \$3,899.50
- Fire Station resurface of lot 53 tons @ \$77.99 = \$4,133.47

### **2014**

- Morses Line Rd; (Richard Rd west to Messier Rd) 1068.79 tons @ \$74.76 = \$79,902.74

### **2015**

- Homestead Drive; resurfaced with 125 tons @ \$72.93 = \$9,116.25 (cost shared by three parties; Town, Franklin Telephone and Homestead)
- Morses Line Rd; (Messier Rd west to D. Rainville's) approx. 1.2 miles with 1360.2 ton @ \$72.93 = \$99,199.39

### **2016**

- Riley Rd; resurfaced 801 tons @ \$68.50 = \$54,868.50
- Dewing Rd; .9 miles resurfaced 1184.36 tons @ \$66.29 = \$78,511.23 (80% by grant )
- Stanley Rd; resurfaced 663.67 tons @ \$66.29 = \$43,994.68 (80% by grant)
- Morses Line Rd; .56 miles resurfaced 729.1 tons @ \$66.29 = \$48,332.04 (80% by grant)

### **2017**

- Morses Line Rd; 1.3 miles resurfaced with 1392.9 tons @ \$71.30= \$99,313.77

### **2018**

- Hanna Road; 1.3 miles resurfaced with 1055.02 tons @ \$78.85=\$83,194.66
- Gallup Road \* ongoing monitoring

### **2019-2020 – (two years budget plus grant funding)**

- Hanna Road; 2.18 miles resurfaced with 2335 tons @ \$67.81=\$158,360.46
- Stanley Road; 1.2 miles resurfaced with 2530 tons @ \$67.81=\$171,573.32 (80% by grant)

### **2021**

- Gallup Road; approx. 1.15 miles from Lake Road to end of current blacktop; 1,362.59 tons @ \$72.00 = \$98,106.48.
- Rice Hill Road; apron at intersection of Rte 120, 44.7 tons @\$72.00 = \$3,218.40

### **2022-2023**

- Swamp Road; 1.9 miles from Rte 120 to State Park Rd; 1,819 tons @ \$84.00 = \$152,791.30.
- Morses Line Road; .83 miles from village to Richard Road; 2,032.66 tons @ \$86.50 = \$175,825.09 (80% by grant funds).

### **2024 – PLAN**

- Riley Road; approx. 1 mile
- Square Road; .3 miles

*This plan is subject to change if transportation grants are received or if there is a road condition that requires immediate attention.*

## **2023 ROAD MAINTENANCE REPORT**

**Barnum Rd:** .80 miles; graded 4 times; roadside mowing 2 times; 140 yards gravel; 168 yards crushed stone; 2000 gal. chloride

**Beaver Meadow Rd:** .70 miles; graded 3 times; roadside mowing 2 times; 70 yards gravel; 28 yards crushed stone; 400 gal. chloride

**Bouchard Rd:** .11 miles; 28 yards gravel

**Colton Rd:** 1.10 miles; graded 5 times; roadside mowing 2 times; 182 yards gravel; 70 yards crushed stone; 1000 gal. chloride

**Dandurand Rd:** 1.45 miles; graded 4 times; roadside mowing 2 times; 42 yards gravel; 238 yards crushed stone; 1200 gal. chloride

**Dewing Rd:** .92 miles; graded 5 times; roadside mowing 2 times; 350 yards crushed stone; 1500 gal. chloride

**Durkee Rd:** .55 miles; graded 4 times; roadside mowing 2 times; 42 yards gravel; 98 yards crushed stone; 800 gal. chloride

**Gallup Rd:** 3.45 miles; graded 4 times; roadside mowing 2 times; 210 yards gravel; 182 yards crushed stone; 1500 gal. chloride

**Kendall Rd:** 1.10 miles; graded 4 times; roadside mowing 2 times; 84 yards gravel; 84 yards crushed stone; 800 gal. chloride

**Kennison Rd:** .13 miles; roadside mowing 2 times; 70 yards gravel

**Little Pond Rd:** .27 miles; graded 1 time; roadside mowing 2 times; 14 yards gravel

**Messier Rd:** 1.44 miles; graded 4 times; roadside mowing 2 times; 196 yards crushed stone; 800 gal. chloride

**Middle Rd:** 5.09 miles; graded 3 times; roadside mowing 2 times; 266 yards gravel; 280 yards crushed stone; 2000 gal. chloride

**Morses Line Rd:** 4.63 miles; 2033 tons pavement

**Pidgeon Hill Rd:** 1.50 miles; graded 4 times; roadside mowing 2 times; 140 yards gravel; 84 yards crushed stone; 1000 gal. chloride

**Rice Hill Rd:** .70 miles; graded 5 times; roadside mowing 2 times; 168 yards crushed stone; 1200 gal. chloride

**Richard Rd:** 1.47 miles; graded 4 times; roadside mowing 2 times; 70 yards gravel; 126 yards crushed stone; 1200 gal. chloride

**Riley Rd:** 2.20 miles; graded 5 times; roadside mowing 2 times; 70 yards gravel; 70 yards crushed stone; 900 gal. chloride

**Scott Rd:** 1.16 miles; graded 3 times; roadside mowing 2 times; 70 yards gravel; 70 yards crushed stone; 600 gal. chloride

**Skunk Misery Rd:** .23 miles; graded 1 time; 14 yards crushed stone

**Swamp Rd:** 1.9 miles; 1819 tons pavement

**Towle Neighborhood Rd:** 2.79 miles; graded 4 times; roadside mowing 2 times; 280 yards gravel; 140 yards crushed stone; 3000 gal. chloride

**Webster Rd:** 2.35 miles; graded 1 time; roadside mowing 2 times

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Jeremy Barnum*  
*Highway Foreman*

## **ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Hoping this finds all in the community well and safe. The zoning office has been moderately busy in 2023 as the pandemic winds down to a flu-like bug which can be more readily managed. I continue to learn the ins and outs of the Regulations and how they impact our community as well as attend roundtable discussions regarding information that impact Franklin.

During the year, the following actions were completed:

- 53 building/zoning permits
- 21 Administrative opinions issued
- 7 Certificates of Compliance issued – 6 subdivisions and 1 amendment
- 2 Temporary Dwelling permits (issued under certain circumstances renewed every 6 months)
- 0 Affidavits (necessary under certain circumstances renewed every 6 months)

The following permits were processed in 2023:

5 new dwellings	5 agricultural buildings
10 additions (1 denied)	5 decks/porches
0 new mobile home	1 seasonal>year-round conversion (denied)
10 garages/barns	1 change of use
5 camp/home remove and replace	1 temporary construction camper
10 sheds/lean-to	

There are two subdivisions awaiting Planning Commission approval.

As Zoning Administrator, I am usually in the office Thursday evenings 4-6pm. Appointments for in-person meetings can be made by calling the Town Clerks office (802) 285-2101 to set up a time. I can also be reached via email at [franklinzoningadmin@franklinvt.net](mailto:franklinzoningadmin@franklinvt.net) with any questions.

Looking forward to serving you again in 2024. Stay safe and healthy.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Wendy Sargeant*  
Zoning Administrator

## **ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT REPORT**

During 2023, the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) held twelve hearings:

- 1 Conditional Use & Variance in the Shoreland/Recreational District for conversion of summer camp to a year-round residence - denied
- 5 Conditional Use in the Shoreland/Recreational District to remove and replace seasonal camps approved
- 2 Conditional Use in the Shoreland/Recreational District to construct a year-round home – approved
- 3 Conditional Use in the Shoreland/Recreational District to construct/add living space – approved
- 1 Conditional Use in the Village District for an addition to the Franklin Central School – approved

Serving on the board are James Pivrotto, Paulette Tatro, Wesley Kempton, Irene Robear, and Robert Irish, who volunteer their time.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Lisa Larivee, Town Clerk*

## **PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT**

For the first time in a few years, 2023 was a year of consistency for the Planning Commission, as all current members stayed on and retained their positions. As Chair, I'd like to thank the Planning Commission members for their dedication and knowledge.

Heading into 2023, our plan was to put the topic of converting seasonal camps to year-round use on the backburner as it seemed like there wasn't a viable path forward. However, in recent months we've revisited a recently removed amendment that was previously part of the town development regulations that addressed this very topic.

After making some minor changes to the previous amendment and gathering input from the Northwest Regional Planning Commission, we are preparing to submit a proposed amendment for public hearings that would provide a way to pursue seasonal to year-round conversion, provided the property has a state approved septic, access to potable water, adequate off-road parking, and has been granted a lot-size variance by the ZBA. This has been a topic of discussion for the Planning Commission for at least the past two years and we are eager to see a resolution finalized within our development regulations after the proper public hearings and input from the Selectboard.

Aside from the above discussion, the Planning Commission took part in four subdivision hearings over the course of 2023.

Looking forward to 2024, our main focus will be to work with the Selectboard to formalize the above proposed amendment into the town's development regulations, and then we'll turn our attention to updating the Town Plan as is expected every 8-10 years. We welcome the public's input as we focus on the future direction of Franklin.

The Planning Commission would like to thank Lisa Larivee and Dawn Fournier for their support in the Town Clerk's office over the past year, and Wendy Sargeant for her work as the Zoning Administrator.

Finally, the Planning Commission meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the town office and on Zoom. All members of the public are welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Bryce Bachelder – Chair, Daniel Larivee – Vice Chair  
Dianna Benoit Kittell, Cyrus Grennon, Robert Irish  
Peter Kittell, Rolland Rainville*

## **ENHANCED 911 REPORT**

There were nine new addresses added in Franklin for 2023; seven new lots/homes, two sap sheds.

Marking your driveway, residence or camp with a reflective address sign or clearly visible numbers will further ensure that emergency services can find you in the event of an emergency. Also, be sure that trees do not block your markers or signs to hinder emergency services locating your property.

Please report any missing street signs to the highway department at 285-2180.

Requests for new E-911 addresses must be submitted to the Town Clerk's Office.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Lisa A. Larivee*



## **CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS' REPORT**

All six cemeteries were evaluated and opened in March with cleanup from winter damage. Due to frost and fallen branches, several stones had to be repaired and many had to be reset. Weekly mowing, trimming and maintenance continued from March thru October. Cemeteries were closed at the end of October.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Cemetery Commissioners*

## **FRANKLIN CENTER CEMETERY**

We sold one lot and had two cremation burials this year. MMT Lawn Care continues to do a good job on the cemetery. We continue to try to improve our recordkeeping to better identify used versus available lots. There are still lots available for sale. Contact the Town Clerk's Office for pricing and location of available lots.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Dwight W. Tatro*



## **HEALTH OFFICER REPORT**

In 2023, Cyanobacteria blooms in Lake Carmi were still a primary concern. Although the blooms started later and were not as serious during the spring and early summer, the blooms in the later summer were quite serious. VT Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has been conducting testing and is studying the feasibility of using alum to combat the cyanobacteria. DEC will base its plans for next year on the results of the study.

As usual, another concern has been dog bites. These bites and aggressive dog behavior continue. Dogs must be kept under the control of the owners at all times.

I also had one complaint of possible carbon monoxide poisoning. The complainant said that the landlord had been notified and that the problem had been addressed.

Remember everyone, both residents and summer guests, please get your pets spayed, neutered, vaccinated, and registered. Stay well and stay safe.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*David Bennion*

## **VERMONT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK (VCDB) GRANT**

The State of Vermont, after reviewing the Town of Franklin VCDB Grants recommended taking steps for forgiveness provided all criteria is met. Upon completing all the requirements, the following Closeout Termination was executed.

Vermont Community Development Program  
Franklin Homestead and Carriage House  
**TERMINATION OF CLOSEOUT AGREEMENT**

**This agreement is entered into by the State of Vermont, Agency of Commerce and Community Development (the Agency) and the Town of Franklin, Vermont (the Grantee).**

**WHEREAS**, the Agency and the Grantee entered into Grant Agreement A010397IG13 (the Grant Agreement), which provided for the negotiation and execution of a Closeout Agreement to set out in specific terms, consistent with federal law and Vermont Community Development Program ("VCDP") policies, the rights and obligations of the parties with respect to repayments received by Grantee on the loan made with the VCDP funds distributed by the Agency to Grantee under the Grant Agreement; and Review of the following: Borrower: Franklin Homestead, Inc. requested forgiveness on November 17, 2022, Selectboard meeting minutes approved the following forgiveness of both loans: \$130,000 and \$261,000 on November 30, 2022, State concurred on December 1, 2022. Perfected loan documents of Mortgage Discharge and Loan Forgiveness Agreement on February 15, 2023 were provided to the State on March 3, 2023 to fully forgive all sums under the terms and conditions.

**THEREFORE**, the Agency and the Grantee hereby agree to TERMINATE the Grantee's responsibilities and obligations under said Closeout Agreement.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Lisa Larivee, Treasurer*

## **FRANKLIN HOMESTEAD, INC.**

Founded in 1989, for more than thirty years the Franklin Homestead and the Carriage House have provided beautiful and affordable housing for seniors ages fifty-five (55) and older. We are proud to help local seniors remain within the community where they have natural support systems in place. Managed by the Franklin Homestead, Inc., we are a non-profit organization prioritizing full and part time residents of the Town of Franklin and their family members. On August 20, 2023 we hosted a 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration to honor the beginning of the Franklin Homestead and later the Carriage House with music, refreshments, photos and articles from the past thirty years, and stories of how affordable, safe, and convenient senior housing came to the community of Franklin. Hugh Gates was recognized for his dedication and vision to this project through the years.

We have twenty-three (23) independent living apartments at the Homestead, which are nearly always full. The Carriage House offers eighteen (18) efficiency apartments with supportive services including meals, cleaning, and laundry provided by our management and staff. The FELCO community room is used by many local groups; Senior Dinners, 500 Card Parties, flu shot clinics, various town committees, Support and Services at Home (SASH) activities for both residents and guests from the area. The FELCO room also provides a great location for residents to host larger family gatherings.

The FHI Board of Directors are dedicated and working hard to keep rents affordable to our residents even as the costs for services, insurance, personnel and staff, and the maintenance of our buildings and infrastructure continue to rise. Our personnel committee has been working to attract and keep quality employees and to provide them with opportunities for professional development and training. As both the Homestead and Carriage House facilities become older the Building Committee, Finance Committee, and the Strategic Planning Committee have been reviewing the growing needs of our buildings and establishing priorities for facility improvements and projects. A solar panel project installed by Green Mountain Solar is scheduled to take place during March and April of 2024.

