

TOWN OF RICHMOND, VERMONT



229TH ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023

THANK YOU
RICHMOND EMPLOYEES ~ FIRST RESPONDERS ~ VOLUNTEERS

You must admit when it rains it pours!

July 11, 2023 proved to be a record breaking rain and flooding incident. Water from the Winooski River crested and endangered the properties along Bridge Street and Esplanade. By 4 am, the Fire Department was evacuating residents of Bridge Street, Esplanade & Church Street. An emergency shelter was set up at Williston Central School for those displaced by the flooding. Roads were damaged by water and the water & sewer infrastructure had been compromised. Five days later there was another severe rainfall within a short amount of time. A round of flash flooding on July 16 damaged many roads, such as Stage, Hillview, Hinesburg, Kenyon, Johnnie Brook, Cochran, Route 2 and Jericho Road had extensive damage from the flooding. Many homes had basement flooding. Some families were stranded in their homes by the flooding. At one point, Richmond was nearly an island, as the high water caused the interstate ramps to be closed and road flooding made traveling impossible.

It was amazing the damage done by the power of water. Roads were destroyed. They had to be completely rebuilt. The Town issued a boil water notice.

During this period, Richmond Employees from the Highway, Fire Department, Water Resources and Town Center stepped up to provide the necessary equipment and services that were needed. Volunteers organized an extensive list of equipment and services that the residents needed. Other residents loaned equipment and cleaning supplies to help those whose homes had been affected. Volunteers to do the actual cleaning came from Richmond and neighboring towns. Dinners and breakfast were provided by the members of Our Community Cares Camp, Boy Scout Troop #23 and Cub Scout Troop #646. Richmond Congregational Church and Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church helped with these meal stations. Many neighbors and friends donated and delivered food to those affected by the flooding. Neighbor Helping Neighbor, an extension of the Huntington Community Church, set up an account for people to make monetary donations to assist those affected.

The aftereffects of this storm continued to be dealt with for months beyond the original storm, as work continued to be done to repair all the highway and water and sewer infrastructure.

Another system of heavy rain caused more damage on December 18. Just as much of the damage of the July storms had been completed, the crews were out again assisting residents and making the town roads passable.

The Selectboard of the Town of Richmond would like to recognize the many people who came forward to help. It was in the spirit of our town, that so much was accomplished with clean up, repairs and the support of our neighbors. We thank all of those who donated their time and expertise to get Richmond back on the road to normalcy.

May we hope for less storm damage in 2024.

**TOWN OF RICHMOND, VERMONT
2022 – 2023**

**Warning for the
Two Hundred and Twenty Ninth**

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
March 7, 2024**

Chartered October 1794

**The polls will be open for in-person voting Tuesday March 5, 2024
7am-7pm at Camels Hump Middle School**

Ballots will be available after February 15, 2024.

**Voters may request an absentee ballot be mailed to them or come into
the Town Clerk's Office to vote, any time before noon on March 3.**

**An informational Selectboard meeting will be held at on
February 26, 2024 at the Richmond Town Center**

Ballots are available through the Town Clerk's Office.

Please keep this report as a reference manual and bring it to Town Meeting

Many thanks to the residents and town employees who submitted articles and photos for this town report. The cover photo was submitted by Pennie Rand. The photo shows the beauty of Mary Houle's personal touch. As a Master Gardener, Mary plants and maintains the various flower beds and potted plants. Thank you, Mary, for your hard work. The flowers are beautiful.

Thank you to Becky Burk and Dana LaPlant of Stillwater Graphics for the preparation of this annual report.

Thanks go to the many departments and employees within the Town of Richmond that do their jobs to ensure Richmond is a safe and welcoming place to live during 2023.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Town Warning	2
Elected Town Officials	4
Scheduled Town Meetings and Office Hours	5
Town Committees and Boards	6-7
Appointed Town Officials and Volunteers	8
Minutes of 2023 Town Meeting.....	9-10
Budget / Financials.....	11-26
Auditor's Report	27
Delinquent and Late Tax Policy and Report.....	28-30
When My Property Taxes are Due	30
Richmond Assessor's Office	31

