



Town of East Montpelier, Vermont *173rd Annual Report*



**Reports of Town Officers
July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022**





TOWN OFFICES at 40 Kelton Road
Phone: 802-223-3313 • Fax: 802-223-4467
<https://eastmontpeliervt.org>

Mailing address: P.O. Box 157, East Montpelier, VT 05651

Monday – Thursday 9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Friday 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 NOON

Closed on official holidays.

Town Clerk: Rosie Laquerre – ext.201

email: clerk@eastmontpeliervt.org

Town Treasurer; Tax Collector: Michele Pallas – ext.207

email: treasurer@eastmontpeliervt.org

Town Administrator: Gina Jenkins – ext.204

email: manager@eastmontpeliervt.org

Zoning Administrator:

Tyson Brown – ext.205 or 802-222-6126

email: zoning@eastmontpeliervt.org

Listers’ Office: ext.206

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 10 :00 A.M. – 12:00 NOON

Ross Hazel, Chris Racanelli, Deborah Fillion

email: listeners@eastmontpeliervt.org

OTHER IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Emergency: Medical, Fire, Police	911
East Montpelier Fire Dept. (Fire or Ambulance Call).....	911
East Mont. Fire Dept. (Non-emergency Calls)	802-225-6245, 225-6247
State Police (Non-emergency Calls).....	802-229-9191
Fire Warden	Ty Rolland 802-229-1153
Permits for Fireworks & Open Burning	802-225-6247
Town Garage	Guthrie Perry 802-223-5870
Town Constable	Jon Boucher 802-917-4855
Elementary School	802-223-7936
U-32 Middle & High School	802-229-0321
Washington Central Unified Union School District	802-229-0553
State Rep. Ela Chapin	echapin@leg.state.vt.us 802-828-2228
Animal Control Officer	Carl Etnier 802-552-4343
Town Health Officer	Ginny Burley 802-272-4045
Truant Officer	Alicia Lyford 802-223-7936
Town Service Officer	Rachael Grossman 802-223-3177

~ FRONT COVER ~

*Neighbors on Horn of the Moon Road green up their stretch of the roadside.
For more Green Up Day photos, see page 37. Photo © Deborah Fillion*



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In Appreciation

We, the townspeople of East Montpelier, thank the following citizens for their years of public service as town officials. Many of the people listed here have served, or continue to serve, in other town offices as well. We appreciate their contributions to our community.

- Bruce Johnson Town Administrator, Zoning Administrator, Collector of Delinquent Taxes, E-911 Coordinator, Road Commissioner
- Don Welch Town Treasurer, Collector of Current Taxes
- Denise Sparrow Municipal Assistant, Assistant Town Clerk, Assistant Town Treasurer
- Jessica Adam Municipal Assistant, Assistant Town Clerk, Assistant Town Treasurer
- Julie Potter Planning Commission
- Spencer Hardy Planning Commission
- Lauren Oates Planning Commission
- Susan Racanelli Funding Request Study Committee
- Frank Pratt CVRPC Transportation Advisory Committee Rep.
- Tom McMurdo CVFiber Governing Board, Alternate Town Rep.
- Ann Stanton CV Solid Waste District, Town Representative

Photo: Terry J. Allen



Voting at the East Montpelier Elementary School, August 2022 Primary.





EAST MONTPELIER TOWN FORUM
MONDAY, March 6, 2023, at 6:30 P.M.
at the East Montpelier Town Office Building
40 Kelton Road, East Montpelier

The Citizens of East Montpelier are invited to attend a Public Hearing and Informational Meeting hosted by the East Montpelier Selectboard, conducted in person and utilizing Zoom remote conferencing services (see page 12 for participation options), to discuss the Articles on the 2023 Town Meeting Warning.

NAMES TO BE PRINTED ON THE AUSTRALIAN BALLOT

East Montpelier Town Meeting — Tuesday, March 7, 2023
at the East Montpelier Elementary School, 665 Vincent Flats Road

Australian Ballot Voting

7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

WCUUSD and CVCC Australian Ballot voting
will also occur at the above place and time.

OFFICE FILED FOR	CANDIDATE(S)
TOWN MODERATOR for 1 year	MICHAEL DUANE
SELECTBOARD MEMBER for 3 years	NO CANDIDATE
SELECTBOARD MEMBER for 2 years	SCOTT HESS
LISTER for 3 years.	DEBORAH FILLION
AUDITOR for 3 years	CARLA OCCASO
PLANNING COMMISSIONER for 3 years	CLARICE CUTLER
(Vote for not more than THREE)	NIKHIL “NIK” KHOSLA
	MAIA STONE
PLANNING COMMISSIONER for 2 of 3 years.	NO CANDIDATE





TOWN OFFICERS, ELECTED

Town Moderator: 1-year term; Expires 2023 Michael Duane

Selectboard:

- 3-year term; Expires 2023 Judith Dillon
- 2-year term; Expires 2023 Amy Willis
- 3-year term; Expires 2024 Seth B. Gardner
- 2-year term; Expires 2024 Jon Jewett
- 3-year term; Expires 2025 Carlton “Carl” Etnier

Listers: 3-year term

- Expires 2023 Deborah Fillion
- Expires 2024 Ross Hazel
- Expires 2025 Chris J. Racanelli

Auditors: 3-year term

- Expires 2023 Carla (Neary) Occaso
- Expires 2024 Ed Deegan
- Expires 2025 Deborah Fillion

First Constable: 1-year term; Expires 2023 Jonathan A. Boucher

Planning Commission: 3-year term

- Expires 2023 Clarice Cutler
- Expires 2023 Scott Hess
- Expires 2023 Spencer Hardy (*resigned*); Maia Stone (*appointed 12/5/22*)
- Expires 2024 Mark Lane
- Expires 2024 Richard H. Hall
- Expires 2024 Gianna Petito
- Expires 2025 Zachary Sullivan
- Expires 2025 Kim Watson
- Expires 2025 Lauren Oates (*resigned 1/5/23*)

Justices of the Peace: 2-year term; 2/1/2023–1/31/2025 (*elected in Nov. 2022*)

- Janice “Jan” Aldrich (I) Malinda “Lindy” Johnson (I) Elise Thorsen (D)
- Virginia “Ginny” Burley (I) Edith “Edie” Miller (I) Jennifer Zollner (D)
- Edward “Ed” Deegan (D) Kate Phillips (D)
- Richard “Jez” Harrington (I) Rebecca “Becky” Reed (D)

Board of Civil Authority:

Town Clerk, Selectboard, and Justices of the Peace

Town Board for the Abatement of Taxes:

Board of Civil Authority, Listers, and Town Treasurer





Town Board for the Abatement of Taxes:

Board of Civil Authority, Listers, and Town Treasurer

WCUUSD Directors from East Montpelier:

Expires 2023; 3-year term Stephen Looke
 Expires 2024; 3-year term Lindy Johnson
 Expires 2025; 3-year term Flor Diaz Smith

TOWN OFFICERS, APPOINTED

Town Administrator Gina Jenkins
 Town Clerk (1 year; exp. June 2023) Rosie Laquerre
 Town Treasurer (1 year; exp. June 2023)..... Michele Pallas
 Collector of Current Taxes (1 year; exp. June 2023) Michele Pallas
 Collector of Delinquent Taxes (1 year; exp. June 2023) Michele Pallas
 Zoning Administrator (1 year; exp. June 2023) Tyson Brown
 E-911 Coordinator (1 year; exp. June 2023)Gina Jenkins
 Municipal Assistant vacant
 Assistant Town Clerk (1 year; exp. June 2023) vacant
 Assistant Town Treasurer (1 year; exp. June 2023) vacant
 Road Foreman Guthrie Perry
 Road Commissioner (1 year; exp. June 2023) Seth Gardner
 Road Commissioner (1 year; exp. June 2023) Gina Jenkins
 Acting Zoning Administrator (1 year; exp. June 2023)..... Gene Troia
 Town Attorney Jim Barlow
 Town Health Officer (3 years; exp. Dec. 31, 2023) Ginny Burley
 Second Town Health Officer (1 year; exp. 2023) Rachael Grossman
 Town Service Officer (1 year; exp. 2023) Rachael Grossman
 Animal Control Officer (1 year; exp. 2023)Carl Etnier
 Assistant Animal Control Officer (1 year; exp. 2023)Amber Perry
 Town Fire Warden (5 years; exp. 2023)..... Ty Rolland
 Emergency Management Director (Selectboard Chair) Seth Gardner
 Emergency Management Director (Selectboard Vice-Chair) Carl Etnier
 Emergency Management Coordinator (1 year; exp. 2023) Toby Talbot
 Second Emergency Management Coordinator (1 year; exp. 2023) Jon Boucher
 Town Tree Warden (1 year; exp. 2023)..... Paul Cate
 Cemetery Sexton (1 year; exp. 2023) Elliott Morse
 Solid Waste District Representative (1 year; exp. 2023) Jon Jewett





Regional Planning, Town Representative (1 year; exp. 2023) vacant
 Alternate (1 year; exp. 2023) Clarice Cutler
 Transportation Advisory Committee Rep. (1 year; exp. 2023) vacant
 Regional Emergency Management Committee,
 Town Representatives (1 year; exp. 2023) Seth Gardner, Jon Boucher
 Wrightsville Beach Recreation District Rep. (3 years; exp. 2023)..... Kim Kendall
 Four Corners Schoolhouse Assoc. Rep. (1 year; exp. 2023)..... Carolyn Shapiro
 State Police Community Advisory Board (1 year; exp. 2023) Carol Welch
 State Police Community Advisory Board (1 year; exp. 2023) Don Welch
 Green Up Co-Coordinator (1 year; exp. 2023) Chris Racanelli
 CVFiber Governing Board, Town Rep. (1 year; exp. 2023)Tom Fisher
 Alternate (1 year; exp. 2023)Marshall Cottrell
 Revolving Loan Fund Advisor (1 year; exp. 2023) Rebecca Schrader

Development Review Board: 3 years

Steve Kappel, <i>Chair</i> (2023)	Kim Watson (2023)	Lauren Oates (2023)
Mark Lane (2024)	Clarice Cutler (2024)	Glenn Weyant (2024)
Jeff Cueto (2025)	Norman Hill (2025)	Steve Justis (2025)

Cemetery Committee: 1 year; Exp. 2023

Tim Lamson, <i>Chair</i>	Elliott Morse, <i>Sexton</i>	Mark Lane
Rosie Laquerre, <i>Town Clerk</i>	Jon Boucher	Emily Goyette

Resilient Roads Committee: No term set

Jeff Cueto, <i>Chair</i>	Paul Cate	Mark Lane
Steve Justis	Guthrie Perry	

Forest Committee: 3 years

Paul Cate, <i>Chair</i> (2025)	Mark Lane (2023)	Colin Blackwell (2025)
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Conservation Fund Advisory Committee: 3 years

Brian Lusignan (2023)	Ginny Callan (2023)	
Bruce Howlett (2025)	Nora Duane (2025)	Hannah Phillips (2025)

Capital Improvement Committee: 1 year; Exp. 2023

Ed Deegan, <i>Chair</i>	Scott Hess	Jon Jewett
Kim Watson	Don Welch	Michele Pallas



**Recreation Board: 3 years**

Jack Zeilenga, <i>Chair</i> (2025)	Darci Coleman-Graves, <i>Vice Chair</i> (2025)	
Kate Bean (2024)	Jan Aldrich (2025)	Alex Rob (2023)
Jason DeForge (2024)	Mike Blanchard (2023)	Bob Fitch (2023)
Anne Lamere (2024)	<i>Youth Member: vacant</i>	

Funding Request Study Committee: 1 year; Exp. 2023

Lindy Johnson, <i>Chair</i>	Ginny Callan	Paul Erlbaum
Kate Rader	Sarah Kinter	

Emergency Management Committee: No term set

Selectboard Members	Emergency Management Coordinator(s)	
Planning Commission Chair and Vice-chair (or chosen delegates)		
EMFD Chief	Town Administrator	Town Road Foreman

Town Garage Facility Improvements Committee: No term set

Guthrie Perry	Seth Gardner	Gene Troia
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East Montpelier Village Committee: No term set

Michelle McFadden, <i>Chair</i>	Bob Morey	Jean Vissering
Frank Pratt	Alice Smith	

Old LaPerle Farm Property Committee: No term set

Seth Gardner, <i>Chair</i>	Ginny Callan	Bob Morey
Andy Shapiro	Zach Sullivan	

Energy Committee: No term set

Lindy Biggs, <i>Chair</i>	Carl Etnier	Bob Morey
Cort Richardson	Steve Knowlton	Tom Fisher

Town Charter Committee: No term set

Edie Miller, <i>Chair</i>	Richard Brock	Ed Deegan
Michael Duane	Carl Etnier	Karen Gramer
Norman Hill	Jack Pauly	Kim Watson

Town Treasurer Selection Committee: No term set

Seth Gardner, <i>Chair</i>	Amy Willis	Rosie Laquerre
Kim Watson	Norman Hill	Rachael Grossman
Ryan Black-Deegan		





TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER
ARTICLES OF WARNING FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
March 7, 2023

The legal voters of the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the East Montpelier Elementary School in said Town, on **Tuesday**, the **seventh (7th)** day of **March, 2023** at **9:30 a.m.** to transact the following business and to vote by Australian Ballot from **7:00 a.m.** to **7:00 p.m.** on those Articles so noted.

ARTICLE 1: To elect all necessary officers for the ensuing year. (To be voted by Australian Ballot)

- Town Moderator, 1-year term
- Selectboard Member, 3-year term
- Selectboard Member, 2-year term
- Lister, 3-year term
- Auditor, 3-year term
- Planning Commissioner, remaining 2 years of 3-year term

ARTICLE 2: To hear the reports of the several Town Officers and to act thereon.

ARTICLE 3: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$2,196,054** as proposed by the Selectboard, for laying out and repairing highways and for other necessary Town expenses for fiscal year 2024 (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024). (To be voted by Australian Ballot)

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town authorize all property taxes for the fiscal year 2024 to be paid to the Town Treasurer, without discount in two installments and received by the Treasurer at the East Montpelier Municipal Building as follows: The first installment will be due and postmarked on or before Wednesday, November 15, 2023 and the second installment will be due and postmarked on or before Wednesday, May 15, 2024.

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$46,764** for Kellogg-Hubbard Library for the support of the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. (To be voted by Australian Ballot)

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$4,500** for the Four Corners Schoolhouse Association for operating expenses during fiscal year 2024.





ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$12,000** for the East Montpelier Signpost to provide for the production and mailing of six issues of the *East Montpelier Signpost* for each East Montpelier resident household and non-resident property owner during fiscal year 2024.

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$4,000** for East Montpelier Trails, Inc. for the enhancement, development, administration and maintenance of the trail network in East Montpelier during fiscal year 2024.

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$9,700** for the Montpelier Senior Activity Center for operating expenses during fiscal year 2024.

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$6,000** for Twin Valley Seniors, Inc. for operating expenses during fiscal year 2024.

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$6,500** for Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice for operating expenses during fiscal year 2024.

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$7,834** for the support of Rural Community Transportation, Inc. (RCT) to provide services to residents of the Town of East Montpelier, including \$6,834 as its RCT portion of the fiscal year 2024 share of the annual ongoing cost of providing the commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into East Montpelier and \$1,000 as its fiscal year 2024 share of the annual ongoing cost of providing the commuter bus service along Routes 14 & 15 with service into East Montpelier. This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service, which will also be supported by appropriations from other towns, State and Federal funds, and rider fares.

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$1,499** as its Green Mountain Transit portion of the fiscal year 2024 share of the annual ongoing cost of providing the commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into East Montpelier. This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service, which will also be supported by appropriations from other towns, State and Federal funds, and rider fares.

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town raise the amounts listed below as recommended by the Town’s Funding Request Study Committee for the following organizations for fiscal year 2024.

- 1) American Red Cross **\$ 250**
- 2) Big Heavy World..... **\$ 250**



3) Capstone Community Action	\$ 500
4) Central Vermont Adult Basic Education	\$ 750
5) Central Vermont Council on Aging	\$ 1,875
6) Central Vermont Disaster Animal Response Team	\$ 200
7) Central Vermont Habitat for Humanity	\$ 350
8) Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center	\$ 1,000
9) Circle	\$ 675
10) Community Harvest of Central VT	\$ 250
11) Downstreet Housing & Community Development	\$ 150
12) East Montpelier Community Connections	\$ 2,500
13) Family Center of Washington County	\$ 500
14) Friends of the Winooski River.....	\$ 400
15) Girls/Boyz First Mentoring.....	\$ 300
16) Good Beginnings of Central VT.....	\$ 300
17) Good Samaritan Haven.....	\$ 2,000
18) Green Mountain Transit.....	\$ 1,366
19) Green Up Vermont	\$ 150
20) HomeShare Vermont	\$ 800
21) Mosaic Vermont	\$ 250
22) North Branch Nature Center	\$ 750
23) Onion River Food Shelf.....	\$ 1,000
24) OUR House of Central VT	\$ 250
25) People's Health and Wellness Clinic.....	\$ 1,250
26) Prevent Child Abuse Vermont	\$ 300
27) T. W. Wood Gallery.....	\$ 500
28) Vermont CARES	\$ 300
29) Vermont Center for Independent Living	\$ 400
30) Vermont Family Network	\$ 200
31) Washington County Diversion Program.....	\$ 600
32) Washington County Mental Health Services	\$ 800
33) Washington County Youth Service Bureau	\$ 400
34) Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District	\$ 600
TOTAL	\$ 22,166

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town extend tax exempt status for the 0.68-acre trailhead parking area on VT Rte 14 South owned by non-profit organizations East Montpelier Gully Jumpers, Inc. and East Montpelier Trails, Inc. for an additional five years (2028), per Title 32 Section 3840.

ARTICLE 16: To transact any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

EAST MONTPELIER TOWN FORUM

Monday, March 6, 2023

**6:30 P.M. at the East Montpelier Town Office Building
40 Kelton Road, East Montpelier**

The Citizens of East Montpelier are invited to attend a Public Hearing and Informational Meeting hosted by the East Montpelier Selectboard, conducted in person and utilizing Zoom remote conferencing services (see page 12 for participation options), to discuss the Articles on the 2023 Town Meeting Warning.

A. 6:30 P.M. CALL TO ORDER

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

PUBLIC COMMENT

B. REVIEW OF & DISCUSSION ON 2023 TOWN MEETING ARTICLES

[Public Comment Will Be Allowed On All Articles]

Article 2: Town Officer Reports

Article 3: FY2024 Budget

Article 4: Property Tax Protocol

Article 5: Kellogg-Hubbard Library Appropriation

Article 6: Four Corners Schoolhouse Association Appropriation

Article 7: East Montpelier Signpost Appropriation

Article 8: East Montpelier Trails, Inc. Appropriation

Article 9: Montpelier Senior Activity Center Appropriation

Article 10: Twin Valley Seniors, Inc. Appropriation

Article 11: Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice Appropriation

Article 12: Rural Community Transportation, Inc. Appropriation

Article 13: Green Mountain Transit Appropriation

Article 14: Funding Request Study Committee Recommendation for
Appropriations to Organizations

Article 15: Tax Exemption for the 0.68-acre trailhead parking area on
VT Route 14 South owned by East Montpelier Trails, Inc.
and East Montpelier Gully Jumpers, Inc.

Article 16: Other Business

C. OTHER BUSINESS

D. ADJOURN

**** TO ATTEND PUBLIC HEARING REMOTELY, SEE FOLLOWING PAGE ****



**TO ATTEND THE PUBLIC HEARING AND
INFORMATIONAL MEETING REMOTELY:**

To join by web browser: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84447068796>
By phone: 1 + (646) 558-8656 [this is not a toll-free number]
Meeting ID: 844 4706 8796

Meeting documents and complete participation options can be seen here:
<https://eastmontpeliervt.org/march-6-2023-town-forum/>

If you have difficulty accessing the forum, please call or email
Town Administrator Gina Jenkins:
(802) 223-3313 x 204 or manager@eastmontpeliervt.org
You may also email comments to Ms. Jenkins in advance of
or during the forum.

Dated at East Montpelier, Vermont, this 30th day of January, 2023.

East Montpelier Selectboard:

SETH GARDNER

CARL ETNIER

AMY WILLIS

JON JEWETT

JUDITH DILLON

East Montpelier Town Clerk’s Office, 31st day of January A.D. 2023
at 9:34 A.M. received the foregoing East Montpelier Annual Town
Meeting Warning for posting as required by law.

Attest: Rosie Laquerre, Town Clerk





Photo: Terry J. Allen



The Town Clerk and Justices of the Peace check-in absentee ballots, March 1, 2022.

Town Meeting 2023 will be held in person.
 Masks are encouraged, and they will be available.
 We want everyone in our community to feel safe attending town meeting, and many people are immunocompromised, live with someone who is immunocompromised, or would otherwise benefit from widespread mask use in a crowded indoor space.

Town and school ballots will be mailed to ALL registered active voters.

*** * Please request a ballot for the * *
 Central Vermont Career Center from the Town Clerk.**

Voted ballots can be mailed back to the Clerk’s office,
 dropped in the secure drop box outside, or brought to the polls for
 in-person voting on Town Meeting Day at the East Montpelier
 Elementary School from 7:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.

In order for your ballot to count, please carefully follow the
 instructions that come with it. Mail-in ballots are rejected when
 voters forget to complete and sign the envelope or mail it too late.
 Please do not mail ballots later than February 24.



SELECTBOARD REPORT

As we navigate the changes in our world between the pandemic and economic uncertainty, the town continues to leverage the strong central Vermont network of organizations and talents throughout our community. Some of the highlights of 2022 included the transition of the town office staff, completion of a big road project on County Road, allocation of ARPA funds to improve broadband access, and transition of staff at EMFD.

The town office saw the retirement of three talented and valued employees in 2022. Bruce Johnson, Don Welch, and Denise Sparrow retired in the summer of 2022. Bruce brought many years of East Montpelier experience to his role as Town Administrator & Zoning Administrator for his decade-long tenure. Bruce's years of steadfast leadership and stewardship over the town leaves a lasting legacy in the town office. Don Welch's tenure as the Town Treasurer established the strong framework for the management of the town's finances. Don's calm demeanor, attention to detail, and excellent customer service are the hallmarks of the town's financial oversight. Denise Sparrow, Municipal Assistant (Assistant Town Clerk & Assistant Town Treasurer), was that glue that held the office together through a few transitions while providing exceptional customer service with her sparkling personality. Denise kept the office operating like a well-oiled machine supporting both the office staff and gifting each person visiting the office with her ray of sunshine personality. The Selectboard extends a heartfelt thank you to Bruce, Don, and Denise. The contributions of these longstanding employees have forever impacted the town office.

With the retirement of the valued Town Administrator, Town Treasurer, and Municipal Assistant, the Selectboard embarked on the challenge to recruit and hire talent in a competitive job market. The Treasurer Selection Committee was created with the task of identifying, vetting, and recommending a Town Treasurer candidate for the Selectboard's consideration. Through the process of evaluating candidates, the committee identified potential candidates for both the Town Treasurer and Town Administrator positions. Gina Jenkins, a new East Montpelier resident, presented the skills and talents to lead the office into a new era as the Town Administrator. Gina joined the office in late April bringing years of financial and management experience as she manages the transition of the town office. Michele Pallas is a seasoned financial professional bringing years of experience in previous municipal work as the new Business Manager/Town Treasurer joining the team in early May. Tyson Brown, a local East Montpelier resident, brings years of construction experience as he assumed the Zoning Administrator position in late June. Jessica Adam was hired in September as the new Municipal Assistant bringing diverse experience in many fields and dedication to providing excellent customer service. In January 2023, Jessica received a new opportunity she couldn't pass up. We thank Jessica for her time supporting the town and will be working with TA Jenkins to hire Jessica's replacement in early 2023. Gina, Michele, and Tyson will continue working with the seasoned

Photo: Terry J. Allen



Town Office staff, January 2023: Michele Pallas (Treasurer), Gina Jenkins (Town Administrator), Tyson Brown (Zoning Administrator), Rosie Laquerre (Town Clerk).

Town Clerk Rosie Laquerre to establish the new era of the East Montpelier town office. The Selectboard thanks Rosie for embracing her new team and helping them learn the ins and outs of East Montpelier.

While the town office is in transition, the town is thankful that the Road Crew continues to provide exceptional service keeping the East Montpelier roads a model for rural town roads. Road Foreman Guthrie Perry and his seasoned road crew Frank Campbell, Ken Lorden, and Craig Seadeek lead the way in setting high standards in rural road maintenance. The Selectboard appreciates the dedication and hard work of this team in maintaining the town roads. The road crew continues to work with the Resilient Roads Committee in managing the town's ash trees and the impacts of the Emerald Ash Borer. The team facilitated the removal of 80 ash trees on North Street in an effort to keep the town safe from the devastating effects of the Emerald Ash Borer.

The town was able to move forward on a big road project that was delayed from 2021 due to the pandemic's impact on the supply chain. A total of 3.83 miles of County Road were repaved with 3 culverts replaced—a project that started in July and was completed in November. This was the first major project completed without the guidance of Doug Newton since his passing. Thanks to the efforts over the years by town leadership and the Capital Improvement Committee, the town was able to pay for the project using Capital Reserve funds without the need to borrow. While the project took a bit longer than expected partly due to the staffing challenges plaguing most of the world, the resulting road was well worth

the wait. The residents were so happy with the final product that a celebration was held on November 13th with the temporary closure of 3 miles of the road to safely walk, bicycle, skateboard and roller blade on the fresh blacktop. The Selectboard thanks Larry Gilbert for the idea and effort in coordinating the community event.

The town received the second half of its share of the American Rescue Plan Act's federal funding, \$381,280 in August with the total \$762,560 received. While the fund's use is restricted to a set of US Treasury-approved categories, the categories are widespread and present an incredible opportunity for the town to invest in local initiatives. In September, the Selectboard authorized \$100,000 to be allocated to CV Fiber to expand broadband access to East Montpelier residents. This was the first step in allocating funds to improve town infrastructure. The Selectboard is evaluating potential uses for funds based on previously identified needs and soliciting residents' ideas for new projects.

The East Montpelier Fire Department experienced a change in leadership during the year with Larry Brown voted in as Chief at the May department's annual meeting replacing Ty Rolland after his decade-long run. The Selectboard thanks Ty Rolland for his years of service and assisting in the transition of Chief responsibilities to Larry. Larry Brown brought 50 years of emergency services experience to the position as he worked to establish a new training regime to foster the next generation of emergency services leadership. The department continues to refine pay structures to retain and attract new talent in the competitive job market. It's important to note that Larry Brown resigned as Chief in early December with Albert Petrella assuming the helm until the next vote in May 2023. Emergency services provided by EMFD continues to be an evolving process that is closely monitored by the Selectboard.

The FY2024 budget continues to reflect the town's effort to manage expenses while absorbing a significant increase in staffing costs to hire and retain talent. The staffing costs for the town increased due to the new hiring structure and pay rates and an increase in benefit costs due to a 20% increase in health insurance coupled with a change in employee elections. The general fund has increased 9.8% primarily due to increases in salaries (\$45.3K or 2.3%), benefits costs (\$95.1K or 4.8%), and EMFD costs (\$25.9K or 1.3%). All the changes results in a 8.6% tax increase or 5.8 cents on the tax rate.

As we turn to 2023, the Selectboard looks forward to the first in-person town meeting since 2020. Although the COVID-19 pandemic continues, the Selectboard is thankful for vaccinations and masks that mitigate the risk of virus transmission in public gatherings.

SETH GARDNER, *Chair*
 CARL ETNIER, *Vice Chair*
 AMY WILLIS
 JON JEWETT
 JUDITH DILLON

**Projected FY2024 Tax Rate with Preliminary Education Rates
and Financial Impact of Warned Articles on the FY2024 Tax Rate**

Prepared for the East Montpelier 2023 Town Meeting [PRELIMINARY]

Actual FY23 Grand List \$3,121,000

Est FY24 Grand List \$3,140,000

2023 Article #	Warned Amount		Impact on Tax Rate	
	Actual FY2022	Estimated FY2023	Actual FY2022	Estimated FY2023
3	2,000,127	2,196,054	0.6409	0.6994
5	46,764	46,764	0.0150	0.0149
6	4,400	4,500	0.0014	0.0014
7	12,000	12,000	0.0038	0.0038
8	4,000	4,000	0.0013	0.0013
9	9,000	9,700	0.0029	0.0031
10	5,000	6,000	0.0016	0.0019
11	6,500	6,500	0.0021	0.0021
12	7,834	7,834	0.0025	0.0025
13	1,499	1,499	0.0005	0.0005
14	23,666	22,166	0.0076	0.0071
Total	2,120,790	2,317,017	0.6796	0.7380

Homestead Education Rate	1.7030	1.7930
Non-Homestead Education Rate	1.6294	1.9766
Town Local Agreements Rate	0.0028	0.0030
Total Tax Rate - Homestead	2.3854	2.5340
less Prior Year Actual Tax Rate	2.4809	2.3854
Change	-0.0955	0.1486
Total Tax Rate - Non-Homestead	2.3118	2.7176
less Prior Year Actual Tax Rate	2.3710	2.3118
Change	-0.0592	0.4058

The homestead education rate is the 01/18/23 Scenario #4b projected rate by the Washington Central Unified Union School District. The non-homestead rate is as projected by the VT Tax Commissioner, both as adjusted for EM's CLA of 82.97%. Rates will change.

**TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER
REVENUES**

CASH & RECEIPTS

	FY22 Budget (7/1/21- 6/30/22)	FY22 Actual (7/1/21- 6/30/22)	Over (Under) FY22	FY23 Budget (7/1/22- 6/30/23)	FY24 Proposed Budget (7/23-6/24)	Change from FY23 Budget Increase (Decrease)	Change fr. FY23 Budget (+/-) %
AVAILABLE CASH ON HAND:	\$ 100,000	0	(100,000)	150,000	150,000	0	0.0%
NON-TAX RECEIPTS:							
Dog licenses	2,000	2,192	192	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Excess Weight Fees	400	470	70	400	400	0	0.0%
Liquor License Fees	100	140	40	100	100	0	0.0%
Recording/Copy Fees	20,000	20,734	734	20,000	20,000	0	0.0%
School Share Town Expenses	0	2,091	2,091	0	0	0	0.0%
Vault Fees	4,000	3,635	(365)	4,000	4,000	0	0.0%
Zoning Fees	4,000	7,738	3,738	4,000	6,000	2,000	50.0%
<i>FY24 Zoning Fees: Increased to actual 5 year average of \$6,000</i>							
Total Fees	30,500	37,000	6,500	30,500	32,500	2,000	6.6%

Roadside Management Grants

Total Grants

Current Use Hold Harmless

ESF Bond Reimbursement - Calais

FY24 ESF Bond Reimbursement - Calais: Based on bond amortization schedule

State aid highways

ANR Pilot Program

General State Building Pilot Program ..

Roadside Management Grants	0	18,454	18,454	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Grants	0	18,454	18,454	0	0	0	0.0%
Current Use Hold Harmless	99,000	106,172	7,172	102,000	102,000	0	0.0%
ESF Bond Reimbursement - Calais	50,640	50,640	(0)	49,156	47,618	(1,538)	-3.1%
State aid highways	148,000	166,846	18,846	160,000	160,000	0	0.0%
ANR Pilot Program	600	635	35	600	600	0	0.0%
General State Building Pilot Program ..	3,400	4,123	723	3,400	3,400	0	0.0%

State Equalization Reimbursement	0	1,239	1,239	0	0	0	0.0%
Traffic fines	1,000	1,096	96	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Total Reimbursements	302,640	330,750	28,110	316,156	314,618	(1,538)	-0.5%
Interest / Money Market	1,000	1,007	7	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Miscellaneous income	100	1,008	908	100	100	0	0.0%
Total Other	1,100	2,015	915	1,100	1,100	0	0.0%
Interest on delinquent taxes	9,000	2,357	(6,643)	9,000	9,000	0	0.0%
Penalty on delinquent taxes	10,000	13,944	3,944	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
Interest on late taxes	6,000	9,606	3,606	6,000	6,000	0	0.0%
Education retention fees	10,000	10,512	512	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
Total Tax Related Charges	35,000	36,418	1,418	35,000	35,000	0	0.0%
TOTAL NON-TAX RECEIPTS	369,240	424,637	55,397	382,756	383,218	462	0.1%
TAXES							
Selectboard Budget	1,927,032			2,000,127	2,196,054	195,927	9.8%
Other Money Articles	111,021			120,663	120,963	300	0.2%
Total Current Taxes	2,038,053			2,120,790	2,317,017	196,227	9.3%
Grand List (estimated for FY2024)	3,104,000			3,121,000	3,140,000	0.0584	8.6%
Local Tax Rate (estimated for FY2024)	0.6566			0.6796	0.7380	0.0584	8.6%
TOTAL TAXES	2,038,053	1,994,331	97.85%	2,120,790	2,317,017	196,227	9.3%
TOTAL CASH & RECEIPTS	\$ 2,507,293	2,418,969	96.48%	2,653,546	2,850,235	196,689	7.4%

**TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER
EXPENDITURES**

GENERAL EXPENSES:

	FY22 Budget (7/1/21- 6/30/22)	FY22 Actual (7/1/21- 6/30/22)	Under (Over) FY22	FY23 Budget (7/1/22- 6/30/23)	FY24 Proposed Budget (7/23-6/24)	Change from FY23 Budget Increase (Decrease)	Change fr. FY23 Budget (+/-) %
Town Officers							
Municipal Employees	\$224,500	297,493	72,993	270,000	302,300	32,300	12.0%
<i>FY24 Municipal Employees: Based on current staffing plan</i>							
Health Officer	1,500	1,500	0	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%
Tree Warden	1,000	1,000	0	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Selectboard	5,500	5,500	0	5,500	5,500	0	0.0%
PC Stipend	4,750	4,250	(500)	4,750	4,750	0	0.0%
Town Auditors	7,000	7,368	368	7,000	7,500	500	7.1%
<i>FY24 Municipal Employees: Based on current staffing plan</i>							
Town Listers	23,000	19,293	(3,707)	23,000	24,500	1,500	6.5%
<i>FY24 Town Listers: \$0.75 proposed increase in pay rate</i>							
Animal Control Officers	2,000	2,000	0	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Constables	1,500	1,500	0	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%
Total Town Officers	270,750	339,903	69,153	317,250	351,550	34,300	10.8%
Employee Benefits/Insurances							
<i>FY24: Based on current staffing plan</i>							
Social Security/Medicare	40,500	45,150	4,650	46,000	47,800	1,800	3.9%
Municipal Retirement	29,000	34,957	5,957	38,000	43,900	5,900	15.5%
Unemployment	3,800	3,470	(330)	3,500	2,500	(1,000)	-28.6%
Health Insurance	139,000	129,474	(9,526)	159,000	245,200	86,200	54.2%
Dental Insurance	3,300	3,454	154	3,300	4,100	800	24.2%
Life & Disability Insurance	3,600	3,452	(148)	3,600	3,600	0	0.0%
Town Liability Insurance	4,500	4,757	257	5,800	6,500	700	12.1%
Workers Compensation	16,000	15,295	(706)	16,300	17,000	700	4.3%
Total Employee Benefits/Insurances	239,700	240,008	308	275,500	370,600	95,100	34.5%

Law Enforcement Expenses						
Community Advisory Board	100	100	0	100	100	0.0%
Vermont State Police	17,000	11,708	(5,292)	17,000	18,000	5.9%
Total Law Enforcement Expenses	17,100	11,808	(5,292)	17,100	18,100	5.8%
Professional Fees						
Contracted Payroll Services	1,000	0	(1,000)	1,000	1,000	0.0%
External Audit	15,500	15,100	(400)	15,800	16,500	4.4%
<i>FY24 External Audit: Moderate increase forecasted</i>						
Legal Fees	8,000	1,380	(6,620)	8,000	8,000	0.0%
Total Professional Fees	24,500	16,480	(8,020)	24,800	25,500	2.8%
Municipal Building						
Office Custodial	2,700	2,630	(70)	2,700	3,000	11.1%
<i>FY24 Office Custodial: Moderate increase forecasted</i>						
Office Electricity	3,000	3,565	565	3,300	3,800	15.2%
<i>Increased based on history.</i>						
Office General Expenses	1,000	311	(689)	1,000	1,000	0.0%
Office Heating Fuel	1,200	23	(1,177)	500	500	0.0%
Office Repairs/Maintenance	3,000	2,566	(434)	3,000	3,000	0.0%
Office Telephone	3,000	2,995	(5)	3,200	3,200	0.0%
Office Water (Crystal Springs)	1,000	884	(116)	1,000	1,000	0.0%
Total Municipal Building	14,900	12,973	(1,927)	14,700	15,500	5.4%
Municipal Operations						
Advertising	1,500	3,640	2,140	1,500	1,500	0.0%
Copier Lease	3,500	2,811	(689)	3,000	3,000	0.0%

EXPENDITURES (continued)

Municipal Operations (continued)

	FY22 Budget	FY22 Actual	Under (Over)	FY23 Budget	Proposed FY24 Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Change (+/-) %
Education/Seminars	1,500	158	(1,342)	1,200	1,200	0	0.0%
Equipment Purchases (over \$200)	1,000	0	(1,000)	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Gifts/Special Occasions	700	0	(700)	700	700	0	0.0%
Employee Travel Costs	0	0	0	0	800	800	0.0%
Mileage/Travel Expense	1,500	775	(725)	1,200	700	(500)	-41.7%
<i>FY24: Revised to include mileage only</i>							
Operations Fees	1,800	1,551	(249)	1,800	1,800	0	0.0%
Grounds Maintenance	11,500	10,200	(1,300)	11,500	11,500	0	0.0%
Office Supplies	5,000	2,624	(2,376)	5,000	5,000	0	0.0%
Postage	3,700	3,170	(530)	3,700	3,700	0	0.0%
Printing	2,100	2,657	557	2,100	2,100	0	0.0%
Town Report Printing and Mailing	5,800	5,575	(225)	5,800	6,500	700	12.1%
Property and Casualty Insurance	13,000	11,968	(1,033)	13,000	13,000	0	0.0%
Public Records Management	10,000	9,216	(784)	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
Street Lights	6,300	6,269	(31)	6,300	6,300	0	0.0%
Subscriptions/Memberships	450	441	(9)	450	450	0	0.0%
Town Document Updates	5,000	0	(5,000)	3,000	3,000	0	0.0%
Total Municipal Operations	74,350	61,055	(13,295)	71,250	72,250	1,000	1.4%

Loans and Interest

Bond Interest for ESF (20-year) *	46,919	46,919	0	42,467	37,853	(4,615)	-10.9%
Bond Principal for ESF *	105,000	105,000	0	105,000	105,000	0	0.0%

* FY24 Emergency Services Facility Bond: Based on bond amortization schedule

Tax Anticipation Interest	1,000	0	(1,000)	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Total Loans and Interest	152,919	151,919	(1,000)	148,467	143,853	(4,615)	-3.1%

Computers							
IT Equipment/Hardware Purchases	2,500	3,215	715	2,500	2,500	0	0.0%
IT General Services/Maintenance	13,000	14,364	1,364	16,000	18,000	2,000	12.5%
<i>FY24 IT General/Maintenance: Increase due to new hires, remote infrastructure</i>							
GIS Mapping Services	4,500	4,400	(100)	4,500	4,800	300	6.7%
<i>FY24 GIS Mapping Services: \$3K AxisGIS & \$1.8K Maintenance</i>							
Software	3,500	1,705	(1,795)	1,500	1,800	300	20.0%
Total Computers	23,500	23,684	184	24,500	27,100	2,600	10.6%
Town Clerk Budget							
<i>FY24: Adjustments per Town Clerk</i>							
Ballot Clerks/Election Workers	1,000	5,634	4,634	3,000	4,000	1,000	33.3%
Dog Licensing - Tags and Licenses	350	324	(26)	350	350	0	0.0%
Election Equipment	2,000	1,467	(533)	3,000	2,000	(1,000)	-33.3%
Record Restoration/Preservation	3,000	0	(3,000)	3,000	3,500	500	16.7%
Vault Expenses/Town Records	1,000	60	(940)	1,000	100	(900)	-90.0%
Total Town Clerk Budget	7,350	7,485	135	10,350	9,950	(400)	-3.9%
Dues and Fees							
CV Economic Development	900	900	0	900	900	0	0.0%
CV Regional Planning Commission	3,266	3,265	(1)	3,456	3,456	0	0.0%
CV Solid Waste Mgt. Dist.	2,551	2,551	0	2,598	2,573	(25)	-1.0%
<i>FY24 CVSWMD: \$1 per capita based on VT Dept Health 2021 Census</i>							
VT Association of Conservation Districts	100	100	0	100	100	0	0.0%
VT League Cities & Towns	4,280	4,280	0	4,369	4,524	155	3.5%
Washington County Court Expense	24,901	24,901	0	25,277	26,710	1,433	5.7%
Wrightsville Beach Recreation Dist.	3,986	3,897	(89)	3,986	6,690	2,704	67.8%
<i>FY24 WBRD: inc to \$2.50 per capita, 3% inc FY24</i>							
Total Dues & Fees	39,984	39,894	(90)	40,686	44,953	4,267	10.5%

EXPENDITURES (continued)

	FY22 Budget	FY22 Actual	Under (Over)	FY23 Budget	Proposed FY24 Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Change (+/-) %
Budget Requests							
East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD)	122,076	122,076	0	125,673	133,128	7,455	5.9%
<i>FY24 EMFD: per Fire Dept., with increase for Salary/Stipend</i>							
EMFD Ambulance Service	223,159	223,159	0	242,167	260,599	18,432	7.6%
<i>FY24 EMFD Ambulance Service: per Fire Dept. with increase for salary & workers comp</i>							
Recreation Board	3,500	3,500	0	4,000	4,000	0	0.0%
Cemetery Committee	20,000	20,000	0	20,000	30,500	10,500	52.5%
<i>FY24 Cemetery Committee: increased costs including \$5K survey, \$3K stone repairs</i>							
Total Budget Requests	368,735	368,735	0	391,840	428,227	36,387	9.3%
TOTAL GENERAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,233,788	1,273,946	40,158	1,336,443	1,507,582	171,139	12.8%
GRANTS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS							
Invasive Species Control	300	0	(300)	300	300	0	0.0%
Front Porch Forum	500	500	0	500	500	0	0.0%
Roadside Management Expense	15,000	30,583	15,583	15,000	15,000	0	0.0%
Better Roads Grant Expense	0	2,245	2,245	0	0	0	0.0%
Capital Reserve Fund	446,634	446,634	0	459,690	459,690	0	0.0%
Total Grants and Special Projects	462,434	479,962	17,528	475,490	475,490	0	0.0%
TOTAL GRANTS & SPEC PROJECTS	\$ 462,434	479,962	17,528	475,490	475,490	0	0.0%
HIGHWAY EXPENSES:							
Highway Operations							
Chloride	27,000	16,911	(10,089)	27,000	27,000	0	0.0%
Crack Sealant	12,000	21,000	9,000	12,000	12,000	0	0.0%
Culverts	7,600	0	(7,600)	7,600	7,600	0	0.0%

Diesel	58,000	54,381	(3,619)	58,000	58,000	0	0.0%
Education/Seminars: Highway Personnel	600	45	(555)	600	600	0	0.0%
Equipment Rentals	7,000	1,550	(5,450)	7,000	7,000	0	0.0%
Erosion Stone	8,000	0	(8,000)	8,000	8,000	0	0.0%
Highway General Supplies	14,500	8,169	(6,331)	14,500	14,500	0	0.0%
Gravel	115,000	131,887	16,887	115,000	115,000	0	0.0%
Green Up Expenses	600	6	(594)	600	600	0	0.0%
Guardrails	5,000	0	(5,000)	5,000	5,000	0	0.0%
Haz Mat disposal	750	2,645	1,895	750	750	0	0.0%
Hydroseeder Mulch	2,000	736	(1,264)	2,000	3,000	1,000	50.0%
<i>FY24 Hydroseeder Mulch: Increase due to higher costs</i>							
Pavement Management	4,000	0	(4,000)	4,000	4,000	0	0.0%
Pavement Markings	5,200	0	(5,200)	5,200	5,200	0	0.0%
Permit Fees	2,000	1,350	(650)	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Reciprocal Road Maintenance	1,300	1,313	13	1,300	1,350	50	3.8%
<i>FY24 Reciprocal Road Maintenance: Slight increase based on history</i>							
Road Fabric	3,500	0	(3,500)	3,500	3,500	0	0.0%
Salt	62,000	33,775	(28,225)	62,000	68,000	6,000	9.7%
<i>FY24 Salt: Higher cost of salt today</i>							
Sand	42,000	41,265	(735)	42,000	42,000	0	0.0%
Signs	4,000	2,598	(1,402)	4,000	4,000	0	0.0%
Uniforms	5,800	6,100	300	6,000	6,500	500	8.3%
<i>FY24 Uniforms: Slight increase in cost</i>							
Weather Reporting	1,000	800	(200)	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Total Highway Operations	388,850	324,530	(64,320)	389,050	396,600	7,550	1.9%
Town Garage Expenses		1,536	(64)	1,800	2,000	200	11.1%
Garage Electricity	1,600						
<i>FY24 Garage Electricity: Increase in electric rates</i>							

EXPENDITURES (continued)

	FY22 Budget	FY22 Actual	Under (Over)	FY23 Budget	Proposed FY24 Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Change (+/-) %
<i>Garage Expenses (continued)</i>							
Garage General Expenses	2,000	392	(1,608)	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Garage Heating Fuel	7,000	7,043	43	7,000	8,000	1,000	14.3%
<i>FY24 Garage Heating Fuel: Increase in cost of oil</i>							
Garage Bldg Repairs and Maintenance .	3,000	1,076	(1,924)	3,000	3,000	0	0.0%
Garage Trash	2,500	3,217	717	3,000	3,500	500	16.7%
<i>FY24 Garage Trash: Increase in trash costs</i>							
Garage Security	400	174	(226)	400	400	0	0.0%
Garage Telephone/Communications	2,700	2,245	(455)	2,700	2,700	0	0.0%
Total Town Garage Expenses	19,200	15,682	(3,518)	19,900	21,600	1,700	8.5%
Vehicle Equipment/ Repairs							
Vehicle-Gas/Oil/Grease		4,773				0	0.0%
Vehicle - Maint/Supplies/Equipment		6,732				0	0.0%
Vehicle - Plows/Blades		8,595				0	0.0%
Vehicle - Tires/Chains		20,957				0	0.0%
2013 GMC Sierra Pickup		473				0	0.0%
2022 Dodge Pickup		404				0	0.0%
2019 John Deere Grader		1,883				0	0.0%
2008 Volvo Excavator		1,478				0	0.0%
2018 Komatsu Loader		893				0	0.0%
2018 John Deere Tractor & Mower		1,753				0	0.0%
2020 Kubota Tractor & Snowblower		0				0	0.0%
2013 Mack Truck		6,944				0	0.0%
2017 Mack Truck		922				0	0.0%
2018 Mack Truck		5,148				0	0.0%
2015 International 7400		11,560				0	0.0%

2012 Freightliner Truck	7,582				0	0.0%
1998 MorBark Brush Chipper	0				0	0.0%
York Rake	0				0	0.0%
Sander	0				0	0.0%
Total Vehicle Equipment/ Repairs	80,095	65,000	70,000	(15,095)	5,000	7.7%
<i>FY24 Vehicle Equipment/Repairs: Increase due to rising costs</i>						
Highway Labor	225,374	227,000	258,000	(1,627)	11,000	4.5%
Total Highway Labor	225,374	227,000	258,000	(1,627)	11,000	4.5%
TOTAL HIGHWAY BUDGET	\$ 645,682	\$ 700,050	746,200	(84,559)	25,250	3.5%
TOTAL SELECTBOARD BUDGET	2,399,590	2,396,272	2,729,272	(26,873)	196,389	7.8%

VOTED ARTICLES & FUNDING REQUESTS

Voted Articles						
Four Corners Schoolhouse (FCSH)	4,500	4,500	4,500	0	4,400	2.3%
<i>FY24 FCSH: Increase of \$100 approved by Selectboard</i>						
Kellogg-Hubbard Library	42,022	42,022	46,764	0	46,764	0.0%
Land Conservation Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
East Montpelier Signpost	9,700	9,700	12,000	0	12,000	0.0%
Rural Community Transportation	7,833	7,833	7,834	0	7,834	0.0%
GMTA Rte 2 Commuter Bus Service	1,500	1,500	1,499	0	1,499	0.0%
Montpelier Senior Activity Center	9,000	9,000	9,700	0	9,000	7.8%
East Montpelier Trails	4,000	4,000	4,000	0	4,000	0.0%
Central VT Home Health & Hospice	6,000	6,000	6,500	0	6,500	0.0%
Twin Valley Seniors, Inc.	5,000	5,000	6,000	0	5,000	20.0%
Total Voted Articles	89,555	89,555	98,797	0	96,997	1.9%

EXPENDITURES (continued)

	FY22 Budget	FY22 Actual	Under (Over)	FY23 Budget	Proposed FY24 Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Change (+/-) %
Funding Requests							
American Red Cross	250	250	0	250	250	0	0.0%
Big Heavy World	250	250	0	250	250	0	0.0%
Capstone Community Action (CVCAC)	500	500	0	500	500	0	0.0%
Central Vermont Adult Basic Education .	750	750	0	750	750	0	0.0%
Central Vermont Council on Aging	1,875	1,875	0	1,875	1,875	0	0.0%
Central VT Disaster Animal Response Team	200	200	0	200	200	0	0.0%
Central Vermont Habitat for Humanity .	350	350	0	350	350	0	0.0%
Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center	1,000	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
Circle (Battered Women's Serv and Shelter)	675	675	0	675	675	0	0.0%
Community Connections	2,500	2,500	0	2,500	2,500	0	0.0%
Community Harvest of Central VT	250	250	0	250	250	0	0.0%
Downstreet Housing & Comm Dev (CVCLT)	150	150	0	150	150	0	0.0%
Family Center of Washington County ..	500	500	0	500	500	0	0.0%
Friends of the Winooski River	200	200	0	200	400	200	100.0%
Girls/Boyz First Mentoring	300	300	0	300	300	0	0.0%
Good Beginnings of Central VT	300	300	0	300	300	0	0.0%
Good Samaritan Haven	900	900	0	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Green Mountain Transit	1,366	1,366	0	1,366	1,366	0	0.0%
Green Up Vermont	150	150	0	150	150	0	0.0%
HomeShare Vermont	800	800	0	800	800	0	0.0%
Mosaic Vt (Sexual Assault Crisis Team)	250	250	0	250	250	0	0.0%
North Branch Nature Center	750	750	0	750	750	0	0.0%
Onion River Food Shelf Inc.	1,200	1,200	0	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
OUR House of Central VT	250	250	0	250	250	0	0.0%
People's Health & Wellness Clinic, Inc. .	1,750	1,750	0	1,250	1,250	0	0.0%
Prevent Child Abuse of Vermont	300	300	0	300	300	0	0.0%

T W Wood Gallery	500	500	0	500	500	0	0.0%
VT Assoc for Blind & Visually Impaired	150	150	0	150	0	(150)	-100.0%
Vermont Bar Foundation	0	0	0	1,500	0	(1,500)	-100.0%
Vermont Cares	150	150	0	150	300	150	100.0%
Vermont Center for Independent Living .	300	300	0	400	400	0	0.0%
Vermont Family Network	200	200	0	200	200	0	0.0%
Washington County Diversion Program .	600	600	0	600	600	0	0.0%
Washington County Mental Health Services	800	800	0	800	800	0	0.0%
Washington County Youth Service Bureau	400	400	0	400	400	0	0.0%
Winooski Natural Resources Conserv. Dist.	600	600	0	800	600	(200)	-25.0%
Total Funding Requests	21,466	21,466	0	23,666	22,166	(1,500)	-6.3%
TOTAL VOTED ARTICLES & FUNDING REQUESTS	\$ 111,021	\$ 111,021	0	120,663	120,963	300	0.2%
GRAND TOTAL TOWN EXPENSES ..	\$ 2,507,293	\$ 2,510,611	3,318	2,653,546	2,850,235	196,689	7.4%

TOWN BUDGET SUMMARY	FY18:	FY19:	FY20:	FY21:	FY22:	FY23:	FY24:
	7/17-6/18	7/18-6/19	7/19-6/20	7/20-6/21	7/21-6/22	7/22-6/23	7/23-6/24
Selectboard w/o Voted Articles	2,133,069	2,204,612	2,236,350	2,339,199	2,396,272	2,532,883	2,729,272
Less: Cash on Hand	75,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	150,000	150,000
Subtotal	2,058,069	2,104,612	2,136,350	2,239,199	2,296,272	2,382,883	2,579,272
Less: Proposed Non-Tax Receipts	376,472	378,116	386,586	367,976	369,240	382,756	383,218
Municipal Proposed Taxes w/o Articles	1,681,597	1,726,496	1,749,764	1,871,223	1,927,032	2,000,127	2,196,054
Plus: Voted Articles	117,383	119,896	124,296	103,396	111,021	120,663	120,963
Total Town Current Taxes	1,798,980	1,846,392	1,874,060	1,974,619	2,038,053	2,120,790	2,317,017

DEBT SERVICE SCHEDULE

Notes Payable:	Payments Due					
	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27
Emergency Services Facility*						
Loan Balance: \$1,050,000						
Interest Rate: 4.34%						
Principal payments:	\$ 105,000	105,000	105,000	105,000	105,000	105,000
Interest payments:	46,919	42,467	37,853	33,096	28,235	23,273
Debt Payments:	\$ 151,919	147,467	142,853	138,096	133,235	128,273
Outstanding Principal at Fiscal Year End:	\$ 945,000	840,000	735,000	630,000	525,000	420,000

On June 30, 2022, the Town of East Montpelier owed \$945,000 principal and \$206,829 interest on the Emergency Services Facility Bond.

*** FY11 Emergency Services Facility Bond:**

Upon completion of construction in FY10, a twenty (20) year bond for the full construction costs including the interest on the Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) was executed in the authorized amount of \$2.1 million (East Montpelier 2/3 share = \$1,400,000; Calais 1/3 share = \$700,000). Beginning in FY12, principal payments are constant (\$105,000 total: East Montpelier = \$70,000; Calais = \$35,000). The interest payment declines each year as the principal amount is reduced, resulting in a constantly declining annual payment in subsequent years. Payments are made twice a year. In FY22, East Montpelier's share was \$101,279 of the \$151,919 due. In 2016 a bond refinancing generated interest savings for FY17, FY18, and FY19; the original interest schedule resumed in FY20. Final payment of the bond is due in December 2030.

*Butterfly
print by
Fern,
Grade 2
at EMES*



MODIFIED BALANCE SHEET

	FY21	FY22
ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 2,266,232	\$ 3,171,393
Investments	313,049	153,888
Receivables	169,784	188,836
Loan Receivable	233,012	224,049
Prepaid Expenses	38,525	38,972
Capital Assets:		
Land	408,702	408,702
Construction in Progress	36,069	67,565
Other Capital Assets, (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)	<u>5,241,810</u>	<u>4,936,153</u>
Total Assets	<u>8,707,183</u>	<u>9,189,558</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Deferred Outflows of Resources Related to the Town's Participation in VMERS	<u>132,008</u>	<u>96,760</u>
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>132,008</u>	<u>96,760</u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	40,925	69,367
Accrued Payroll and Benefits Payable	18,019	19,050
Unearned Revenue	—	381,280
Accrued Interest Payable	8,185	7,455
Noncurrent Liabilities:		
Due within One Year	112,915	112,915
Due in More than One Year	<u>1,370,886</u>	<u>1,083,739</u>
Less Total Liabilities	<u>1,550,930</u>	<u>1,673,806</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Prepaid Property Taxes	2,148	4,435
Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to the Town's Participation in VMERS	<u>9,117</u>	<u>113,728</u>
Less Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>11,265</u>	<u>118,163</u>
	<u>\$ 7,276,996</u>	<u>\$ 7,494,349</u>
NET POSITION		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	4,650,401	4,474,172
Restricted For:		
Community Development	240,953	247,886
Cemetery	99,900	101,475
Culture and Recreation 3	54,802	
Other	15,492	55,275
Unrestricted	<u>2,215,448</u>	<u>2,615,541</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 7,276,996</u>	<u>\$ 7,494,349</u>

Adapted from FY21 & FY22 audits performed by Sullivan, Powers & Co, CPAs, of Montpelier. Final audits are available at the Town Office and town website at <https://eastmontpeliervt.org>

EAST MONTPELIER FY22 TAXES RAISED

Base Tax Rates:

School - Homestead	\$1.8215
School - Non-Residential	1.7116
Town	0.6566
Local Agreement	0.0027
Total Homestead Tax Rate	\$2.4808
Total Non-Residential Rate	\$2.3709

Values, include Local Agreements:

Municipal Grand List	\$3,101,956.88
Homestead Edu. Grand List	\$2,152,638.96
Non-Residential Edu. Grand List	\$942,253.64

◆ ◆ ◆

Taxes to be raised (as billed):	
at Town Tax Rate $0.6566 \times 3,101,956.88 =$	\$2,036,738.87
at Local Agreement Rate . $0.0027 \times 3,101,956.88 =$	8,375.13
at Homestead Tax Rate . . $1.8215 \times 2,152,638.96 =$	3,921,032.14
at Non-Res. Tax Rate $1.7116 \times 942,229.64 =$	1,612,720.19
plus late homestead filing penalties	WAIVED
TOTAL	<u><u>\$7,578,866.33</u></u>

TY21/22 TAXES collected as of 5/24/2022

Current Taxes Collected	\$7,357,665.21
Abated Taxes	1.84
Uncollected TY20/21 taxes (see facing page)	221,199.28
TOTAL	<u><u>\$7,578,866.33</u></u>

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2021/2022 EDUCATION TAX BREAKDOWN

Total Due Schools	<u>\$5,542,438.00</u>
Town payments to schools:	4,481,421.24
State adjustment payments	1,050,505.09
0.225% Retained by Municipality	10,511.67
Total education tax paid	<u><u>\$5,542,438.00</u></u>
Balance due school district (within 120 days)	<u><u>\$ 0.00</u></u>

DELINQUENT TAXES

Tax Year	Taxes Due June 30, 2021	Paid In FY22	Abated FY22	Balance Due June 30, 2022
TY18/19	4,890.42	0.00	0	4,890.42
TY19/20	10,471.65	5,148.78	0	5,322.87
TY20/21	90,800.39	62,562.86	0	28,237.53
	<u>\$106,162.46</u>	<u>67,711.64</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>38,450.82</u>
TY21/22 Del. Taxes Submitted to Collector on 5/24/22	221,199.28	135,816.79	1.84	85,380.65
	<u>\$327,361.74</u>	<u>203,528.43</u>	<u>1.84</u>	<u>\$123,831.47</u>
Interest on Late & Delinquent Tax		11,962.33 *		
Penalties on Delinquent Tax		<u>9,906.51 **</u>		
Total Delinquent Taxes, Interest, and Penalties collected in FY22		<u>\$225,397.27</u>		

* Includes Del. Tax Interest, as well as Late Interest (as per Notice below).