The FHI Directors greatly appreciate the \$5,000- allocation that we received from the voters of the Town of Franklin last March. FHI has been working with and supporting Franklin's water project. In addition, Franklin Homestead, Inc. is again undertaking our annual fund-raising campaign and we are working for applicable grants and other revenue sources to help keep resident services affordable and to continue our work in building and facility improvements. In 2023 FHI applied for and received a \$25,000- grant to develop plans for an additional apartment at the Homestead.

We are also very grateful not only for the gifts of money, but also for the donations of both time and talents that we receive from our COMMUNITY every day. Many of these local groups include Franklin County Home Health, Age Well, Haston Library, Franklin Recreation Department, Lake Carmi Campers Association, Franklin Historical Society, Franklin Fire Department, Franklin Elementary School, and the East Franklin Union and Franklin United Churches. Thank you all for your service and support of our residents through the many activities and programs that you bring to us.

Feel free to contact us with any questions, concerns, ideas, or donations. We are a 501C3 entity and your donations are greatly appreciated and are tax deductible. Copies of the financial statements, as audited by McSoley and McCoy are available for review at the Franklin Homestead. If you would like more information about housing, or use of the FELCO room please contact Stacy Silloway at 285-2944 or visit our website at [franklincarriagehouse.webs.com](http://franklincarriagehouse.webs.com).

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Jay Hartman, Board President*  
*Franklin Homestead, Inc.*

## FRANKLIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The vision of the Franklin Historical Society is to become a dynamic, innovative, and vital organization. We will partner with local, regional, and statewide organizations to create exhibits, programming, and publications which will engage and educate an increasingly diverse audience.

In 2023 we have:

- Created exhibits in the Town Office display case, including Flat Irons, Telephones, and Civil War artifacts.
- Made the Franklin High School “Molecules” available online.
- Made the Franklin High School Photo Album available online.
- Participated in the Vermont Historical Society – 252 Initiative
- Presented a display for viewing at Town Meeting.
- Hosted, with the Haston Library, a talk by Dr. Dan Bean about the Orphan Trains which came to Enosburg.
- Produced and distributed our “Summer Schedule of Events” to promote events by various Franklin groups.
- In July presented “The Spirits of Franklin”.
- In August hosted a Narrated Walking Tour of Franklin Village, highlighting over fifteen historically significant sights in Franklin Village.
- In October attended FGI Historical Society annual County Meeting.
- Also in October hosted MVU students for a mini walking tour of Franklin and visits to the Log Cabin, and Franklin Central 5<sup>th</sup> grade for a cabin visit.

Throughout the year we worked on refining our Collections Policy, organizing and cataloging our archives, creating “History Corner” articles for the LCCA newsletter, and creating video-taped interviews with long-time residents and campers in Franklin.

Our 1878 Log Cabin continues to be a major focus of our educational mission. This year, so far, we have hosted eight school groups for a total of over 100 students and 15 educators. Eleven other visitors toured the cabin by appointment.

On a sad note, members Nancy Magnat and Pam Greene passed away. Both women played a vital part in our organization and in our town.

On a positive note, our youngest member, Jacob Beauregard, won a middle-school history award for his report on farming.

In the new year we will be continuing as before as well as offering new presentations and beginning the work of creating the next “Spirits of Franklin”, to be presented in 2025.

**New members are always welcome.** We meet once a month, usually on the third Saturday. Please email [historical@Franklinvt.net](mailto:historical@Franklinvt.net) for more information including the dates and times.

Respectfully submitted,  
*David Bennion, President*  
*Franklin Historical Society*

## **LAKE CARMI CAMPER'S ASSOCIATION, INC.**

The Lake Carmi Camper's Association, Inc. is dedicated to conserving our unique natural resources, improving, and enhancing the quality of life and the environment, for all Franklin residents and visitors. In cooperation with local and state authorities, the association strives to provide educational, cultural, and recreational activities, along with water quality management assistance, and safety education initiatives.

The LCCA is very active during the summer months sponsoring various recreational and social activities for all lake and area residents. The season began with the annual LCCA Fishing Contest followed by the "Celebrate Lake Carmi" July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday week program including Light up Lake Carmi. We sponsored a holiday concert on the Town Green that was conducted in conjunction with the Franklin & East Franklin Churches' Ice Cream Social and assisted the Franklin Recreation Committee with the 4th "Race for the Lake" Triathlon. The LCCA also sponsored the second annual boat tour of the lake for seniors followed by a lunch along the lake shore. This event was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The ability to share the beauty & enjoyment of the lake has become one of our more satisfying events. We also sponsored the return of the Pontoon Boat Relay Race. The race was a big success and will once again become a staple event during the July 4<sup>th</sup> week. We look forward to all these events in 2024 with the hopes of sponsoring a second concert later in the summer. In addition, a Cottage Tour co-sponsored with the Franklin Historical Society is also planned for 2024.

Protection and improvement of the Lake Carmi watershed are paramount. Lake Carmi cannot tolerate more pollution. The LCCA is very active and vocal in this regard and sponsors an event at the State House each year to ensure our voices are heard. The State designated Lake Carmi a "Lake in Crisis" in 2018. This required the initiation of a "Crisis Response Plan". The plan resulted in the installation of a whole lake aeration system in Lake Carmi and the involvement of UVM Ext. to work with farmers in the watershed. Aeration has not been successful in controlling algae blooms in Lake Carmi and will probably be discontinued. The LCCA is very grateful to the Town of Franklin for supporting the Aeration Project. We also thank farmers & UVM Ext. for their work in the watershed.

The LCCA was very active in the public hearings of Clean Water Board Budget and personally testified at key meetings. An Alum Feasibility Study was funded in the FY 24 budget. This study is ongoing. The FY 25 budget recommended by the Board includes money allocated for a potential Alum treatment of Lake Carmi. Alum has proved successful in suppressing algae blooms in other Vermont lakes.

The Association remains committed to working with campers and the Town to improve the watershed. The LCCA is an active member of the VT DEC Lake Carmi TMDL Coordination Team. The Team is the first of its kind in the state and works to initiate projects to improve the watershed. We also partner with the Lake Champlain Committee to extract weekly water samples for Blue Green Algae. The LCCA remains a strong supporter and partner with the Franklin Watershed Committee. We strongly urge lake shore owners to participate in the septic pump out rebate program, water conservation efforts and the DEC Lake Wise and Stream Wise Programs. The LCCA appreciates the weed harvester operation and thanks the town for their efforts in managing Eurasian Water Milfoil. The LCCA is very active in seeking and raising funds for water quality efforts. The LCCA's formation of the Lake Carmi Community Foundation was done specifically for this purpose. The bi-annual Golf Tournament to benefit the Foundation will be held in 2024.

The security of lake property is a primary concern during the winter months. The LCCA contracts with the Franklin County Sheriff to patrol the lake area from October through May, providing a necessary law enforcement presence. The sheriff's presence at the lake is a benefit to the entire town. The LCCA also supports the Franklin Fire Department, Haston Library, Franklin Historical Society, and the Franklin Homestead.

The LCCA is a focal point for the dissemination of information to the community. Our summer newsletters are published and distributed widely by the association to keep residents and friends informed about life at Lake Carmi and in the Town of Franklin. The LCCA also has an informative website. All LCCA Newsletters and lots more are at [www.lakecarmivt.com](http://www.lakecarmivt.com). Our Board of Directors is busy throughout the year. All are unpaid volunteers. The LCCA Directors for 2023 to 2024 are Peter Benevento; Suzie Hull-Casavant, John Costa, Ernie Englehardt, Rob Evans, Polly Gadbois, Sheryl Garala, Nancy Johnson, Ruth Ann Krayesky and Diane Larose. All Board of Directors Meetings are open to the public; dates are posted online and in the LCCA newsletters.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Peter Benevento*, President

## **FRANKLIN WATERSHED COMMITTEE, INC.**

The goal of the Franklin Watershed Committee (FWC) is to improve and strengthen the integrity of the Franklin watersheds for the purpose of maintaining the uses and values desired by the people, as well as enhancing water quality of Lake Carmi as a recreational facility for future generations.

The FWC works with partners in the Missisquoi Watershed in order to achieve its stated purpose and are grateful for the support of the Town of Franklin. Our funding comes exclusively from grants and donations to achieve our goals. This year, we aimed to continue tributary sampling, perform Lake Wise evaluations, participate in the new Stream Wise program, scope out watershed projects, and work with water quality partners to educate the community about lake-friendly practices.

This year we collected our first tributary samples on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and continued biweekly until October 26<sup>th</sup>. Due to the continuous, heavy rains throughout the summer, we were able to collect the most robust set of data that we have been able to collect for years. In a typical year, many of the tributaries run dry mid-summer and we are not able to get data points for them. This was not the case this year and we obtained data points consistently from every sampling site. Phosphorus levels were comparable to last year but seem to be trending generally downward.

We worked alongside the Franklin County Natural Resources Conservation District (FCNRCD) on some old and new projects this summer. They continued performing Lake Wise evaluations at Lake Carmi and together we completed 12 evaluations. This was a continuation of their grant with the LCBP to compile a list of all completed and potential Best Management Practices within the watershed. Another project we assisted them on was the Watershed Workshop Series. The FCNRCD hosted four workshops in Franklin in July and August, each with a different topic and guest presenter. Topics included Lake Science 101, Lake Wise tips for landowners parts 1 & 2, and Healthy Streams. Each workshop brought in an average of about 15 attendees and fostered wonderful discussions on improving water quality.

The Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP) launched the Stream Wise grant program this year. The goal of the program, much like Lake Wise, is to engage property owners to improve stream health by enhancing vegetated buffers. As participants, we met with 8 streamside landowners in Franklin to perform site evaluations and provided them feedback on their properties. Those that met all of the Stream Wise criteria were given an award sign.

We were also able to continue with the Boat Launch Steward program through the LCBP this year. We had two stewards, one at the North Shore boat launch and another at the Lake Carmi State Park boat launch. They worked primarily on weekends for about 18 hours a week from June to August. However, due to delays in receiving the grant contract and the rainy weather all summer, we were not able to use up all of the funds awarded us and are in the process of amending the contract to use the remaining money next summer. We have received the grant for the 2024 steward program as well so we are hoping to increase the number of personnel and the hours that they work.

In May of this year, a road project was completed on Patton Shore through the Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NRPC). The project included properly crowning the road and filling it with pervious gravel materials as well as creating a few drainage ditches to catch stormwater. The rainy weather was the perfect test of the efforts made and the results were significant. Far fewer potholes and rivets were created this year compared to previous years. We are hoping to continue working with the NRPC on future road projects.

Finally, the FWC Septic Pump-Out program was active again this year. We offer a \$75 rebate for anyone who can provide proof of a septic pump-out on Lake Carmi and a \$25 rebate for anyone renting a port-o-let. Septic pump-outs and port-o-let rentals minimize wastewater runoff entering the lake. In total, 14 septic rebates were issued in 2023.



**Franklin Watershed Committee, Inc.**  
*Caring for Lake Carmi*

Respectfully submitted,  
*Julia Crocker, FWC Coordinator*

**FRANKLIN WATERSHED COMMITTEE, INC.**

**Beginning Balance January 1 ,2023 - Checking** \$ 38,406.83

**INCOME**

**GRANTS**

Watershed United	\$ 5,170.00	*
Northwest Regional Planning Commission	1,852.50	
MISC	1,387.10	

**TOTAL GRANTS** \$ 8,409.60

**DONATIONS**

Northrop Grumman Corp	\$ 4,807.50
Town of Franklin	5,000.00
Lake Carmi Campers Assoc.	2,500.00
Tatro Construction	300.00

**TOTAL DONATIONS** \$ 12,607.50

**MISC** \$ 1,443.96

**TOTAL INCOME** \$ 22,461.06 \$ 22,461.06

**TOTAL CASH/INCOME** \$ 60,867.89

**EXPENSES**

Septic Pump Out Program-Outreach	\$ 1,025.00	
Coordinator	18,341.46	
Boat Greeters	3,861.00	**
Local Watershed Expenses	3,752.16	
Lakewise	2,027.01	**

**TOTAL EXPENSES** \$ 29,006.63 \$ 29,006.63

**Ending Balance - December 31, 2023 Checking** \$ 31,861.26

**TOTAL EXPENSES/CASH** \$ 60,867.89

\* Grant utilized for coordinator position

\*\*Expense to be reimbursed in 2024

Respectfully Submitted,  
Marion Benevento, Treasurer FWC



## HASTON LIBRARY

Our mission: *“The Haston Library supports self-education and community involvement through free access to information and a variety of programs and services for all ages in a welcoming atmosphere.”*

This year, the Haston Library welcomed Allison Franklin, Millie Richard, and Brenna Sturtevant as new trustees, and Deb Grennon was kind enough to return as board chair in the wake of Stacie Tremblay’s resignation in February. We came to the end of our three-year Strategic Plan and started work on our plan for the next three years. As illustrated below, our numbers have been improving across the board, as our library becomes ever more a focal point for the community:

	Patron Visits	Total Circulation	Inter-Library Loans	Program Attendance	WiFi Use
FY22	2,573	4,179	372	590	805
FY23	3,220	4,265	444	1,223	1,075

The library hosted a variety of programs in the past year, including the Planetarium Lady, Alyx the Magician, Modern Times Theater, Dinoman, the Southern Vermont Natural History Museum, and No Strings Marionette Company. We invited a number of authors to talk about their work, including Howard Coffin, Bill Mares, Caleb Kenna, and Mercedes de Guardiola. Story Times, “STEAM-y Mondays,” and craft programs were presented for our younger patrons. We participated in the Memorial Day parade, Trunk or Treat, Polar Express, and Summer Reading. We renamed our annual plant swap in honor of Nancy Magnant, a former trustee and a much-loved member of the community, and a sample of her quilt work was put on permanent display in the library.

In June of 2023, our Director, Josh Worman, was elected Vice President of the Public Library Section of the Vermont Library Association, and in November he led a tour of Franklin County libraries for Vermont library staff and trustees. He has continued to produce a newsletter every month, and he has procured grants for the library, such as the Winnie Belle Learned Grant for summer programming. In addition, his band played at Make Music Vermont and the library’s fundraiser at Due North Vineyard, which was a resounding success.