Town Reports

Selectboard.....	32-34
Town Manager	35-36
Clerk's Report	37-38
Clerk's Services	39
Highway Department	40-42
Winter Sand Policy and Winter Parking Information.....	42
Gravel and Paving Plans	43-45
Drug Drop Off.....	46
Constable and Animal Control	46
Fire Department	47
Fire Department Financials and Statistics	48
Planning / Zoning / Development Review.....	49-51
Library.....	52
Dog License Report.....	53
Rabies Clinic	54
Vital Records.....	55
Births, Deaths, Marriages.....	55-57
Property Transfers.....	58
State Representative Jana Brown	59
Water Resources Report / Financials.....	60-64
Cemetery Commissioners.....	65
Conservation Commission	66
Energy Committee	67
Gardening Committee.....	68
Housing Committee.....	68
Parade and Fireworks Committee.....	69
Recreation Committee.....	69
Town Center and Library Building Committee.....	70-71
Trails Committee	72
Transportation Committee	73-74

Outside Organizations

Celebrate Richmond Vermont, Inc. 75
 Community Senior Center.....76-78
 Elderly Rides / SSTA 79
 Green Up Vermont..... 79
 Hale & Hearty Club..... 79
 Lake Iroquois Association80-81
 Mt. Manfield Community Television..... 82
 Our Community Cares Camp 83
 Richmond Community Band 84
 Richmond Farmers Market.....84-85
 Richmond Historical Society86-88
 Richmond Land Trust..... 89
 Richmond Rescue..... 90
 911 Signs..... 90
 Vermont Health Department..... 91
 Vermont League of Cities and Towns 92

School Section

Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District Our Schools' Reports 93-106
 School Warning 107
 Sample School Ballot..... 108

 Town Warning 109-111
 Sample Town Ballots 112-114

 State and Federal Officers.....Inside Back Cover

ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>TERM ENDS</u>
Town Moderator	Clinton Buxton	1 Year	2024
Town Clerk	Linda M. Parent	3 Year	2025
Town Treasurer	James Feinson	3 Year	2025
Selectboard	Joel Furr	3 Year	2024
	Jeffrey Forward	2 Year	2024
	David Sander	3 Year	2025
	Lisa Miller	2 Year	2025
	Bard Hill	3 Year	2025
Cemetery Trustees	Dennis Gile	5 Year	2024
	Clinton Buxton	5 Year	2025
	George Gifford	5 Year	2026
	Linda M. Parent	5 Year	2027
	Heidi Bormann	5 Year	2028
Constable	Andrew Squires	1 Year	2024
Library Trustees	Martha Nye	5 Year	2024
	Kathleen Templin	5 Year	2025
	Laurie Dana	5 Year	2026
	Amy R. Wardwell	5 Year	2027
	Matthew Crabb	5 Year	2028
State Representative	Jana Brown	2 Year	2026
Mt Mansfield Modified	Katie A Nelson	3 Years	2024
Union School Directors	Heather Chadwick	3 Years	2025
	Alison Conant	3 Years	2025
	Tara J Arneson	3 Years	2026
Justices of the Peace	All 2 Year terms ending		2024
	Denise Begins Barnard	Mary Houle	
	Andrew Bessette	Keith Kasper	
	Francis Churchill	Alex Naumann	
	Carole Furr	Marshall Paulsen	
	Joel Furr	Becky Vigneault	
	Edward Gallo		

SCHEDULED TOWN MEETINGS & OFFICE HOURS

www.richmondvt.gov ~ for up-to-date meeting information and agendas

Selectboard	1st & 3rd Monday of each month	7:00 PM	Town Center
Water & Sewer Commissioners	1st & 3rd Monday of each month	6:00 PM	Town Center
Planning Commission	1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month	7:00 PM	Town Center
Development Review Board	2nd Wednesday of each month	7:00 PM	Town Center
Conservation Commission	2nd Tuesday of each month	7:30 PM	Town Center
Recreation Committee	1st Tuesday of each month	7:00 PM	Town Center
Gardening Committee	3rd Wednesday of each month	6:00 PM	Town Center
July 4 Parade & Fireworks Committee	as necessary	7:00 PM	Town Center
Library Trustees	2nd Monday of each month	6:30 PM	Library
Trails Committee	3rd Tuesday of each month	7:00 PM	Town Center
Andrews Community Forest Committee	Last Monday of each month	7:00 PM	Town Center
Volunteer Green & Browns Court Committee	2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month	7:00 PM	Town Center-
Housing Committee	2nd Monday of each month	7:30 PM	Town Center
Parking Advisory Committee	2nd Monday of each month 4th Monday of each month	5:30 PM 6:00 PM	Town Center Town Center
Town Center & Library Building Committee	Thursday prior to Selectboard Meeting	7:00 PM	Town Center
Transportation Committee	1st & 3rd Thursday of each month	5:30 PM	Town Center
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Committee	2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month	7:00 PM	Town Center
Mt. Mansfield Modified Union School District	1st & 3rd Monday of each month www.mmuusd.org ~ for up to date meeting information and agendas	6:30 PM	TBA
Town Clerk Office Hours	Monday - Thursday Friday Town Office Phone 802-434-2221 X 2	8 AM - 5 PM 8 AM - Noon	
Town Manager Office Hours	Monday - Friday Town Manager Phone 802-434-5170	8 AM - 4 PM	
Town Planner & Zoning Administrator	Town Planner Phone 802-336-2289 Zoning Administrator Phone 802-434-2430	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM or by appointment	