** The Collector of Delinquent Taxes charges a commission of 8% penalty on the amount of taxes owed (32 V.S.A. §1674). The 8% penalty accrues to the Town's General Fund.

TAX COLLECTION NOTICE

In August 2022, one property tax bill was sent out, payable in two installments. The due date and time is voted on at Town Meeting each year. The first installment for tax year 2022/2023 was due in November, and the second is due on Monday May 15, 2023. Property taxes must be received in the Town Treasurer's office on the due date. A mailed payment bearing a clear USPS postmark dated on or before the tax payment due date will be accepted as timely.

The Municipal Office building has two options for after-hours drop off payments: there is a secure drop box next to the handicap ramp, and there is a mail slot in the back door. The Town also offers two methods for electronic payment of taxes: direct debit and a payment portal on the Town's website for credit and debits cards, along with eChecks:

<https://eastmontpeliervt.org/make-payment/>

First installment taxes not received by the due date in November are charged late interest of 1% per month. Any taxes not received by the due date in May are turned over to the Collector of Delinquent Taxes and charged an 8% penalty in addition to a 1% per month delinquent interest.

CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2022

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Governmental Activities				
Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated:				
Land	\$ 408,702	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 408,702
Construction in Progress	36,069	31,496	0	67,565
Total Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated	444,771	31,496	0	476,267
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated:				
Buildings and Building Improvements	2,404,772	7,080	0	2,411,852
Vehicles, Machinery and Equipment	1,766,423	51,953	0	1,818,376
Infrastructure	4,068,075	0	0	4,068,075
Totals	8,239,270	59,033	0	8,298,303
Less Accumulated Depreciation for:				
Buildings and Building Improvements	639,781	49,128	0	688,909
Vehicles, Machinery and Equipment	575,300	112,826	0	688,126
Infrastructure 1,782,379 202,736 0 1,985,115	1,782,379	202,736	0	1,985,115
Totals	2,997,460	364,690	0	3,362,150
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	5,241,810	(305,657)	0	4,936,153
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	\$ 5,686,581	\$ (274,161)	\$ 0	\$ 5,412,420

Depreciation was charged as follows:

Governmental Activities:

General Government	\$ 7,921
Public Safety	39,864
Highways and Streets	314,466
Culture and Recreation	519
Cemetery	1,920
Total Depreciation Expense - Governmental Activities	\$ 364,690

This page is an excerpt of the audit performed by Sullivan, Powers & Co, CPAs, of Montpelier. The complete final report is available for public inspection at the Town Office as well as on the town website at <https://eastmontpeliervt.org>





TOWN PROPERTY

Information as of December 31, 2022

LAND, BUILDINGS, AND CEMETERIES

Town Office	0.35 acre
Town Garage	24.70 acres
Town Salt Shed	1.50 acres
Templeton Fire Station	1.00 acre
Emergency Services Facility	1.52 acres
Town Forest	96.36 acres
North St. (Baird)	45.73 acres
Rte. 2 (Benton)	10.42 acres
Coburn Rd. (Soule)	5.00 acres
Recreation Field	12.00 acres
LaPerle & Hodgeman Parcel	6.04 acres
Rte. 14N (Park 'n Ride)	0.55 acres
Rte. 2 (Hudson parcel)	0.25 acres
Coburn Covered Bridge	
Cate Cemetery	0.67 acre
Cutler Cemetery	2.70 acres
Doty Cemetery	2.80 acres
Quaker Cemetery	0.42 acre
Tinkham Cemetery	0.20 acre
Village Cemetery	2.70 acres, <i>incl. former Town Hall lot</i>
Wheeler Cemetery	1.30 acres

VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT

	Mileage	Hours
2022 Ram 2500 Pickup	4,000	n/a
2020 Kubota Tractor/Snowblower	N/A	60
2019 John Deere 772G Grader	N/A	1,601
2018 John Deere 6110 Tractor & Mower	N/A	916
2018 Komatsu WA270-8 Wheel Loader	4,033	1,705
2018 Mack 10-wheel Dump/Plow Truck	73,104	4,949
2017 Mack 10-wheel Dump/Plow Truck	52,876	4,665
2015 International 7400 6-wheel Dump Truck	40,177	3,205
2013 GMC Sierra 2500 HD Pickup	91,000	N/A
2013 Mack 10-wheel Dump Truck	108,028	7,578
2012 Freightliner 6-wheel Dump Truck	67,387	6,202
2008 Volvo Excavator	N/A	5,163
1998 Morbark Brush Chipper	N/A	1,098
2020 Scag Tiger Cat II Mower (Cemetery)	N/A	120
2015 Kubota Lawn Tractor (Cemetery)	N/A	499



TOWN PAYROLL SUMMARY

Employee ¹	FY22 Salary	Salary & Benefits ²	Employee	FY22 Salary	Salary & Benefits ²
OFFICE			STIPEND		
Brown, Tyson ³	1,154	3,659	Boucher, Jon	1,500	1,615
Deegan, Ed	823	886	Burley, Ginny	1,500	1,615
Fillion, Deborah	10,494	11,297	Cate, Paul	1,000	1,077
Flynn, Kristi	1,265	1,362	Cutler, Clarice	500	538
Hazel, Ross	11,465	12,343	Dillon, Judith	1,000	1,077
Jenkins, Gina ³	15,385	20,479	Etnier, Carl	2,000	2,153
Johnson, Bruce ^{3,4}	139,375	162,207	Gardner, Seth	1,500	1,615
Laquerre, Rosie ³	54,308	89,723	Hall, Richard	500	538
Occaso, Carla	453	488	Hardy, Spencer	167	180
Pallas, Michele ³	10,478	13,725	Hess, Scott	500	538
Racanelli, Chris	3,386	3,645	Jewett, Jon	1,000	1,077
Sparrow, Denise ³	46,739	61,941	Lam, Siu Tip	333	358
Welch, Don	38,462	41,404	Lane, Mark	500	538
	\$ 333,787	\$ 423,159	Perry, Amber	1,000	1,077
			Potter, Julie	500	538
HIGHWAY			Sullivan, Zach	750	807
Campbell, Frank ³	52,904	88,314	Watson, Kim	500	538
Hill, Peter	180	194	Willis, Amy	1,000	1,077
Lorden, Ken ³	56,704	65,465		\$ 15,750	\$ 16,956
Perry, Guthrie ³	65,859	104,306			
Seadeek, Craig ³	52,836	80,410			
	\$ 228,483	\$ 338,689			
			CEMETERY		
			Lamson, Nicholas	4,284	4,612
			Lamson, Timothy	5,229	5,629
			Morse, Elliott	4,946	5,324
				\$ 14,459	\$ 15,565
			TOTAL		
			PAYROLL	\$ 577,729	\$ 778,490

NOTES:

1. FY22 payroll does not include \$5,634.08 paid to Election Workers.
2. All benefits include Town's share of FICA (Social Security) and Medicare.
3. These benefits also include employer-paid premiums for coverage of Health and Dental Insurance, Retirement, Short- and Long-Term Disability, and Life Insurance. Totals do not include Workers Compensation (\$15,294.50) and Unemployment Insurance (\$3,470.00) coverage for road crew and office staff in FY22.
4. Includes \$45,000 severance.

Note:

This payroll report shows 26 biweekly payrolls (FY22 pay periods ending on July 15, 2021 through June 30, 2022). Reports elsewhere in this book may show accrued (partial) pay periods.



Photos: Deborah Fillion



GREEN UP DAY 2022



May 7th started out damp and cold, but that didn't stop townspeople of all ages from showing-up and greening-up our roadsides. This group tackled the Wrightsville end of Horn of the Moon Road, filling a truck and a trailer with tires, bottles, cans, scrap metal, and more.



RESTRICTED FUNDS SUMMARY

Permanent Funds account for assets held by the Town pursuant to a trust agreement. The principal portion of this fund type must remain intact, but the earnings may be used to achieve the objectives of the fund: Carlton C. Smith Recreational Fund and Perpetual Care Fund portion of the Cemetery accounts.

Special Revenue Funds are proceeds of specific revenue sources that are either legally restricted to specified purposes or designated to finance particular functions or activities of the Town. Restricted funds: Emergency Services, Grand List Reappraisal, Land Conservation, Rally Day, Recreation , Land Records Restoration , Town Forest, Veterans Memorial, Capital Reserve, Cemetery's expendable savings accounts, and the Sandy Pines Community Development Fund.

CARLTON C. SMITH RECREATIONAL FUND*

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2021	\$54,802.01
Interest Income	302.66
Ending Balance – June 30, 2022	<u><u>\$55,104.67</u></u>

**\$50,000 bequest held in a CD; interest used for recreation in town.*

EMERGENCY SERVICES FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2021	\$13,820.33
Interest Income	11.27
Expense	(7,080.00)
Ending Balance – June 30, 2022	<u><u>\$6,751.60</u></u>

GRAND LIST REAPPRAISAL FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2021	\$134,983.14
Interest Income	111.38
Received from State of Vermont (\$8.50/active parcel)	10,531.50
Ending Balance – June 30, 2022	<u><u>\$145,626.02</u></u>

LAND CONSERVATION FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2021	\$20,666.76
Interest Income	16.86
Ending Balance – June 30, 2022	<u><u>\$20,683.62</u></u>

RALLY DAY SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2021	\$669.58
Interest Income	0.56
Ending Balance – June 30, 2022	<u><u>\$670.14</u></u>

RECREATION FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2021	\$775.14
6/30/21 Adjusting Entry #20220011	131.05
Adjusted Beginning Balance – July 1, 2021	906.19
Revenue: Interest Income	3.59
FY22 Town Appropriation	3,500.00
Concessions	3,384.25
Program service fees	5,730.00
Apparel sales	426.01
Donations	779.00
TOTAL REVENUES	13,822.85
Expense: Easter Egg Hunt	(374.73)
Program costs (supplies, concessions, refs)	(5,872.14)
Field maintenance	(2,641.88)
Utilities (electricity, trash removal, septic)	(3,270.22)
TOTAL EXPENSES	(12,158.97)
Ending Balance – June 30, 2022	<u>\$2,570.07</u>

RESTORATION FUND, LAND RECORDS*

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2021	\$13,871.16
Interest Income	11.42
Revenue: Fees, Licenses, and Permits	7,392.00
Expense: Land Records digitization project	(28,471.92)
Ending Balance – June 30, 2022	<u>(\$7,197.34)</u>

** The Town is required to put aside \$4 per recorded page in a Restoration and Preservation Reserve Fund to be used solely for the restoration, preservation, digitization, storage, and conservation of municipal records, as per 24 V.S.A. § 1681(c).*

TOWN FOREST FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2021	\$27,200.03
Interest Income	22.18
Ending Balance – June 30, 2022	<u>\$27,222.21</u>

VETERANS MEMORIAL FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2021	\$1,450.54
Interest Income	1.18
Transferred to Capital Reserve Fund (see pg. 43)	(1,451.72)
Ending Balance – June 30, 2022	<u>\$0.00</u>

GRANTS REPORT FOR 2022

These pages give a brief accounting of the open and recently closed grants benefiting the town. Most are state grants that come with a town match of 0–20%. We also receive small targeted grants from other organizations, including annual 50/50 grants from the VT League of Cities & Towns for safety equipment. Information presented is based on FY2022 financial data.

ACTIVE GRANTS

American Rescue Plan Act local fiscal recovery funding. The second half of the funding in the amount of \$381,280.16 was received in August 2022. The town has until the end of 2024 to obligate the funds and the end of 2026 to expend the funds.

Federal Funds	\$762,560.32
Town Match	\$ 0.00
Total Grant	\$762,560.32

FY2022 VTrans Town Highway Structures Program Grant to replace/upsizes the County Rd/Mallory Brook culvert just north of Barnes Rd.

State Funds	\$ 24,772.62
Town Match	\$114,491.97
Total Costs	\$139,264.59

FY2022 VTrans Better Roads Grant to replace/upsizes the County Rd/Mallory Brook culvert just north of Barnes Rd.

State Funds	\$ 60,000.00
Town Match	\$ 15,000.00
Total Costs	\$ 75,000.00

FY2020 VTrans Town Highway Structures Program Grant to replace a large culvert on County Rd just south of Morse Farm.

State Funds	\$124,200.00
Town Match	\$ 56,382.11
Total Costs	\$180,582.11

FY2020 VTrans Class 2 Town Highway Paving Program Grant to repave County Rd from the Montpelier line to Powder Horn Glen Rd.

State Funds	\$175,000.00
Town Match	\$246,502.11
Total Costs	\$421,502.11

FY2022 VTrans Town Highway Structures Program Grant to replace/upsizes/relocate the Center Rd/Mallory Brook culvert just south of the Dodge Rd intersection.

State Funds	\$175,000.00
Town Match	\$ 19,445.00
Total Costs	\$194,445.00

FY2022 ANR & VTrans Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid Program, funded through CVRPC, for small stormwater management projects.

State Funds	\$ 12,100.00
Town Match	\$ 5,837.47
Total Costs	\$ 17,937.47

2022 Communities Caring for Canopy Grant to remove ash trees along North Street and Sparrow Farm Rd and plant 2-3 non-ash tree species.

State Funds	\$ 5,000.00
Town Match	\$ 29,700.00
Total Costs	\$ 34,700.00



Photo: Larry Gilbert

FY2023 VTrans Better Roads Grant to replace culvert on Cherry Tree Hill Rd.

State Funds	\$ 56,000.00
Town Match	\$ 14,000.00
Total Costs	\$ 70,000.00

GRANTS CLOSED IN FY2022

FY2021 ANR Municipal Grants-in-Aid Equipment Purchase Program for the purchase of shoulder disks for road shoulder management.

State Funds	\$ 6,400.00
Town Match	\$ 4,545.15
Total Costs	\$ 10,945.15

FY2021 ANR Municipal Roads Grants in Aid Project for road drainage project on Cherry Tree Hill Rd.

State Funds	\$ 14,020.00
Town Match	\$ 5,285.04
Total Costs	\$ 19,305.04

VTrans LTF Bicycle & Pedestrian Program Grant for sidewalk and shoulder enhancements along the US Rte. 2/VT Rte. 14 corridor in East Montpelier Village.

State Funds	\$823,800.00
Town Match	\$112,200.00
Total Costs	\$936,000.00



Photo: Jim Eaton



Photo: Jim Eaton

Inline skaters, bike riders, and walkers joined the neighborhood celebration of the newly-paved County Road on November 13th.



EAST MONTPELIER CAPITAL PLANNING BUDGET EXECUTIVE SUMMARY *

Details of the Capital Planning Budget are posted on the Town Website:

<https://eastmontpeliervt.org/boards-commission/capital-improvement-committee/>

Item	Actual FY2022	FY2023 Budget	Presented for FY2024 Budget	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Municipal Building												
Total Exp by Yr	0	19,400	0	0	0	0	0	12,000	0	8,000	0	8,000
Town Garage												
Total Exp by Yr	0	6,000	0	0	6,000	0	0	17,000	0	3,000	0	22,000
Emergency Services Facility												
Total Exp by Yr	0	34,000	0	3,000	0	36,000	6,000	0	18,000	0	23,000	0
Vehicles												
Total Exp by Yr	51,953	35,000	35,000	135,000	35,000	74,400	141,200	70,000	70,000	70,000	35,000	35,000
Heavy Equipment												
Total Exp by Yr	0	0	0	0	175,000	0	0	0	0	0	300,000	275,000
Paving												
Total Exp by Yr	0	772,500	448,125	281,250	84,375	318,750	131,250	56,250	0	0	905,625	448,125
Opportunity Fund												
Total Exp by Yr	1,105	150,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Totals												
Total Exp by Yr	53,058	1,016,900	483,125	419,250	300,375	429,150	278,450	155,250	88,000	81,000	1,263,625	788,125
Yearly Planning Budget	446,634	459,690	459,690	459,690	459,690	459,690	459,690	459,690	459,690	459,690	459,690	459,690
GF Transfers and interest												
Capital Plan Balance	1,884,936	1,327,726	1,304,291	1,344,731	1,504,046	1,534,586	1,715,826	2,020,266	2,391,956	2,770,646	1,966,711	1,638,276
Total Audited Capital Plan	\$1,490,133											

* See facing page and Capital Improvement Committee report on page 57.

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Beginning Balance – July 1, 2021	\$ 1,490,132.07
Revenues:	
Interest earned	1,227.22
FY22 Appropriation (Budget Line Item)	446,634.00
Transfer from General Fund Surplus	0.00
ANR Roadside Management Grant	6,400.00
Veterans Memorial Fund closed; funds transferred to Capital Reserve	1,451.72
	455,712.94
Expenses:	
FY22 Local Matching Funds for Grants:	
Paving & Structures; Town Highway Structures	(4,244.79)
Debt Service: Vehicle Loan Payments	0.00
East Hill Tree Farm	(694.45)
Midstate Dodge - Purchase new truck	(51,953.00)
Hudson Property	(410.90)
Sidewalk Village Project	(66,029.19)
	(123,332.33)
Ending Bank Balance – June 30, 2022	\$ 1,822,512.68

Capital Reserve for the Emergency Services Facility (ESF)

In agreements reached with the East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD) for the use of the ESF (a town-owned building), EMFD agreed to use a portion of the ambulance service revenue to fund a capital reserve to cover long-term maintenance of the facility. Routine maintenance is covered by EMFD's operating budget. The Town, in conjunction with EMFD, has developed a capital plan covering the life expectancies of most capital items connected with the facility. A portion of those costs will be covered by EMFD capital reserve, a portion by Calais, and the remainder by the Town. The Town's capital plan includes expected outlays for ESF capital items and the expectation is that the Town's portion will be covered by its capital reserve fund.

Also note: EMFD holds recent years' capital contributions for future equipment and truck replacement in its accounts. On June 30, 2022, EMFD had \$158,153 designated in a capital account. In any calendar year, EMFD may spend up to \$20,000 of capital account funds for emergency purchases at its own discretion. Any capital purchase exceeding \$20,000 requires approval by both Calais and East Montpelier Selectboards or, at the discretion of the Selectboards, may require approval by voters of both towns with a warned article at Town Meeting. The Emergency Services Fund, which contains the ESF bond remainder money, is used for minor upgrades, like protective flooring in fire truck bay areas.

SANDY PINES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

Beginning Fund Balance – July 1, 2021	\$ 74,139.63
Loan Repayments from Housing Foundation, Inc.	15,896.71
Interest earned in FY22	0.00
Annual Payment to State of VT	(7,948.36)
Ending Balance – June 30, 2022	\$ 82,087.98

The Town of East Montpelier was awarded a grant of \$318,900.00 from the Vermont Community Development Program (VCDP) to fund the replacement of the sewage systems of Sandy Pines Mobile Home Park. The Town loaned the money to the Housing Foundation, Inc. at three (3%) percent per annum amortized over thirty (30) years. The project was completed in 1999.

Repayment Terms: Principal and interest payments began Sept. 1, 2004. Monthly installments are in the amount of \$1,319.20, with the balance of any remaining indebtedness due and payable on June 1, 2022. Under VCDP rules, half of the principal and interest collected are to be turned over to the State annually.

Repayment Deferral: On August 15, 2005, the Selectboard approved a 5.5-year deferral of repayments and extension of the life of the loan as requested by the Vermont State Housing Authority (VSHA). The VSHA used the deferred payments (\$15,830 per year) for the repair and upgrade of the water and electrical systems at Sandy Pines. Repayment of the \$311,472.78 balance resumed on April 1, 2011. Final loan payment is due on December 1, 2027.

Loan Balance: The balance receivable as of June 30, 2022 was \$22,4049, only a portion of which will remain with the Town to be used as described below.

Revolving Loan Fund: The town's portion of the repayment of VCDP funds is available for grants or loans to qualifying projects. The Selectboard acts as a Revolving Loan Advisory Committee, with the assistance of an advisor, currently Becca Schrader.

In the summer of 2022, the Selectboard considered several options for the Revolving Loan Fund and determined that they wanted to use the funds towards housing needs. They also decided to request that the Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) assist in finding a non-profit development organization that could administer the fund, as the town doesn't have the administrative capacity to operate a loan program. The Revolving Loan Fund Advisor and ACCD are coordinating with a housing non-profit to bring a proposal to the Selectboard in early 2023.

Photo: Deborah Fillion



CONSERVATION FUND SUMMARY

Date	Project	Town Funds	Total Amount	Acres
12/7/90	Cleaves Farm	\$ 32,000	\$ 301,968	285
5/14/93	Bair/Chapell	4,000	264,030	479
10/13/94	Sparrow Farm	31,000	307,975	163
6/28/96	Frihauff/VLT	5,000	106,470	167
10/24/96	Sibley Farm	10,000	229,895	172
6/16/99	Christiansen Farm	14,795	150,000	237
10/12/04	Mallory Brook/Pratt	15,000	400,000	481
6/15/06	Clark Farm, phase 1	5,000	177,500	72
2/5/07	Fairmont Farm	10,000	316,092	159
6/19/08	Benton Project	12,000	120,000	11.5
3/5/12	Soule (Coburn Rd)	2,100	21,000	5
1/15/14	Clark Farm, phase 2	4,685	136,385	134.7
11/2/15	Ormsbee Farm	15,000	15,000	171.5
9/27/17	Fairmont Dairy	6,000	\$470,000	361
6/23/20	Fairmont Dairy	5,000	\$630,000	196
Total Completed Projects		\$ 171,580	\$3,646,315	3,094.7

EAST MONTPELIER CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Tim Lamson was elected chair and Emily Goyette was named clerk for 2022-2023. It is our intention that the graves of all veterans be marked with a flag. Please advise the committee if a grave has been missed.

Tasks for the 2023 season include:

- Mow and maintain landscape as usual.
- Maintain all equipment.
- Replace veterans' flags before Memorial Day.
- Continue project to build and mount boxes on posts at each cemetery (similar to those at East Montpelier Trail access points) containing plastic-coated sheets in a ring binder with map and location of graves, and perhaps a visitor sign-in.
- Photograph headstones in Willard Cutler and Gould cemeteries and upload to the Find-a-Grave.com website.
- Review and update current burial rules and regulations.
- Have broken headstones in Cutler Cemetery repaired.
- Survey Doty Cemetery to determine viable available plots and update the map.

Cemeteries status:

- **Small cemeteries:** All had seasonal mowing and trimming. Small trees and debris were cleared. Tinkham has a large maple to saw up, and the fence needs some repair work. Also, some painting, propping up stones, and bombing woodchuck holes need to be done. Quaker has woodchuck holes to address. Clark, Willard Cutler, Peck, Gould, and Wheeler mostly require stone propping. Heavy winds this winter may require some debris clearing. Peck needs to have the rotten parts of the posts cut and reinstalled into the ground or new posts may need to be purchased.
- **Large cemeteries:** East Village had 40 new posts installed and 10 more are needed. Additionally, the front fencing needs painting, and there is some tree trimming to do. Cate looks good but may require some fence work and painting in 2023. Cutler may need some tree trimming. Doty looks good.

Future anticipated expenses:

- Land acquisition for additional burial space.

Budget of \$30,500 requested for FY2024			
Payroll	\$16,000	Survey and Mapping at Doty	5,000
Fence Painting & Repair	3,000	Damaged Headstone Repairs	3,000
Corner Markers	150	Cemetery Association Fees	100
Equipment Maintenance	2,000	Miscellaneous	750
Fuel	500	Total	\$30,500

Burial lots are available in the Doty cemetery. Costs are as follows:

- Four grave plot \$1,400, includes \$750 perpetual care, \$150 plot corner markers
- Two grave plot \$800, includes \$375 perpetual care, \$150 plot corner markers
- Cremation plot \$550, includes \$225 perpetual care, \$150 plot corner markers

The committee thanks Tim Lamson and Elliott Morse for their leadership and historical perspective.

TIM LAMSON, *Chair*
EMILY GOYETTE, *Clerk*

ELLIOTT MORSE
MARK LANE JONATHAN BOUCHER

CEMETERY FUNDS

Beginning Fund Balance – July 1, 2021	\$ 113,320.10
Income:	
Town Appropriation	20,000.00
Sale of plots (perpetual care)	1,575.00
Sale of plots (expendable)	1,925.00
Cemetery Services	<u>6,055.00</u>
	29,555.00
Interest Income	1,040.10
Care of Cemeteries Expense (see below)	<u>(23,313.86)</u>
Ending Balance - June 30, 2022	<u><u>\$ 120,601.34</u></u>

BALANCE – JUNE 30, 2022

Expendable Funds:	
People’s Bank Account	19,142.11
Non-Expendable Perpetual Care Funds:	
North Country Fed Credit Union CD1	21,604.70
North Country Fed Credit Union CD2	<u>79,854.53</u>
	<u>101,459.23</u>
Total Cemetery Funds - June 30, 2022	<u><u>\$ 120,601.34</u></u>

CARE OF CEMETERY EXPENSES

Payroll	\$ 14,898.89
Fencing	0.00
Stone Cleaning & Repair	0.00
Trees & Invasive Species	0.00
New Corner Markers	1,800.00
New Equipment	0.00
Equipment Maintenance	793.62
Fuel	431.14
Burial Services	4,200.00
Miscellaneous	<u>1,190.21</u>
Total Expenses	<u><u>\$ 23,313.86</u></u>



ABSTRACT OF THE GRAND LIST — 2022 EQUALIZATION STUDY

East Montpelier 12195
School Dist. ID: 65

December 15, 2022

Category	Property Count	ED Form 411 Listed Value	CUSE Value	Education		Municipal Listed Value Excl. CUSE	Applied Ratio	Ratio Source*	Education		Municipal Equalized Value	COD
				Listed Value Excl. CUSE	Value				Equalized Value	Value		
Residential 1	498	115,140,600	0	115,140,600	0	114,870,600	78.13		147,370,536	147,024,958	15.74	
Residential 2	411	140,053,030	1,159,200	138,893,830	1,159,200	138,713,830	87.01		160,918,162	160,711,289	14.50	
Mob.Home-Unlanded	57	1,351,200	0	1,351,200	0	1,351,200	104.38		1,294,501	1,294,501	13.87	
Mobile Home-Landed	45	6,030,000	0	6,030,000	0	5,970,000	82.83		7,279,971	7,207,534	0.33	
Seasonal 1	8	1,991,100	0	1,991,100	0	1,991,100	82.39	C	2,416,677	2,416,677	0.00	
Seasonal 2	9	2,588,900	36,300	2,552,600	36,300	2,552,600	82.39	C	3,138,538	3,138,538	22.60	
Commercial	49	18,543,300	19,700	18,523,600	19,700	18,570,100	81.76	T	22,677,963	22,734,837	0.00	
Commercial Apts.	4	3,625,700	0	3,625,700	0	3,625,700	81.76	T	4,434,565	4,434,565	0.00	
Industrial-Manufac.	3	3,359,900	0	3,359,900	0	3,359,900	81.76	T	4,109,467	4,109,467	0.00	
Utilities-Electric	11	7,375,500	0	7,375,500	0	8,593,300	92.02	O	8,015,105	9,338,513	0.00	
Utilities-Other	1	290,800	0	290,800	0	290,800	81.76	T	355,675	355,675	0.00	
Farm	10	4,497,940	566,800	3,931,140	566,800	3,931,140	81.76	T	5,438,134	5,438,134	0.00	
Other and Woodland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	C	0	0	0.00	
Miscellaneous (Land)	103	6,627,191	484,700	6,142,491	484,700	6,140,091	81.76	T	8,051,567	8,048,631	16.29	
Total Real Property	1,209	311,475,161	2,266,700	309,208,461	2,266,700	309,960,361			375,500,860	376,253,318		
Personal Property:												
				Cable:	494,833	0	100.00		494,833	0		
				Inventory:	Exempt	0	100.00		Exempt	0		
				Machinery & Equip:	Exempt	0	100.00		Exempt	0		
				TOTAL:	494,833	0			494,833	0		
GRAND TOTAL (Real and Personal Property)				\$309,703,294		\$309,960,361	82.97		\$375,995,693	\$376,253,318	16.52	

Certified to County: \$375,996,000 CLA: 82.97
 Certified to State: \$375,996,000 Townwide COD: 16.52

2022 Equalization Study Results
 Education Grand List (from form 411): \$311,475,161
 Equalized Educa Grand List (EEGL): \$375,995,693
 Common Level of Appraisal (CLA): 82.97%
 Coefficient of Dispersion (COD): 16.52%

*"Ratio Source" Definitions: C: Class
 T: Town-wide
 O: Override

BOARD OF LISTERS REPORT

The Board of Listers works to maintain a fair and accurate Grand List of assessed property values in East Montpelier. However, the continued dramatic rise in the sale price of real estate in our town (and statewide), combined with the length of time since we last visited every parcel during the 2009 reappraisal, has resulted in our assessed values being significantly below actual sale prices.