The Library continues to offer many online resources for genealogy research, online classes, and movie streaming, as well as ebooks and audiobooks. New non-traditional items were added to the library’s collection, including a guitar, ukulele, portable DVD player, and novelty cake pans.

Thank you to all community members and patrons who utilize the library and to everyone who gave donations throughout the year. Our fundraisers were successful because of the generosity of our community. Thank you! We look forward to growing with you in the coming year.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Deb Grennon, Corinna Stanley, Jen Raynak, Millie Richard,  
Victoria Jacobs, Allison Franklin, Brenna Sturtevant  
Library Director Josh Worman*



**HASTON LIBRARY COMBINED REPORT**  
**TREASURER'S REPORT & BUDGET COMPARISON**

	FY23 7/1/22 - 6/30/23		FY24 7/1/23 - 6/30/24		FY25 7/1/24 - 6/30/25
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Anticipated</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<b>Beginning Fund Balance-Unrestricted</b>		\$ 25,197.13			
<b>INCOME</b>					
Town Funds	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 39,000.00	\$ 39,000.00	\$ 46,075.00 **
Fundraising	1,000.00	964.00	1,000.00	1,800.00	2,000.00
Donations/Undesignated	500.00	788.02	500.00	800.00	750.00
Interest Earned	700.00	360.50	800.00	1,200.00	800.00
Grant Income	750.00	1,371.35	750.00	1,000.00	1,400.00
Petty Cash Receipts	50.00	175.87	50.00	50.00	50.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 45,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 45,659.74</b>	<b>\$ 42,100.00</b>	<b>\$ 43,850.00</b>	<b>\$ 51,075.00</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME &amp; FUND BALANCE</b>		<b>\$ 70,856.87</b>			
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Salaries	\$ 27,144.00	\$ 26,779.78	\$ 30,642.00	\$ 30,642.00	\$ 39,676.00 **
Payroll Taxes	2,074.00	2,068.25	2,344.00	2,344.00	3,035.00
Health Insurance	10,400.00	7,966.01	11,793.00	10,500.00	12,606.00
Books/Subscriptions	5,240.00	6,620.19	5,080.00	5,080.00	5,800.00
Operating Memberships	1,150.00	1,484.02	1,450.00	1,450.54	1,500.00
Processing/Shipping	350.00	363.89	325.00	350.00	375.00
Capital Expenses	500.00	30.00	500.00	300.00	250.00
Programs	1,050.00	1,543.14	850.00	2,450.00	1,300.00
Supplies	1,000.00	1,154.03	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,200.00
Technology & Support	150.00	48.67	400.00	400.00	300.00
Telephone Expense	950.00	930.32	950.00	950.00	950.00
Postage Expense	125.00	63.00	100.00	100.00	75.00
Interlibrary Loan Costs	1,040.00	1,318.34	1,155.00	1,155.00	1,288.00
Professional Development	300.00	325.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
Professional Resources	170.00	-	170.00	-	170.00
Mileage	150.00	55.02	150.00	50.00	100.00
Miscellaneous	100.00	50.00	100.00	100.00	50.00
Fundraisers/Cook book	-	-	-	-	-
Shipping & Handling	50.00	25.89	50.00	50.00	30.00
ARPA Expenses		1,298.25		-	-
Non-Traditional Items	500.00	403.11	500.00	500.00	400.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 52,443.00</b>	<b>\$ 52,526.91</b>	<b>\$ 57,859.00</b>	<b>\$ 57,721.54</b>	<b>\$ 69,405.00</b>
<b>Fund Balance - Unrestricted</b>		18,329.96			
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES &amp; FUND</b>		<b>\$ 70,856.87</b>			
<b>HASTON LIBRARY RESERVE FUND-RESTRICTED*</b>					
<b>Beginning Balance</b>		\$ 5,257.25			
Income	\$ 2,000.00	3,135.71	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Expenses	(500.00)	(2,298.08)	(500.00)	(2,550.00)	(500.00)
<b>Ending Balance</b>		\$ 6,094.88			

\* Grants, restricted donations, and fundraising

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Lisa A. Larivee, Treasurer*

\*\* The Library Trustees are proposing a permanent (12 hours/wk) library clerk for a one year pilot program, thus using the carryover fund balance and increased town assessment.

## HASTON LIBRARY & EBEN RACINE MEMORIAL FUNDS

Established in 1908 the Haston Library Fund is a financial endowment. Annual interest is designated for books and periodicals. The principal always remains in the fund which has grown through fundraising efforts and gifts.

The Eben Racine Memorial Fund was established in 1997 to benefit the Haston Library.

### **Beginnning Balance: 1/1/2023**

Eben Racince Fund-CD	\$ 3,300.00	
Haston Fund Share Acct	\$ 171.62	\$20.63 Int Payable
Haston Fund- CD	\$14,340.29	\$340.29 Int Payable
Edward Jones Investments	<u>\$29,758.30</u>	
	\$47,570.21	
Income:		
Interest earned	<u>\$ 1,855.54</u>	
	\$ 1,855.54	
Donations:	<u>\$ 6,940.00</u>	
	\$ 6,940.00	
Total Income, donations & Beginning Balance	<u><u>\$56,365.75</u></u>	

### **Expenses: 12/31/2023**

Interest Paid to Library	<u>\$ 1,675.01</u>	
	\$ 1,675.01	

### **Ending Balance: 31-Dec-23**

Eben Racine CD	\$ 3,404.73	\$104.73 Int Payable
Haston Fund Share Acct	\$ 95.87	\$4.88 Int Payable
Haston Fund CD	\$ 14,444.33	\$444.33 Int Payable
Edward Jones Investments	<u>\$36,745.81</u>	
	\$54,690.74	
	<u><u>\$56,365.75</u></u>	

\*Interest payable \$553.94, Eben Racine Fund balance \$3,300.00, Haston Library Fund balance \$50,836.80 (Market Value \$50,701.83)

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Kimberly Gates Maynard*

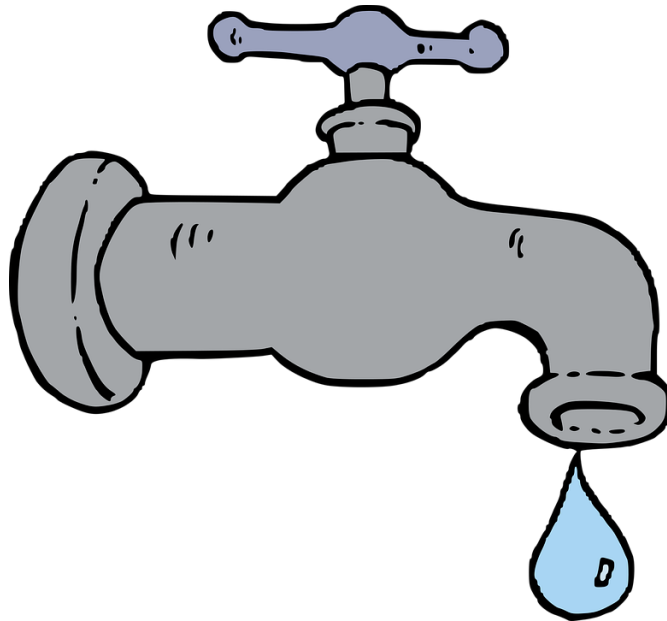
## FRANKLIN WATER DISTRICT

In 2024, the final design plans for connecting the new well were completed. In December, we received the required permits from the VT Agency of Natural Resources and we intend to go to construction in 2024.

We have been fortunate over the last two years in not having to conserve or haul water to supplement our supply, however as we continue to monitor source yield and water use, it is evident that we definitely need the well in place to adequately serve the users.

Please remain vigilant in reporting any leaks that you may have inside or outside to the water department as soon as they are discovered. Less obvious leaks may be detected when soft spots are seen on lawns or may be heard by listening to the pipes where they come into the building.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Michael Lawyer*  
*Marshall Ploof*  
*Brooks Sturtevant*



Please keep your water lines inspected for leaks inside and outside of your home.  
This is important for the health and longevity of our water system.

**FRANKLIN WATER DISTRICT**

	FY23	FY23	FY24	FY24	FY25
	7/1/22-6/30/23	Actual	7/1/23-6/30/24	Anticipated	7/1/24-6/30/25
	Budget		Budget		Budget

**Fund Balance - Period Beginning July 1, 2022**

**INCOME**

Water Rent/User Fees	\$ 55,200.00	\$ 54,817.50	\$ 67,000.00	\$ 67,500.00	\$ 67,000.00
Late Fees	210.00	405.00	-	300.00	200.00
Interest	65.00	77.23	50.00	50.00	50.00
Miscellaneous	-	39,391.43	-	17,100.00	890,000.00
Upgrade Project Loan/USDA Funds					
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 55,475.00</b>	<b>\$ 94,691.16</b>	<b>\$ 67,050.00</b>	<b>\$ 84,950.00</b>	<b>\$ 957,250.00</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME &amp; FUND BALANCE JUNE 30</b>		<b><u>\$156,196.65</u></b>			

**EXPENSES**

Operators (includes payroll taxes)	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,453.68	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 5,000.00
Treasurer / Secretary (includes payroll taxes)	1,700.00	1,564.45	1,700.00	1,700.00	1,800.00
Spring Rental	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	-
Repair & Maintenance/Contracted Services	10,000.00	4,719.85	10,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00
Utilities	1,000.00	941.36	2,590.00	1,555.00	2,650.00
Insurance	500.00	444.00	500.00	408.00	400.00
Office Expense	700.00	181.65	700.00	250.00	500.00
Water Sample Laboratory	1,500.00	625.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Permit to Operate	350.00	291.90	350.00	350.00	350.00
Training/Mileage	500.00	252.00	500.00		500.00
Water Hauling					
Planning Loan	1,483.20	1,483.80	1,484.00	1,483.80	1,484.00
Alternate Water Source-costs		59,855.75		5,875.30	890,000.00
Alternate Water Source-debt repayment	12,000.00				20,750.00
System Upgrade debt repayment	20,464.18	20,464.18	20,464.00	20,464.00	20,464.00
System Upgrade Costs					
Capital Reserve			4,620.00	4,620.00	4,620.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 54,717.38</b>	<b>\$ 95,297.62</b>	<b>\$ 50,828.00</b>	<b>\$ 49,626.10</b>	<b>\$ 961,518.00</b>
<b>Fund Balance - Period Ending June 30, 2023</b>		<b><u>60,899.03</u></b>			
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES &amp; FUND BALANCE JUNE 30</b>		<b><u>\$ 156,196.65</u></b>			

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Larivee, Treasurer

## **Franklin Recreation Department**

*Our Mission: "To offer quality, year round, recreational opportunities to the residents and visitors of Franklin, while enhancing the physical, mental, cultural and social needs of our community."*

The Franklin Recreation Department continues to offer quality athletics and recreational events and activities for our community. We continue to work on improved communication through our newsletter, website, and social media, as well as collaboration and coordination with other departments, towns and organizations to bring the most that we can to the Town of Franklin.

Last year we were happy to host the following annual events:

- The Chase Around the Lake Triathlon (collaboration with the LCCA)
- The Community Dinner (collaboration with the Farm to School Program)
- The 5K Fall Run: Pink Ribbon Run in 2023, including a \$154 donation to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute
- The Halloween Spooktacular: Trunk or Treat and Haunted Forest
- The Holiday Vendor and Craft Fair
- The Tree Lighting
- The Polar Express and Lighted Parade (collaboration with the Haston Library)
- The Winter Carnival, including Duct Tape Derby, Chili Cook-off and Square Dancing

Our athletic programs continue to thrive, with offerings for preschool through sixth grade athletes. This year we were able to bring a group of our soccer athletes to a UVM Men's Soccer game in September! We have continued to work on improving our athletic fields and offering new opportunities to residents of Franklin and surrounding towns. Our miscellaneous expenses look high this year, but the majority of those expenses are attributed to the purchase of an AED and a generator, both of which we felt were necessary. Here is a list of new things we did this past year:

- Began Installation of Electricity and Wi-fi at the Athletic Fields
- Family Valentine's Day Dance (we hope to make this a new annual event!)
- Paint and Sip with Jordan Bushey
- Franklin Night at a Lake Monster Baseball Game
- Summer Field Hockey Camp with Emma Gerrard
- 50/50 Raffle
- Food Drive at the Polar Express
- Purchased a Generator and AED for the Athletic Fields
- Began a Dylan Bushey Memorial Garden

Some of our goals for the upcoming year include the following:

- Finishing the Shed Project: electricity, Wi-fi, staining and shelving
- Additional Athletic Field Upgrades
- Continue work on the Dylan Bushey Memorial Garden
- Offering a Summer Carnival

We would like to announce that we have a new Recreation Coordinator; please welcome Ashley Flood to the role. The events we offer continue to be well attended and our athletic programs are thriving! As always, we are humbled by the positive feedback and support we have received and are thankful to be part of such a wonderful community. We graciously thank the voters of Franklin for their support and to the Selectboard for providing ARPA funds for the shed and electricity project. As always, we welcome any and all suggestions as to how we can better serve you!