www.richmondvt.gov

TOWN COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

SELECTBOARD

Joel "Jay" Furr, Chair
Bard Hill
Lisa Miller

David Sander, Vice Chair
Jeffrey Forward

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Judy Rosovsky, Chair
Max Krieger
Kit Emery
Max Krieger
Jeanette Malone

Elizabeth Wright
Alison Anand
Robert Low-alternate
Daniel Schmidt
Bob Glavin

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

David Sunshine, Chair
Roger Pedersen
David Schnakenberg

Matthew Dyer
Padraic Monks
Alternate -vacant - 2

JULY 4TH PARADE & FIREWORKS COMMITTEE

Susan Glennon Jay Furr
Donna Niquette Rebecca Roose
Stefani Hartsfield Donna Lewis
Chris Jenkins Harland Stockwell

Amanda Cobb
Ken Nussbaum
Justin Spence

PLANNING COMMISSION

Virginia Clarke, Chair
Mark Fausel
Alison Anand

Chris Cole
Chris Granda
Joy Reap

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Sheri Lynn, Huntington Representative, Co-Chair
Harland Stockwell
Mark Fausel
Bolton Representative -vacant

Kirsten Santor
Kate Kreider, Co-Chair
Member -Vacant

TRAILS COMMITTEE

Hannah Harrington, Co-Chair
Jean Bressor
Jim Monahan
Chase Rosenberg
Jed Rankin
Hannah Harrington
Member -vacant -2

Callie Ewald
Allison Aiken, Co-Chair
Mike Donohue
Tyler Merritt
Halle Harklau
Alexandra McAleer

WATER & SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Morgan Wolaver, Chair
Jay Furr
David Sander

Erin Farr, Vice Chair
Bard Hill

ANDREWS COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Ian Stokes, Co-Chair
Melissa Wolaver
Amy Powers
Cecilia Danks
Bradford Elliot
Wright Preston
Chase Rosenberg - Trails Committee Representative, Co-Chair
Daniel Schmidt - Conservation Commission Representative
Caitlin Littlefield - Conservation Commission Representative

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Cathleen Gent, Vice Chair
Susan Wells
Chris Cole, Planning Commission Representative - Chair
Jon Kart
Keith Jennings
Vacant -2

HOUSING COMMITTEE

Mark Hall, Chair
Matt Parisi
Virginia Clarke, Planning Commission Representative
Member -vacant-2
Connie van Eeghen, Clerk

PARKING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dianne Mariano
Charles Gilroy
Matt Buckley
John Cohn
John Rankin

TOWN CENTER & LIBRARY BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

Jeffrey Forward, Chair
David Healy
Laurie Dana, Library Trustee Representative
Josh Arneson, Town Manager
Amy Wardwell
Jake Marin
Vacant - 1

BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE

Jean Bressor
Chase Rosenberg
James Floyd
Justin Graham
Ian Stokes
Allen Knowles
Colin Green
Jonathan Weber
Samantha Peikes

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT COMMITTEE – ARPA

Jeff Forward, Chair
Tom Lyle
Mary Houle
Josh Arneson, Town Manager
Denise Barnard
Molly Dugan
Cara LaBounty

VOLUNTEERS GREEN & BROWNS COURT PROJECT

Denise Barnard, Co-Chair
Jeanne Agner
Mary Lefebvre
Frances Thomas
Kendra Ziskie, Co-Chair
Meghan Andrews
Theresa Storrs