The comparison of listed value to valid (“arms-length”) sales prices affects our Common Level of Appraisal (CLA), the equation the State of Vermont uses to ensure that each town pays its fair share of education taxes. When the CLA falls to 85% or below, we are required to perform a townwide reappraisal.

Based on an evaluation of the 99 valid (“arms-length”) sales in our town from April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2022, our CLA for 2022 has been set at 82.97% of fair market value. So East Montpelier, along with more than a hundred other Vermont towns, must begin planning to assess every parcel on our Grand List.

We intend to hire an independent reappraisal company to work with us. These firms are presently in great demand and short supply, so it will be at least a couple of years before we start the townwide reappraisal process and schedule site visits. We’ll keep the town informed of significant developments as they happen. Costs will be covered by the annual state payments being held in our Grand List Reappraisal Fund (see pg. 38).

It’s worth noting that a townwide reappraisal raises the overall value of the entire Grand List, and the tax rate decreases accordingly. So most property owners are not expected to see a significant change in their tax bill as a result.

While the CLA measures the accuracy of our listed values, the Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) measures the fairness of assessed values relative to each other. The lower the COD, the more equitable the assessments. When the COD rises to 20%, a Town-wide reappraisal is ordered. In 2022, our COD increased from 13.2% to 16.52%.

Our thanks go out to the many townspeople who helped us fulfill our duties as Listers for the Town. If you have questions about your assessment, our office hours are Monday through Friday, 10 A.M. to noon; (802) 223-3313 ext. 206.

ROSS HAZEL
CHRIS RACANELLI
DEBORAH FILLION

CLA (Common Level of Appraisal) for East Montpelier							
2009*	98.73%		2011	97.16%		2015	94.60%
2010	98.92%		2012	98.22%		2016	94.94%
*Most recent town-wide reappraisal			2013	98.98%		2017	95.83%
			2014	94.10%		2018	95.32%
						2019	93.82%
						2020	94.18%
						2021	89.97%
						2022	82.97%

Excerpt of final computation sheet of 2022 Equalization Study on facing page.

RESILIENT ROADS COMMITTEE

The Resilient Roads Committee, created by the Selectboard in 2017, continues to work on the implementation of two plans—the Rural Road Resilient Right-of-Ways Vegetation Assessment (1/13/20) and the East Montpelier Ash Tree Management Plan (6/1/21). Since the Committee was first created, it has worked closely with and been guided by the Urban & Community Forestry Program (UCFP) of the VT Dept. of Forests, Parks, and Recreation (VTFPR). The main charge of the Committee is to enhance and protect roadside vegetation such that the values for stormwater runoff control, wildlife habitat, aesthetics and cultural importance are maintained. Key to its success is close coordination of its efforts with the town road crew; the road foreman is an active committee member. The completed plans are available on the Town website.



Ash Tree Management



The Committee continued its effort under the East Montpelier Ash Tree Management Plan to stay ahead of the roadside ash tree mortality from the non-native, invasive emerald ash borer (EAB), which has devastated ash trees across the United States and has been present in central Vermont since at least 2018. In spring of 2022, the Town contracted for removal of ash trees and other hazard trees on North Street, Sparrow Farm Road, and Cummings Road. Work was done by Foxfire Tree Care, an in-town tree service. As with projects completed in 2020 (Gallison Hill Road area) and 2021 (County Road), the tree removal work was partially funded through a Caring for Canopies grant from the U.S. Forest Service through the VT Dept. of Forests, Parks, and Recreation. A total of approximately 200 trees were removed. The scope of work was consistent with the Ash Tree Management Plan, which targets contract removal of about 200 trees annually from 2022–2026. The 2019 ash-tree inventory estimated just over 2,400 ash trees of 6” dbh (diameter at breast height) and larger within the road rights of way (non-utility). Our road crew also continued removing ash trees along Dodge and Johnson roads.

In December, the Town applied for a fourth grant for 2023 to remove another 200 ash trees along Barnes, Bliss and Murray Roads. The primary factors in road selection are proximity to known EAB infestations and the level of road traffic; some roads have so far not been considered due to limited density of ash.

Additional 2022 Projects

In late April, East Hill Tree Farm planted three sugar maples at the Town recreation area on Vincent Flats Road near the elementary school. These trees replaced landscape trees that had succumbed to lawnmower and string trimmer damage. Care was taken to properly mulch the trees, and steel stakes were set to ensure that lawn maintenance does not result in future tree loss. The Committee also continued its maintenance work at U-32 Middle & High School, pruning landscape trees and removing invasive plants in the hedgerow along Gallison Hill Road.



Photo: Terry J. Allen

The Committee continued work on a town Shade Tree Preservation Plan as provided for in recent amendments to the state tree warden statutes. These municipal plans designate which road right-of-way trees will be managed as public shade trees and discuss how they and shade trees on town property will be maintained. On April 18, the Selectboard and tree warden conducted a public hearing at the fire station to receive comments on the draft plan.

Looking Ahead: 2023

In addition to the aforementioned ash tree removal project, the Committee is hoping to complete the shade tree preservation plan and bring it before the Selectboard for adoption.

The Committee is planning a series of public informational meetings starting with an update on EAB from state and town perspectives.

The Committee is planning on replacing additional landscape trees at the Vincent Flats recreation area.

In 2022, the Selectboard authorized creation of a deputy tree warden position to assist our current tree warden, Paul Cate. The Committee will be assisting the Selectboard with recruitment.

JEFF CUETO, *Chair*
 PAUL CATE, *Tree Warden*
 STEVE JUSTIS
 MARK LANE
 GUTHRIE PERRY



CENTRAL VERMONT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CVRPC provides planning, development, and project implementation services to its 23 municipalities in Washington and western Orange Counties. Municipalities in the region are entitled to equal voting representation by a locally appointed member to the governing Board of Commissioners. CVRPC has no regulatory or taxing authority; each year, we request a per capita assessment from our members in support of local and regional planning activities and to help offset costs and provide local matching funds needed for state and federal funding. Your continued support for local and regional planning is appreciated! CVRPC is your resource – please contact us at 802-229-0389 or email cvrpc@cvregion.com for assistance.

FY22 East Montpelier Activities

- Supported emergency response and disaster preparedness by creating E911 Service Area maps.
- Identified eligible roads for Grants in Aid construction funds, assisted in obtaining new equipment funds; and managed those funds.
- Researched transportation funding opportunities for East Montpelier to study active transportation along Gallison Hill and Towne Hill Roads.
- Provided information and guidance on ARPA project eligibility and prioritization process.
- Conducted pre-construction site visits for Municipal Roads Grants in Aid.
- Reviewed section 1111 application for modified Orchard Valley access to Route 14.
- Provided guidance and resources to Planning Commission on Enhanced Energy Planning and developing a municipal energy committee.
- Reviewed and submitted 2022 Local Emergency Management Plan to Vermont Emergency Management.
- Updated Town Web map and Town’s Zoning maps.

CVRPC Projects & Programs

- ***Municipal Plan and Bylaw Updates:*** Focus on predictable and effective local permitting through educational initiatives, bylaw modernization and municipal plan updates.
- ***Brownfields:*** Complete environmental site assessments so properties can be sold, developed or redeveloped to benefit the economy, create/protect jobs and increase housing opportunities.
- ***Transportation Planning:*** Provide studies, plans, data collection, and traffic counts. Coordinate local involvement in transportation planning through the Transportation Advisory Committee.
- ***Emergency Planning:*** Prepare the region for natural disasters and other



emergencies by coordinating with local volunteers and the State on emergency planning, exercises, and training.

- ***Climate and Energy Planning:*** Support projects to reduce municipal and residential energy burdens, reduce total energy consumption, expand renewable energy resources, and build climate and energy resilience.
- ***Natural Resource Planning:*** Protect water resources, improve water quality, promote ecological function, preserve forest blocks and habitat connectors, enhance recreational opportunities and support the agricultural and forest products industries.
- ***Regional Plans:*** Coordinate infrastructure, community development, and growth at the regional level through the preparation, adoption, and implementation of a regional plan.
- ***Geographic Information System Services:*** Collect, analyze, store and distribute data for regional projects and programs. Offer fee-for-service GIS support to municipalities and non-governmental organizations.
- ***Clean Water Service Provider:*** Engage watershed and land conservation organizations, Regional Planning Commissions, Natural Resources Conservation Districts and municipalities to identify and fund water quality projects to achieve phosphorous reduction targets
- ***Special Projects:*** Complete special projects, such as downtown revitalization, recreation paths, farmland preservation, economic development, and affordable housing projects.
- ***Grants:*** Identify appropriate grant sources, define project scopes, and write grant applications.



PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission turned over three positions in 2022. Julie Potter did not run for reelection and Lauren Oates was elected in March. Spencer Hardy and Lauren Oates stepped off, and Maia Stone was appointed to serve until Town Meeting 2023. There is currently one vacant seat. The commission would also like to thank Scott Hess, who will not be seeking reelection, for his many years of service.

The Planning Commission completed two major projects this year: updates to the town zoning and an amendment to the town plan. Both the zoning and the town plan amendment were adopted by the Selectboard over the summer, and the town plan amendment was approved by the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission this fall.

The zoning updates primarily brought the zoning into alignment with the





town plan and the village master plan. These are intended to encourage mixed use development in East Montpelier Village, and to allow greater housing density in that part of town. While infrastructure challenges remain, particularly around water and wastewater, this removes zoning as a barrier to creating housing in the village.

The town plan amendments added a new section governing where cell towers should be placed in town. This will provide stronger guidance to developers to understand how the town wants the impacts of towers to be mitigated, provides a clearer picture to residents of what the town will and will not support, and commits the Planning Commission to engaging with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) in the event that a proposed tower does not meet the town's siting and design standards.

With these projects complete, the Planning Commission turned its attention to writing the town's Enhanced Energy Plan, and to recruiting new members to the Energy Committee to help write and implement that plan. The Enhanced Energy Plan will outline the town's role in meeting state energy goals around increasing efficiency of all energy use, switching use from fossil fuels to renewable sources, and generating renewable energy. Approval of a plan will also give the town standing in PUC cases about the siting of large renewable energy projects, provided that we have shown that we are allowing such projects in enough of the town to meet local needs.

Finally, the Planning Commission is beginning to examine housing needs in anticipation of the writing of the next town plan. The housing shortage has become more acute since the last town plan was written in 2018, and will likely need to be a greater subject of focus in the next town plan.

Individual Planning Commission members serve on other related committees, including the Development Review Board, the Capital Improvement Committee, the Resilient Roads Committee, the Energy Committee, and the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission holds its regular meetings on the first and third Thursday of each month, starting at 7:00 P.M. Meetings will be held in a hybrid in person/online format for the foreseeable future. The Planning Commission encourages interested citizens to attend any of its meetings; meetings begin with an opportunity for public comment. Persons may also contact any of the members (as of January 2023) below:

ZACH SULLIVAN, <i>Chair</i>	RICHARD HALL	MARK LANE
CLARICE CUTLER, <i>Vice Chair</i>	SCOTT HESS	GIANNA PETITO
KIM WATSON, <i>Corr. Secretary</i>	MAIA STONE	<i>(one seat vacant)</i>





ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

I am the new Zoning Administrator as of July 2022. I'm a resident of East Montpelier with a construction background. I appreciate the opportunity to serve my town as the Zoning Administrator. 2022 was an active year for permits as we move into a different phase of the pandemic. Residential development increased over the prior year with 5 single-family dwellings, 1 accessory dwelling and 2 building lots receiving permits. The bulk of the permitting, as always, was centered on property improvement projects like barns, sheds, garages, and house alterations.

Zoning Applications Submitted Jan. 1, 2022 – Dec. 31, 2022

9	New & Replacement Dwellings
44	Residential alteration, addition, garage, or accessory structure
11	Subdivision, Planned Unit Dev., or Boundary Line Adjustment
3	Commercial, Multi-Family, Public Facility, or Sign
<u>13</u>	Access or Right-of-Way Permits
80	Total Zoning Permit Applications

In addition to providing staff support to the Planning Commission and Development Review Boards, the Zoning Administrator's job includes guiding applicants through the zoning process, issuing zoning permits, enforcing the zoning regulations.

Remember that the town plan, zoning regulations, application forms, maps, and much more are available on the town website: <https://eastmontpeliervt.org>. Please contact me if you have any questions about your project, the zoning regulations, or the permitting and approval process.

—TYSON BROWN, *Zoning Administrator*



DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD REPORT

The Development Review Board (DRB) is responsible for all local board review and management of land development in town. Permit applications that the Zoning Administrator is not empowered to approve or deny, under East Montpelier's Land Use and Development Regulations, are publicly reviewed by the DRB. The DRB also handles appeals of actions taken by the Zoning Administrator.

In 2022, the DRB met 7 times and conducted the following reviews:

6	Site Plan, Conditional Use, and/or Permit Compliance
6	Subdivision, Planned Unit Dev., or Boundary Line Adjustment
<u>3</u>	Sketch Plan and/or Conceptual Site Plan
15	Total DRB hearings





The DRB convenes to review applications as needed on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. in the municipal office building. In addition, special or continued meetings are held when necessary. All meetings are open to the public.

Deirdre Connelly, who is not a member of the DRB, serves as the Recording Secretary. A thank you to Kristi Flynn for serving as the Recording Secretary for the first half of 2022.

STEVE KAPPEL, <i>Chair</i>	MARK LANE	STEVE JUSTIS
JEFF CUETO, <i>Vice Chair</i>	NORMAN HILL	LAUREN OATES
CLARICE CUTLER	KIM WATSON	GLENN WEYANT



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE *

The CIC was established and has been meeting since 2013. Its purpose is to develop and help the Town implement and maintain a capital asset budget plan for its future needs. The membership makeup of the committee includes at least one of each of the following; a selectboard member, a planning commissioner, the Town treasurer and a member at large.

The objective of having a capital budget is to assist the Town in maintaining a stable tax rate by anticipating and incorporating the Town's monetary asset needs into its budgets. This may preclude the need to finance some capital assets through the issuance of debt or borrowing for asset purchases.

Each year the committee solicits input from East Montpelier Town boards, committees and community organizations as well as residents to assess and anticipate the Town's future capital needs. Our goal is to anticipate future capital expenses based on the Town's needs and incorporate them into the capital budget plan.

The CIC has reviewed and adjusted the existing capital budget plan to reflect the Town's current capital budget needs. This year's committee recommendations for the capital reserve budget contribution has been approved by the selectboard and is included in the Town's FY2024 budget.

All documents including budgets, agendas and committee minutes can be found on the Town's web site. We accept input and suggestions at any time.

We strongly feel that it is important to plan for the Town's future needs so that taxpayers in the Town are not faced with large tax increases for projects that have not been carefully studied and adequately funded.

ED DEEGAN, *Chair (Member at Large)*
 KIM WATSON (*Planning Commissioner*)
 MICHELE PALLAS (*Town Treasurer*)
 JON JEWETT (*Selectboard Member*)
 SCOTT HESS (*Member at Large/Planning Commission*)
 DON WELCH (*Member at Large*)

**See Capital Planning Budget Executive Summary and Capital Reserve Fund on pp. 42–43.*





Photos: Terry J. Allen



*Kelton Road, a couple of days before Christmas 2022:
The severe storm that hit our area brought trees down and caused
a power outage that lasted up to six days in some parts of town.*



TOWN CLERK REPORT

Since last year's report, there has been significant transition in this office. Denise Brown Sparrow, our 14-year veteran Municipal Assistant, retired in August. I have been so grateful for her expertise and service to the town's constituents and to me in her role as Assistant Town Clerk. She is missed, but I wish her much happiness as she enjoys some well-deserved free time. As we make this transition, it occurs to me that we've had several new families move into town over the last couple of years who may not be aware of some of the services provided by the Clerk's office.

The Clerk's office is responsible for land records, vital records, elections, and a variety of licenses. We offer a number of other services as well. Did you know that your local clerk's office has access to all birth and death records for the entire state? Traveling to the clerk's office in the town of birth or death is no longer required. Complete a simple form and show your identification to get the documents you need, right here in East Montpelier. Marriage certificates continue to be held in the town where you purchased your license. We also prepare and sell marriage licenses for any couple wishing to marry in the State of Vermont.

The Vermont Green Mountain Passport is an amazing resource for veterans and older Vermonters. This \$2 card gives you access to state parks and several historical sites for day use free of charge. You can apply as soon as you reach 62 years of age. Veterans of any age are also eligible for this benefit. The application is brief and your \$2 investment is good for the rest of your lifetime!

The #1 Dog contest enters its 5th year in 2023. All dogs licensed from the period of January 3 to March 31 will be entered into a random drawing on April 3rd to choose this year's winner. Licensing your dog or wolf-hybrid is an easy way to protect them. Not only do the numbered tags enable us to return loose dogs to their owners faster; in the event of a bite from a rabid dog or other animal, having certification that a rabies vaccine is current will save them from being put down. Licensing is quick, easy, inexpensive and required by Vermont law.

VOTER REGISTRATION

Do you need to register to vote?

It's easier than ever and there are several ways to do it:

- When you renew or change the address on your license at DMV, they will send new voter information to the Town Clerk of your town of residence.
- Go to "My Voter Page" online to register at <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>
- Register at the polls to get on the checklist and receive a ballot that day.
- Go to the Town Clerk's office and complete the form.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Town Clerk:

Call 802-223-3313 ext.201 or email: clerk@eastmontpeliervt.org

Photo: Terry J. Allen



Pandemic-style Town “Meeting” Day 2022.

The Clerk’s office provided Notary Public services for citizens of East Montpelier and other towns more than 150 times over the last year. We will notarize signatures of those with proper identification for most documents requiring oaths or attests. Due to the specific legal nature of Wills and general Powers of Attorney, we recommend you get these document types notarized at your attorney’s office. We can notarize Limited Powers of Attorney for real estate transactions.

Are you aware that you can view the East Montpelier land records online? All land transactions are public information and available for viewing free of charge at www.uslandrecords.com. Simply choose the State of Vermont and town of East Montpelier to reach our indexing page. You can search by property owner name or date. Thanks to the support of the Town Administrators and Selectboard members, over the last three years, we have digitized all land record transactions back to Book 1, Page 1. Funding for this project came from a combination of general funds, recording fees and AARPA grant money.

Clerk’s office staff can answer questions about town services, voting and elections, town organizations and contact information. If you need something and can’t find it, please feel free to give us a call. I look forward to assisting you in the upcoming year!

ROSIE LAQUERRE, *Town Clerk*



VOTING RECORD AND POPULATION

East Montpelier Residents per 2020 Census: 2,598

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Registered</u>	<u>Australian Ballot (AB)</u>	<u>AB / FV Percentage</u>	<u>Floor Vote (FV)</u>
Town Meeting:				
2022	2,338	811	35% / n/a	n/a
2021	2,306	914	40% / n/a	n/a
2020	2,245	1,046	47% / 7%	159
2019	2,103	560	27% / 7%	147
2018	2,058	554	27% / 8%	165
2017	2,115	552	26% / —	—
2016	2,025	1,130	56% / 14%	290
2015	1,997	571	29% / 10%	190
2014	1,995	543	27% / 13%	255
2013	2,109	576	27% / 10%	216
2012	2,037	696	34% / 11%	218
2011	2,028	510	25% / 11%	214
2010	1,990	650	33% / 11%	213
2009	2,057	880	43% / 13%	262
2008	1,903	1,151	60% / 16%	301
2007	2,102	743	35% / 11%	222
2006	2,059	674	33% / 12%	249
2005	2,076	626	30% / 8%	160
2004	1,984	807	41% / 8%	164
2003	2,011	525	26% / 8%	167
2002	1,973	587	30% / 15%	294
Primary Election:				
2022	2,353	861	37%	
2020	2,262	963	43%	
2018	2,200	633	29%	
2016	2,024	889	44%	
2014	1,986	147	7%	
2012	2,052	326	16%	
2010	2,011	730	36%	
2008	1,942	160	8%	
2006	2,066	423	20%	
2004	2,053	224	11%	
2002	1,995	394	20%	
General Election:				
2022	2,361	1,471	62%	
2020	2,312	1,781	77%	
2018	2,223	1,400	63%	
2016	2,107	1,631	77%	
2014	2,014	1,093	54%	
2012	2,116	1,600	76%	
2010	2,038	1,330	65%	
2008	2,046	1,675	82%	
2006	2,097	1,450	69%	
2004	2,116	1,569	74%	
2002	2,029	1,300	64%	

CHANGE OF NAME OR ADDRESS

To change a name
or address on the
voter checklist,
real estate

Grand List,
or dog license,
please contact:

Town Clerk
P.O. Box 157
East Montpelier
VT 05651

(802) 223-3313



TIME TO SPAY AND NEUTER YOUR CATS AND DOGS!

The VT Spay Neuter Incentive Program (**VSNIP**), under the VT Department of Children & Families, is administered by VT Volunteer Services for Animals Humane Society. **Funded by a \$4.00 fee added to the licensing of dogs, this monetary resource is limited by the number of dogs licensed, which is required by law by six months of age.** Puppies and kittens can have the first rabies vaccination after 12 weeks of age. If unable to schedule an appointment with a veterinary office for this vaccination, Tractor Supply Stores hold monthly clinics as well as humane societies during the month of March. Call for their schedules. After the vaccination, contact your town clerk and provide proof of the rabies vaccination to license your dog.

Rabies IS in Vermont and it IS deadly. Licensing a dog:

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

For an Application for VSNIP and a List of Participating Offices, send a S.A.S.E. (a 9” Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope) to:

VSNIP, PO Box 104, Bridgewater, VT 05034

Or, to download and print, go to: **VSNIP.VERMONT.GOV**

Indicate if it’s for a cat, dog or both. Once *fully* completed, you will mail it back. If approved, you will receive your Voucher and instructions.

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

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

SUE SKASKIW, *Administrator*
1-800-HI VSNIP (844) 448-7647



— VITAL STATISTICS —
January 1 to December 31, 2022

BIRTHS

Maeve Byrnes-Hershey	Desmond Contrada
Callan DiGiovanni	Luna Johnson
Axel Somers	Marisol Whitehead

MARRIAGES

Margaret Jay & Clifton King
 Jeffrey Savage & Jessica Manning
 Joshua Laird & Elizabeth Walsh
 Yasmine Ziesler & Steven Kappel
 Whitney Michaud & J. Jarrett Laquerre
 Jessica Ibey & James Files
 Robert Turner & Lyra Wanzer
 Logan Amell & Logan Hutchins
 Gabriel Spence & Zoë Hanley
 Melissa Bassett & Robert Watson
 Laurie Morrill & Edward Reynolds
 Elaine Murphy & Henry Tittmann
 Gregory Wood & Louisa Olsen
 Elizabeth Lawson & Michael Wheeler
 Kate Phillips & Christopher Buckridge
 James Webster & Shellie Janawicz
 Erin Riley & Ehren Hill

DEATHS

Donald Atkins (87)	Anthony Biron (58)
Lawrence Blakely, Jr. (58)	Elizabeth Brown (98)
Robert Buchicchio (75)	Roberta Bushey (82)
David Cheney (72)	Kenneth "Put" Clayton (86)
Austin Cleaves (82)	Roland Cliché (76)
Joseph DeMartino (87)	Virginia Farley (66)
Kenneth Feld (78)	Robert Hitt (86)
Francis Holmes (80)	Audrey Lafirira (90)
Durward Lamb (78)	Ellen Leonard (61)
Jacquelyn Logan (88)	Hester Manning ((85)
Gary Marsha, Sr. (69)	Annette Martin (79)
Lida Mugford (86)	Patricia Renzello (88)
Milton Russell (84)	Marjorie Skott (96)
Katherine Vaughan (89)	Janet Wass (79)
Robert Wright (79)	

No one in East Montpelier died in 2022 due to contracting COVID-19.

PASS-THROUGH ACCOUNTS

FY22:	<i>Paid to State</i>	<i>Balance Due</i>
Dog State Rabies Program	\$ 527	\$ 49
Dog State Spay / Neuter Program	1,980	196
Marriage Licenses	750	0
State Liquor Licenses	140	185
<i>(Pass-through funds are fees collected by the Town Clerk and paid to the State)</i>	\$ 3,397	\$ 430

ANIMAL LICENSES

All dogs and wolf-hybrids 6 (six) months of age or older shall annually on or before **April 1** be licensed. Any dog that is acquired after April 1 or becomes 6 (six) months old during the year shall be licensed within 30 days.

Fees for licensing a dog or wolf-hybrid are as follows:	Late registration
1. Neutered/Spayed dogs or wolf-hybrids	\$9.00 \$11.00
2. Unneutered/Unspayed dogs or wolf-hybrids	\$13.00 \$17.00

Note: For each license sold, \$5.00 pass through to the State as follows:
\$1.00 to State Rabies Program; \$4.00 to VT Spay/Neuter Program (below).

Spaying or neutering certificates from veterinarian **must** be exhibited.
A current rabies vaccination certificate **must** be filed with the Town Clerk.
Current rabies vaccination means that:

- (1) dog/wolf hybrid over 3 months or less than 1 year of age has been vaccinated
 - (2) dog/wolf hybrid within 9–12 months of initial vaccination must receive a booster shot
 - (3) dog/wolf hybrid subsequent vaccination following initial vaccination shall be valid for 36 months
- [V.S.A. Title 20, Section 3581]

RABIES CLINIC

Saturday, March 25, 2023

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

DOGS & CATS

East Montpelier Fire Department

Station #2 – 54 Village Acres

Vaccines: \$30.00 per animal

CASH payment only

Town Clerk (802) 223-3313



★ Kenzie ★ #1 dog 2022 ★

**Article 6
on page 8**

**FOUR CORNERS
SCHOOLHOUSE ASSOCIATION (FCSH)**

It has been a slow recovery for the Four Corners Schoolhouse. While once again we have parties, classes, the Historical Society, the Gully Jumpers, etc., the overall numbers remain about half of what they were pre-pandemic. Whereas we served a bit over 500 people this past year, we routinely saw 1,000 to 1,100 people use the building beforehand. However, we feel the trend is increasing.

Repairs have been minimal, thankfully, but the likely cost of this season's heating oil will be higher. With a warm winter so far, perhaps the budget for sanding and plowing will see savings. Hopefully, the budget will absorb the changes and shake out fine. We've had to put off for another year the refinishing of the floor: increased costs have pushed us to wait another year so that our floor fund can grow.

As I write, I'm reminded of the recent event just before Christmas—the big storm and power outage. I'd like to give thanks to board members who worked hard to keep our building safe during the six days without power: Benedict Koehler and Chris Reed.

Additional thanks can be directed towards Peter Burroughs for his 14 years of service on our board, the last several as Treasurer. While we regret Peter's departure, we warmly welcome Victoria Capitanelli to the board. Possibly representing the greatest sea-change in years(!), Victoria will be our new Scheduler while Rachael Grossman will move in to temporarily serve as Treasurer.

Every resident of East Montpelier is automatically a part of the Four Corners Schoolhouse Association. As such, anyone who wants to use the schoolhouse for events open to the public can do so for free. For private events, birthdays, reunions, and the like, there is a small fee to reserve the space. For events that might themselves charge a fee for attendance, there is an increased, but still reasonable, fee for use of the building.

Anyone wishing to use the Schoolhouse should contact Victoria Capitanelli, our new scheduler, at vcapitanelli@gmail.com. Please allow 24 hours for a response time.

HOBIE GUION, *President*
 DIANA FIELDER, *Vice-president*
 RACHAEL GROSSMAN, *Treasurer*
 CAROLYN SHAPIRO, *Secretary and Town Representative*
 VICTORIA CAPITANELLI, *Scheduler*
 PAULIE COBURN
 SHAWN DAVIDIAN
 BENEDICT KOEHLER
 RHONDA PRENSKY
 CHRIS REED



FCSH FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Cash Balance – July 1, 2021 \$ 8,218.09

Income

FY22 Town Funds 4,500.00

Building Rentals 1,481.00

Total Income 5,981.00

Expenses

Electricity (542.00)

Fuel (heating) (491.78)

Insurance (876.00)

Janitorial services (350.00)

Mowing (665.00)

Repairs & Maintenance (187.51)

Plowing & Sanding (1,020.00)

Total Expense (4,132.29)

Ending Cash Balance – June 30, 2022 \$ 10,066.80

* * *

Ending Cash Balance allocation:

Temporary Restricted:

Floor Refinishing Fund 1,060.00

Furnace Fund 200.00

Painting Fund 3,033.00

Reserve Fund (unassigned) 1,136.50

Septic Fund 280.00

Subtotal – Temporary Restricted 5,709.50

Unrestricted 4,357.30

Total End of Year Balance \$10,066.80



EAST MONTPELIER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The East Montpelier Historical Society, in conjunction with the Calais Historical Society, held monthly meetings either via Zoom, in person as a “field trip” or with a gathering in either town for a potluck meal and live program throughout most of 2022. We began that year with a program on Genealogy led by Andy Christiansen. We held our annual “sugar-on-snow” supper in East Calais. In early summer we met at the Poplar Hill Cemetery to learn more about various family members and their contributions to life in both towns. Our summer croquet game was rained out, so instead we had a wonderful slide show by Conrad and Anne Ormsbee of black and white photos taken on the Ormsbee Farm on Center Road during World War II. We held a picnic gathering on a lovely August evening at the Robinson Sawmill and heard explanations of the equipment and renovation progress of the mill. A planned tour of the Cate Cemetery was rained out, so we shared a bit of a video of historic cemeteries in town via Zoom. Anson Tebbetts, the Secretary of Agriculture, presented a talk on historic aspects of Vermont agriculture in East Calais in October. We finished our year with a detailed talk by George Woodard about how he has made some black and white films set in “old timey” Waterbury Center.