### **Respectfully submitted,**

Stephanie Ho, Chair  
Stacy Godin, Vice Chair  
Dianna Benoit-Kittell, Treasurer

Laura Larose, Secretary  
Lissy Bachelder, Advertising and Marketing Officer  
Ashley Flood, Recreation Coordinator

### **Help our programs and community grow!**

[www.franklinrec.org](http://www.franklinrec.org) | [franklinvtrecreation@gmail.com](mailto:franklinvtrecreation@gmail.com) | [www.facebook.com/FranklinVTRecreation](https://www.facebook.com/FranklinVTRecreation)

**RECREATION DEPARTMENT COMBINED REPORT**  
**TREASURER'S REPORT & BUDGET COMPARISON**

	FY23	FY23	FY24	FY24	FY25
	7/1/22-6/30/23	7/1/22-6/30/23	7/1/23-6/30/24	7/1/23-6/30/24	7/1/24-6/30/25
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Anticipated</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<b>Beginning Fund Balance - Unrestricted</b>		\$ 14,106.07			
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>					
Franklin Town Assessment	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,000.00
Grants/Donations/Fundraising/Interest		2,315.75	1,500.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
ATV raffle		10,200.00			
Sponsors	500.00	2,300.00	500.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Scholarship Fund	100.00		100.00		
Program/Registration Fees:					
Basketball	1,200.00	1,041.50	1,200.00	1,400.00	1,300.00
Soccer	1,500.00	1,780.00	1,500.00	1,965.00	1,800.00
Triathlon	2,000.00	700.00	750.00	750.00	750.00
Apparel			300.00	300.00	-
Fall Run		430.00		311.00	350.00
Vendor Fair		60.00		135.00	150.00
Polar Express Donations		134.00	100.00	100.00	50.00
Miscellaneous	450.00	51.24	2,400.00	2,000.00	100.00
<b>Total Income</b>	\$ 21,750.00	\$ 35,012.49	\$ 24,350.00	\$ 26,961.00	\$ 24,500.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME &amp; FUND BALANCE</b>		<u>\$ 49,118.56</u>			
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>					
Director Salary	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 3,967.50	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,020.00
Other Payroll Expenses	535.00	490.60	650.00	650.00	650.00
Insurance-Liability/Workers Comp	450.00	800.46	500.00	500.00	650.00
Board Member Stipend	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Website/Marketing	3,000.00	2,995.00	2,995.00	2,850.00	2,995.00
Office Supplies	150.00	31.37	300.00	363.52	200.00
Training & Travel			100.00		-
Field Maintenance	1,000.00	1,169.96	1,500.00	1,800.00	1,500.00
Port-o-lets	1,200.00	1,355.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,500.00
Miscellaneous	350.00	881.20	750.00	303.78	100.00
Building Maintenance		2,698.99		207.00	500.00
Sponsors	-	600.00	-	-	360.00
Grants/Donations/Fundraising	-	-	-	1,978.98	250.00
Fees	100.00	166.76	100.00	160.00	160.00
ATV expenses	-	7,489.00	-	-	
Program Expenses:					
Basketball	1,000.00	812.50	1,000.00	1,200.00	1,000.00
Miscellaneous	1,000.00	1,059.43	1,000.00	1,000.00	100.00
Soccer	4,000.00	6,333.68	3,000.00	1,995.79	2,000.00
Triathlon	1,400.00	552.87	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,000.00
Fall Run					350.00
Winter Carnival	500.00	180.77	500.00	500.00	250.00
Polar Express	200.00	111.51	200.00	200.00	200.00
Apparel Exp	-	-	100.00	326.15	100.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$ 23,385.00	\$ 33,196.60	\$ 25,095.00	\$ 26,435.22	\$ 23,385.00
<b>Fund Balance - Unrestricted</b>		<u>15,921.96</u>			
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES &amp; FUND BALANCES</b>		<u>\$ 49,118.56</u>			
<b>LITTLE LEAGUE - RESTRICTED FUND</b>					
<b>Beginning Balance</b>		<b>\$ 1,880.96</b>			
Income	\$ 4,500.00	3,965.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 4,000.00
Expenses	(5,000.00)	(5,825.30)	(5,000.00)	-	5,000.00
<b>Ending Balance</b>		<b>\$ 20.66</b>			

**LAKE CARMi PROJECT FUND**

**July 1, 2022**

Beginning Balance - Money Market \$ 878.62

**INCOME**

Interest \$ 0.39

FY23 Tax Assessment 10,000.00

State Grant Funds 12,058.01

**Total Income** 22,058.40

**Total Money Market & Income** **\$ 22,937.02**

**EXPENSES**

Vermont Electric Cooperative \$21,590.64

Robert Evans - Lease 500.00

**Total Expenses** \$ 22,090.64

**June 30, 2023**

Ending Balance - Money Market 846.38

**Total Money Market & Expenses** **\$ 22,937.02**

**FRANKLIN CENTER CEMETERY FUND**

**July 1, 2022**

Beginning Balance - Money Market \$ 4,456.10

**INCOME**

Interest \$ 6.73

Fees/Lot Sales/Mowing reimbursement 1,065.00

**Total Income** 1,071.73

**Total Money Market & Income** **\$ 5,527.83**

**EXPENSES**

Mowing \$ 1,960.00

Maintenance -

Fees 15.00

**Total Expenses** \$ 1,975.00

**June 30, 2023**

Ending Balance - Money Market 3,552.83

**Total Money Market & Expenses** **\$ 5,527.83**

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa A. Larivee, Treasurer

## **EQUIPMENT FUND**

### **July 1, 2022**

Beginning Balance - Money Market \$ 33,546.75

### **INCOME**

Interest \$ 37.51

Equipment Fund - FY23 Tax Assessment 15,000.00

Loan Proceeds - Grader 262,000.00

**Total Income** 277,037.51

**Total Money Market & Income** **\$ 310,584.26**

### **EXPENSES**

Grader Purchase - Beaugard Equipment \$310,000.00

**Total Expenses** \$ 310,000.00

### **June 30, 2023**

Ending Balance - Money Market 584.26

**Total Money Market & Expenses** **\$ 310,584.26**

## **DOG LICENSES**

Sex	#	Rate	Fees	State	Kennel	Late Fees	Total
Spayed	82	\$ 8.00	\$ 656.00	\$ 410.00		\$ 22.00	\$ 1,088.00
Neutered	78	8.00	624.00	390.00		40.00	1,054.00
Male	11	12.00	132.00	55.00		8.00	195.00
Female	14	12.00	168.00	70.00		16.00	254.00
Kennel	19		3.00	2.00	\$ 60.00		65.00
<b>Totals</b>	204		\$ 1,583.00	\$ 927.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 86.00	\$ 2,656.00

### **2023 Dog License Rates**

Town	State	<u>Total</u>	
\$8.00	\$5.00	\$13.00	Neutered/Spayed
\$12.00	\$5.00	\$17.00	Unaltered

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa A. Larivee, Treasurer



**ARPA FUNDS**  
**CHECKING ACCOUNT**

**July 1, 2022**

Beginning Balance - Checking Acct \$211,575.73

**INCOME**

Interest \$ 745.42

ARPA Revenue 213,085.22

**Total Income** \$213,830.64

**Total Money Market & Income** **\$425,406.37**

**EXPENSES**

Administrative/FICA/MEDI \$ 229.14

Contracted Services/EMS 10,000.00

Generator Repair 6,504.79

Hard'ack Pool Passes 600.00

Recreation Shed Article 25,000.00

Recreation Field Electricity 44.28

Grader 52,000.00

Transfer to Ed Jones Investments 200,000.00

**Total Expenses** \$294,378.21

**June 30, 2023**

Ending Balance - Checking Acct 131,028.16

**Total Money Market & Expenses** **\$425,406.37**

**EDWARD JONES INVESTMENT**

**July 1, 2022**

Beginning Balance - Edward Jones CD \$ -

**INCOME**

Interest \$ 4,542.63

Transfer of funds from checking acct 200,000.00

**Total Income** \$204,542.63

**Total CD & Income** **\$204,542.63**

**June 30, 2023**

**Total Edward Jones CD** **\$204,542.63**

**Total ARPA Funds-Checking & Investment:** **\$335,570.79**

ARPA funds allocated as of June 30, 2023

Contracted Services/EMS \$ 20,000.00

Recreation Field Electricity installation 20,000.00

Pool Pass 540.00

Remaining ARPA Funds Available: **\$295,030.79**

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa A. Larivee, Treasurer

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**MUNICIPAL CHECKING**

**July 1, 2022**

**TOTAL CASH - Checking Account**

**\$ 285,878.74**

	<u>General</u>	<u>Highway</u>	<u>Weed Harvester</u>	<u>Combined</u>
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>				
FY23 Property Taxes	\$ 165,330.22	\$ 346,543.00	\$ 2,728.00	\$ 514,601.22
FY23 Ed Reconciliation	18,953.86			18,953.86
FY24 Property Taxes	16,325.16			16,325.16
Delinquent Taxes	65,268.88			65,268.88
Interest on Delinquent Taxes	1,397.62			1,397.62
8% Penalty	5,221.50			5,221.50
State of Vermont:				-
Hold Harmless/Current Use	15,855.00	29,446.00		45,301.00
PILOT	3,332.00			3,332.00
Parks and Recreation	8,278.63			8,278.63
Parcel Maintenance	999.00			999.00
Aid to Highways		110,094.36		110,094.36
Aquatic Nuisance Grant			3,667.00	3,667.00
Municipal Portion of Tax Credit	2,993.00			2,993.00
Land Use Change Tax	206.00			206.00
State Grant		26,251.39		26,251.39
Permits	3,810.00	560.00		4,370.00
Fees	19,162.00			19,162.00
Dog Licenses	1,845.00			1,845.00
Liquor Licenses	70.00			70.00
Interest Income	5,469.06			5,469.06
Town Hall Rental	1,890.00			1,890.00
Other Income	2,404.69	3,376.56		5,781.25
Reserves Income:				-
Computerization	1,355.00			1,355.00
Act 60 Reappraisal	8,491.50			8,491.50
Surcharge Restoration	4,065.00	-	-	4,065.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 352,723.12</b>	<b>\$ 516,271.31</b>	<b>\$ 6,395.00</b>	<b>\$ 875,389.43</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH/INCOME</b>				<b><u>\$ 1,161,268.17</u></b>

**EXPENSES**

FY23 Selectboard Orders Paid	\$ 352,178.08	\$ 577,435.74	\$ 16,115.62	\$ 945,729.44
Accounts Receivable-Rte 236 Culvert Project		7,500.00		7,500.00
Reserve Accounts Orders Paid	2,843.13			2,843.13
FY23 Property Tax Returned/Abated	20,297.41			20,297.41

**June 30, 2023**

**TOTAL CASH - Checking Account**

**\$ 184,898.19**

**TOTAL CASH/EXPENSES**

**\$ 1,161,268.17**

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa A. Larivee, Treasurer

**TOWN OF FRANKLIN**  
**COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET**

**CURRENT ASSETS**

**CHECKING ACCOUNTS**

	<b>6/30/2022</b>	<b>6/30/2023</b>
Municipal Checking	\$ 290,878.74	\$ 184,898.19
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)	211,575.73	335,570.79
Equipment	33,546.75	584.26
Haston Library, plus petty cash	30,454.38	24,424.84
Recreation	15,987.03	15,942.62
Water District	61,193.03	59,654.07
Lake Carmi Project	878.62	846.38
Franklin Center Cemetery	4,456.10	3,552.83
Health Reimbursement Account	755.77	672.09

**TOTAL CHECKING ACCOUNTS**

**\$ 649,726.15      \$ 626,146.07**

**ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE**

Grant Rte 236 Reimbursement	-	7,500.00
Water District	992.46	1,519.96
Delinquent Tax Collector	16,517.26	22,287.86

**TOTAL ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE**

**\$ 17,509.72      \$ 31,307.82**

**TOTAL ASSETS**

**AND ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE**

**\$ 667,235.87      \$ 657,453.89**

**CURRENT RESERVES, LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES**

**RESERVES AND LIABILITIES**

Act 60 Reappraisal	\$ 82,654.00	\$ 91,145.50
Surcharge Restoration Fee	47,839.85	50,261.72
Computerization	7,806.48	7,961.48
Prepaid Taxes	21,613.45	16,325.16
Prepaid Water District Rent	680.00	275.00
Little League	1,880.96	20.66
Haston Library	11,413.22	6,094.88
Cemetery	2,000.00	3,000.00
Sidewalk	10,000.00	15,000.00
Health Reimbursement Account	88.68	10.15
Accounts Payable - Homestead	5,000.00	-

**TOTAL RESERVES AND LIABILITIES**

**\$ 190,976.64      \$ 190,094.55**

**FUND ACCOUNT BALANCES**

Municipal	\$ 55,549.11	\$ 26,944.13
Highway	74,080.54	12,916.11
Weed Harvester	852.57	(8,868.05)
Equipment	33,546.75	584.26
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)	211,575.73	335,570.79
Haston Library, plus petty cash	19,041.16	18,329.96
Recreation Funds	14,106.07	15,921.96
Water District	61,505.49	60,899.03
Lake Carmi Project	878.62	846.38
Franklin Center Cemetery	4,456.10	3,552.83
Health Reimbursement Account	667.09	661.94

**TOTAL FUND BALANCES**

**\$ 476,259.23      \$ 467,359.34**

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES**

**\$ 667,235.87      \$ 657,453.89**

**Reserve/Liabilities Account Changes**

**FY23**

<b>Account</b>	<b>Entry</b>	<b>7/1/2022</b>		<b>6/30/2023</b>	
		<b>Start of Year</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>Decrease</b>	<b>End of Year</b>
St of VT Act 60 - Reserve	Beginning Balance	\$ 82,654.00	\$ 8,491.50	\$ -	\$ 91,145.50
	Ending Balance				
Surcharge Restoration - Reserve	Beginning Balance	\$ 47,839.85	\$ 4,065.00	\$ 1,643.13	\$ 50,261.72
	Ending Balance				
Computerization - Reserve	Beginning Balance	\$ 7,806.48	\$ 1,355.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 7,961.48
	Ending Balance				
Town Cemetery Funds - Reserve	Beginning Balance	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00
	Ending Balance				
Sidewalk Funds - Reserve	Beginning Balance	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00
	Ending Balance				
* Pidgeon Hill Grant Match-FY21 Art #4 - Reserve	Beginning Balance	\$ 37,883.85	\$ -	\$ 9,314.38	\$ 28,569.47
	Ending Balance				

**Reserve/Liabilities Account Changes - Continued**

Little League - Reserve	Beginning Balance	\$ 1,880.96	\$ 6,310.00	\$ 8,170.30	\$ 20.66
	Ending Balance				
Haston Library - Reserve	Beginning Balance	\$ 11,413.22	\$ 3,135.71	\$ 8,454.05	
	Ending Balance			\$ 6,094.88	
Prepaid Taxes - Liability	Beginning Balance	\$ 21,613.45	\$ 44,429.35	\$ 49,717.64	\$ 16,325.16
	Ending Balance				
Prepaid Water District Rent - Liability	Beginning Balance	\$ 680.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 680.00	\$ 275.00
	Ending Balance				
Health Reimbursement Account-Liability	Beginning Balance	\$ 88.68	\$ 10,526.66	\$ 10,605.19	\$ 10.15
	Ending Balance				
<b>Ending FY23 Reserve/Liabilities Balance</b>					
				<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 218,664.02</b>

\* Not included in Comparative Balance Sheet - part of Municipal & Highway Fund Balances