APPOINTED TOWN OFFICIALS

Assistant Town Clerk	Adriana Hashinaga	802-434-2221
Delinquent Tax Collector	Laurie Brisbin	802-434-2221
Financial Director	Connie Bona	802-336-2094
Assistant to the Town Manager	Duncan Wardwell	802-336-2092
Fire Chief	Dennis Gile	802-316-7558
Highway Road Foreman	Peter Gosselin	802-434-2631
Library Director	Rebecca Mueller	802-434-3036
Interim Police Chief	Anthony Cambridge	802-434-2153
Richmond Town Historian Emerita	Harriet W. Riggs	
Town Manager	Josh Arneson	802-434-5170
Town Planner	Keith Osborne	802-336-2289
Water Resources Superintendent	Steven Cote	802-434-2178
Zoning Administrative Officer	Tyler Machia	802-434-2430
Animal Control Agent	Andrew Squires	802-363-7162

APPOINTED VOLUNTEERS

Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission Transportation Advisory	Josh Arneson	802-316-7563
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission Clean Water Advisory	Town Planner	802-336-2289
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission Planning Advisory	Town Planner / Virginia Clark	802-336-2289
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission Board of Directors	Bard Hill	802-434-5672
Chittenden Solid Waste District Energy Coordinator	Logan Hegg Jeffrey Forward	802-448-8479 802-434-2344
Emergency Management Coordinator	Josh Arneson	802-316-7563
Forest Fire Warden	Dennis Gile	802-316-7558
Assistant Forest Fire Warden	Gerald Levesque	802-310-7182
To obtain a Burn Permit, call Shelburne Dispatch		802-985-8051
Weigher of Coal	Jay Furr Jeff Forward Noa Younse Greg Tucker	802-434-4601 802-434-2344 805-540-4449 802-343-9365

TOWN OF RICHMOND VERMONT
228TH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MARCH 6 AND 7, 2023

The legal voters of the Town of Richmond met at Camels Hump Middle School at 6:00 PM, Monday 6, 2023 to transact business. This meeting was held Monday evening, as vote was taken in March 2020 to change the date of the town business meeting from Tuesday morning to Monday evening in the hope of attracting more participants. Moderator Clint Buxton called the meeting to order. An Honor Guard from Boy Scout Troop #23 presented the Flags of our Country and the State of Vermont. The Scouts led us in the Pledge to the Flag. Buxton asked that we observe a moment of silence for the members of the military who serve to protect the freedoms we have today. Roberts Rules of Order were reviewed. Mr. Buxton stated the house rules and procedures.

Linda Parent, Town Clerk announced the dedication of our 228th Town Report, in remembrance of our former Town Manager Geoffrey D. Urbanik. His wife & son Elisabete & Malachi accepted in his honor.

Linda Parent, Town Clerk read the warning for the meeting. It was announced that Articles 1-3 would be addressed Monday night. Articles 4-6 would be voted by Australian ballot on Tuesday.

Article 1. To hear and accept reports of Town Officers.

Marshall Paulsen moved, second by Mary Claire Carroll, to open discussion. Questions included the explanation of reserve funds versus restrictive funds versus non-restricted funds / questions regarding proposed Bridge Street sidewalks / the amount of money that the Conservation Fund would receive if Article 5 passes / FEMA reimbursement schedule / Police Department activities / how to move the town budget approval to Australian ballot, so more people could vote on it

Article 2. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve a budget of \$4,530,571 to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town of Richmond?

Town Manager Joshua Arneson provided a detailed power point presentation of the proposed \$4,530,571 town budget. Katelyn Mccrae moved, second by James Belaski, to end discussion & vote the question. By voice vote, of about 130 voters, the \$4,530,571 budget for the 2023-2024 year was approved.

Article 3. To transact any other Town business that may come legally before this meeting. Discussion on Articles 4, 5 & 6 were for informational purposes only. These articles will be voted by Australian ballot at CHMS on Tuesday March 7, 2023, 7AM - 7PM.

Article 4. Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Richmond in an aggregate amount not to exceed One Million Nine Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$1,900,000.00), subject to reduction by available state and federal grants-in-aid and other financial assistance, to fund the replacement of waterlines and related appurtenances along Tilden Avenue (approx. 1305 linear feet), along portions of Cochran Road (approx. 1615 linear feet), and along a portion of Bridge Street (approx. 775 linear feet)?

Bard Hill and Jay Furr explained that this work was needed to repair old galvanized and incorrect size of pipes lines in those areas listed, as they were leaking & breaking. This article has nothing to do with the gateway (West Main Street) water/sewer proposed project.

Article 5. Shall the Town of Richmond vote to approve funding the Conservation Reserve Fund by adding one cent to the municipal tax rate in the 2023-2024 fiscal year? (To be voted by Australian ballot)

Josh Arneson explained the Conservation Fund, its uses and funding.