Please visit our website <https://eastmontpelierhistoricalsociety.org/> to learn more about our activities and resources. We plan to begin new programs in late winter/early spring of 2023. Anyone is welcome to attend. Membership details are listed at the website. We post meetings and inquiries on our Facebook page as well: <https://www.facebook.com/EastMontpelierHistoricalSociety>

We have copies of the history of the town, *Across the Onion*, available at the Town Clerk’s office along with several of our other publications. Please contact Sandal Cate <sandal@sover.net> or Andy Christiansen <andy@oldbarnvt.com> for questions or suggestions for future programs. We hope to see you at our meetings.



*Article 7
on pg. 9*

EAST MONTPELIER SIGNPOST

In this, our 33rd year of production, *The East Montpelier Signpost*, continues to serve, inform, and connect our community, thanks to many volunteers. These include, in alphabetical order, Terry Allen, Lyn Blackwell, Jennifer Boyer, Alex Brown, Patty Connor, Hilari Farrington, Rachael Grossman, Rosie Laquerre, Edie Miller, Carolyn Pastore, Barbara Ploof, Kate Rader, Mary Redmond, Merry Schmidt, Rachel Senechal, Michelle Singer, and Ann Stanton. In addition, many townspeople over the months have written feature articles. The current Signpost issue and an archive of all past issues can be found at www.emsignpost.com.

The Signpost’s expenses of printing, postage, and miscellaneous fees have been generously supported by the town, and we hope to continue earning that support in years to come. We are now a non-profit organization, which reduces

SIGNPOST FINANCIAL REPORT

Jan. 1, 2022 – Dec. 31, 2022

NCFCU Checking, Beginning Balance – Jan. 1, 2022	\$ 10,526.40
NCFCU Savings Beginning Balance – Jan. 1, 2022	1,430.89
	11,957.29

INCOME:

Town Funding (TM2022, Art.8)	12,000.00
Contributions	1,110.00
Sponsorships	1,875.00
Dividend Income	1.97
Subscriptions	16.00
	15,002.97

EXPENSES:

Printing and Postage	(9,453.84)
Misc Postage	(32.81)
Business Expense	(172.11)
	(9,658.76)

NCFCU Ending Balance — Dec. 31, 2022 \$17,301.50

Checking Balance on Dec. 31, 2022	\$ 15,868.64
Savings Balance on Dec. 31, 2022	1,432.86
NCFCU Ending Balance	\$ 17,301.50

postage costs as those continue to climb. Meanwhile, we are grateful to the town, to the businesses that sponsor us, and to the townspeople who send donations. The financial report shows *Signpost* revenues and expenses for the calendar year 2022 and the balances at North Country Federal Credit Union, the sole holder of *Signpost* funds.

The *Signpost* publishes six issues per year. A planning meeting convenes every other month to discuss and decide upon the upcoming issue; in another meeting, a month later, we edit the ensuing articles. These meetings are joyful gatherings for us volunteers; we embody the sense of belonging and community that we hope to spread with the featured people and businesses, town notices and committee decisions, history features, recipes, etc.

We welcome you to join us—share your ideas, writing, editing, and proofing skills. You can contact Ann Stanton at profstanton@aol.com or see us at our table at Town Meeting, for the first time in two years. Stop by to say hello!

RECREATION BOARD

The East Montpelier Recreation program had a successful year in 2022 into 2023. Participation in our programming—from athletics to the annual Easter Egg Hunt—was high and we received lots of great feedback from families. Some of the highlights:

The pandemic scuttled our annual **Easter Egg Hunt** for a year or two, but this past spring marked somewhere between our 20th and 22nd hunt, held at the Recreation Field and the elementary school grounds. There was a large turnout of kids and families, and a great time was had by everyone.

The **Strong Girls** program, in its second year, had a robust turnout in the spring with over 30 girls participating. As the weeks progressed they not only increased physical strength but found confidence in themselves and what they were able to accomplish. We look forward to this program's continued growth in the spring of 2023.

The 2022 **lacrosse** season saw the 5/6 girls team compete in the Northern Vermont Youth Lacrosse League with great success, playing in 5 weekends of jamboree games for 10 games total. The kindergarten through 2nd grade program saw an increase in enrollment meaning a promising future for the young program. Everyone who participated this year showed tremendous improvement and a strong commitment to learning the sport.

Our Little League **baseball** program, run through Central Vermont Little League (CVLL), was a huge success last season. East Montpelier had enough players to fill out both a Majors and Minors team with only East Montpelier students for the first time in years. The work and maintenance put into the baseball field and batting cage over the last few years has made the Recreation Field a draw for parents and kids to come work on their game all season long. The East Montpelier baseball field serves as the CVLL All Star field not just for East Montpelier residents but includes all U-32 district schools and Montpelier.

The **softball** program (also run through CVLL) had eleven East Montpelier players represented between the 3-4 and 5-6 teams. The players showed great progress in participation and skill growth throughout the season. Over the summer we also put some work into revitalizing the softball field, repairing dugouts and clearing up the overgrown basepaths. These upgrades should allow more use of the field in the coming baseball/softball season.

Our fall **soccer** season had a large number of participants (132 kids!). Our pre-K to 2nd grade group hit the grass on Saturday mornings fog or shine and our 1st and 2nd graders were invited to 2 jamboree events in area towns. The rec department continues to host a 3-4th grade and 5-6th grade jamboree annually which includes 24 total teams from inside and outside our district over these two events. These are always a highlight of the season, and we were fortunate to have warm temps and sunny skies for both days. Norwich University also hosted clinics for our 3-6th grade groups which was a big hit.

After a very limited season last year, our **basketball** program has been back



*East Montpelier
Rec girls basketball
and boys soccer.*

up in full swing this winter. Turnout has largely been very strong. Our K-2 program on Saturday mornings has had high participation, lots of skills work and smiles. The boys' and girls' 3-4 and 5-6 teams have had competitive seasons, including both the boys and girls 3-4 teams winning the Williamstown Basketball Tournament and bringing some hardware back to the EMES trophy case.

While the East Montpelier Recreation Board and our sports program coordinators do the planning and pull all the pieces together for all these programs, the success of each event and season is also a huge testament to all the support in a variety of ways provided by volunteers, parents, referees and fans. We are truly grateful to be operating in such a supportive, enthusiastic community.

—JACK ZEILENGA, *Chair*



Article 8
on page 9

EAST MONTPELIER TRAILS, INC.

emtrails.org

It is December 29th as I begin this 2022 summary for the Town Report, and many folks in town have been without power for almost a week. My own neighborhood has been buzzing with chain saws while families haul debris away from the snowy trails. The storm took down healthy trees as well as dead wood, leaving a tangle of trees on the ground and hanging precariously above our heads.

Financial Summary for 2022

1. VSECU Checking account

Beginning Balance – Jan. 1, 2022	\$ 14,564.44
Income:	
Town Meeting 2022, Article 9	4,000.00
Other	700.00
Expenses:	
Goods (tools for trail building)	(1,256.55)
Services (mowing)	(1,500.00)
Ending Balance – Dec. 31, 2022	<u>16,507.89</u>

2. VSECU Share and Reserve account

Beginning Balance – Jan. 1, 2022	3,005.35
Interest	1.39
Ending Balance – Dec. 31, 2022	<u>3,006.74</u>

3. NCFCU Certificate of Deposit

Beginning Balance – Jan. 1, 2022	14,463.34
Interest	57.67
Ending Balance – Dec. 31, 2022	<u>14,521.01</u>

4. NCFCU Share account

Beginning Balance – Jan. 1, 2022	5.01
Ending Balance – Dec. 31, 2022	<u>5.01</u>

5. Property

Tools (at cost, un-depreciated)	1,256.55
0.68-acre trail parking area VT Rte 14 South (50% owner)	1,200.00
Property as of Dec. 31, 2022	<u>2,456.55</u>

Total Assets – Dec. 31, 2022 **\$36,497.20**

NOTES:

- The VSECU Share and Reserve account is a reserve for emergencies.
- The NCFCU Certificate of Deposit is dedicated to trail acquisition, based on the original Esther Salmi gift.
- EMT is entitled also to a share of any income from the Carleton Smith Fund. Interest rates have been so low that distributions are not currently being made.



The winds of Winter Storm Elliott uprooted and felled trees throughout our trail system. Ormsbee Trail (left) and Mallory Brook Trail (below) show some of the damage. Please take care on the trails. The woods around here took a big hit and it could be dangerous out there until we have a chance to get things cleaned up. Clearing could take a long time and some of it may require professional help. Stay safe!



Reports on East Montpelier trail conditions are coming in and it is clear that we will have plenty of work ahead. Please continue to use caution while walking and especially while clearing any debris.

The trails board completed two applications for federal recreation funding, but with thousands of worthy applications as competition, our new half-mile Bobolink Trail was passed over. The Bobolink Trail will extend south from the Mallory “Lollipop Loop” through the Howlett/Dickson property to Towne Hill Road. We have downsized our trail plan and will begin construction on a smaller scale in the spring using the funds so generously awarded by the voters of East Montpelier in previous years. Josh Ryan, town resident and owner of Timber and

Stone Trail Construction, will construct a foot bridge over the small brook behind the Bobolink farm. EMTrails will announce trail work days for volunteers to clear the trail and construct puncheon bridges through the wet areas.

The new Sparrow Farm North Trail is almost ready to open to the public thanks to several work days set up by board member Allan Serrano and his volunteers, and thanks to the cooperation of the two landowners. Initially the trail will be an “out and back” or loop, but our hope is to extend it in the future to become another link in our town wide “necklace” of trails. Check our website and Front Porch Forum for announcements of additional work days in 2023.

Mallory Brook Trail (Johnson Road end) experienced a planned logging operation last winter. The forestry clean up included removal of the giant brush pile that obstructed the trail since the previous operation four years ago, and restoration of some of the trail water shedding features. The logger removed many dead standing trees as a safety benefit to us.

The trail board purchased an assortment of trail building tools that will support future trail maintenance and new construction. Funds were spent on two mowings of the Center Road end of the Ormsbee Trail, and this may need to increase to three.

On the Templeton Farm Trail, work has begun moving the trail tread away from the electric fence line. The crew is piling the cut brush over the existing path so that a new path can be established in a safer location. You can help with this effort by walking on the cleared pathway.

East Montpelier Trails was featured in a short film on the Vermont Land Trust website. Check it out; you will learn from our founder Nona Estrin how it all began. Our trail network truly is a treasure for present and future generations. Our trails exist thanks to the vision of the founders, the generosity of the landowners, the hard work by our partner organizations and volunteers. A very special thanks goes to the trail users; the pathways would not be visible without the thousands of footsteps every year.

Other trail related milestones for 2022:

- Cross Vermont Trail celebrated the completion of the long awaited bridge over the Winooski River, and began construction of a bike/pedestrian trail to connect the bridge with the U32 and Karen Clark Trail.
- Montpelier Parks replaced the Gould Hill bridge which provides additional access to trails in Montpelier’s North Branch Park and the Sparrow Farm Trail.

—MARY STONE, *President*

emtrails.org

EMTrails Committee Members

NONA ESTRIN	RICK HOPKINS	DAVE WEBB
SUE CHICKERING	RICHARD BROCK	JENNIFER BOYER
MATT DIGIOVANNI	ALLAN SERRANO	JODY STRYKER
TRISH DWYER	MARY STONE	

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH RECREATION DISTRICT

The Wrightsville Beach Recreation District formed in 1985 by the four member “District” towns of East Montpelier, Middlesex, Montpelier and Worcester. The five-member Board with representatives from each town (Montpelier has two) provides oversight of the District. Administrative and Bookkeeping assistance is contracted through the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission. The Beach Manager is responsible for all operations, staffing, and more.

Heatwaves in May seem to be the new normal, the rest of the season was comfortably warm, with minimal rain, pretty ideal. We sold 527 Season Passes, rented boats 961 times, and our group sites 162 times. We also provided residents of our four District towns \$3,643 in discounts off Season Passes, Boat and Group Site rentals. In 2022 the Beach District had over 17,000 user visits, and total revenue of ~\$123,750: \$74,214 from User Fees, the rest comes from the following three sources: \$1.50 Per Capita Assessment to the 4 District towns; Washington Electric Coop, and a Vermont State Contract to maintain the Boat Launch and the Shady Rill Recreation Area.

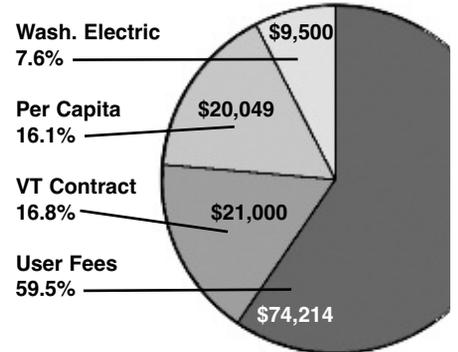
Beyond supporting our residents’ physical and mental health, Wrightsville significantly impacts the region’s economic vitality via payroll, visits to retailers and restaurants by visitors from other Vermont communities, tourists, and through our supplies purchases from local businesses, and use of local contractors.

In an effort to keep up with growing Group Site demand, we created a third Group Site, which was immediately popular. We also made changes to the Large Shelter area to improve the site for use during rainy periods.

We greatly appreciate the support from area residents and specifically their purchasing of Season Passes. Our mission is to provide you with swimming and other recreation options, at a cost that everyone can afford. To accomplish the mission, we need your continued support. We will continue to operate responsibly, and provide the best recreational product possible to help you recreate outdoors. **For 2023 we will add more boats to enable them to be rented for off-site use. Like last season all residents of the District towns get 10% discount off Season Passes and Group Site rentals, and 25% off boat rentals. This means any Season Pass holding District Resident gets 50% off boat rentals.**

The following five volunteer Board Members donate their time to help Wrightsville operate. Their time is valuable, and we greatly appreciate them!

CARL WITKE (*Chair*), Worcester
 KIM KENDALL (*Secretary*), East Montpelier
 JON COPANS & DAN CURRIER (*Treasurer*), Montpelier
 GEORGE LONGENECKER, Middlesex
 COLLIN O’NEIL, Beach Manager



FRIENDS OF COBURN POND

It is mid-January as I write for the Town Annual Report that you are reading months later. The roller coaster of temperatures across the months we think of as winter continue to remind us of changing weather patterns, the impacts of global climate change, and of our collective need to adapt to whatever comes our way. Reflecting back on the year, we've gone from drought that began in the earlier part of 2022, into the gardening season, and throughout much of the summer. An extended, unseasonably warm autumn, and then excessive (still unseasonably warm) mixes of rain and snow have eliminated the drought over much of the state, and wreaked havoc on statewide winter sports. And events around Coburn Pond reflect all of this.

Water levels at Coburn Pond—that were created when sand and gravel quarrying exposed (illegally by today's standards) the aquifer—reflect the water table of this area, which is considered a “water resource area” in our town. Last year at about this time, Friends of Coburn Pond who were newer to the area posted photos of the pond on our Facebook page to ask if the ice is safe to skate on. Today, yesterday's snow flurries have turned into a rainy slushy mess, and at no time so far that I have observed has the ice been safe enough to hold the weight of most humans for walking, skating, or ice fishing. And yet, people—either on their own or with friends and/or pets—have continued to walk around the pond, enjoying a quiet place to exercise, observe winter wildlife, and generally “recreate.”

The property continues to be owned by the VT Agency of Transportation (VTrans). They purchased the property in the late 80s with the intended use as a “wetlands mitigation” project. And while VTrans did construct wetlands south of the pond (it's a long story you can discover at our web page), the pond remains our favorite (and only) contained swimming hole in town. There have been a few changes this year.

People may have noticed the highway no littering sign at the entrance—just beyond the chairs that held a weekly supplies of free organic veggies in the shade—and occasional visits by VTrans staff. Still, it has been the Friends of Coburn Pond who have voluntarily picked up most of the trash throughout the season, after those who failed to take out what they carried in. VTrans staff, however, were the ones who removed the chairs, somehow not understanding their purpose. We eventually learned this in a late-season conversation at the entrance, and both agreed that we could have better communication and collaboration with our mutual goals.

Also new this year is that more members of FoCP have shared photos and stories of their time at the pond on the FB page. Take a look there to see some of the discussions and activities at the pond throughout the year.

Core group members of the Friends of Coburn Pond want to express appreciation for the ongoing care—of the property and for each other—and better communication and developing friendships. If you enjoy any of the seasonal



Photo: Erin Lee



activities—walking, swimming, fishing, observing wildlife, dog walking, skiing, snow shoeing, ice-skating, ice fishing, snowmobiling, or just visiting—and want to help decide how the property will be managed, please contact us. If you are able to make a donation, checks can be mailed to: Friends of Coburn Pond, 1085 Coburn Rd, Apt. #1, Plainfield, VT 05667. Many Thanks!

You can find us online at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/121684841230804/?ref=bookmarks>

<https://eastmontpeliervt.org/community/friends-of-coburn-pond/>

www.friendsofcoburnpond.org

And thank you for your encouragement and support throughout the year!

RENÉE CARPENTER ROSS HAZEL THOMAS WEISS

for the *Friends of Coburn Pond*



CROSS VERMONT TRAIL ASSOCIATION (CVTA)

CVTA was able to celebrate the first year of the Cross Vermont Trail Winooski Bridge being open to the public! Since the ribbon cutting in June, a steady stream of people have enjoyed the bridge and the first 1.5 miles of new trail leading to it.

In addition to being a new recreational feature in the area, the bridge also won “Project of the Year” at the 2022 Vermont Bike-Pedestrian Conference. The Winooski Bridge Ribbon Cutting was held June 4, 2022. Over 70 people gathered on the bridge (it held!) and cheered as the large red ribbon was cut with lopping shears. More seriously, CVTA dedicated the bridge to the memory of Esther Salmi and Tom Smith. “Their commitment to fitness and respect for the environment live on in those who appreciate the outdoors.”

You can help us keep the momentum going. Ambitious work is planned for the year ahead, and you can help. Contact CVTA at crossvermont.org to learn more.

CVTA is working to:

- Build many more miles of trail on either side of the Winooski Bridge - up to the U-32 School and on across East Montpelier from the Montpelier Bike Path to the existing Montpelier & Wells River Rail trail east of Route 14. This remainder of the Winooski Bridge trail project is being completed and opened in phases over the course of 2023–2024.
- Secure permission from additional landowners to keep moving the route of the Cross Vermont Trail off of the road. In 2022, CVTA closed on four additional permanent trail easements and the organization is looking ahead to many more.
- Provide leverage to community partners to achieve CVTA’s larger vision of joining together local paths into a logical network connecting villages, schools, and wild natural areas with the ultimate goal of a complete off road trail across the whole State.
- Maps and signs all along the trail route will be getting a long due re-boot in 2023, with a special focus on improving accessibility and inclusiveness. CVTA’s mission is to create and maintain a multi-use trail across Vermont through the Winooski and Wells River Valleys between Lake Champlain and the Connecticut River. CVTA’s five part vision is:
 - public recreation that is inviting and accessible to all;
 - safe off-road travel to desired destinations;
 - convenient locations for healthy outdoor activity;
 - permanent greenway for easy local access to the natural world; and,
 - collaboration of landowners, community groups and local governments to foster regional trail networks with the Cross Vermont Trail as the connection among them.



Lazenby Photos



Opening day on the Cross Vermont Trail Winooski Bridge, June 4, 2022.

The Cross Vermont Trail Association, formed in 1999, is an incorporated, private nonprofit organization that is member-based and volunteer-driven. CVTA is funded by winning competitive grants and through individual donations from trail users. Residents of all towns through which the trail route passes are invited to get involved. Be part of an effort to have better trails near where you live. Maps, guidebook, and more information on the trail routes are available at <https://crossvermont.org>, or call at 802-498-0079.

—GREG WESTERN, *Executive Director*



VERMONT LEAGUE OF CITIES AND TOWNS

The Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, owned by its member municipalities, with a mission to serve and strengthen Vermont local government. It is directed by a 13-member Board of Directors elected by the membership and comprising municipal officials from across the state.

Member Benefits: All 247 Vermont cities and towns are members of VLCT, as are 142 other municipal entities that include villages, solid waste districts, regional planning commissions, and fire districts. Members have exclusive access to a wide range of specialized benefits, expertise, and services, including:

- **Legal and technical assistance**, including prompt responses to member questions that often involve how to comply with state and federal requirements. During the past year, staff responded to thousands of member questions and published guidance, templates, research reports, and FAQs. In 2022, VLCT began offering additional government finance training and consulting services and launched the new Federal Funding Assistance Program (FFAP). FFAP offers communities advice on complying with federal rules surrounding pandemic funding, provides direction and insight on accessing billions of dollars in federal infrastructure funding, and provides input to state leaders on designing and implementing grant programs for municipalities.

- **Trainings and timely communications on topics of specific concern to officials** who carry out their duties required by state law. The League provided training via webinars, onsite classes, and during the hallmark annual event, Town Fair, the largest gathering of municipal officials in the state. VLCT's Equity Committee also published an online equity toolkit that assists municipalities in centering the work of justice, diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging in their decision making, policies, practices, and programs.

- **Representation before the state legislature, state agencies, and the federal government**, ensuring that municipal voices are heard collectively and as a single, united voice. VLCT's recent legislative efforts have helped provide cities and towns additional resources to respond to the pandemic, address road and bridge repair, tackle cybersecurity, improve housing and economic growth, promote renewable energy, provide emergency medical services, address equity and inclusion, and ensure the quality of our drinking water. Specific success in 2022 includes securing \$45 million in funding to help municipalities make energy improvements in their buildings, securing \$250,000 for VLCT's Federal Funding Assistance Program, increasing Municipal Planning Grants to \$870,000, securing \$250,000 for the Vermont Office of Racial Equity to launch the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Action, Leadership Program, and increasing municipal authorities in statute. Members are also represented at the federal level to Vermont's Congressional delegation and through our partner, the National League of Cities.

- **Access to insurance programs.** The Property and Casualty Intermunicipal Fund (PACIF) provides comprehensive and cost-effective property, liability, and



workers' compensation insurance coverage, programs, and services that protect the assets of your community. The VLCT Unemployment Insurance Trust provides unemployment insurance at stable pricing. VLCT also provides members with the option to purchase life, disability, dental, and vision insurance products at a competitive price. All the programs help Vermont municipalities stretch their budgets and are only available to VLCT members.

Members are welcome to contact VLCT anytime to ask questions and to access resources to help them carry out the important work of local government. To learn more about the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, visit vlct.org. Recent audited financial statements are available at vlct.org/AuditReports.



CENTRAL VT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The most recent fiscal year saw continued challenges for businesses following the COVID-19 pandemic. While we saw amazing pivots in the way we all do work, connect, and communicate in the pandemic's first days and months, these changes began to impact our supply chain, workforce, and to cause other disruptions for our regional businesses.

CVEDC joined Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation to represent the 12 RDCs of Vermont as two "spokes" of the 9 organizations supporting 2022's Community Navigator Pilot Program. While other spokes in the social services and nonprofit spaces offered listening spaces and seminars, the RDCs chose to turn the funding from the program back to the businesses directly in the form of technical support grants to respond to COVID-19 impact.

To date (11/21/22) over \$600,000 of funding has been allocated to businesses in technical assistance grants, using funding from both the Small Business Association through the CNPP program and the Community Development Block Grants through the CARES Act. The program also supported local vendors or service providers who assisted clients through the program.

In addition to this technical assistance programming, CVEDC continues to offer its traditional and pandemic-responsive business support. We now are able to reach a wider number of businesses through Zoom meetings, and have hosted many conversations this year for Waterbury-based businesses looking for support in grant requests and access to other state programs, commercial real estate requests, and in networking with our other partners.

Our work supporting the businesses of Central Vermont is greatly assisted by the generous contributions of our municipal partners, as well as the amazing support and referrals we receive through you. We appreciate East Montpelier's continued financial support of CVEDC's work.

—JAMIE STEWART, *Executive Director*
MELISSA BOUNTY, *Assistant Director*





*Article 9
on pg. 9*

MONTPELIER SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER

Everyone 50+ is welcome at the Montpelier Senior Activity Center (MSAC), where vibrant programming promotes lifelong learning, healthy aging, socialization, delicious meals, falls prevention and access to resources.

MSAC's mission is to enhance the quality of life for the older adults in the Montpelier area through opportunities that develop physical, mental, cultural, social, and economic well-being in a welcoming, flexible environment.

MSAC continues to be a vital resource for the older adults of Central Vermont, serving approximately 1,500 people each year even in the pandemic. In the past year, MSAC has had a leadership transition, re-designed our FEAST Senior Meals Program, added staff, and continued to respond to the healthy aging, socialization enhancement, and lifelong learning needs of the community.

We provide a comprehensive array of diverse programs designed to keep older adults healthy in their community, ranging from dozens of weekly movement classes to art programs to foot care clinics to tax preparation to our nutrition program and opportunities for socialization. We provide more services to a larger number of participants than most other senior centers in the state. Many of our programs support vital priorities of the State's Plan on Aging such as fall prevention, and we have programs specific to particular populations such as those with Parkinson's and Arthritis.

Our services enable older adults to live healthier, more productive lives in their communities. In FY22, MSAC served at least 87 East Montpelier residents (and some free activities don't track town data, so the number could be as high as 100+). MSAC appreciates East Montpelier voters' and residents' support and hopes to welcome and serve more of you in the coming year! We recognize Twin Valley Senior Center and other senior centers' and agencies' importance to your residents and believe in working collaboratively.

Due to increased inflationary and operational costs as well as our commitment to offering high quality services and programming, MSAC is respectfully requesting an increase in the annual appropriation request to voters for Fiscal Year 2024 equal to the November 2022 Consumer Price Index of 7.7% rounded to the nearest \$100. Thank you for considering this request of \$9,700 for FY24. Our total FY24 budget is \$757,174. Your support is greatly appreciated.

To learn more, register for a program or be added to our weekly e-list, visit www.montpelier-vt.org/msac, email <msac@montpelier-vt.org>, or call us at 802-223-2518.



TWIN VALLEY SENIOR CENTER

*Article 10
on pg. 9*

Twin Valley Seniors was founded in 1983. Over the years, we have grown steadily and have been housed in many locations. In 2020, with the kindness and generosity of friends, neighbors, families and community supporters, we were able to purchase Blueberry Hill Commons on Route 2 in East Montpelier. For the first time in our history, the Twin Valley Senior Center has a permanent home. We are currently working on making upgrades to the facilities and addressing deferred maintenance on the building with an estimated total cost of \$100,000. So far we have completed painting the interior, a new entrance ramp at the back of the building, a new stairway in the front, and all the doorways have been updated. We plan to paint the exterior of the building next.

Twin Valley Senior Center provides valuable services to older adults located in Cabot, Plainfield, Marshfield, Calais, Woodbury, and East Montpelier. Our mission is to facilitate the social, emotional and physical wellbeing of independent senior citizens and others by providing access to community resources and activities that maintain independence and wellness. We serve approximately 607 unique individuals in six towns plus Montpelier as part of our ongoing effort to improve the quality of life of older adults in our community.

Twin Valley Seniors offers free busing for seniors to and from our facility. We provide many services, including exercise classes, lectures, foot, flu and blood pressure clinics, an annual balance workshop, art classes, and informative Medicare, fraud, scam and financial education assistance, and meal services including 9,000 Meals on Wheels to the homebound and 1,300 meals served at the Center. Last year we reached 110 taxpayers with our free tax clinic workshop. Our space provides a welcoming, homey atmosphere for older adults, allowing them to learn, socialize, and engage in productive, enjoyable activities.

We do not charge annual dues, as we feel it would exclude and stigmatize those who cannot afford to pay. Instead we seek voluntary support from our neighbors, including those in East Montpelier, who realize the benefits our organization provides to Vermont's growing senior population. The Center is staffed by three part-time employees (4,400 hours) and 28 dedicated volunteers (3,800 hours). We have a very modest operating budget, \$240,000 in Fiscal Year 2023, that we try to stay within for all that we do at the center.

Twin Valley Senior Center and its staff, board, and volunteers, as well as our clients, remain grateful for the community of East Montpelier's enduring support over the years. Please visit us at 4583 US Route 2. Do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions. Telephone: 802-223-3322; or visit our website at www.twinvalleyseniors.org.

—EUGENE TROIA, *Executive Director*



PEOPLE'S HEALTH & WELLNESS CLINIC

People's Health & Wellness Clinic (PHWC) provides free healthcare to uninsured and underinsured people in Central Vermont. Services include high quality medical, mental health, oral health, and bodywork services which are provided at no cost to patients. PHWC also continues to provide extensive case management, referrals, and assistance enrolling in health insurance and financial assistance programs.