## Long Term Debt

<b>2021 International Plow Truck with Dump and Plow; Purchased 10/21/2020</b>	<b>Fiscal</b>		<b>Principal</b>	<b>1.7% Interest *</b>	<b>Payment; with interest</b>
\$145,000 Community National Bank	<b>Year</b>				
	<b>22</b>	\$	27,972.80	\$ 2,537.95	\$ 30,510.75
	<b>23</b>		28,543.44	1,967.31	30,510.75
5 year note; beginning 11/1/2021	<b>24</b>		29,021.15	1,489.60	30,510.75
	<b>25</b>		29,498.79	1,011.96	30,510.75
<b>Final payment 11/01/2025</b>	<b>26</b>		30,000.98	509.78	30,510.76
<b>Total paid with interest</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>145,037.16</b>	<b>\$ 7,516.60</b>	<b>\$ 152,553.76</b>
				<b>Note Payable</b>	<b>\$ 145,000.00</b>
Trade of 2010 International		\$	26,000	Balance FY22	117,027.20
Equipment Fund Allocation			20,000	Balance FY23	88,483.76
Loan to Community National Bank			145,000	Balance FY24	59,462.61
<b>Total Invoice cost of plow truck</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>191,000</b>	Balance FY25	30,000.98
* variable interest adjusted in report each year				<b>Balance FY26</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

<b>2022 John Deere 672G Grader; Purchased 5/25/2022</b>	<b>Fiscal</b>		<b>Principal</b>	<b>2.65% Interest *</b>	<b>Payment; with interest</b>
\$262,000 Peoples Trust Co	<b>Year</b>				
	<b>23</b>	\$	53,213.27	\$ 2,491.87	\$ 55,705.14
	<b>24</b>		50,232.93	5,472.21	55,705.14
5 year note; beginning 11/15/2022	<b>25</b>		51,499.86	4,205.28	55,705.14
	<b>26</b>		52,867.09	2,838.05	55,705.14
<b>Final payment 11/15/2026</b>	<b>27</b>		54,267.01	1,438.08	55,705.09
<b>Total paid with interest</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>262,080.16</b>	<b>\$ 16,445.49</b>	<b>\$ 278,525.65</b>
				<b>Note Payable</b>	<b>\$ 262,000.00</b>
Trade of 1988 Grader		\$	20,000	Balance FY23	208,786.73
Equipment Fund Allocation/Highway funds			52,000	Balance FY24	158,553.80
Loan to Peoples Trust Co			262,000	Balance FY25	107,134.10
<b>Total Invoice cost of grader</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>334,000</b>	Balance FY26	54,267.01
* variable interest adjusted in report each year				<b>Balance FY27</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

## **BUDGET NARRATIVE – FY25**

### **GENERAL:**

**Salaries:** Salary increase for Clerk/Treasurer (2%) and Assistant Clerk/Treasurer (2.8%); Stipends for Selectboard, Animal Control Officer, Constable, Health Officer; Janitor rate @ \$16.00; Zoning Administrator-fees; Auditors and Listers \$15.50; Delinquent Tax Collector-8% fee.

**Health Insurance:** MVP Silver plan and HRA contribution.

**Meetings/Elections:** Cost for trainings, poll workers, board clerks.

**Office Expense:** NEMRC (financial software) annual support/backups; copier maintenance; VLCT dues; postage; town report printing; misc. supplies.

**Office/Library Building:** External monitoring of fire alarm system, heat, electricity, water, septic pump plus other general expenses.

**Sheriff Patrol:** Allocation for approx. coverage hours (130 hrs).

**Library Assessment:** Increase of assessment due to pilot program of an additional library clerk for 12 hrs./weekly for expanded outreach and programming.

**Tax Assessments:** Separate line for the Franklin County Court Assessment of \$17,005; \$11,395 for the following items which have been approved by the voters in each of the past three years and are included in the budget: Franklin County Industrial Development Corp \$300; Franklin County Home Health \$3,395; NW Unit for Special Investigations \$1,000; Voices Against Violence \$1,800; Franklin Alumni Association \$500; Northwest Counseling \$2,300; Age Well (C.V. Agency on Aging) \$1,600; Cat Crusaders \$500.

**Ambulance Services:** Third year of three-year contract with Enosburg Ambulance Service; \$43,036 for FY25. Applying ARPA funds of \$10,000 per year to decrease the cost to the town due to COVID driving the price increase of EAS to budget of \$33,036. Expires in FY25.

**Town Hall:** Utilities and operating expenses.

**Borrowed Fund Expense:** Interest for two current loans; grader & plow truck; new plow truck if approved by voters.

**Building Maintenance:** \$5,000 for town hall exterior painting; \$2,000 office/library LED lighting upgrade; \$4,500 for ball field mowing.

**Miscellaneous:** Generator maintenance/inspection \$200; tax map updates \$500; APEX listers software fees; advertising postings; plus other miscellaneous expenses.

**Reappraisal-reserve:** funds to conduct a reappraisal of the Grand List as ordered by the State.

### **HIGHWAY:**

**Salaries:** Salary increase for foreman (1.9%) and highway crew (2%) and an as needed, extra driver.

**Overtime Pay:** Based on 150 hours of overtime per year each employee.

**Health Insurance:** MVP Silver plan and HRA contribution.

**Chloride:** Dust control and use in truck sprayer for winter application; 6 loads at 4500 gal @ \$1.15/gal.

**Equipment Hired:** \$3,000 for roadside tree trimming, miscellaneous equipment needs.

**Blacktopping:** Resurface blacktopping of Riley Rd.

**Pavement Sealing:** To crack seal paved roads where needed.

**Sand:** Approximately 1600 yds @ \$6.25/yd.

**Salt:** Purchase of 220 tons @ \$91.00/ton.

**Building Maintenance:** Trash \$720; water \$550; septic pump \$900; furnace service \$200

**Repair & Maintenance:** General service & maintenance of equipment: Loader \$2,000; Grader \$2,000; Truck 1 (2021) \$5,000; Truck 2 (2016) \$10,000; Kubota tractor/snowblower \$1,200; Chloride tank/trailer \$800; plow equipment \$4,500; Miscellaneous \$4,500.

**Miscellaneous:** \$200 VT dam fee; \$100 tractor winter storage; \$1,100 misc. needs.

**Equipment Fund:** Increase for reserve account due to costs of replacing new equipment in the future.

**MUNICIPAL BUDGET EXPENSES - Page 1 of 3**

<b><u>GENERAL</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b> <b><u>FY23</u></b>	<b><u>Actual</u></b> <b><u>FY23</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b> <b><u>FY24</u></b>	<b><u>Anticipated</u></b> <b><u>FY24</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b> <b><u>FY25</u></b>
* Salaries	\$ 84,900.00	\$ 78,681.24	\$ 87,344.00	\$ 87,300.00	\$ 91,615.00
* Health Insurance/Reimbursements	21,034.00	22,399.23	23,580.00	23,500.00	25,212.00
FICA/MEDI	6,495.00	6,311.97	7,182.00	6,579.00	7,008.00
Pension	2,868.00	2,695.65	2,911.00	2,835.00	3,106.00
Emergency Dispatch	17,004.00	17,004.00	17,855.00	17,855.00	18,750.00
Fire Department	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Insurance	7,300.00	8,633.48	10,000.00	9,900.00	10,000.00
Legal Fees	3,000.00	1,687.36	3,000.00	2,300.00	3,000.00
* Meetings/Elections	3,500.00	2,487.00	2,100.00	2,100.00	4,500.00
Mileage Reimbursement	300.00	181.28	200.00	200.00	200.00
* Office Expense	12,900.00	15,307.00	14,300.00	14,300.00	15,000.00
Telephone	1,680.00	1,644.33	1,700.00	1,700.00	1,730.00
* Office/Library Building	6,500.00	7,594.63	8,200.00	8,000.00	7,200.00
Planning Commission	3,000.00	2,105.40	3,000.00	3,000.00	4,600.00
* Sheriff Patrol	7,400.00	-	7,700.00	7,700.00	7,800.00
Solid Waste	1,499.00	1,499.30	1,550.00	1,635.60	1,772.00
* Library Assessment	42,000.00	42,000.00	39,000.00	39,000.00	46,075.00
Street Lights	4,700.00	4,769.79	5,000.00	4,700.00	5,000.00
* Tax Assessments	11,395.00	11,395.00	11,395.00	11,395.00	11,395.00
Franklin County Court Assessment	14,000.00	13,995.34	16,468.00	16,468.00	17,005.00
* Ambulance Services	30,576.00	30,576.00	31,793.00	31,793.00	33,036.00
* Town Hall	4,400.00	4,726.85	5,800.00	5,800.00	5,800.00
* Borrowed Funds	2,500.00	4,844.97	9,026.00	7,037.95	8,220.00
* Building Maintenance	15,000.00	10,595.18	8,950.00	44,863.00	11,500.00
* Miscellaneous	2,100.00	5,043.08	2,700.00	2,700.00	2,700.00
* Reappraisal-reserve					10,000.00
Sidewalk Project	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Cemeteries	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Watershed Committee	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Lake Carmi Water Quality	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	-
Recreation Department	16,000.00	16,000.00	16,000.00	16,000.00	16,000.00
<b>Total General</b>	<b>\$ 363,051.00</b>	<b>\$ 353,178.08</b>	<b>\$ 377,754.00</b>	<b>\$ 409,661.55</b>	<b>\$ 399,224.00</b>

\* see narrative



**MUNICIPAL BUDGET EXPENSES - Page 2 of 3**

<b><u>HIGHWAY</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b> <b><u>FY23</u></b>	<b><u>Actual</u></b> <b><u>FY23</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b> <b><u>FY24</u></b>	<b><u>Anticipated</u></b> <b><u>FY24</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b> <b><u>FY25</u></b>
* Salaries	\$ 116,240.00	\$ 114,728.00	\$ 109,120.00	\$ 109,120.00	\$ 111,244.00
* Overtime Pay			15,452.00	15,452.00	15,756.00
* Health Insurance/Reimbursements	21,228.00	16,854.85	23,586.00	21,000.00	25,212.00
FICA/MEDI	8,892.00	8,776.68	9,530.00	9,525.00	9,715.00
Pension	5,712.00	5,711.41	6,129.00	6,125.00	6,250.00
Uniforms	3,200.00	4,221.67	3,680.00	3,900.00	4,050.00
* Chloride	23,000.00	24,767.90	24,300.00	24,300.00	30,000.00
Culverts	3,500.00	3,779.23	3,500.00	6,591.78	4,000.00
Equipment Rental	2,500.00	2,000.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
* Equipment Hired	6,500.00	5,096.00	6,500.00	7,191.59	6,500.00
Gas & Fuel	22,000.00	28,223.73	28,000.00	28,000.00	30,000.00
Gravel	30,000.00	42,457.47	35,000.00	35,000.00	35,000.00
General Roads Permit-VT requirement	1,350.00	1,765.00	2,200.00	2,200.00	2,200.00
Insurance	14,000.00	15,691.06	15,560.00	14,655.00	14,300.00
Mileage Reimbursement	2,300.00	1,116.43	2,000.00	1,600.00	2,000.00
Miscellaneous	2,000.00	4,551.05	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Grader purchase		3,500.00			
* Blacktopping	100,000.00	87,493.83	100,000.00	242,016.39	80,000.00
* Pavement Sealing	3,200.00	5,649.24	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
* Sand	12,000.00	7,308.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	10,000.00
* Salt	18,000.00	28,912.52	18,000.00	18,000.00	20,000.00
* Building Maintenance	3,500.00	3,221.13	13,000.00	13,000.00	3,000.00
Shop & Tools					
Electric	2,000.00	1,415.15	2,100.00	2,000.00	2,100.00
Fuel	2,000.00	3,364.53	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
Supplies	2,500.00	1,338.61	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
Telephone	1,250.00	1,097.94	1,300.00	1,300.00	1,300.00
Tools	2,000.00	1,877.26	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Road Signs Maintenance	1,100.00	2,320.35	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.00
* Repair & Maintenance	33,000.00	50,488.11	33,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00
* Equipment Fund	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	20,000.00
Better Roads grant		13,448.00	2,000.00	12,000.00	3,735.00
Grant-NRPC	2,000.00	9,214.99	2,000.00	2,147.85	2,000.00
<b>Total Highway</b>	<b>\$ 459,972.00</b>	<b>\$ 515,390.14</b>	<b>\$ 500,557.00</b>	<b>\$ 649,724.61</b>	<b>\$ 485,962.00</b>
* see narrative					

**MUNICIPAL BUDGET EXPENSES - Page 3 of 3**

**WEED HARVESTER**

	<b><u>Budget FY23</u></b>	<b><u>Actual FY23</u></b>	<b><u>Budget FY24</u></b>	<b><u>Anticipated FY24</u></b>	<b><u>Budget FY25</u></b>
Weed Harvester Operator	\$ 5,600.00	\$ 4,848.00	\$ 5,600.00	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 4,800.00
FICA/MEDI	430.00	370.84	430.00	160.65	367.00
Storage	250.00	-	350.00	400.00	400.00
Insurance	50.00	173.50	100.00	393.00	400.00
Repairs & Maintenance	500.00	1,332.26	1,000.00	800.00	1,000.00
New trailer		8,811.99	-	-	-
Mileage	50.00	43.88	50.00	50.00	50.00
Miscellaneous	200.00	535.15	400.00	400.00	500.00
<b>Total Weed Harvester</b>	<b>\$ 7,080.00</b>	<b>\$ 16,115.62</b>	<b>\$ 7,930.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,303.65</b>	<b>\$ 7,517.00</b>

**TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET**

**\$ 830,103.00      \$ 884,683.84      \$ 886,241.00      \$1,063,689.81      \$ 892,703.00**

**PRIOR YEARS VOTER APPROVED ARTICLES**

FY19 Art 13 Loader	\$ 16,709.48	\$ 16,694.51	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FY21 Art 4 Pidgeon Hill Grant Match	-	9,314.38	-	28,569.47	-
FY21 Art 7 Highway Plow Truck	28,521.29	28,543.44	29,006.00	29,006.15	29,499.00
FY23 Art IV & FY24-3 Franklin Homstd	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	-
FY23 Art V Road side mower	6,200.00	6,280.00	-	-	-
FY23 Art VII Grader - <b>ARPA Funds</b>	52,400.00	1,213.27	50,172.00	50,171.79	51,500.00
FY23 Art VI Recreation Shed - <b>ARPA</b>	25,000.00	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Prior Articles</b>	<b>\$ 133,830.77</b>	<b>\$ 67,045.60</b>	<b>\$ 84,178.00</b>	<b>\$ 112,747.41</b>	<b>\$ 80,999.00</b>

\* FY23 payments of \$77,000 made with ARPA funds for the Grader and Recreation Shed

**PROPOSED CURRENT YEAR ARTICLES**

FY25 Art 4 ~ 2025 Highway Plow Truck	\$ 47,600.00
FY25 Art 3 ~ Franklin Homestead	5,000.00
<b>Total Proposed Articles</b>	<b>52,600.00</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGETS/ARTICLES</b>	<b>\$ 963,933.77      \$ 951,729.44      \$ 970,419.00      \$1,176,437.22      \$1,026,302.00</b>

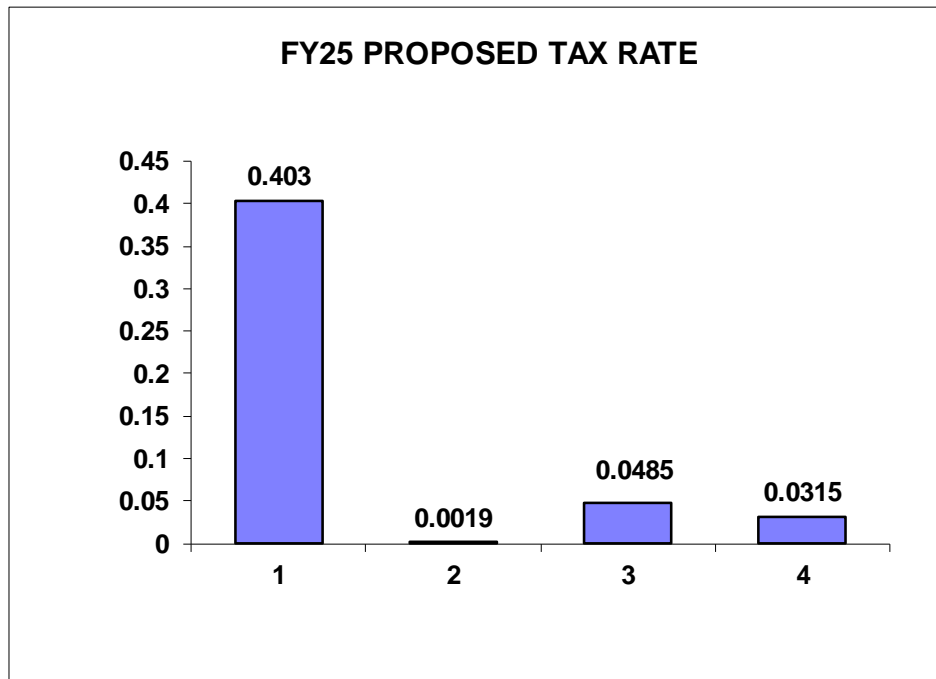
## MUNICIPAL PROJECTED REVENUES & ESTIMATED TAX RATES

PROJECTED REVENUES		FY24	FY25
<b><u>GENERAL</u></b>			
Interest	\$	5,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
Prior Year Unreserved Fund Balance		26,944.00	26,944.00
State of VT-Hold Harmless (35%)		16,000.00	16,000.00
State of VT-Variou		14,000.00	14,000.00
Permits		3,000.00	3,000.00
Fees		18,000.00	18,000.00
Town Hall Rental		1,000.00	1,500.00
Dog/Liquor Licenses		2,000.00	2,000.00
Other Income		1,000.00	1,000.00
<b><u>HIGHWAY</u></b>			
Prior Year Unreserved Fund Balance		12,916.00	12,916.00
State Aid to Highways		100,000.00	100,000.00
State of VT-Hold Harmless (65%)		30,000.00	30,000.00
Reserved Fund Balance (Articles)		(28,568.00)	(6,500.00)
Other Income		2,000.00	2,000.00
<b><u>WEED HARVESTER</u></b>			
Prior Year Unreserved Fund Balance		(8,868.00)	(8,868.00)
State of VT Grant		<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>
<b>Total Projected Revenue</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>196,424.00</b>	<b>\$ 221,992.00</b>
<b>PROPOSED EXPENSES</b>		<b>FY24</b>	<b>FY25</b>
Municipal Budget Proposal	\$	886,241.00	\$ 892,703.00
Veterans Exemptions		2,960.00	3,175.00
Articles Previously Approved		79,178.00	80,999.00
FY24/25 Article Requests		<u>5,000.00</u>	<u>52,600.00</u>
<b>Total Proposed Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>973,379.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,029,477.00</b>
TO BE RAISED BY TAXES	\$	718,385.00	\$ 670,711.00
ARTICLES TO BE RAISED		84,178.00	133,599.00
<b>PROJECTED TAX RATES</b>			
Municipal		0.4340	0.4030
Veterans Exemptions		0.0019	0.0019
Articles Previously Approved		0.0476	0.0485
FY25 Article Requests		<u>0.0030</u>	<u>0.0315</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>0.4865</b>	<b>0.4849</b>

## COMPARISON OF TAX RATES

					PROPOSED	
	FY23	FY23	FY24	FY24	FY25	FY25
	Resident	Non-Resident	Resident	Non-Resident	Resident	Non-Resident
Homestead Ed Tax-local/MVSD	1.3603		1.4804			
Non-Res Ed. Tax		1.6161		1.6607		
Municipal	0.3315	0.3315	0.4340	0.4340	0.403	0.403
Veterans Exemption	0.0018	0.0018	0.0019	0.0019	0.0019	0.0019
FY19 Art 13-Loader	0.0102	0.0102				
FY21 Art 7-Plow Truck	0.0174	0.0174	0.0174	0.0174	0.0175	0.0175
FY23/24 Art 2, FY25 Art 3-Homest	0.0031	0.0031	0.0030	0.0030	0.003	0.003
FY23 Art VI-Recreation Shed	ARPA	ARPA				
FY23 Art V-Road Side mower	0.0038	0.0038				
FY23 Art VII-Grader	ARPA	ARPA	0.0302	0.0302	0.031	0.031
FY25 Art 4- Plow Truck					0.0285	0.0285
TAX RATE	1.7281	1.9839	1.9669	2.1472	0.4849	0.4849

Education Grand List Totals	\$878,619	\$740,637	\$931,559	\$737,696	\$931,559	\$737,696
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- 1 - Municipal
- 2 - Veterans Exemption
- 3 - Previously Voted Articles
- 4 - Current Proposed Articles

**FY24 STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED**

<b>GRAND LIST:</b>			<b>Grand List Values</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>FY24 Assessed</b>
Homestead Ed Tax - MVSD			901,687.00	1.4804	1,334,857.42
Non-Residential Ed Tax			767,560.20	1.6607	1,274,687.29
Municipal			1,670,312.00	0.4340	724,914.67
Veteran's Exemption			1,670,312.00	0.0019	3,173.71
FY21 Article 7-Plow Truck			1,670,312.00	0.0174	29,063.58
FY23 Article IV-Fkln Homestead			1,670,312.00	0.0030	5,011.52
FY23 Article VII-Grader			1,670,312.00	0.0302	50,443.52
<b>Original to be Billed</b>					<b>\$ 3,422,151.71</b>
Net changes - HS-122, E&O, BCA & penalties					(4,900.63)
<b>Adjusted Total to be Billed</b>					<b>\$ 3,417,251.08</b>
<b>Tax Area</b>	<b>Tax Rate</b>	<b>Actual FY24 Billed</b>	<b>Adjustments</b>		<b>Adjusted amount billed</b>
Homestead Ed Tax-MVSD	1.4804	1,334,857.42	44,574.85		1,379,432.27
Non-Residential Ed Tax	1.6607	1,274,687.29	(49,595.15)		1,225,092.14
Municipal Tax	0.4340	724,914.67	106.74		725,021.41
Veteran's Exemption	0.0019	3,173.71	0.47		3,174.18
FY21 Article 7-Plow Truck	0.0174	29,063.58	4.30		29,067.88
FY23 Article IV-Fkln Homestead	0.0030	5,011.52	0.74		5,012.26
FY23 Article VII-Grader	0.0302	50,443.52	7.42		50,450.94
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 3,422,151.71</b>	<b>\$ (4,900.63)</b>		<b>\$ 3,417,251.08</b>

**TAXES COLLECTED/PAID BY TREASURER:**

Homestead Education Tax-MVSD	\$ 1,062,313.49
Non-Residential Education Tax	1,266,166.00
Municipal	629,277.31
Veteran's Exemptions	3,174.18
Article 7-Plow Truck	29,006.00
Article II-Fkln Homestead	5,000.00
Article VII-Grader	50,172.00
<b>Total Taxes Collected</b>	<b>\$ 3,045,108.98</b>
State Education Portion of Tax Credit Direct to School	\$ 278,292.88
Unreconciled State Education Portion Tax Credit	19,816.25
FY24 Tax overpayments refunded	(14,670.21)
FY25 Prepayments/Liability	(3,880.66)
Municipal portion of tax credits	1,587.00
To Tax Collector 2023	90,540.51
Late Current Use adjustment to be collected	456.33
<b>Total Taxes</b>	<b><u>\$ 3,417,251.08</u></b>

### DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

		<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021-18</u>
Delinquent 12/31/2022	\$ 23,222.90		\$ 11,727.11	\$11,495.79
To Tax Collector 10/17/2023	90,540.51	90,540.51		
Collected by Tax Collector	(84,801.24)	(77,291.90)	(7,489.50)	(19.84)
Abatements/Error & Omissions	-			
<b>TOTAL DELINQUENT 12/31/23</b>	<b>\$ <u>28,962.17</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>13,248.61</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>4,237.61</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>11,475.95</u></b>
<b>INTEREST PD-GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$ <u>1,664.98</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>1,249.34</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>413.24</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>2.40</u></b>

Respectfully submitted,  
*Johanna Crane-Godin*

### **POSTMARKS**

It is the policy of the Town of Franklin to **not accept postmarks** for the payment of property taxes. The payments are due in the Treasurer's office on or before the close of business on the date due.

An 8% penalty will be assessed one time; a 1% interest on unpaid balances will be assessed the first of every month until paid in full.

**SELECTBOARD'S ORDERS**

**GENERAL FUND**

**July - June FY23 Actuals**

**SALARIES:**

Selectboard	\$	5,500.00	
Town Clerk/Treasurer		31,850.00	
Assistant		18,566.50	
Substitute Clerk/Treasurer		3,243.75	
Auditors		2,155.46	
Listers		7,260.18	
Animal Control Officer		500.00	
Zoning Administrator		2,220.10	
Health Officer		750.00	
Janitorial		1,413.75	
<b>Total Salaries</b>			\$ 73,459.74

**FICA/MEDICARE:**

Community National-EFTPS			\$ 6,311.97
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**EMPLOYEE PENSION:**

Prudential Retirement			\$ 2,695.65
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**HEALTH INSURANCE:**

MVP Healthcare	\$	14,896.44	
Health Reimbursement Acct.		7,500.00	
United States Treasury-HRA fee		2.79	
<b>Total Health Insurance</b>			\$ 22,399.23

**AMBULANCE SERVICES:**

Enosburgh Ambulance			\$ 30,576.00
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**FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

Franklin Fire Department			\$ 20,000.00
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**EMERGENCY DISPATCH:**

St. Albans City Police			\$ 17,004.00
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**HASTON LIBRARY:**

Haston Library			\$ 42,000.00
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**INSURANCE:**

Vermont League of Cities & Towns/Property & Casualty			\$ 8,633.48
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**LEGAL FEES:**

Stitzel, Page & Fletcher			\$ 1,687.36
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**MEETINGS/ELECTIONS:**

Alyson Racine	\$	50.00	
Caleb Ploof		50.00	
Celina Beauregard		50.00	
Corinna Stanley		50.00	
Dawn Fournier		238.00	
Franklin General Store		127.00	
Johanna Godin		50.00	
Kali Favreau-Ward		50.00	
Melissa Richard		100.00	
Monica Kelley		50.00	
Naomi Maynard		50.00	
Paula Tremblay		100.00	
Pam Greene		100.00	
Paulette Tatro		100.00	
Card Service Center		25.00	
Lisa A. Larivee - Selectboard Secretary		1,025.00	
Vermont League of Cities & Towns		217.00	
Vermont Municipal Clerk & Treasurers Assoc.		55.00	
<b>Total Meetings/Elections</b>			\$ 2,487.00

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

Apex Listers Software	\$	195.00	
Dave Bennion - reimbursement		82.50	
Green Up Vermont		100.00	
Green's Ace Hardware		19.18	
Haston Library - town meeting lunch		40.00	
JD Design - town signs		4,115.00	
Sam Gervais - reimbursement		109.90	
St. Albans Messenger		381.50	
<b>Total Miscellaneous</b>			\$ 5,043.08

**OFFICE EXPENSE:**

Amazon	\$	350.27
Card Services-Notary Stamp		26.38
Forms.Com - checks		82.10
Green's Ace Hardware		25.35
Google.com - website domain		12.00
Harland~deposit slips		81.26
J.P. Cooke Co.		125.75
McAfee Virus Protection		119.24
NEMRC - computer services		7,369.59
SymQuest Group Inc.		632.45
U.S. Postal Service		1,750.65
Vermont Dept of Vital Records		38.00
Vermont League of Cities & Towns		2,801.00



**OFFICE EXPENSE CONT:**

Vermont Offender Work Program	\$	1,483.88	
Walmart		197.34	
W.B. Mason		61.84	
Zoom Membership		149.90	
<b>Total Office Expense</b>			\$ 15,307.00

**TELEPHONE:**

Franklin Telephone Co. Inc.			\$ 1,644.33
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**OFFICE/LIBRARY BUILDING:**

Amazon	\$	48.43	
D&M Fire & Safety Equipment		81.62	
Franklin Water District		450.00	
Green's Ace Hardware		4.49	
H.G. Berger & Sons, Inc.		2,824.80	
Lisa Larivee - reimbursement		13.97	
Mercy's Heating Service		1,147.00	
Summit Fire & Security		532.00	
Vermont Electric Cooperative		2,319.36	
Vermont Elevator Inspection		150.00	
Walmart		22.96	
<b>Total Office/Library Building</b>			\$ 7,594.63

**MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT:**

Jean Richard	\$	2.62	
Lisa Larivee		13.10	
Michaela Bushey		34.72	
Sara Rainville		5.85	
Paulette Tatro		119.75	
Wendy Sargeant		5.24	
<b>Total Mileage Reimbursement</b>			\$ 181.28