The Clinic's oral healthcare program continues to grow in popularity and demand, due partly to a lack of dental insurance or available area dentists. Nearly half of the patients in 2022 saw our dental hygienist for cleanings, x-rays, maintenance, and referrals for more complicated procedures, including extractions and root canals.

In 2022, PHWC cared for 408 unduplicated patients, 159 of whom were new to the clinic. Patients visited the clinic (in person and via telemedicine) for 545 medical visits, 285 dental visits, 499 mental health visits. 73 patients received assistance in enrolling in Medicaid, another health insurance plan, and financial assistance programs. Patients came from 62 cities and towns in the region.

PHWC provided 6 East Montpelier residents with healthcare services in 2022 for a total of 31 different interactions, including visits with a doctor, consults, referrals, and application assistance. This also included 6 visits with a primary care physician and 4 visits with a dental hygienist.

As a federally deemed free clinic, PHWC cannot charge for services and depends on grants, donations, and municipal funding. Our annual budget is approximately \$420,000. We are grateful to the voters of East Montpelier for many years of support and are very pleased to be able to provide free and accessible healthcare to the Central Vermont community. If approved, the East Montpelier allocation of \$1,250 will go to support our operations here at 51 Church Street in Barre and allow us to continue serving residents of the town.

For additional information, please contact Executive Director Daniel Barlow at 802-479-1229, ext. 109, or email <daniel@phwcv.org>.

www.phwcv.org



CENTRAL VERMONT HOME HEALTH AND HOSPICE

*Article 11
on pg. 9*

Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice (CVHHH) is a full-service, not-for-profit Visiting Nurse Association that provides intermittent, short-term medical care, education, and support at home to help Central Vermonters recover from an illness, surgery, or hospital stay and manage their chronic disease. We serve 23 communities in Washington and Orange Counties and care for people of all ages. Our services include home care, hospice, and maternal-child health care. We also offer public foot care and flu vaccine clinics. In addition, we offer long-term care and private care services and free grief support groups.

CVHHH is guided by a mission to care for all Central Vermonters regardless of a person's ability to pay, their geographic remoteness, or the complexity of their care needs. CVHHH embraces new technology and collaborates with other local providers to ensure that central Vermonters' care needs are met. To learn more, visit www.cvhhh.org.

CVHHH Services to the Residents of East Montpelier January 1 – December 31, 2022 *

Program	# of Visits
Home Health Care	1,164
Hospice Care	188
Long Term Care	243
Maternal Child Health	15
TOTAL VISITS/CONTACTS	1,610
TOTAL PATIENTS	98
TOTAL ADMISSIONS	132

*Audited figures are not available at the time of report submission. These preliminary figures are prorated based on the number of visits from January 1 – August 31, 2022, and are not expected to vary significantly.

Town funding is imperative in ensuring that CVHHH will provide services in East Montpelier through 2023 and beyond. For more information contact Sandy Rousse, President & CEO, or Kim Farnum, Director of Community Relations & Development, at (802) 223-1878.

www.cvhhh.org





Article 12
on pg. 9

RURAL COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION

Rural Community Transportation, Inc. (RCT), is a private nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation which has provided public transportation services throughout Caledonia, Orleans, and Essex Counties since 1991, and now serves Lamoille County. RCT operates fare-free shuttle and commuter bus routes, allowing connections between towns in our region and the ability to travel throughout Vermont and beyond. RCT also provides demand-response transportation services under several programs, such as Medicaid, the Elderly & Disabled program, and Rides 2 Wellness.

RCT runs four commuter routes to enhance access to employment, connecting Morrisville to the towns of Barre and Waterbury, and St. Johnsbury to Montpelier and to Littleton. We operate three shuttle routes tying Morrisville, Newport/Derby, and St. Johnsbury/Lyndonville residents and nearby Vermonters to essential locations, from grocery stores to medical centers. Shopping routes provide similar service spanning Morrisville and Stowe in the west, Newport and surrounding towns in the north, and Lyndon to New Hampshire in the east. Our neighbors who utilized over 130,000 rides in FY2022 have expressed their gratitude and noted their dependence on our services.

As COVID-19 restrictions are relaxed and Vermont moves forward, RCT remains committed to providing safe, reliable, accessible, and affordable transportation, and continues to be responsive to the safety needs of riders, including those who may not have another means of pandemic-sensitive transportation.

RCT gratefully benefits from a robust and growing volunteer program, with sixty volunteers providing rides to neighbors and those needing non-shuttle transportation to access vital services. We depend on our volunteers to help meet the needs of their neighbors near and far.

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

riderct.org



GREEN MOUNTAIN TRANSIT

*Article 13
on pg. 9*

Each year, Green Mountain Transit (GMT) provides thousands of rides to members within our community through traditional public transit services and coordinated special services for the individual. Each ride provided is a personal story of a need being met. Whether it's offering affordable commute options, access to essential and sometimes critical health care, reliable rides to adult day care and senior meals or convenient trips for daily services, we are proud to be a viable solution for so many.

GMT was chartered in 1973 by the VT General Assembly after the private bus operator went out of business. GMT serves the communities of Burlington, Essex, South Burlington, Shelburne, Williston, Winooski, Milton, Hinesburg, and a portion of Colchester. LINK Express routes serve Montpelier, Middlebury, and St. Albans commuters. GMT is considered a municipality and is the first and only transit authority in the State of Vermont.

Our ability to maintain our role as a trusted public transportation provider within the region would not be possible without our partnerships. Since 2003, GMT has relied on relationships with area organizations, state and federal agencies, local municipalities and the private citizens to keep us strong. Without these partnerships and support, we would be unable to provide the services that we do.

It is with recognition and appreciation for all levels of support that Green Mountain Transit (GMT) would like to submit a request of level funding for FY24. The requested funding directly supports GMT's ongoing operations and the amount is based on a fair share calculation applied to the municipalities GMT serves.

Our Mission: The mission of GMT is to promote and operate safe, convenient, accessible, innovative and sustainable public transportation services in the northwest and central Vermont region that reduce congestion and pollution, encourage transit oriented development and enhance the quality of life for all.

GMT Services: In Chittenden County, GMT offers fixed routes, local commuter routes, LINK Express routes, and ADA paratransit services. GMT also provides shuttles from senior housing complexes to local supermarkets and neighborhood specials for student transportation to Burlington schools. Outside of Chittenden County, in Washington, Lamoille, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties, GMT provides a variety of public transportation services including local routes, commuter routes, demand response medical shuttles, and service to elders and persons with disabilities.

Please accept our genuine thanks and appreciation in continuing this mutually beneficial partnership.

ridegmt.com



Article 5
on pg. 8

KELLOGG-HUBBARD LIBRARY (KHL)

Our mission, updated for 2022, is to empower community members to become lifelong learners by providing easy access to materials, online resources, programs and a welcoming place. Our vision is to be a resilient, inclusive and innovative library that continually learns and adapts to meet the changing needs of our community.

Library Lending was incredibly strong in fiscal year 2022 with 357,636 physical circulations (books, DVDs, CDs, magazines); and 35,612 digital circulations (e-books, audiobooks, streaming video and online magazines). We have 763 library patrons from East Montpelier who borrowed 17,430 items from our collection, plus digital library use, which we can't separate by town.

Library programs are still recovering from the pandemic; we offered 163 free programs for adults with 1,997 attendees and 136 free programs for children with 3,298 attendees. Check out our YouTube channel! You can find recordings of many of our programs there.

At the KHL you can borrow from our physical collection, our digital collection (available 24/7 online), and libraries statewide. We deliver library materials to homebound patrons and to outreach sites in member towns. For many, the library is a warm (or cool) space, a public bathroom, and a place to feel welcome.

2022 feels closer to our "new normal." We circulated more items, both physical and digital, than ever before. We're back to pre-pandemic foot traffic, including a large number of after-school kids using our basement hang-out space, or attending chess club, crafts and activities. Our public computers are packed every day. Community groups are back to using our meeting rooms. Fourteen children from East Montpelier completed our summer reading challenge and many more attended programs, with 40 attendees at a story time in East Montpelier. We're over a year out from eliminating overdue fines and we've nearly finished our building updates and maintenance projects paid for by our last capital campaign.

We have a new strategic plan adopted by the trustees in September 2022, which you can read on our website (www.kellogghubbard.org). The plan frames our goals for the next three years, including our commitment to diversity equity and inclusion. We're actively working to make our collection more diverse, to make our board of trustees more broadly diverse and ensure that everything from our website to our policies are more accessible and equitable.

The Library is funded annually through tax support from the municipalities we serve (55%), income from our endowment (26%), private contributions and fundraisers (18%) and miscellaneous income (1%). Our funding requests are per capita based. This year we are requesting level-funding from East Montpelier, \$46,764 or \$18 per capita. The state average per capita support for Libraries is \$37.60. Our total budget is \$1,012,289.

Thanks to Jennifer Myka, who has represented East Montpelier on our board for three years; Sarah Swift begins her term in 2023. Our Co-Directors are Jessie Lynn and Carolyn Brennan. Thank you for your continued support!

FUNDING REQUEST STUDY COMMITTEE

*Article 14
on pg. 9-10*

Requests for public support from local non-profit organizations continue to increase to fulfill the need for social services in East Montpelier and the region. Our committee evaluates these requests by considering the nature of the services provided, the number of residents served, the availability of other funding sources, and each organization's ability to meet specific community needs, such as those of the disabled, vulnerable youths, or seniors. Most organizations rely on multiple sources of revenue; the local support from our town often provides the match necessary to secure funding from federal and state agencies or private donors.

Last year voters agreed to appropriate \$23,666 (just under 1% of the town budget) to support 36 organizations. This year the committee considered requests totaling \$22,366 from 34 organizations. The committee's recommendations are listed below, totaling **\$22,166**, a 6.3% decrease, mostly the result of the decisions by the VT Bar Foundation and VT Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired to not submit funding requests for FY2024.

The FY2024 funding recommendations appear **in bold** in the list below along with the amounts approved in the previous two fiscal years. If available, we have included the number of residents directly served. Please feel free to contact these organizations when in need, to volunteer your own time and skills, or to make additional financial contributions.

American Red Cross, Northern New England Region (800-464-6692) provides immediate relief and shelter for victims of disasters, works to educate citizens on health and safety issues, organizes blood drives, and provides local personnel with training on disaster preparedness and shelter operations. The organization did not provide emergency assistance to any families in East Montpelier last year, but is ready to provide support when necessary. (\$250; \$250; **\$250**)

Big Heavy World (802-865-1140) is a volunteer-run independent statewide music office and archive of Vermont-made music, working to inclusively promote and preserve all kinds of music made across Vermont. Its work is designed to serve all Vermont musicians, including East Montpelier artists. (\$250; \$250; **\$250**)

Capstone Community Action (formerly CVCAC) (802-479-1053) works with families to build better lives and to create thriving local communities through Head Start and Early Head Start, Community Economic Development programs, and other Family & Community Support services, including Emergency Food and Crisis Fuel, Home Weatherization assistance and more. It served 89 residents during the past year. (\$500; \$500; **\$500**)

Central Vermont Adult Basic Education (802-476-4588) provides free basic education and literacy services for adults and teens over sixteen years. Approximately half of the students receive help preparing for GED certificates or alternative high school diplomas. CVABE provided service to 3 residents during the past year. (\$750; \$750; **\$750**)

Central Vermont Council on Aging (802-479-0531) provides meal and transportation services, legal advice, case management, and advocacy for Central Vermont elders. CVCOA also operates the RSVP Volunteer Program, linking volunteers with nonprofit organizations. The organization served 43 residents in the past year. (\$1,875; \$1,875; **\$1,875**)

Central Vermont Disaster Animal Response Team (802-505-7677) provides shelter for family pets when their owners are unable to care for them due to a natural disaster or extended emergency, often working in conjunction with the Red Cross. CVDART works closely with towns, including East Montpelier, to create and maintain emergency plans for pets during disasters. (\$200; \$200; **\$200**)

Central Vermont Habitat for Humanity (802-522-8611) provides homeownership opportunities to low-income families. Many of you may have participated in the recent CVHH home-building project in East Montpelier and the organization hopes to do more projects here in the future. The organization served six residents in the past year. (\$350; \$350; **\$350**)

Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center (802-229-5900) operates the ice-skating rink used by area schools and offers open skating times for residents in East Montpelier. The Civic Center also serves as a Red Cross emergency shelter. (\$1,000; \$1,000; **\$1,000**)

Circle (802-476-6010; Hotline: 877-543-9498) serves families in Washington County in cases involving domestic abuse. The shelter provides safe homes, emotional support, legal assistance, food and clothes, and a 24-hour hotline. The organization also develops and sponsors prevention programs in local schools. It served nine residents directly in the past year. (\$675; \$675; **\$675**)

Community Harvest of Central Vermont (802-229-4281) brings our community together through gleaning to recover surplus food produced on area farms to feed those with limited access to healthy, fresh local food, and in the process helps the community to gain a greater awareness and appreciation of the local food system, healthy eating, and waste reduction. It served approximately 210 residents during the past year. (\$250; \$250; **\$250**)

Downstreet Housing and Community Development (802-476-4493) (formerly Central Vermont Community Land Trust) develops and manages affordable housing projects; it provides education, counseling, loans, and financial services for homeowners through its Homeownership Center and facilitates community development projects. Fourteen residents took advantage of Downstreet services during the past year. (\$150; \$150; **\$150**)

East Montpelier Community Connections (802-223-7936) provides after school, vacation, and summer programming for preschool and school-age children, including mentoring and youth outreach, and creates opportunities for children to learn from community members. It served 61 students in the past year. (\$2,500; \$2,500; **\$2,500**)

Family Center of Washington County (802-262-3292) provides services for children and families, including preschool playgroups, parent education, home visits, and referral services for childcare. It served 52 residents in the past year. (\$500; \$500; **\$500**)

Friends of the Winooski River (802-279-3771) is dedicated to the protection and restoration of the Winooski River, including its tributaries and watershed, from Cabot to Colchester. Members monitor water quality, conduct river cleanup projects, and educate landowners and students in river stewardship. In 2021 East Montpelier residents have access to free stormwater assessments and free plantings to reduce lawn size. Funding was increased based on information provided to the committee, related to other town contributions and the positive work to improve water quality. (\$200; \$200; **\$400**)

Girls/Boyz First Mentoring (802-224-6500) was originally part of Community Connections. It currently provides the link between at-risk youths, ages 8-18, and volunteer mentors, who encourage healthy activities and can make a positive difference in their lives. In the past year, two youths were paired with mentors in East Montpelier. (\$300; \$300; **\$300**)

Good Beginnings of Central Vermont (802-595-7953) provides free home visitation services and workshops for new parents. Volunteers visit for one to three hours per week for up to three months to connect new parents to community support and provide supplies and information about good parenting. In the past year, it served nine families in East Montpelier. (\$300; \$300; **\$300**)

Good Samaritan Haven (802-479-2294) provides emergency shelter and support services to people experiencing homelessness in central Vermont. Federal and state funds support its core program, which provides housing and employment assistance, case management, and referral services. Service was provided to over 400 central Vermonters last year. (\$900; \$2,000; **\$2,000**)

Green Mountain Transit (802-223-7287) is a community transportation service that matches requests for rides from local residents, who are either disabled or elderly, with available transport, including vans, volunteer drivers, and van/pools. Thirty-six townspeople were provided services in the past year. The company, along with Rural Community Transportation, also operates the commuter bus service along U.S. Route 2 supported by a separate appropriation in the town budget. (\$1,366; \$1,366; **\$1,366**)

Green Up Vermont (802-229-4586) uses town funds to provide Green Up Day bags, posters, publicity, and information for town chairpersons to promote roadside cleanup and litter control on Green Up Day. (\$150; \$150; **\$150**)

HomeShare Vermont (802-863-5625), which has replaced Home Share Now in our area, provides affordable housing options through facilitation of shared housing. Formerly operated under the Central Vermont Council on Aging, the

organization matches people needing housing with those who wish to remain in their homes. Services and in-kind contributions are exchanged for housing. HomeShare Vermont served 6 town residents last year. (\$800; \$800; **\$800**)

Mosaic Vermont, Inc. (formerly Sexual Assault Crisis Team of Washington Co.) (802-476-1388; hotline: 802-479-5577) operates a hotline and provides emergency medical assistance, shelter, counseling, advocacy and legal advice for victims of sexual violence. (\$250; \$250; **\$250**)

North Branch Nature Center (802-229-6206) offers environmental education through nature programs and summer camps and provides open trails on its 28-acre property. The Educating Children Outdoors program trains teachers to operate programs in our local schools. Approximately 200 East Montpelier residents participated in programs at the center. (\$750; \$750; **\$750**)

Onion River Food Shelf, Inc. (802-223-6548) provides emergency food for three days for those in need in East Montpelier, Plainfield, Calais, Marshfield, and Cabot. It served 25 residents in the past year. (\$1,200; \$1,000; **\$1,000**)

OUR House of Central Vermont (802-476-8825) works closely with DCF and law enforcement to provide a safe space, supportive environment, and counseling for sexual assault victims, survivors, and non-offending family members during the investigative process. Four residents benefited from services in the past year. (\$250; \$250; **\$250**)

People's Health & Wellness Clinic, Inc. (802-479-1229) provides basic primary, preventive, and oral care to the uninsured and underinsured through a team of volunteer doctors, nurses, and a dental hygienist. It also assists patients with healthcare financing and insurance applications. The clinic served 19 residents in the past year. (\$1,750; \$1,250; **\$1,250**)

Prevent Child Abuse of Vermont (802-229-5724) works to prevent child abuse and neglect through parent education, support, and public awareness programs. The Care for Kids program trains childcare professionals, parents, and others who interact with children to prevent child sexual abuse. Last year six residents participated in its programs. (\$300; \$300; **\$300**)

T. W. Wood Gallery (802-262-6035) provides educational art services for children, families, seniors and other Central Vermont residents, including exhibits of contemporary local art, art camps for children, afterschool programs, and art classes for all ages. (\$500; \$500; **\$500**)

Vermont CARES (802-371-6222) supports and advocates for people infected with HIV/AIDS. The organization works to prevent infection through testing and awareness programs. It served 15 East Montpelier residents last year. (\$150; \$150; **\$300**)



Vermont Center for Independent Living (802-229-0501) provides services and advocacy for people with disabilities. The organization helps disabled people lead active and productive lives with as great a degree of independence as possible. It served four residents in the past year. (\$300; \$400; **\$400**)

Vermont Family Network (800-800-4005) is a statewide organization whose mission is to empower and support families of children with special needs. Programs & services include training, parent matches, school meeting support, and a helpline. VFN served one local family last year. (\$200; \$200; **\$200**)

Washington County Diversion Program (802-479-1900) offers first-time offenders a one-time opportunity to take responsibility for their offenses by compensating crime victims and providing community service hours to local organizations. The program saves tax dollars that would have been spent on court proceedings. It served 13 residents in the past year. (\$600; \$600; **\$600**)

Washington County Mental Health Services (802-229-1399; Hotline: 802-229-0591) operates emergency and community support services for people with mental illness and developmental disabilities. Programs include home-based support for children and families, counseling, residential treatment, and psychiatric and nursing services. It served 42 East Montpelier residents in the past year. (\$800; \$800; **\$800**)

Washington County Youth Services Bureau – Boys and Girls Club (802-229-9151) helps youths and their families create healthy conditions in their lives. Emphasis is on problem resolution; crisis intervention; individual and family counseling; and substance abuse prevention, including early intervention, and treatment. It served six East Montpelier youths in the past year. (\$400; \$400; **\$400**)

Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District (802-778-3178) promotes the conservation, development, and wise use of lands, water, forest, and wildlife across its service area. Residents can receive technical assistance in invasive species management, native plant selections and stormwater erosion control. WNRCD provides access to grant funding for farm improvements as well as training and workshops on a range of water quality and habitat topics. (\$600; \$800; **\$600**)

Committee Members

LINDY JOHNSON GINNY CALLAN KATE RADER
PAUL ERLBAUM SARAH KINTER



CVFIBER

CVFiber is a nonprofit municipal entity governed by volunteer delegates who are appointed by our 20-member Central Vermont towns. Our aim is to provide access to fast, dependable, and affordable Internet service, with the first priorities being those who are unserved or underserved.

CVFiber will provide homes with speeds ranging from 100 Mbps to 2 Gigs, and businesses with speeds ranging from 1 Gig to 10 Gigs. Speeds will always be symmetrical, for example, 100 Mbps download and 100 Mbps upload, for the best interactive experience for education, telemedicine, conference calls, business, gaming, and more. Providing rural Vermont with this level of service will enhance education, enable our workforce, create opportunities, and support the State's economy.

The 1,200-mile CVFiber community broadband network will cost an estimated \$60 million and take approximately three years to construct, provided funding, material, and labor are available. It is anticipated that Federal grants will fund 50% to 60% of the construction with the remainder funded through debt financing. CVFiber cannot receive town tax dollars and will support its ongoing operations with subscription revenues. Initial construction started in December 2022. CVFiber plans to construct up to 550 miles of its community broadband network in 2023.

To keep costs to subscribers down, 13 member towns have allocated \$833,000 of town American Rescue Plan Act funds to CVFiber. These funds are matched dollar-for-dollar by the Vermont Community Broadband Board (VCBB) for a total contribution of \$1.67 million. Town allocations are used within the town and directly benefit residents. The VCBB is extending the dollar-for-dollar match through May 2023, providing each of our member towns the opportunity to allocate up to \$100,000 for a total contribution of \$200,000. Please contact me for more information (jdiamantides@cvfiber.net). Thank you for your support.

By providing symmetrical high-speed broadband access, CVFiber and the other Vermont Communication Union Districts are closing the rural digital divide by providing future generations with capabilities that we cannot imagine. The education and work opportunities made available by symmetrical high-speed broadband access will be as transformational to rural Vermont today as electrification was in the mid-twentieth century.

Connectivity is only the beginning. Please visit us at cvfiber.net.

—JERRY DIAMANTIDES, *Chair, CVFiber Governing Board*

TOM FISHER, *East Montpelier Delegate*

[<tfisher@cvfiber.net>](mailto:tfisher@cvfiber.net)





Photo: Terry J. Allen



One of the majestic maples on Kelton Road was unable to stand up to the force of Winter Storm Elliott, December 23, 2022.



CENTRAL VERMONT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

cvswmd.org

The CVSWMD serves 19 member cities and towns and approximately 52,000 residents. Our mission is to provide education, advocacy, and services for residents and businesses in reducing and managing their solid waste in order to protect public health and the environment. CVSWMD is committed to providing quality programming, meeting state mandates, and providing information and resources to our member communities. The per capita assessment is set at \$1.00 for fiscal year 2024. Jon Jewett is East Montpelier's board representative.

The District continues to provide award-winning programming, including:

- **Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC):** The ARCC is located in Barre City. We work with the State of Vermont to recycle TVs, computers and computer peripherals, architectural paint, household batteries, mercury bulbs and thermostats for free for Vermont residents. We also accept dozens of hard-to-recycle items that cannot be recycled in curbside recycling. In FY22, 403,896 lbs. of materials were collected and diverted from the landfill.
- **Grants:** In FY22, CVSWMD awarded \$33,218 in grant funding to towns, businesses, organizations and schools in our District. Green-Up Day grants of \$400 are available to each of CVSWMD's member municipalities.
- **Outreach and Education:** CVSWMD maintains its website with useful information on what can (and can't) be recycled, what is landfill banned (and how to dispose of those), what can be recycled at our Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC), what can be composted, how to safely store and dispose of household hazardous waste, leaf and yard waste disposal, and an A-Z Guide providing guidance to dispose of all types of waste.
- **Household Hazardous Waste:** In FY22, CVSWMD held five one-day collections throughout the District and helped 637 resident households dispose of their hazardous waste. CVSWMD continues to work to acquire land and site a conveniently accessible year-round collection facility within the District.
- **School Program:** Through the School Zero Waste Program, 941 students in grades K-12 took part in 97 programs including: living sustainably, recycling, and composting; student Farm-to-School groups, recognition of student leadership efforts in on-campus food scrap disposal, school community zero-waste events, field trips to the Additional Recyclables Collection Center (ARCC), and the 2022 VT Youth Climate Rally. Pprimary grade students took home informational packets which reached upwards of 350 households. We helped school food services to reduce cafeteria waste, and school custodial staff to properly dispose of books, batteries, mercury-containing bulbs, and electronic waste through the ARCC, as well as properly dispose of hazardous waste.
- **Compost and Zero Waste:** CVSWMD sells Green Cone food digesters, Soil Saver composting bins, recycling bins, and kitchen compost buckets to district residents at discounted rates. We also continue to offer our Event Kit and Bin Loan programs on a first-come, first-serve basis to help reduce and manage waste at events held within the District. We can be reached at 802-229-9383.

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

www.healthvermont.gov/local/Barre

Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the Vermont Department of Health. Your district office is in Barre at 5 Perry St., Suite 250; Phone (802) 479-4200 or toll-free (888) 253-8786. In the past year and beyond, the Barre Local Health Office:

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

- **Worked to prevent and control the spread of disease:** In collaboration with community partners, since response efforts began, we hosted over 100 COVID-19 vaccination clinics and provided over 7,900 COVID-19 doses. Since August 2021, all local health offices have also documented and helped manage 8,125 COVID-19-related situations, including 1,271 COVID-19 outbreaks.

- **Ensured local preparedness for future emergencies:** We worked with partners like schools, skilled nursing facilities, shelters, and emergency personnel to ensure effective pandemic response and support preparedness to distribute medicine, supplies, and information during public health emergencies. This year, we responded to the emergence of human monkeypox virus by sharing information and providing vaccine to community members.

- **Stayed attentive to people and communities most underserved:** We provided services and resources to people who are more likely to experience adverse health outcomes due to health inequities. For example, we provided vaccine at schools, shelters, senior housing, farms, food distribution sites, and more.

- **Collaborated with Town Health Officers around environmental health:** Find information about environmental health including lead, cyanobacteria (blue-green algae), food safety, drinking water, climate change, healthy homes, healthy schools, and more at www.healthvermont.gov/environment.

- **Provided WIC services and resources to families and children:** Provided WIC nutrition education and support to 1,337 individuals from July 2021 to June 2022, while enabling them to save on groceries so they can have more to spend on other things their family needs. Learn more at www.healthvermont.gov/wic.

- **Supported student health and youth empowerment:** According to the Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey, only 58% percent of students in Washington County, and only 54% in Orange County, agree or strongly agree that they “believe they matter to people in their community.” Efforts like mentoring and after-school enrichment programs help to ensure youth feel valued and included.

- **Promoted health in all policies:** Health is not just individual behaviors and access to care, it's also housing, transportation, food access, education, natural resources, and other social determinants of health. We worked with towns, schools, worksites, healthcare providers, and other community organizations to establish plans, policies, and programming that improve health and wellness.

CENTRAL VT STATE POLICE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

Emergency phone **911** — Non-emergency phone **(802) 229-9191**

We are an independent, non-profit organization, created to provide an information conduit between VT State Police of the Berlin Barracks and the 18 towns in its service area, including East Montpelier. To discuss any non-emergency issues you may have, please contact your town's representatives: Carol & Don Welch (802) 223-6208.

Of the 251 towns and cities in Vermont, approximately 200, like East Montpelier, do not have their own municipal police force. VT State Police (VSP) is the default law enforcement agency. Basic law enforcement services are paid for by the State through legislative appropriation; VSP does not bill the town for services unless the town chooses to contract with VSP for additional patrol time. East Montpelier currently contracts with VSP to provide about 20 hours per month over and above VSP's routine coverage, carried out by officers on an overtime basis. For more information on Local Law Enforcement and CVSPCAB, visit <https://eastmontpeliervt.org/community/local-law-enforcement/>

State police officers (troopers) respond to a wide variety of calls, including the investigation of criminal acts and motor vehicle collisions, in addition to patrolling state highways and town roads to enforce traffic laws and deter criminal activity. Because the VSP has to cover such a wide area with a limited number of troopers, it is not uncommon under some circumstances for troopers to take reports over the phone rather than responding in person. The VSP also provides a variety of specialized services including a Bomb Squad, Crisis Negotiation Unit, Scuba Team, Search and Rescue Team, and a Tactical Services Unit, as well as seasonal marine and snowmobile patrols.

VT State Police – A Troop Berlin Barracks: 2022 Crime & Police Service Report for East Montpelier

	Violent Crime				Property Crime				Other		Traffic Incidents				Misc.			Total Law Incident
	Murder/Manslaughter	Sexual Assault	Robbery	Assault (aggravated/simple)	Burglary	Larceny/Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Other Property Crime	Illegal Drug Incident	Disorderly Conduct/Other	Fatal Crash	Accident Investig. (DMV)	MV Related Incident	DUI Incident	Runaway Juvenile	Death Investigation	Misc. Service Call	
2022	0	18	0	8	2	9	1	10	2	21	1	41	19	0	0	3	228	363
2021	0	0	1	6	0	12	1	15	2	22	0	7	40	5	0	0	232	343
+/-	0	18	-1	2	2	-3	0	-5	0	-1	1	34	-21	-5	0	3	-4	20



State Game Warden Dustin Circe

State Police dispatch **(802) 229-9191** — Home phone **(802) 793-6629**

Game Wardens enforce VT hunting, fishing and trapping laws, and help resolve human-wildlife conflicts. Call if you witness a violation, like shooting from the road, night-time poaching, hunting on posted property, or baiting/feeding deer; also, if you need help with nuisance beavers, deer, bears, or see a rabid raccoon.