**PLANNING COMMISSION:**

Secretary	\$	350.00	
Northwest Regional Planning Commission		1,527.00	
St. Albans Messenger		228.40	
<b>Total Planning Commission</b>			\$ 2,105.40

**RECREATION DEPARTMENT:**

Franklin Recreation			\$ 16,000.00
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**SHERIFF PATROL:**

Franklin County Sheriff Department - no coverage charged			\$ -
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**SOLID WASTE:**

Northwest Solid Waste District			\$ 1,499.30
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**STREET LIGHTS:**

Vermont Electric Cooperative	\$	4,769.79
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**TAX ASSESSMENTS:**

Franklin County Treasurer	\$	13,995.34	
Age Well		1,600.00	
Cat Crusaders		500.00	
Franklin Alumni Association		500.00	
Franklin County Industrial Dev.		300.00	
Franklin County Home Health		3,395.00	
Northwestern Counseling & Support Services		2,300.00	
Northwest Unit For Special Investigation		1,000.00	
Voices Against Violence		1,800.00	
<b>Total Tax Assessments</b>			\$ 25,390.34

**TOWN HALL:**

Amazon	\$	44.48	
D&M Fire & Safety Equipment		12.00	
Franklin Water District		450.00	
Green's Ace Hardware		9.88	
Hemond's Plumbing & Heating		238.00	
H.G. Berger & Sons Inc.		2,623.20	
Mercy's Heating Service		260.00	
Vermont Electric Cooperative		1,051.40	
Walmart		37.89	
<b>Total Town Hall</b>			\$ 4,726.85

**DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR:**

	\$	5,221.50
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**WATERSHED COMMITTEE:**

	\$	5,000.00
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**BORROWED FUNDS:**

Community National Bank	\$	2,334.08	
People's Trust Co		2,510.89	
<b>Total Borrowed Funds</b>			\$ 4,844.97

**BUILDING MAINTENANCE:**

Kelley Bros - Town hall door latch	\$	955.93	
Slate Affair-Library roof repair		1,650.00	
Gregory Machia-mowing recreation fields		2,214.25	
Stove & Flagworks - pole		735.00	
Weed Sash & Door - Town hall storm windows		5,040.00	
<b>Total Building Maintenance</b>			\$ 10,595.18

**FRANKLIN HOMESTEAD:**

	\$	5,000.00
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**LAKE CARMI WATER QUALITY:**

	\$	10,000.00
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<b>TOTAL ORDERS - General Fund</b>			<b><u>\$ 352,178.08</u></b>
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**RESERVE ACCOUNTS ORDERS PAID**

**SURCHARGE RECORD RESTORATION:**

Kofile Preservation	\$ 1,643.13
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**COMPUTERIZATION:**

NEMRC - land record portal	\$ 1,200.00
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<b>TOTAL RESERVE ACCOUNTS ORDERS PAID</b>	<b><u>\$ 2,843.13</u></b>
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**SUMMARY OF GENERAL FUND ORDERS**

Salaries	\$ 73,459.74
FICA/Medicare	6,311.97
Employee Pension	2,695.65
Health Insurance	22,399.23
Ambulance Services	30,576.00
Fire Department	20,000.00
Emergency Dispatch	17,004.00
Haston Library	42,000.00
Insurance	8,633.48
Legal Fees	1,687.36
Meetings/Elections	2,487.00
Mileage Reimbursement	181.28
Miscellaneous	5,043.08
Office Expense	15,307.00
Telephone	1,644.33
Office/Library Building	7,594.63
Planning Commission	2,105.40
Recreation Department	16,000.00
Sheriff Patrol	-
Solid Waste	1,499.30
Street Lights	4,769.79
Tax Assessments	25,390.34
Town Hall	4,726.85
Delinquent Tax Collector	5,221.50
Watershed Commission	5,000.00
Borrowed Funds	4,844.97
Building Maintenance	10,595.18
Lake Carmi Water Quality	10,000.00
Franklin Homestead	5,000.00
<b>Total Selectboard Orders - General Fund</b>	<b><u>\$ 352,178.08</u></b>

**SELECTBOARD'S ORDERS**

**HIGHWAY FUND**

**July - June FY23 Actuals**

**SALARIES:**

Road Foreman	\$	61,707.00	
Highway Crew		52,521.00	
Road Commissioner		500.00	
<b>Total Salaries</b>	\$		114,728.00

**FICA/MEDICARE:**

Community National/EFTPS	\$		8,776.68
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**EMPLOYEE PENSION:**

Prudential Retirement	\$		5,711.41
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**HEALTH INSURANCE:**

MVP Healthcare	\$	14,349.27	
Health Reimbursement Acct.		2,500.00	
United States Treasury - HRA fee		5.58	
<b>Total Health Insurance</b>	\$		16,854.85

**UNIFORMS:**

Unifirst Corp	\$	3,945.50	
O.C. McCuin & Sons		152.96	
Timothy Fournier-reimbursement		123.21	
<b>Total Uniforms:</b>	\$		4,221.67

**CHLORIDE:**

Gorman Brothers Inc.	\$		24,767.90
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**CULVERTS:**

F.W. Webb	\$	2,036.83	
O.C. McCuin & Sons		1,742.40	
<b>Total Culverts</b>	\$		3,779.23

**EQUIPMENT RENTAL:**

Border View Farm	\$		2,000.00
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**EQUIPMENT HIRED:**

A&D Excavating LLC	\$	305.00	
Bradshaw Enterprises Inc.		600.00	
Cold Hollow Tree Experts		3,650.00	
Endless Tracks LLC		496.00	
MMT Lawncare		45.00	
<b>Total Equipment Hired</b>	\$		5,096.00

**GAS & FUEL:**

Allegiance Trucks	\$ 701.25	
H.G. Berger & Sons Inc.	27,522.48	
<b>Total Gas &amp; Fuel</b>		\$ 28,223.73

**GENERAL ROADS PERMIT:**

State of VT - ANR		\$ 1,765.00
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**GRAVEL:**

Leach Family Inc.	\$ 25,261.00	
Shelburne Limestone Corporation	17,196.47	
<b>Total Gravel</b>		\$ 42,457.47

**INSURANCE:**

Vermont League of Cities & Towns/Property & Casualty		\$ 15,691.06
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**MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT:**

Jeremy Barnum	\$ 1,116.43	
<b>Total Mileage Reimbursement</b>		\$ 1,116.43

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

Card Service Center	\$ 35.78	
Casella Waste Management	178.45	
Econo Signs, LLC	571.60	
Green's Ace Hardware	464.15	
O.C. McCuin & Sons	69.28	
Sam Gervais	109.90	
S.D. Ireland Concrete Company	313.00	
St. Albans Messenger	600.00	
State of Vermont - ANR - Dam	200.00	
Town of Franklin Equipment fund - Grader	500.00	
Tru-line Painters	1,500.00	
United Construction & Equipment	3,500.00	
W.B. Mason	8.89	
<b>Total Miscellaneous</b>		\$ 8,051.05

**BLACKTOPPING/PAVEMENT SEALING:**

Pike Industries	\$ 87,493.83	
Freshcoat Sealcoating	4,500.00	
Demag's Seal Coating - Fire Dept lot	1,149.24	
<b>Total Blacktopping</b>		\$ 93,143.07

**REPAIR & MAINTENANCE:**

Allegiance Trucks	\$ 36,656.89	
B & N Sales & Service	858.95	
Beauregard Equipment	782.57	

**REPAIR & MAINTENANCE CONT:**

Certified Laboratories	\$	528.02	
Chappell Tractor		492.72	
Cives Corporation		4,919.03	
Champlain Valley Equipment		796.53	
Fleetpride Inc.		671.05	
Franklin Rental/Sales		86.97	
George S. Woods Inc.		591.95	
NAPA Auto Parts		934.36	
New England Truck Tire		2,759.33	
O.C. McCuin & Sons		70.36	
Rene J. Fournier		42.00	
Vaillancourt Repair LLC		297.38	
<b>Total Repair &amp; Maintenance</b>			\$ 50,488.11

**SHOP & TOOLS:**

Allegiance Trucks	\$	477.51	
Amazon		74.44	
Atco International		159.95	
Certified Laboratories		530.95	
Franklin General Store		19.17	
Franklin Telephone Co. Inc.		1,097.94	
Green's Ace Hardware		189.69	
Haun Welding		361.35	
H.G. Berger & Sons Inc.		3,364.53	
Kimball Midwest		143.88	
Napa Auto Parts		666.28	
O.C. McCuin & Sons		252.12	
Tools Plus Industries		293.96	
Unifirst - gloves		46.57	
Vermont Electric Cooperative		1,415.15	
<b>Total Shop &amp; Tools</b>			\$ 9,093.49

**SALT & SAND:**

Cargill, Inc. Salt Division	\$	28,912.52	
Leach Family Inc.		7,308.00	
<b>Total Sand/Salt</b>			\$ 36,220.52

**BUILDING MAINTENANCE:**

Blue Collar Septic	\$	1,556.00	
D&M Fire Safety		74.38	
Franklin Water Dist		450.00	
Green's Ace Hardware		45.26	
Mercy's Heating Service		366.00	
O.C. McCuin & Sons		9.49	
Wetherby's Trash Removal		720.00	
<b>Total Building Maintenance</b>			\$ 3,221.13

**ROAD SIGN MAINTENANCE:**

Britch & Sons Welding	\$	24.00	
Econo Signs LLC		1,568.61	
Lafayette		676.00	
O.C. McCuin & Sons		51.74	
<b>Road Sign Maintenance</b>	\$		2,320.35

**LOADER PAYMENT:**

Community National Bank	\$		16,694.51
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**2021 TRUCK PAYMENT:**

Community National Bank	\$		28,543.44
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**ROAD SIDE MOWER**

Champlain Valley Equipment	\$		6,280.00
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**GRADER PAYMENT:**

Peoples Trust Co	\$		1,213.27
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**BETTER ROADS GRANT:**

A&D Excavating LLC	\$	7,190.00	
ANR - permit fee		155.00	
Leach Family, Inc.		5,103.00	
Northwest Regional Planning Commission		1,000.00	
<b>Better Roads Grant</b>	\$		13,448.00

**GRANTS-IN-AID ~ EROSION CONTROL:**

A&D Excavation LLC	\$	3,245.00	
Kirk Artus		1,000.00	
Ledge Tech Drilling and Blasting		4,500.00	
O.C. McCuin & Sons		469.99	
<b>Total Grants-NRPC</b>	\$		9,214.99

**GRANT - RTE 236 CULVERT:**

Ruggiano Engineering Inc.	\$		7,500.00
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**GRANT - PIDGEON HILL RD CULVERT:**

Ruggiano Engineering Inc	\$	3,317.29	
Northwest Regional Planning Commission		5,557.09	
Stitzel, Page & Fletcher		440.00	
<b>Total Grant - Pidgeon Hill Rd Culvert</b>	\$		9,314.38

**EQUIPMENT FUND:**

Town of Franklin Assessment	\$		15,000.00
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<b>TOTAL ORDERS - Highway Fund</b>	<b>\$</b>		<b><u>584,935.74</u></b>
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**SUMMARY OF HIGHWAY FUND**

Salaries	\$ 114,728.00
FICA/Medicare	8,776.68
Employee Pension	5,711.41
Health Insurance	16,854.85
Uniforms	4,221.67
Chloride	24,767.90
Culverts	3,779.23
Equipment Rental	2,000.00
Equipment Hired	5,096.00
Gas & Fuel	28,223.73
General Roads Permit	1,765.00
Gravel	42,457.47
Insurance	15,691.06
Mileage Reimbursement	1,116.43
Miscellaneous	8,051.05
Blacktopping	93,143.07
Repair & Maintenance	50,488.11
Shop & Tools	9,093.49
Building Maintenance	3,221.13
Sand/Salt	36,220.52
Road Sign Maintenance	2,320.35
Loader Payment	16,694.51
New Truck-2021 International	28,543.44
Road Side Mower	6,280.00
Grader payment	1,213.27
Better Roads Grant	13,448.00
Grants - NRPC	9,214.99
Grant - Pidgeon Hill Rd Culvert	9,314.38
Grant - Rte 236 Culvert	7,500.00
Equipment Fund	15,000.00
<b>Total Selectboard Orders - Highway</b>	<b><u>\$ 584,935.74</u></b>

**SUMMARY OF WEED HARVESTER FUND**

Operator Salaries/payroll taxes	\$ 5,218.84
Mileage	64.84
Andy Bonneau Machinery	43.20
Britch & Sons Welding	7,512.96
Champlain Valley Equipment	112.90
Fridayparts Limited	216.00
Matt Williams	119.95
O.C. McCuin & Sons	108.31
Rene J. Fournier	1,868.34
Robert's Diesel Works	286.80
Tractor Supply Co.	389.98
Vermont League of Cities & Towns - Ins.	173.50
<b>Total Selectboard Orders-Weed Harvester</b>	<b><u>\$ 16,115.62</u></b>

Respectfully submitted,  
*David Bennion, Chair, Brooks Sturtevant,*  
*Andrew Godin, Justin Rainville, Sam Gervais*





## Franklin Volunteer Fire Department



**P.O. Box 172  
Franklin, VT 05457**

2023 was another busy year. Call volume continues to remain higher than usual. Our members also participated in several multi agency trainings with neighboring departments such as search & rescue, vehicle extrication and radio systems understanding/use.

As we look back at the calls over the last couple of years it is apparent that motor vehicle crashes are the leading type of call we respond to. We encourage everyone to drive safe, wear your seat belt, and always watch out for other drivers. Many of the crashes we responded to had the potential of being much worse.

We also responded to 7 wildland fires in 2023. Most of these were completely preventable. Please exercise caution when burning outdoors.