Washington County Sheriff's Department

Phone **(802) 223-3001** 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

Washington County Sheriff's Dept has an agreement with the VT State Police in Middlesex to respond to calls received by State Police, if the Sheriff's Department is nearby and is requested by State Police to respond. Citizens should call VT State Police for immediate assistance. Sheriffs also do Snowmobile Patrol.

East Montpelier First Constable Jon Boucher - phone (802) 441-3337

Town Constables can serve a summons from a court to a party in a lawsuit, destroy animals, kill injured deer, assist the health officer in the discharge of his or her duties, serve as a district court officer, and/or remove disorderly people from town meeting. Selectboards may direct constables to enforce civil ordinances.

Animal Control Officer Carl Etnier – phone (802) 441-3337

Second Animal Control Officer Amber Perry – phone (802) 498-5140

Animal Control Officers are responsible for capturing and impounding dangerous or stray animals, investigating cases of animal cruelty, and enforcing licensing laws.



ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Officially, animal control officers are responsible for calls related to domestic animals (both house pets and livestock) in our town. In practice, we receive calls both from East Montpelier and from nearby towns, not only about things like a lost dog or a found goat, but also a baby raccoon stuck in a sewer or a mangy-looking fox. Where we can't offer direct help, we try to steer callers in the right direction.

We urge all dog and wolf-hybrid owners to register their animals with the town and put the tags on the animals' collars; it makes it so much easier to get them back home if they are found wandering. And we thank the town's residents for their respect on various calls and for many people's willingness to take care of lost and frightened animals.

— CARL ETNIER, *Animal Control Officer*

AMBER PERRY, *Second Animal Control Officer*



EAST MONTPELIER FIRE DEPARTMENT and AMBULANCE SERVICE

2023 is on the horizon and we want to thank the Towns of East Montpelier and Calais for your continued support which allows us to provide your emergency services. The ambulance service continues to be busy providing transport services to East Montpelier, Calais, Plainfield, Marshfield, and mutual aid into Woodbury as needed to assist Hardwick Rescue. The fire department is steady with primary fire services to East Montpelier and Calais as well as assisting our neighboring departments with mutual aid. One of our highlighted fires this year was the loss of a barn at one of our local farms.

With your approval at Town Meeting for the purchase of a new fire truck we have placed our order with Toyne Manufacturing and look forward to seeing the truck sometime in late 2023. As production lines continue to struggle, our first step is the manufacturing of the chassis from Freightliner and once this is completed and shipped to Toyne we will receive a more definitive delivery date. We are very excited as this truck will replace our 1994 International E-One engine which has served us well but is ready for retirement. The truck will be paid for by the special article voted by the Towns at Town Meeting 2022 and revenues earned by the East Montpelier Fire Department ambulance. Thank you!

COVID? Is it here to stay in some variant form? It has certainly transformed people's lives and our communities in many ways. We continue to use universal safety precautions on all of our calls and encourage you take safety precautions as needed and at the same time hopefully be able to function in a normal lifestyle. There is currently a vaccine clinic site still operating in Berlin that is able to provide vaccination shots as well as the booster shots. For more information call your local health care provider or Vermont Department of Health. These sites are slowly being closed down.

LOCATION	Total Calls	Fire	Fire/Assist Medical	Fire/Burn Permit	Fire/MVA	Medical	Medical/ Assist Fire	Medical/ MVA
Barre City	10	7				2	1	
Berlin	8	5				3		
Calais	125	22	4		6	81	4	8
East Montpelier	342	58	11	52	19	177	3	22
Marshfield	99	1				87	3	8
Montpelier	8	5			2	1		
Plainfield	119	3				112	2	2
Woodbury	13	2				11		
Barre Town	1					1		
Middlesex	1	1						
Worcester	1	1						
Cabot	5	1				3		1
Other	2	1				1		
Grand Total	734	MVA = Motor Vehicle Accident						

Photo: Toby Talbot



*Pump training on the dry hydrant on Templeton Road.
L-R: Darryl Garland, Alex Boguzewski and Paul Guare.*

What does it take to become a firefighter or EMS provider? We provide in-house training every month and provide opportunities to take State-certified classes in both fire and EMS. We are looking for members in our communities to come join us and grow with us and become part of Team EMFD. Maybe you are already certified or have previous experience? Come join Team EMFD. All that you need to do is come see us on Tuesday nights and we will get the process started, see you soon. Go Team EMFD!

Thank you for all of your support, be safe, choose to help a neighbor or friend. Remember to be kind. We are all proud to be part of our communities.

Call before burning! For Burn Permits, call Calais Fire Warden Greg Pelchuck at (802) 454-7377 and East Montpelier Fire Warden Ty Rolland at (802) 225-6247. Burn permits are issued for the burning of natural growth products, no trash or building debris.

Fireworks Permits: For Calais and East Montpelier Fireworks Permits, call the East Montpelier Fire Department at (802) 225-6247. Permits must be submitted at least **15 days** in advance and need to include a site map and the land-owner's approval.

Thank you to all the men and women who serve at the East Montpelier Fire Department and for your commitment and dedication to support our communities. If you or somebody has interest in becoming part our team, please reach out to the East Montpelier Fire Department at (802) 225-6247.

EMFD Membership by Seniority, January 2023

NAME	JOINED	RANK
Morse, Elliott	May 1964	Firefighter
Brazier, Tom	Nov 1973	Firefighter
Winston, Jon	Feb 1974	Firefighter
Parker, Todd	May 1986	Firefighter
Pelchuck, Greg	April 1988	Firefighter
Rolland, Ty	Jan 1992	Firefighter, EMT
Copping, Jay	Oct 1992	Firefighter, AEMT
Copping, Robin	April 1993	EMT
Barstow, Rick	Nov 1999	Firefighter
Tuller, Chris	Feb 2000	Firefighter
Talbot, Toby	Dec 2000	Firefighter
Wong, Jason	Nov 2001	Firefighter
Guare, Paul	Oct 2003	Firefighter
Conti, Sandy	June 2007	Firefighter, EMR
Nutbrown, Brad	Nov 2007	Firefighter
Petrella, Albert	May 2012	Firefighter
Boguzewski, Alex	June 2013	Firefighter
Lowe, Veronica	Sept 2013	EMT
Parker, Thomas	Feb 2016	Firefighter, EMT
Adams, Fiona	Sept 2019	Firefighter, EMT
McGuiggan, John	Feb 2020	Firefighter, EMT
Longchamp, Chris	June 2020	Firefighter
Garland, Darryl	Mar 2022	Firefighter
Ouellette, Gary	Dec 2023	Firefighter

ACTIVE SUPPORTING

Bagg, Scott	Paramedic
Bennington, Will	EMT
Carlson, Amanda	EMT
Gero, Jeannine	AEMT
Gray, Jason	Paramedic
Hayden, Greg	AEMT
Larrabee, Jake	AEMT
Leblanc, Jacob	EMT
Lowe, Veronica	EMT
Magnant, Elise	AEMT
Randall, Walker	Paramedic
Renzello, Kim	EMT
Romei, Matt	Paramedic
Townsend, Dixie	EMT
Truedson, Marc	Paramedic

Woodbeck, Judy	Treasurer/Administrative Assitant
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**EAST MONTPELIER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

	<u>Unrestricted</u>
CASH RECEIPTS:	
East Montpelier appropriation	\$ 345,235
Calais appropriation	172,618
Plainfield appropriation	53,624
Marshfield appropriation	32,782
Grants - COVID	-
Donations	10,043
Interest	186
Ambulance fees	158,527
Contract revenue - COVID	213,652
Miscellaneous	6
Total cash receipts	<u><u>986,673</u></u>
 CASH DISBURSEMENTS:	
Fire services	269,218
Ambulance services	613,538
General and administrative	33,051
Total cash disbursements	<u><u>915,807</u></u>
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	70,866
CASH, beginning of year	<u><u>214,295</u></u>
CASH, end of year	<u><u>\$ 285,161</u></u>

Notes:

- For more information about the East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD) Capital Reserve Program, see pages 42–43.
- For more information about the Emergency Services Facility bond repayment, see page 30.
- The East Montpelier Town Auditors do not inspect the EMFD accounts. A copy of EMFD's independent audit, performed by Mudgett, Jennett & Krogh-Wisner, P.C., is available for review at the Town Offices.

FIRE DEPT. BUDGET

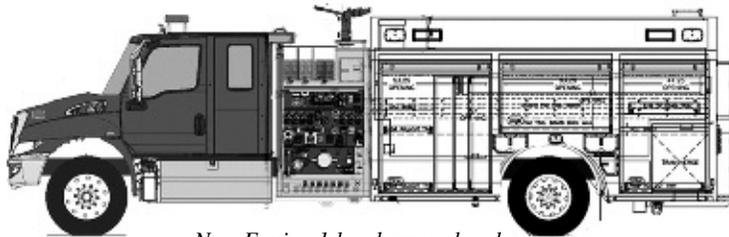
	Actual 7/1/21-6/30/22	Budget FY22	Budget FY23	Proposed FY24	Increase
ORDINARY INCOME / EXPENSE					
Income					
4100 E. Mont. Contribution	122,076	122,076	125,673	133,128	
4120 Calais Contribution	61,038	61,038	62,837	66,564	
Dry Hydrant					
Total Income	\$ 183,114	183,114	188,510	199,692	6%
Expense					
5010 Audit	5,600	6,000	6,000	5,600	
5020 Building 1	1,048	500	500	2,500	
5030 Building 2	25,175	11,500	11,500	15,000	
5050 Bookkeeping	11,850	11,000	11,000	11,000	
5060 Cellular Phone	2,164	2,000	2,000	3,300	
5070 Diesel	734	1,000	1,000	1,500	
5080 Dispatch	34,096	35,814	36,710	35,000	
5085 Dry Hydrants	0	2,000	2,000	2,000	
5090 Dues	20	1,000	1,000	500	
5100 Electric-Station 1	1,474	800	800	803	
5110 Electric-Station 2	8,467	10,000	10,000	9,000	
5112 Snow Plowing, Mowing	0	5,500	5,500	5,500	
5130 Equipment Repair	134	2,500	2,500	2,500	
5140 Firefighting Supplies	17,819	3,000	3,000	5,000	
5150 Gasoline	682	750	750	750	
5160 Heating Oil-Station 1	4,978	3,500	3,500	6,000	
5165 Wood Pellets-Station 2	4,840	4,000	4,000	5,000	
5170 Heating LP-Station 2	1,549	1,000	1,000	1,000	
5200 Insurance Liability/Property	43,179	41,000	41,000	44,000	
5230 Legal	892	1,000	1,000	1,000	
5240 Bank Charges	22	100	100	100	
5245 Chaplain's Fund	0	250	250	0	
5250 Admin/Office Supp (Amb) ..	1,131			0	
5260 Office Supplies (Fire)	698	1,000	1,000	1,000	
5280 Personal Gear	5,820	5,000	5,000	5,000	
5285 Physicals	452	3,000	3,000	500	
5300 Postage	400	500	500	500	
5320 Radio Repairs	0	1,000	1,000	0	
5325 Radio Replacement	0	2,500	5,000	2,500	
5340 Refreshments	1,628	2,500	2,500	2,000	
5380 Telephone	5,520	5,000	5,000	5,000	
5400 Vehicle Repairs	12,065	8,000	10,000	15,000	
5420 Training	1,026	1,000	1,000	1,000	
5450 Hose Testing	3,485				
5500 Salary-Stipend	9,399	9,400	9,400	9,399	
5510 Payroll Tax Stipend	719			719	
5515 Payroll Fee Stipend	21			21	
Total Expense	\$ 207,087	183,114	188,510	199,682	6%

NOTE: Other income sources (Donations, Grants, etc.) are shown on page 101.

AMBULANCE BUDGET

	Actual 7/1/21-6/30/22	Budget FY22	Budget FY23	Proposed FY24	Increase
ORDINARY INCOME/EXPENSE					
Income					
4959 Plainfield Budget Pt (Amb) ..	53,624	53,624	55,232	56,890	
4960 E. Mont. Budget Pmt (Amb).	223,159	223,159	242,167	260,599	
4961 Calais Budget Pmt (Amb).....	111,580	111,580	121,083	130,300	
4963 Marshfield Budget Pmt (Amb)	32,782	43,709	45,020	46,370	
EMFD contribution: Ins. revenue*	15,000		15,000	15,000	
Total Income	\$ 436,145	432,072	478,502	509,159	6.4%
Expense					
5050 Bookkeeping	2,538	4,500	5,000	2,500	
5070 Diesel.....	8,023	6,000	6,000	9,000	
5080 Dispatch.....	12,560	11,105	11,400	11,107	
5090 Dues.....	150			150	
5130 Equipment Repair	1,777	1,000	1,000	1,000	
5200 Insurance Workers Comp	36,034	24,000	26,000	37,000	
5245 Chaplain Fund	288			300	
5250 Admin/Office Supp (Amb)....	2,587	3,000	3,000	3,000	
5265 Office Computer/Software	6,739	6,000	6,000	6,000	
5400 Vehicle Repairs.....	11,661	5,000	6,500	10,000	
5400 5420 Training		1,000	1,000	1,000	
Total 5500 Salary	293,499	311,286	348,786	363,786	
5510 Payroll Tax	24,839	34,241	38,366	38,366	
5515 Payroll Fee	924	1,400	1,500	1,000	
5520 Medical Supplies	21,285	18,000	18,000	19,000	
5530 Infection Control	0	250	250	250	
Ambulance Tax (3.3% of revenue)	4,241	4,290	4,700	4,700	
5550 Oxygen	1,003	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Total Expense	\$ 428,148	432,072	478,502	509,159	6.4%
Net Ordinary Income	\$ 7,997				

* Any receipts from ambulance services returned to the Department are allocated between the contingency account (25%) and the capital account (75%). The account balance of the contingency account shall not exceed \$40,000 with any excess funds to be placed in the capital account. On June 30, 2022, the capital account balance was \$158,153. For more information about the capital account, see page 43.



*New Engine 1 has been ordered.
We expect delivery in late Fall 2023. Thanks for your support!*

Sullivan, Powers & Co., P.C.

Certified Public Accountants

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Richard J. Brigham, CPA
Chad A. Hewitt, CPA
Jordan M. Plummer, CPA
VT Lic. #92-000180

January 11, 2023

Selectboard
Town of East Montpelier, Vermont
P.O. Box 157
East Montpelier, Vermont 05651

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022 and have issued our report thereon dated January 11, 2023. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in "Government Auditing Standards", issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. In addition, because of inherent limitations in internal control, including the possibility of management override of controls, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected by such controls. However, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

Members of The American Institute and Vermont Society of Certified Public Accountants



Town of East Montpelier, Vermont

-2-

January 11, 2023

A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiencies described in the accompanying Schedule of Deficiencies in Internal Control and Other Recommendations as Items 2022-01 through 2022-03 to be significant deficiencies.

We have also noted other matters during our audit as indicated in the accompanying Schedule of Deficiencies in Internal Control and Other Recommendations that are opportunities for strengthening internal control and operating efficiency. We have discussed the recommendations with the staff during the course of fieldwork and some of the recommendations may have already been implemented.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Selectboard, and others within the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties. If you would like to discuss any of the recommendations further, please feel free to contact us.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff of the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont for their assistance and cooperativeness throughout our audit. It has been a pleasure working with you.

Respectfully submitted,

Sullivan, Powers & Co.

SULLIVAN, POWERS & CO.
Certified Public Accountants

These findings are part of a full audit done by Sullivan, Powers & Co, CPAs, of Montpelier; copies are available for review at the Town Offices and on the town's website at <https://eastmontpeliervt.org/documents/external-audits/>



TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER, VERMONT
SCHEDULE OF DEFICIENCIES IN INTERNAL CONTROL
AND OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS
JUNE 30, 2022

Deficiencies in Internal Control:

Material Weaknesses:

None noted.

Significant Deficiencies:

2022-01 Grants Receivable/Deferred Inflows of Resources

Criteria:

Internal controls should be in place to ensure that the grants receivable and related deferred inflows of resources balances are recorded properly at year end.

Condition:

The grants receivable and related deferred inflows of resources accounts were not reconciled to the actual balances at year end which resulted in various adjustments to revenue.

Cause:

Unknown.

Effect:

The Town's grants receivable and related deferred inflows of resources balances were incorrect.

Recommendation:

We recommend that the Town reconcile the grants receivable and related deferred inflows of resources balances to supporting documentation annually in order to detect and correct errors.

2022-02 Classification of Grant Revenues

Criteria:

Internal controls should be in place to ensure grant revenues are posted to the correct accounts in the general ledger.

TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER, VERMONT
SCHEDULE OF DEFICIENCIES IN INTERNAL CONTROL
AND OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS
JUNE 30, 2022

Condition:

The Town did not have controls in place to ensure grant revenues are posted to the correct accounts in the general ledger.

Cause:

Unknown.

Effect:

The Town's account balances were incorrect.

Recommendation:

We recommend that the Town implement controls to ensure grant revenues are posted to the correct accounts in the general ledger.

2022-03 Accrued Payroll and Benefits Payable

Criteria:

Internal controls should be in place to provide for the reconciliation of all payroll balance sheet accounts to supporting documentation in order to detect and correct errors in account balances.

Condition:

The Town did not have controls in place to ensure all payroll balance sheet accounts were reconciled to supporting documentation at year end which resulted in adjustments to payroll expenses.

Cause:

Unknown.

Effect:

The Town's payroll related account balances were not completely reconciled at year end which resulted in adjustments to payroll expenses.

Recommendation:

We recommend that all the payroll related balance sheet accounts be reconciled to supporting documentation at year end in order to detect and correct errors.

Other Recommendations:

Fraud Risk Assessment

The Town has not performed a fraud risk assessment. A fraud risk assessment is important because it identifies the Town's vulnerabilities to fraudulent activities and whether those vulnerabilities could result in material misstatement of the financial statements. The fraud risk assessment would also identify processes, controls, and other procedures used to mitigate the identified fraud risks.

We recommend the Town perform a fraud risk assessment to reduce the possibility of fraudulent activities.

Documentation of Internal Control System

A solid understanding of internal control is essential. An organization must continually assess their internal control systems to ensure accurate financial reporting and compliance with laws and regulations. As part of this process, management should formally document its control systems.

The Town has an accounting policy and procedures manual which does outline some control activities but does not include documentation of the internal control systems. This should provide management with an understanding of the systems related to financial reporting, and the controls over relevant assertions related to all significant accounts, disclosures in the financial statements, antifraud programs and controls over selection and application of accounting policies.

We recommend that the Town document its internal control process. This should break out the internal control process into the following five areas.

1. Control Environment – Sets the tone of an organization and is the foundation for all other components.
2. Risk Assessment – The identification and analysis of relevant risks to achieve its objectives forming a basis for how risks should be managed.
3. Control Activities – The policies and procedures that help ensure management directives are carried out.
4. Information and Communication – The identification, capture and exchange of information in a form and timeframe that enables people to carry out their responsibilities.
5. Monitoring – The process that assesses the quality of internal control performance over time.

A number of checks for recreation program fees were being held for substantial periods of time prior to deposit. Proper internal control for cash calls for timely deposits of cash receipts to the bank account. Failure to do so poses a weakness in internal control and prevents the cash from being used to its maximum earnings potential.

We recommend the Town reduce the time between the receipt and deposit of recreation programs fees.



TOWN AUDITORS' REPORT **for the fiscal period July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022**

The elected Town Auditors review the accounts of the town as well as produce and distribute this book to East Montpelier voters, as per 24 V.S.A. § 1681–1689. We access records of cash receipts, accounts payable, tax administration, payroll, the grand list, bank statements, and the general ledger in order to examine and to express the town's financial condition in this report. We strive to use a straight-forward, user-friendly presentation to our fellow townspeople.

Based on our review of all the individual fund accounts, to the best of our knowledge, the records as reported here represent fairly the position of the Town of East Montpelier. We have compared our findings to the external audit prepared by Sullivan, Powers & Company (available on the town website) and find they are consistent. In addition to pages created by the Town Auditors, we've adapted two financial pages found in the external audit report, as noted on those pages.

The elected auditors play a role in the internal control function of the town's accounting system by providing a review of bank account reconciliations prepared by the Treasurer. It was noted in the FY21 external audit that a material weakness existed due to the lack of timely review and segregation of functions performed by the limited number of staff. The Town Auditors had been reviewing bank statements and reconciliations as part of our year-end audit for many years. In November 2021, to satisfy the concerns expressed in the external audit letter and to exercise the town's internal control process more timely, the Town Auditors began reviewing the Treasurer's reconciliations every month.

The Town Auditors also collect and review a substantial amount of supplementary information regarding the various operations of the town as well as the reports and information associated with the school district. We do not review in detail the records related to the school as part of our function.

We'd like to acknowledge the contributions of the committees and organizations who work on behalf of the town throughout the year and respond to our requests for material to include in this book, including Terry Allen for some great photographs of election voting and the aftermath of Winter Storm Elliott. And thanks to the town office staff for helping us gather information and for reviewing page proofs as we approached our deadline to the printer.

DEBORAH FILLION, *Chair*
CARLA OCCASO
ED DEEGAN
January 31, 2023



SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE TO

Berlin, Calais, East Montpelier, Middlesex, and Worcester Voters

The Annual Report for Washington Central Unified Union School District including the 2023-24 Budget will be mailed to all voters and available online at <https://www.wcsu32.org/domain/537>

A MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD

Another year has come and gone, and as I sit here gathering my thoughts, I am mindful both of the challenges we have faced—and overcome—by working with and respecting one another, and of the work that still lies ahead. Sometimes it is all a little overwhelming. But the truth is, when you have dedicated, thoughtful, and experienced people at your side, the load becomes a little lighter and the road a little easier to travel. I am grateful to serve on a board, and in a school district, with such people.

I would like to open this letter by expressing my deep gratitude to our new Superintendent, Meagan Roy. We have used the words “new superintendent” more than we’d like over the past few years, but I feel strongly that we have found the right person to lead us forward. Her experience; her knowledge and understanding of education and how to utilize all available resources; and her patient and collaborative approach to working with administrators, teachers, and community members has truly been a breath of fresh air. She listens; she processes; she invites feedback; and we are grateful that she chose to come work with us.

As we went into our budget planning meetings this year, we did so with three major considerations in mind.

- First, our commitment to our three guiding pillars: academic excellence, safe & healthy schools, and humanity and justice;
- Second, our commitment to equity - a term we hear more and more these days, especially in relation to schools and how to prepare all students for success after high school. Key to that commitment is working towards using an “equity lens” in every decision we make; and
- Third, our commitment to being fiscally responsible at a time when so many families are struggling financially following three years of a pandemic, inflation, and ever-increasing costs.

I’d like to take a brief moment here to talk about these three major considerations, and how each impacts the education we hope to offer our students in a budget environment defined by declining enrollments and rising costs.

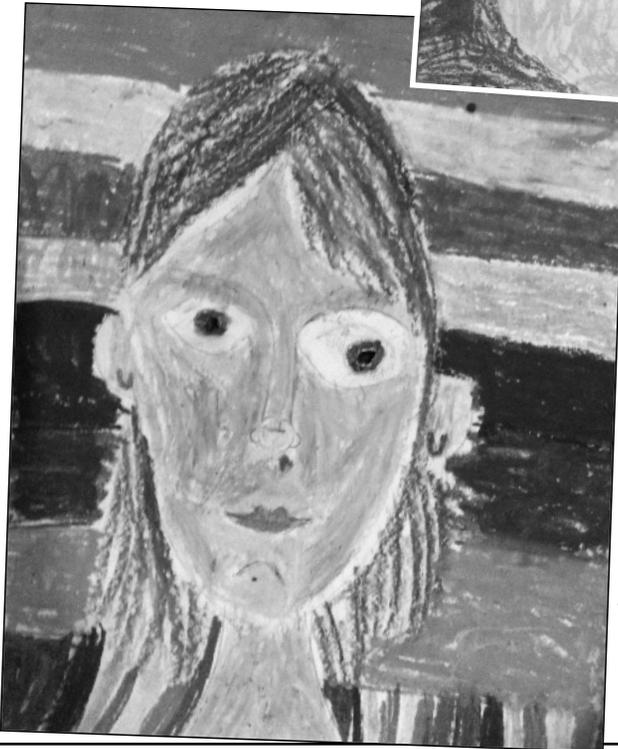
Our commitment to academic excellence, safe & healthy schools, and humanity and justice is paramount. Our students—your children—deserve an education



Elena



August



Scarlett

**Self Portraits
in Oil Pastels
by EMES
1st Graders**



that prepares them for entry into the college of their choice, success in their chosen career, or advancement towards whatever life-path they choose. And embedded in that goal is equipping students to be creative, compassionate, and thoughtful members of society.

To us, equity means that every one of our schools will endeavor to provide every student with access to high quality, culturally responsive curriculum, and programs, including teachers, administrators, extracurricular activities, and support services. Because “equity” and “equality” are two very different things, achieving equity may require unequal distribution of resources and services. It involves acknowledging and changing inequitable practices, acknowledging biases (often unintentional), and employing practices that reflect the reality that while all students may not be headed in the same direction post high school, all deserve a solid foundation for the lives they will eventually pursue.

As we look ahead, we know that enrollments will continue to decline and that expenses—for all stakeholders—will continue to rise. If we’re going to be sensitive to the financial burdens increasingly faced by taxpayers; and if our goal is to ensure that all students have the knowledge and resources they need to succeed in whatever life pathways they choose; then we must begin to look at the structures we have in place and determine whether they are not only sustainable, but also best suited to serving our students. These are discussions that should be of interest to all stakeholders in our district, and we will open those discussions to all community members. As a unified district, we are quickly reaching the point where budget planning, strategic planning, and community engagement will have to go hand in hand—the goal being to make sense of the future together.

There is no question that this was a challenging budget year and that it will be this way for the foreseeable future. But we are committed to bringing fresh oxygen into the system and we are intentionally setting parameters that will allow our administrators to be creative, to dream, and to be instructional leaders.

I am proud of the work we are doing - and have accomplished—towards making sure our schools are places where everyone feels safe, heard, and welcome—students, teachers, parents, families, volunteers, and members of the community. One of the most important things we can offer to our students and to one another is an environment that promotes the sharing of ideas, respect, and finding common ground. As we continue working together as a unified district—with tolerance, understanding, and open minds—we can not only overcome our differences, but in so doing set a wonderful example for our children.

Thank you for the opportunity and privilege to serve your children and this district. It is a trust that all of us take very seriously.

—FLOR DIAZ-SMITH, *for the Board*



EMES ENROLLMENT

as of October 1st

Year	PreK	EEE	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	K-6 Total	Grand Total
1990-91			26	34	37	40	35	34	43	249	
1991-92			21	28	33	36	40	35	32	225	
1992-93			36	23	29	38	37	43	40	246	
1993-94			32	32	24	28	37	38	42	233	
1994-95			22	33	30	24	30	38	39	216	
1995-96			39	26	32	33	23	33	41	227	
1996-97			37	41	31	33	37	24	33	236	
1997-98			20	41	41	35	34	34	24	229	
1998-99			32	24	41	40	35	32	37	241	
1999-00			23	34	26	38	40	34	32	227	
2000-01	16	3	21	25	37	29	43	40	35	230	249
2001-02	18	1	21	26	27	37	31	45	43	231	250
2002-03	5	13	26	25	26	30	35	33	47	222	240
2003-04	20	3	27	29	24	26	28	32	36	202	225
2004-05	22	1	33	29	32	25	29	29	35	212	235
2005-06	23	3	30	28	27	31	26	27	29	198	224
2006-07	28	3	26	32	29	29	34	26	28	204	235
2007-08	21	3	31	36	25	34	34	34	27	223	247
2008-09	31	4	31	32	35	25	35	38	39	235	270
2009-10	27	3	32	33	31	32	29	31	37	225	255
2010-11	32	3	26	31	30	32	32	31	31	213	248
2011-12	32	3	27	29	31	30	34	35	33	219	254
2012-13	29	—	21	28	25	34	26	38	36	208	237
2013-14	21	—	26	18	27	26	34	30	36	197	218
2014-15	38	—	15	25	16	27	27	41	30	181	219
2015-16	22	5	28	16	26	18	27	23	38	176	203
2016-17	32	4	25	31	17	28	22	25	26	174	210
2017-18	37	4	34	26	31	19	31	22	25	188	229
2018-19	37	4	27	29	29	31	19	28	23	186	227
2019-20	40	5	15	29	31	30	33	19	31	188	233
2020-21	32	4	25	18	30	33	29	36	21	192	228
2021-22	36	1	20	31	18	33	31	33	36	202	239
2022-23	37	3	21	21	32	18	32	33	34	194	231

TO THE EAST MONTPELIER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Greetings! As I sit down to write this annual report letter and consider all that has happened over the past year, I find myself returning to a single word—a feeling really. And that word, that feeling is Joy. Yes, we’ve been through a lot over the past couple of years, and the challenges are by no means fully behind us. But I keep coming back to this place of joy (both literally and emotionally) and I am grateful for the opportunity to share why that is so with you in this letter.