We are a completely volunteer team and we are always looking for new members. If you have an interest in helping your fellow community members in their time of need, please speak with a firefighter, stop by the station on Monday evenings or call Mike Lawyer at 285-6520 to learn more.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Michael Lawyer, Fire Chief*

2023 Fire Calls	
Type of Call	# of Calls
Alarm Activation	6
Fire - Other	2
Med Assist	7
Person in Distress	1
Structure Fire	5
Vehicle Crash	11
Vehicle Fire	2
Wildland Fire	7
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>41</b>

***Dates to remember:  
July 6, 2024 from 11 am-1 pm  
Chicken BBQ***

Member	Rank	Years of Service
Mike Lawyer	Chief	20
Justin Rainville	Asst. Chief	25
Brian Paradis	Captain	6
Curtis Ploof	Lieutenant	7
Sara Rainville	Firefighter -Sec/Treas	20
Brian Barnum	Firefighter	54
Phil Bouchard	Firefighter	54
Scott Choiniere	Firefighter	31
Bill Deuso	Firefighter	7
Howard Deuso	Firefighter	27
Sam Gervais	Firefighter	2
Clark Hubbard	Firefighter	21

Member	Rank	Years of Service
Adam Kane	Firefighter	13
Tim Magnant	Firefighter	45
Burt Maynard	Firefighter	34
Janet Norcross	Firefighter	20
Marshall Ploof	Firefighter	54
Mark Racine	Firefighter	34
Nora Racine	Firefighter	7
Brian Sartwell	Firefighter	30
Justin Sartwell	Firefighter	16
Robbie White	Firefighter	1
Jarrett Beauregard	Firefighter	3
Caleb Ploof	Firefighter	3

Hugh Gates    Honorary Member  
Kyle Lothian    Honorary Member

**FRANKLIN FIRE DEPARTMENT**

	<b><u>2023 Budget</u></b>	<b><u>2023 Actual</u></b>	<b><u>2024 Budget</u></b>
<b>Cash Balance - January 1, 2023</b>			
Checking Account		\$ 38,490.60	
Equipment Fund		25,000.00	
Trust Account		82,957.19	
		<b>\$ 146,447.79</b>	
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>			
Interest Income	\$ 50.00	\$ 331.80	\$ -
Memorial Income		1,290.00	
Miscellaneous Income	200.00	279.81	200.00
Donation Income	250.00	420.00	250.00
Town Appropriated Funds	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Calcutta Income			15,750.00
BBQ Income	12,000.00	15,123.03	9,000.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>32,500.00</b>	<b>37,444.64</b>	<b>45,200.00</b>
<b>Total Cash/Income</b>	<b>\$ 32,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 183,892.43</b>	<b>\$ 45,200.00</b>
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>			
Truck	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 6,306.43	\$ 4,000.00
Fuel - equipment/trucks	600.00	322.76	500.00
Training	2,000.00	140.00	150.00
Fire Prevention/Education	200.00		200.00
Insurance	4,008.00	4,006.00	4,076.00
Office	1,500.00	403.69	1,500.00
Radio	2,300.00	327.50	1,500.00
Postage	100.00	66.00	100.00
Utilities	1,500.00	1,308.85	1,500.00
Uniform/Gear	10,000.00	1,247.42	14,000.00
Equipment/tool Purchases	4,000.00	1,363.50	1,500.00
Equipment Maint	3,000.00	1,925.36	4,500.00
Memberships/Dues	600.00	509.00	600.00
Water Rent	450.00	500.00	650.00
Donation	200.00	155.00	200.00
Fuel - Heating	3,500.00	2,082.09	3,000.00
Miscellaneous	1,500.00	2,415.06	1,500.00
BBQ	5,500.00	7,386.03	4,800.00
Calcutta		168.30	10,590.00
Building Maintainance	1,000.00	718.87	1,000.00
Vending Machine	200.00	374.79	300.00
County Meeting	100.00		150.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 46,258.00</b>	<b>\$ 31,726.65</b>	<b>\$ 56,316.00</b>
<b>Cash Balance December 31, 2023</b>			
Checking Account		\$ 43,882.68	
Equipment Fund		25,000.00	
Trust Account		33,283.10	
CD		50,000.00	
<b>Total Cash/Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 183,892.43</b>	

Respectfully submitted,  
Sara Rainville

## **2023 VITAL STATISTICS**

As a recommendation by the Department of Health, vital statistics are no longer automatically published in the Town Report. The following list is provided as a result of a release form, signed, authorizing the Town Clerk's Office to publish such records.

If you would like vital statistic information published in the town report next year, you must come to the Town Clerk's Office to sign the necessary request/release form.

### **Births**

Ava Marie Capsey  
Beckett Allen Hall

3 Female and 8 Males Unlisted

### **Deaths**

Roger Harrison Wright  
Nancy Beth Stanley Magnant  
Normand Harvey Blouin  
Alan Byron Jones  
Gilbert Adolphus Dewing  
Loren Stuart Lothian  
David George Fox  
Marc Wayne Mullen  
Joan Jean O'Brien  
Marjorie Campbell Shaw  
Pamela Jane Greene  
Walter Walker Barnum  
Joseph Erasmus Craig Jr.  
Monique Jeannine Rainville  
Sandra Phyllis Lewis  
Anne Marie Desroches

Unlisted: 7

### **Marriages**

Joey Bishop & Danielle Messier  
Kraig McFadden & Allison Huang

Unlisted: 7

## **NOTES OF INTEREST**

### **TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE HOURS**

Monday, Tuesday & Friday.....8:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Thursday.....8:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Wednesday..... CLOSED

The office is open during the lunch hour. As always, if necessary, the clerk is available by appointment. Please call 285-2101 to schedule an appointment.

Website: [www.franklinvermont.org](http://www.franklinvermont.org)

Email: [townoff@franklinvt.net](mailto:townoff@franklinvt.net)

Join us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TownofFranklinVT>

### **HASTON LIBRARY HOURS**

Monday.....10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Tuesday.....1:00 pm - 6:00 pm  
Wednesday.....CLOSED  
Thursday.....9:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Friday.....9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Saturday.....9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Visit our website: [franklinhastonlibraryvt.org](http://franklinhastonlibraryvt.org)

Email: [librarian@franklinhastonlibraryvt.org](mailto:librarian@franklinhastonlibraryvt.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HastonLibrary>

### **MISSISQUOI VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT (MVSD) DIRECTOR'S MEETING**

For further information go to the [MVSDschools.org](http://MVSDschools.org) website

### **DOG LICENSES**

**Due by April 1, 2024**

Any dog six months of age and over must be licensed at the Town Clerk's Office and must show proof of current rabies vaccination at that time.

### **VEHICLE REGISTRATION RENEWALS**

The Town Clerk's Office will process preprinted computer generated "Vehicle Registration Renewals". Only current and up to two month's expiration date renewals will be accepted. There will be a separate \$3.00 processing fee.

### **PERMISSION TO BURN (REQUIRED)**

Contact Burt Maynard, Town Fire Warden at 285-2220 for a permit.

### **GREEN MOUNTAIN PASSPORTS**

Forms are available at the Town Clerk's Office for all residents over the age of 62.

Requires a \$2.00 lifetime fee.

Passport provides free day-use entry to all State Parks and most State sponsored events.

## **VOTER REGISTRATION**

The Secretary of State has streamlined the elections administration process, providing voters with greater access to voter specific information.

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

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

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

Registered Voters can log in at: <http://mvp.sec.state.vt.us>

Online registration can be found at: <http://olvr.sec.state.vt.us>

## **PROPERTY TAXES**

**Proposed property tax due date; as warned – October 15, 2024 by 4:00 p.m.**

**NOTICE: Current policy states – All tax payments must be received by close of business on the due date or they will be considered delinquent. Postmarked envelopes received after the due date will be considered delinquent and assessed a one-time 8% fee plus 1% interest monthly.**

## **BUILDING PERMITS & SEPTIC DESIGN**

Building applications and permits are necessary if you are doing construction of more than fifty square feet **or if you are changing the use.** Forms are available at the Town Clerk's Office, Town's website or [franklinzoningadmin@franklinvt.net](mailto:franklinzoningadmin@franklinvt.net). Permits for septic systems and potable water systems are obtained through the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. For more information contact the District Office in Essex Junction at 1-802-879-5656 or log on to [www.anr.state.vt.us/dec](http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec).

## **OFFICIAL NOTICES**

Posted on the Town Website and Town Facebook page,  
Hearings also published in St. Albans Messenger

## **FRANKLIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**The Franklin Historical Society has “A History of Franklin 1789-1989” books available for sale for \$20. Please contact the Town Clerk or Haston Library to purchase your copy.** The Historical Society is working to expand hours and visibility at the log cabin location on Hanna Road. They are also looking for volunteers; if you are interested please contact David Bennion at 295-6523.

### **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

Franklin Fire Department .....	911
Medical Emergency .....	911
Franklin Fire and Rescue- <b>Non-Emergency</b> .....	285-2050
Vermont State Police .....	524-5993
Franklin County Sheriff's Office .....	524-2121
Northwestern Medical Center .....	524-5911
Poison Control Center .....	658-3456
Vermont Game Warden .....	524-5993
U. S. Border Patrol .....	868-3229

### **TOWN OFFICES**

Town Clerk & Treasurer .....	285-2101
Haston Library .....	285-6505
Selectboard Chair .....	285-2101
MVSD Superintendent .....	868-4967
Zoning Administrator, Wendy Sargeant .....	285-2101
Health Officer, David Bennion .....	285-6523
Animal Control Officer, Dennis Demar .....	285-6556
Town Garage .....	285-2180
Road Commissioner .....	285-2101

### **SCHOOLS**

Franklin Elementary School .....	285-2100
Missisquoi Valley Union (MVU) H.S. ....	868-7311
Missisquoi Valley School District (MVSD) .....	868-4967

### **FRANKLIN DISTRICT 5 REPRESENTATIVES**

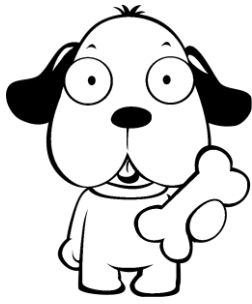
Wayne Laroche .....	802-828-2228
Lisa Hango .....	802-828-2228
Representatives # in Montpelier .....	800-322-5616

### **FRANKLIN DISTRICT SENATORS**

Robert Norris .....	802-828-2228
Randy Brock .....	802-868-2300

### **LAKE CARMi CAMPERS' ASSOCIATION**

Peter Benevento, President .....	285-6744
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## IMPORTANT DATES 2024

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- ❑ March 5, 2024 - **FLOOR VOTE** Town Meeting for town business @ **Town Hall, 5336 Main St, 10:00 am.**  
**Australian Ballot voting** - Polls open from **7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.** for Missisquoi Valley School District and **Presidential Primary** @ Town Hall.
- ❑ April 1, 2024 - *Dog Licenses* - Dogs are due to be registered by this date; proof of rabies and spayed/neutered certificates must be provided for dogs 6 months of age and older at the time of registration.  
**\*\*\$13 spayed/neutered & \$17 unaltered dog\*\***
- ❑ May & September 2024 - *Metal Dumpster* at the Town Garage is available for use by all Franklin residents/taxpayers
- ❑ October 15, 2024 - *Property Taxes* are **due** by 4:00 p.m. (upon voter approval)

The Franklin Selectboard meetings vary every other month at the Town Clerk's Office or virtually

- January, March, May, July, September, November - 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday @ 6:00
  - February, April, June, August, October, December - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday @ 6:00 p.m.
- Check schedule on website.

The Franklin Planning Commission monthly meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Clerk's Office & virtually.

The Franklin Water Commission quarterly or as needed meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Clerk's Office.

For questions on any of the above events, please call the Town Clerk's Office at (802)285-2101 or email; [townoff@franklinvt.net](mailto:townoff@franklinvt.net).



## 2023 Annual Report

The NWCUD dba Northwest Fiberworx was officially formed on August 3, 2020. The NWCUD is a municipal body consisting of representatives from Northwest Vermont municipalities for the purposes of building communication infrastructure.

As of January 2024, the NWCUD represents 22 Northwest municipalities: Alburgh, Bakersfield, Berkshire, Enosburgh, Fairfield, Franklin, Fairfax, Georgia, Grand Isle, Highgate, Isle la Motte, Milton, Montgomery, North Hero, Richford, Saint Albans Town, Sheldon, South Hero, Swanton, Village of Alburgh, Village of Enosburg Falls and Village of Swanton.

The mission of the NWCUD, as adopted by the Board of Representatives, is: "Leverage partnerships and procure funding to connect Northwestern Vermont via Open Access Fiber to ensure opportunity for all homes and businesses in our region."

## 2023 Highlights

### *ISP Partnership*

We reached a milestone agreement with the Biddeford Internet Corporation, d/b/a Great Works Internet Vermont (GWI VT), paving the way for our communities to access a robust, reliable, and affordable fiber internet network. Under the agreement, NWCUD will construct, own, maintain, and operate an "open access" fiber optic cable network and associated equipment and facilities. GWI VT will license the network from NWCUD and deliver services.

### *Fiber Acquisition*

We doubled our fiber optic cable supply by taking advantage of a unique opportunity from a neighboring CUD. This came at no cost to NWCUD and further prepared us for materials needed for Phase 1 of construction.

### *Model & Design Refinement*

In preparation for Phase 1 of construction and our grant application for the VCBB Construction Grant Program, joint efforts with GWI are underway to prepare us for our next steps. A financial model/plan is currently in its final stages, and a refinement of the High-Level Design completed earlier this year is in progress. We are working quickly through these steps and anticipate construction to begin in 2024.





## Budget Snapshot

This year, the NWCUD received \$1,805,908 in grants from the VT Community Broadband Board (H360) to support broadband expansion and capacity building.

The NWCUD 2024 budget of \$18 million includes capital and operational expenses which include integral line items.

Totals	FY 2023 Est. Actuals	FY2024 Budget
TOTAL CAPEX	\$ 1,405,339	\$ 17,546,000
TOTAL OPEX	\$ 500,864	\$ 556,600
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 1,906,202	\$ 18,102,600
Net Income	\$ 47,454	\$ -
Net Cash	\$ 47,454	\$ -

## Cost to Towns

The NWFX model does not require any money—\$0 (zero) dollars—from the Member Towns and Villages (no taxpayer dollars). A CUD may not accept funds generated by taxation from a town, nor can it levy any taxes or obligate the town in any debt. The network buildout and operation will be funded via ISP lease payments, Federal and State grants, and a possible nominal “subscriber surcharge.”

## Contact NWFX

Email - [info@nwcud.com](mailto:info@nwcud.com)

Phone – 802-489-7685

Website – [Northwest Fiberworx - Home \(nwfiberworx.com\)](https://nwfiberworx.com)

Sign-up for "The Worx Newsletter" here: <https://tinyurl.com/mvnm86bn>

## NOTES

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