First and foremost, we were thrilled to welcome families and community members back into our school this past year. Every time we brought back an activity or event that had to be put on hold during the COVID pandemic, a feeling of joy just settled over the entire building.

Some of the all-time favorites that we were able to bring back included our all-school hike, our Monster Mash and Harvest Feast, and Gifts for Giving. In addition, we’ve had regular book clubs, concerts, and celebrations of learning. Students climbed mountains (Hunger and Mansfield to name two), explored trails and bike paths, decorated for Halloween, prepared a community meal, and showcased work to parents and guests from throughout the community. With each activity, we all felt a deep sense of appreciation, to not only be back together again, but also for this amazing elementary school tucked into this special corner of Vermont.

We continue our focus on PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) this year, which has helped us reduce and, in many ways, avoid some of the behavioral issues so many school systems are experiencing as students re-learn how to work together as teams and partners. Our weekly cross-grades Wednesday afternoon meeting is a good example of this. Each week, students from K–6 work with an adult who is not their teacher to focus on kindness, gratitude, equity and inclusion. These groups advance and grow together through the years, not unlike the TA system in place at the middle and high school. In time, our kindergartners grow into sixth graders, who then work with the next crop of younger students. It brings our school community together and allows the older students to model the kind of behavior we expect and promote here at EMES.

Another big area of focus this past year that will also be front and center in the coming year is our preparation for the implementation of Act 173. At its core, Act 173 relates to enhancing the effectiveness, availability and equity of services provided to students who require additional supports. Its implementation was postponed during Covid, but over the coming year, we will need to have systems in place to ensure that all students have the same level of—and access to—support. This will be a major focus in the year ahead, and the work we’ve done to date, including ongoing professional development, will help ensure the services and interventions we deliver are unified for everyone.



We learned a lot about our practices during the pandemic and some of the lessons were quite eye opening. One such example of this is our lunchtime practice. Because we couldn't gather in the cafeteria for the traditional (often boisterous) lunch break, students were separated by classroom or they ate outdoors weather permitting. What we learned was that some students were better prepared for the afternoon after having a quiet lunch. To that end, when we cannot eat outdoors, we now have two lunchtime options—the traditional one where students can talk and laugh and let off a little steam; and a quiet room, where students can eat and listen to an adult read from a book. In this one very small way, we are leveling the field if you will, providing students an environment that best suits their learning preferences. So is that what we mean by equity? Well, not entirely, but in a small way, yes. The students who like to let off a little steam and the ones who like to eat quietly are both better prepared for an afternoon of success.

In other exciting news, we introduced a new mascot to EMES since last writing to you. By now, many of you have met Scout, the Red Fox, who is an integral part of our school life. Scout shows up in classrooms, at events, and on t-shirt Fridays. No one knows who Scout really is, and that makes its appearances even more fun.

I'm going to touch briefly now on just a couple more things because I see I am running out of space. (A good problem to have, don't you think?)

Last spring, our staff revisited the purpose of our EMES data wall, and as a result, we made some significant improvements to it this year. We now have triangulated data in all areas of reading, writing, and math, and have added data specific to the Unified Arts, social emotional learning, and behavior. Using data-driven discussion protocols, we analyze and use this data to regularly inform our decisions about programming and supports for all students.

Our enrollment has remained steady. While much of Vermont is seeing declines in enrollment, we continue to hold steady at over 200 students. Like most schools, we continue to struggle with staffing, especially para educators and substitutes, but so many parents and community members have stepped up to fill the void that we really haven't missed a beat.

We're getting ready to upgrade both our playground and walking trail, making both more ADA accessible, and we hope to rebuild our beloved cabin in the woods that had to be dismantled this fall due to safety concerns. The students have shared their voice in the design and need for this beloved structure on our playground!

In closing, let me say, simply, that EMES is a happy and thriving learning community. And it is that way because of our dedicated and caring staff; our supportive and giving families; and of course, our students—your children—who make coming to work each day ... wait for it ... a joy.

—ALICIA LYFORD, *Principal*



EAST MONTPELIER COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Community Connections is entering its twenty-second year serving the children and families of East Montpelier, Berlin, Calais, Middlesex, and Worcester.

This year was a challenging year as we continued adjusting to meet the many concerns presented by the pandemic. Our staff has continued to flex and adapt in order to once again operate all our normal programs. We opened our doors daily to families at 7:30 A.M. until we transitioned children to the school day. During the day, we provided childcare for preschoolers in a wrap-around service to the school's preschool program. After school, CC provided various options for students until parents arrived, closing at 5:30 P.M. Finally, we offered camps during most school vacations for students in Kindergarten to 6th grade.

In 2021-22 we served over 60 children at East Montpelier Elementary and employed East Montpelier residents and those from neighboring communities in our programs. CC worked closely with the school staff to support the needs of each student and family. The demand for these services continued to be strong; there continues to be a gradual rise in enrollment throughout the school year. COVID-19 continues to affect us through its many variants and impact on availability of staff. This 2022-23 school year had staffing challenges as the need and demand for childcare has steadily increased, most programs are seeing an enrollment increase this school year of 40-50% over the previous school year, double what we experienced during the beginning of the 2020-21 school year.

In the summer of 2022 Community Connections helped to provide the summer food program and camps for preschool age to elementary age students. Our programs are a critical part of the social safety net in East Montpelier. We are there for those who need us. We cannot express how much your support during these unusual times impacts us and has been appreciated! Thank you.

—KIMBERLY BOLDUC, *Program Director*

FY22 FINANCIAL REPORT

Income Sources	Percent of Income	Total Income
State (Grant & Subsidy)	35.1%	\$ 42,123
Town Funds [TM21, Art. 13]	2.1%	2,500
Other (User fees)	62.8%	75,435
Total Income	100.0%	\$ 120,058

Expenditures	Budgeted Percent	Budgeted Dollars	Actual Percent	Actual Dollars
Personnel	97.30%	\$ 112,650	97.68%	\$ 103,225
Insurance/Rent/Utilities	0.58%	667	0.63%	667
Other (Travel)	0.86%	1,000	0.48%	504
Other (Snacks & Supplies)	1.22%	1,411	1.21%	1,281
Total Expenses	100.00%	\$ 115,728	100.00%	\$ 105,677

EMES STAFF

Name	Title	FTE*
Agran, Richard	Paraeducator	1.00
Blanchard, Michael	Physical Education Teacher	1.00
Blow, Bruce	Custodian	0.50
Bradley, Jenny	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Brown, Kimberly	Paraeducator	0.20
Brown, Kimberly	Pre-K Paraeducator	0.80
Brucoli, Arlyn	Library Media (.4)/Technology Integration (.6)	1.00
Campbell, Jennifer	Art Teacher	0.60
Christiano, Christine	Instructional Interventionist	1.00
Clark-Warner, Heather	Pre-Kindergarten Teacher	0.80
DeForge, Susan	Pre-K Paraeducator	0.40
DeForge, Susan	Administrative Assistant	0.60
Dorfman, Amadeus	Special Educator	1.00
Drown, Noelle	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Dyer, Karen	Paraeducator	1.00
Fair, Jacob	Paraeducator	1.00
Fecura, Jessica	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Finegan, Anne	Cook/Food Services Agent	1.00
Fitch, Jennifer	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Fitz, Carrie	Instructional Interventionist	1.00
Gallagher, Claire	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Gannon, Robin	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Gariboldi, Lisa	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Gauthier, Gwyn	Speech/Language Pathologist	1.00
Giammusso, Laura	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Goodell, Glen	Custodian	1.00
Haseltine, James	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Hill, Todd	Maintenance Lead/Head Custodian	1.00
Jones, Peter	Custodian	0.50
Kilpatrick, Katrina	Paraeducator	1.00
Langevin, Mary	School Counselor	1.00
Laquerre, Danielle	Paraeducator	1.00
Lehrer, Dina	Paraeducator	1.00
Lyford, Alicia	Principal	1.00
MacKinnon, Shannon	Special Educator	1.00
Mathies, David	School Nurse	1.00
Mishkin, Samantha	Music Teacher	0.80
Morse, Sarynna	Pre-K Paraeducator	0.30
Paquet, Hilary	Special Educator	1.00
Parker, Bethany	Instructional Interventionist	1.00
Parker, Jodi	Administrative Assistant to the Principal	1.00
Pearce, Kayla	Paraeducator	1.00
Purchase, Melissa	Paraeducator	1.00
Shedd, Ellen	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Sherwin, Michael	Behavior Coach	1.00
Wiater, Jennifer	Assistant Cook	0.71
Willard, David	Classroom Teacher	1.00
Zeilenga, Jillian	Classroom Teacher	1.00

* FTE (Full-Time Equivalent)

Total: 43.21

CENTRAL VERMONT CAREER CENTER

cvtcc.org

The Central Vermont Career Center School District (CVCCSD) was born last year when voters in our 18 sending towns approved—by a significant margin—our transition from the Barre Unified Union School District to a standalone career and technical center district. What that transition did, first and foremost, was open up seats at the table for representatives from each of our member towns. For the first time, every member town now has a voice in what programs we offer; in setting our budget; and in our day-to-day operations. You are no longer sending your students to a host district—the district belongs to you.

At the Central Vermont Career Center (CVCC), we are training students to become the next generation of mechanics, graphic designers, chefs, plumbers, contractors, hairstylists, EMTs, nurses, and much more. These are high-demand, well-paying careers. But just as important, we are giving them the opportunity to find those rewarding careers right here in Vermont. Many go on to earn college or graduate degrees before returning to the communities that raised them, while others enter their chosen careers directly. But regardless of the paths they choose, CVCC students see the real possibilities beyond what they're learning. Each day they acquire new skills that bring them closer to the career or degree programs they can't wait to embark on. In the past, career and technical education has often been an afterthought, but we are seeing more and more that it is a critical part of a high quality PreK-12 education—especially in the middle and high school grades.

We kicked off the school year at CVCC on August 30th with 220 students in 13 programs and Coop after our final round of acceptances on August 29th. In addition, we opened with two new programs: Emergency Services 2 (Advanced EMT), taught in collaboration with Vermont Technical College's (VTC) paramedic program, and Design & Fabrication (Including Stone Trades) located at the Vermont Granite Museum. In addition, due to staffing needs, we developed a collaboration with Vermont Heating and Ventilation (VHV) allowing our Plumbing program to move forward.

There are no town lines or boundaries at CVCCSD. We all make up the Central Vermont Career Center School District. And that's important because it impacts how our annual budget is approved. While our district is technically a new entity, our budget is still embedded in each town's annual school district spending just as it has been in the past. This year you will have the ability to vote on the CVCC budget and we are seeking your continued support for the expenses you have been providing for years. The only difference is that you now have a direct voice in setting our annual budget.

JODY EMERSON, CVCC Director, CVCCSD Superintendent

JILL REMICK, CVCCSD Board Chair

CENTRAL VERMONT CAREER CENTER SCHOOL DISTRICT WARNING for March 7, 2023 VOTE

The legal voters of the Central Vermont Career Center School District who are residents of the City of Barre and the Towns of Barre, Berlin, Cabot, Calais, Duxbury, East Montpelier, Fayston, Marshfield, Middlesex, Montpelier, Moretown, Plainfield, Roxbury, Waitsfield, Warren, Waterbury and Worcester are hereby notified and warned to meet at their respective polling places on Tuesday, March 7, 2023. Polls close statewide at seven (7:00) o'clock in the afternoon (p.m.). Voting will take place by Australian ballot upon the following Articles of business:

Article 1:

To elect two members to the Central Vermont Career Center School District Board for the ensuing term commencing March 7, 2023 as follows:

- One at-large director from Montpelier Roxbury Public Schools to serve a term of three years.
- One at-large director from the Washington Central Unified Union School District to serve a term of one year.

Article 2:

Shall the voters of the Central Vermont Career Center School District approve the school board to expend **\$4,135,602**, which is the amount the school board has determined necessary for the support of the Central Vermont Career Center for the ensuing fiscal year?

The legal voters and residents of the Central Vermont Career Center School District are further warned and notified that an **Informational Meeting** will be held in room 136 at the Central Vermont Career Center in the City of Barre and virtually via Google meet on February 27, 2023 commencing directly after the **Annual Meeting** which begins at six o'clock (6:00) in the afternoon (pm) for the purpose of explaining the articles to be voted on by Australian ballot. A recording of this forum will be placed on the CVCC website at cvtcc.org.

The legal voters of the Central Vermont Career Center School District are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting relative to said election shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51, and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Adopted and approved at a meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Central Vermont Unified Union School District held on January 9, 2023. Received for the record and recorded in the records of the Central Vermont Career Center School District on January 10, 2023.

Tina Lunt, *Clerk*

Central Vermont Career Center School District

Signed by the Central Vermont Career Center Board of Directors:

Jill Remick, <i>Chair</i>	Janna Osman, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Flor Diaz Smith, <i>Clerk</i>
Lyman Castle	Alice Farrell	J. Guy Isabelle
Jim Halavonich	Jason Monaco	Terri Steele
		Jonathan Young

WASHINGTON CENTRAL UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT WARNING

The legal voters of the Washington Central Unified Union School District, a municipal corporation consisting of the Towns of Berlin, Calais, East Montpelier, Middlesex, and Worcester, Vermont are hereby notified and warned to meet in their respective towns at the polling places hereinafter named on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, to vote by Australian ballot on Articles 1 through 8 as outlined below.

ARTICLE 1. To elect a Clerk for a term of one (1) year.

ARTICLE 2. To elect a Treasurer for a term of one (1) year.

ARTICLE 3. To elect a Moderator for a term of one (1) year.

ARTICLE 4. To elect the following School Directors:

Berlin	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term
Calais	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term
East Montpelier	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term
Middlesex	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term
Worcester	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term

ARTICLE 5. To fix the annual compensation of the Union School District officers.

Clerk	\$500.00
Treasurer	\$6,600.00
Directors	\$1,100.00 each
Chair	\$2,200.00

ARTICLE 6. Shall the voters of the Washington Central Unified Union School District approve the school board to expend \$38,921,331 which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$23,022 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 12.86% higher than spending for the current year.

ARTICLE 7. Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors of Washington Central Unified Union School District to hold any audited fund balance as of June 30, 2023 in a reserve fund to be expended under the control and direction of the Board of School Directors for the purpose of operating the school?

ARTICLE 8. Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money in anticipation of the receipt of revenues for the 2023-2024 school year?

Polling Places and Times:

Berlin Municipal Office at 108 Shed Rd. in Berlin 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Calais Elementary School at 321 Lightening Ridge Rd. in Calais
7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

East Montpelier Elementary School at 665 Vincent Flats Rd. in East Montpelier
7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Middlesex Town Office at 5 Church St. in Middlesex 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Doty Elementary School at 24 Calais Rd. in Worcester 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM

A public hearing will take place on Monday, March 6, 2023 at 5:30 PM to provide information on the articles to be voted by Australian Ballot at the municipalities' respective Town Meetings on Tuesday, March 7, 2023. The public hearing will be at U-32 Middle & High School at 930 Gallison Hill Rd, Montpelier, VT 05602 in Rm 128/131. There will be a virtual option as well: <https://tinyurl.com/yckpbt48> Meeting Id: 852 5014 1942 Password: 675432 Phone: 1-929-205-6099

Upon closing of the polls, the ballots shall be transported and delivered to the East Montpelier Elementary School at 665 Vincent Flats Road in the Town of East Montpelier where they will be commingled and counted by members of the Boards of Civil Authority of district towns under the supervision of the Clerk of the Washington Central Unified Union School District.

The legal voters of Washington Central Unified Union School District are further notified that voter qualification, registration, and absentee voting relative to said annual meeting shall be as provided in Sections 553 and 706 (u) of Title 16, and Chapters 43, 51, and 55 of title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Rosalie “Rosie” Laquerre, *WCUUSD Clerk*

Flor Diaz-Smith, *Chair* (East Montpelier)

Ursula Stanley (Middlesex)

Kari Bradley, *Vice-Chair* (Calais)

Chris McVeigh (Middlesex)

Diane Nichols-Fleming (Berlin)

Joshua Sevits (Middlesex)

Vera Frazier (Berlin)

Mckalyn Garrity LeClerc (Worcester)

Jonathan Goddard (Berlin)

Jonas Eno-Van Fleet, Clerk (Worcester)

Margrette “Maggie” Weiss (Calais)

Natasha Eckart Baning (Worcester)

Daniel Keeney (Calais)

Malinda “Lindy” Johnson (East Montpelier)

Eric Andersen (East Montpelier)



CENTRAL VT CAREER CENTER SCHOOL DISTRICT RESULTS

Washington Central Unified Union School District March 1, 2022

[Please note that although the special meeting was called by the WCUUSD, in reality this election included all member districts, covering 18 municipalities, of the Central Vermont Career Center School District. Ballots from all member districts were commingled and total votes across all districts are reported below.]

ART. 1: Shall the voters of the Washington Central Unified Union School District vote to establish the Central Vermont Career Center School District as described in the Governance Planning Committee Report approved by the State Board of Education on December 15, 2021?
Result: Passed [7,493 yes; 1,688 no]

ART. 2: To elect four members to the Central VT Career Center School District for the ensuing term commencing March 2, 2022 as follows:

One at-large director from Barre Unified Union School District to serve a term of three years.

Elected: J. Guy Isabelle [6,542 votes]

One at-large director from Harwood Unified Union School District to serve a term of three years.

Elected: Jim Halavonich [6,211 votes]

One at-large director from Montpelier Roxbury Public Schools to serve a term of one year. No Candidate

Write-in Results: Lyman Castle was elected by write-in votes.

One at-large director from Washington Central Unified Union School District to serve a term of two years. No Candidate

Insufficient Write-in Votes: Terri Steele was appointed to this office.



WCUUSD AUSTRALIAN BALLOT RESULTS FOR VOTE ON MARCH 1, 2022

- Art. 1: To elect a Clerk for a term of one (1) year.**
Elected: Rosie Laquerre [2,414 votes]
- Art. 2: To elect a Treasurer for a term of one (1) year.**
Elected: Mary Ormsby [2,352 votes]
- Art. 3: To elect a Moderator for a term of one (1) year.**
No Candidate; Top Write-in Results:
Michael Duane [30 votes]; Susan Clark [19 votes];
Gus Seelig [19 votes]; Paul Hanlon [13 votes]

2021 School Meeting Voting Statistics

Ballots from towns:	
Berlin	665
Calais	527
East Mont.	800
Middlesex	579
Worcester	312

Total **2,883**



- Art. 4:** To elect the following School Directors:
- Berlin School Director three (3) year term.**
Elected: Jonathan Goddard [2,066 votes]
- Calais School Director three (3) year term.**
Elected: Margrette Weiss [2,102 votes]
- Calais School Director one (1) year of three (3) year term.**
Elected: Daniel Keeney [2,029 votes]
- East Montpelier School Director three (3) year term.**
Elected: Flor Diaz Smith [2,139 votes]
- Middlesex School Director three (3) year term.**
Elected: Ursula Stanley [1,986 votes]
- Middlesex School Director one (1) of three (3) year term.**
No Candidate. Top Write-in Results: Dennis M. Hill [38 votes]
- Worcester School Director three (3) year term.**
Elected: Jonas Eno-Van Fleet [2,019 votes]
- Worcester School Director two (2) of three (3) year term.**
Elected: N. Eckart Baning [1,995 votes]
- Worcester School Director one (1) of three (3) year term.**
Elected: M. Garrity Leclerc [2,009 votes]
- Art. 5:** **To fix the annual compensation of the Union School District officers.**
Clerk \$500; Treasurer \$6,600; Directors \$1,050 each; Chair \$2,100
Result: **Passed** [2,253 yes; 417 no]
- Art. 6:** Shall the voters of the Washington Central Unified Union School District **approve the school board to expend \$36,169,267** which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of **\$20,391** per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is **5.03% higher** than spending for the current year.
Result: **Passed** [1,804 yes; 937 no]
- Art. 7:** Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors of Washington Central Unified Union School District to hold any audited fund balance as of June 30, 2022 in a **reserve fund** to be expended under the control and direction of the Board of School Directors for the purpose of operating the school? Result: **Passed** [2,253 yes; 455 no]
- Art. 8:** Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors to **borrow money in anticipation of the receipt of revenues** for the 2022-2023 school year? Result: **Passed** [2,020 yes; 683 no]
- Art. 9:** Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors to **convey approximately 3.8 acres of undeveloped land** that is now a part of the Berlin Elementary School Property to the Town of Berlin for use as part of the New Town Center? Result: **Passed** [1,810 yes; 770 no]

TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER – AUSTRALIAN BALLOT RESULTS FOR VOTE ON MARCH 1, 2022

- Art. 1:** To elect all necessary **officers** for the ensuing year.
 Town Moderator, 1-year term: Elected: Michael Duane [709 votes]
 Selectboard Member, 3-year term: Elected: Carlton Etnier [644 votes]
 Selectboard Member, 2-year term: Elected: Jon Jewett [662 votes]
 Lister, 3-year term: Elected: Chris Racanelli [678 votes]
 Lister, 1 of 3-year term: Elected: Deborah Fillion [656 votes]
 Auditor, 3-year term: Elected: Deborah Fillion [667 votes]
 First Constable, 1-year term: Elected: Jonathan Boucher [668 votes]
 Planning Commissioner, 3-yr term: Elected: Zachary Sullivan [617 votes]
 Planning Commissioner, 3-yr term: Elected: Kim Watson [656 votes]
 Planning Commissioner, 3-yr term: Elected: Lauren Oates [38 write-in votes]
 Planning Commissioner, 1 of 3-year term: Elected: Spencer Hardy [635 votes]
- Art. 2:** Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$2,000,127** as proposed by the Selectboard, for laying out and repairing highways and for other necessary Town expenses for fiscal year 2023 (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023). Result: **Passed** [716 yes; 71 no]
- Art. 3:** Shall the Town authorize all property taxes for the fiscal year 2023 to be paid to the Town Treasurer, without discount in two installments and received by the Treasurer at the East Montpelier Municipal Building as follows: The first installment will be due and postmarked on or before Tues., Nov. 15, 2022 and the second installment will be due and postmarked on or before Mon., May 15, 2023. Result: **Passed** [755 yes; 32 no]
- Art. 4:** Shall the Town, in accordance with 17 V.S.A. §2651a, authorize the Selectboard to appoint a first constable and, if needed, a second constable. Result: **Passed** [677 yes; 88 no]
- Art. 5:** Shall the Town authorize the use of up to **\$133,333** from the East Montpelier Capital Reserve Fund for the purchase of a new fire engine by the East Montpelier Fire Department. Result: **Passed** [695 yes; 100 no]
- Art. 6:** Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$46,764** for Kellogg-Hubbard Library for the support of the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Result: **Passed** [608 yes; 189 no]
- Art. 7:** Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$4,400** for the Four Corners Schoolhouse Association for operating expenses during fiscal year 2023. Result: **Passed** [677 yes; 113 no]
- Art. 8:** Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$12,000** for the East Montpelier Signpost to provide for the production and mailing of six issues of the East



East Montpelier Elementary School mascot, Scout the Fox, gets a ride in an Agency of Transportation snow plow named “Snow Fox” by EMES students.





Montpelier Signpost for each East Montpelier resident household and non-resident property owner during fiscal year 2023. Result: **Passed** [636 yes; 155 no]

Art. 9: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$4,000** for East Montpelier Trails, Inc. for the enhancement, development, administration and maintenance of the trail network in East Montpelier during fiscal year 2023. Result: **Passed** [692 yes; 106 no]

Art. 10: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$9,000** for the Montpelier Senior Activity Center for operating expenses during fiscal year 2023. Result: **Passed** [652 yes; 136 no]

Art. 11: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$6,500** for Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice for operating expenses during fiscal year 2023. Result: **Passed** [741 yes; 57 no]

Art. 12: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$7,834** for the support of Rural Community Transportation, Inc. (RCT) to provide services to residents of the Town of East Montpelier, including \$6,834 as its RCT portion of the fiscal year 2023 share of the annual ongoing cost of providing the commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into East Montpelier and \$1,000 as its fiscal year 2023 share of the annual ongoing cost of providing the commuter bus service along Routes 14 & 15 with service into East Montpelier. This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service, which will also be supported by appropriations from other towns, State and Federal funds, and rider fares. Result: **Passed** [688 yes; 107 no]

Art. 13: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$1,499** as its Green Mountain Transit portion of the fiscal year 2023 share of the annual ongoing cost of providing the commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into East Montpelier. This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service, which will also be supported by appropriations from other towns, State and Federal funds, and rider fares. Result: **Passed** [697 yes; 98 no]

Art. 14: Shall the Town raise the sum of **\$5,000** for Twin Valley Seniors, Inc. for operating expenses during fiscal year 2023. Result: **Passed** [714 yes; 81 no]

Art. 15: Shall the Town raise the amounts listed below as recommended by the Town’s Funding Request Study Committee for the following organizations for fiscal year 2023.

- 1) American Red Cross\$ 250
- 2) Big Heavy World\$ 250
- 3) Capstone Community Action\$ 500
- 4) Central Vermont Adult Basic Education\$ 750



5) Central Vermont Council on Aging	\$1,875
6) Central Vermont Disaster Animal Response Team	\$ 200
7) Central Vermont Habitat for Humanity	\$ 350
8) Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center	\$1,000
9) Circle	\$ 675
10) Community Harvest of Central VT	\$ 250
11) Downstreet Housing & Community Development	\$ 150
12) East Montpelier Community Connections	\$2,500
13) Family Center of Washington County	\$ 500
14) Friends of the Winooski River	\$ 200
15) Girls/Boyz First Mentoring	\$ 300
16) Good Beginnings of Central VT	\$ 300
17) Good Samaritan Haven	\$2,000
18) Green Mountain Transit	\$ 1,366
19) Green Up Vermont	\$ 150
20) HomeShare Vermont	\$ 800
21) Mosaic Vermont	\$ 250
22) North Branch Nature Center	\$ 750
23) Onion River Food Shelf.....	\$ 1,000
24) OUR House of Central VT	\$ 250
25) People's Health and Wellness Clinic	\$ 1,250
26) Prevent Child Abuse Vermont	\$ 300
27) T. W. Wood Gallery	\$ 500
28) Vermont Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired ..	\$ 150
29) Vermont Bar Association	\$ 1,500
30) Vermont CARES	\$ 150
31) Vermont Center for Independent Living	\$ 400
32) Vermont Family Network	\$ 200
33) Washington County Diversion Program	\$ 600
34) Washington County Mental Health Services	\$ 800
35) Washington County Youth Service Bureau	\$ 400
36) Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District	\$ 800

Result: **Passed** [659 yes; 127 no]

Total: \$23,666

2022 Town Meeting Voting Statistics:

811 East Montpelier voters cast a town ballot

800 East Montpelier voters cast a regular WCUUSD ballot

217 E.M. voters cast a WCUUSD special (Central VT Career Center) ballot



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SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Meeting place: East Montpelier Municipal Office Building

Selectboard — 1st & 3rd Mon., 6:30 pm

Planning Commission — 1st & 3rd Thurs., 7:00 pm

Development Review Board — 1st Tues. and as needed, 7:00 pm

Conservation Fund Advisory Committee — as needed

Capital Improvement Committee — as needed

Meeting place: East Montpelier Elementary School

EMES Parent Teacher Neighbor Org. (PTNO) — 2nd Wed., 6:30 pm

Recreation Board — 2nd Mon., 7:15 pm

Meeting place: Alternates between U-32 and a district elementary school

WCUUSD School Board — 1st & 3rd Wed., 6:30 pm

Meeting place: Four Corners Schoolhouse

Four Corners Schoolhouse Association — 2nd Wed., 7:00 pm

E.M. Historical Society — 3rd Mon., 7:00 pm (alternately at 6:00 pm in East Calais)

Meeting place: Emergency Services Facility Community Room

East Montpelier Fire Department (EMFD) — Every Tues., 7:00 pm

For information on these and other local organizations, call the Town Offices at **802-223-3313** or visit the town's website at <https://eastmontpeliervt.org>

NO PARKING NOTICE — SNOW REMOVAL

Residents of the Town of East Montpelier are reminded that in accordance with Vermont State Statute (23 VSA Sections 1101–1102), vehicles left standing or parked in the public right-of-way that interfere with the flow of traffic or with snowplowing operations may be towed without warning. Private snow plow operators are also reminded that in accordance with Vermont State Statute (19 VSA Section 1111b), it is illegal to plow snow from private property on or across public highways. — *East Montpelier Selectboard*

GREEN MOUNTAIN PASSPORTS

May be obtained at the Town Office. Fee: \$2.00.

Requirement: 62 years of age or older. Provides free entry to VT State Parks.

CASELLA TRANSFER STATIONS ON ROUTE 2

- 1) **Former C.V. Landfill:** Open Mon-Fri 7:30-3:45 & Sat 8-noon; 802-479-2450
- 2) **Behind Jiffy Mart Mobil Station:** Open Mon-Fri 8-4 & Sat 8-noon; 802-224-0123

CENTRAL VT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Sponsors Household Hazardous Waste Drops from May to November.

For more information, call 802-229-9383 or visit www.cvswmd.org



Town of East Montpelier
P. O. Box 157
East Montpelier, VT 05651

Annual Report 2022

Town of East Montpelier, Vermont