Article 6. To elect town and school officers for terms posted on the ballot.

Motion to adjourn this Monday evening meeting was made by Becky Vigneault, second by Cathleen Gent, Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM by unanimous vote of those present.

Linda M Parent, Town Clerk

Clint Buxton, Moderator



Volunteers Green Monument & Flagpole Flooding.

TOWN OF RICHMOND FY25 BUDGET EXPENSES

DETAILS REGARDING THE CONSERVATION FUND AND DONATIONS - SOCIAL SERVICES FOR THE FY25 BUDGET

The budget that is contained in this Town Report includes funding for all Town Departments. It will be voted on from the floor at Town Meeting.

It does not include an allocation for the Conservation Reserve Fund or allocations for donations to social services non-profits.

The Conservation Reserve Fund question will be voted separately by Australian ballot. If this passes it will be an addition to the budget presented in the Town Report and will increase the tax rate over the rate presented in the budget.

Donations to Social Services will be voted on by voice vote at Town Meeting. Any money allocated as a result of these votes will be an addition to the budget presented in the Town Report and will increase the tax rate over the rate presented in the budget.

Chart of Account #	Expense Budget Accounts	Budget FY 2023	Actual FY 2023	Budget FY 2024	Budget FY 2025	FY 24/25 % Change
TOWN ADMINISTRATION						
10-7-10-0-10.00	Administration salaries	260,113	262,808	327,683	353,108	7.76%
10-7-10-0-10.02	Compensation Contingency for all GF	50,000	50,000	-	-	0.00%
10-7-10-0-10.04	Overtime	3,000	-	-	-	0.00%
10-7-10-1-45.02	Contract services animal	3,000	3,136	3,000	3,000	0.00%
10-7-10-0-10.01	Delinquent Tax Collector	10,000	11,700	10,000	10,000	0.00%
10-7-10-0-10.05	Selectboard	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	0.00%
10-7-10-0-10.30	Health insurance opt out	5,000	10,077	10,000	10,000	0.00%
10-7-10-0-11.00	SS/Medicare - Adm.	25,881	26,219	27,318	29,345	7.42%
10-7-10-0-12.00	Municipal retirement	16,448	19,625	20,736	22,646	9.21%
10-7-10-0-15.00	Health & Dental Insurance	37,591	19,774	20,817	23,611	13.42%
10-7-10-0-15.01	Health insurance HSA	3,055	1,882	1,044	901	-13.70%
10-7-10-0-15.03	Long term disability	1,500	1,669	1,750	1,740	-0.57%
10-7-10-0-15.04	Health insurance broker fees	2,300	2,385	2,300	2,500	8.70%
10-7-10-1-42.00	Association dues	350	120	350	350	0.00%
10-7-10-0-17.00	Recognitions/Awards	1,250	892	1,250	2,000	60.00%
10-7-10-1-27.00	Training/Education	5,000	1,206	5,000	5,000	0.00%
10-7-10-1-29.00	Travel - Adm.	100	332	250	400	60.00%
10-7-10-0-10.03	Election expenses	1,500	1,542	1,500	2,500	66.67%
10-7-10-1-25.03	Town reports	3,000	1,862	5,000	3,000	-40.00%
10-7-10-1-20.01	Recording books	3,600	4,889	3,600	3,000	-16.67%
10-7-10-1-20.00	Office supplies	5,500	8,369	6,500	8,000	23.08%
10-7-10-1-22.00	Office equipment	13,000	2,411	10,000	10,000	0.00%
10-7-10-1-30.00	Telephone/Internet	4,000	5,570	6,000	9,500	58.33%
10-7-10-1-30.01	Cell Phones - Admin	-	-	-	1,000	100.00%
10-7-10-1-21.00	Postage - Adm.	8,500	7,342	9,500	9,000	-5.26%
10-7-10-1-23.00	Website administration	4,000	2,816	3,850	4,000	3.90%
10-7-10-1-24.00	Advertising - Adm.	2,200	2,364	3,000	3,000	0.00%
10-7-10-3-48.00	General/PACIF Insurance	12,832	14,444	17,601	19,280	9.54%
10-7-10-3-48.01	Town Center building insurance	4,863	5,226	6,100	8,155	33.69%
10-7-10-3-43.00	Legal	20,000	23,289	30,000	30,000	0.00%
10-7-10-3-46.00	Engineering Review	-	75	1,500	1,500	0.00%
10-7-10-1-45.00	Contract services admin	8,000	7,822	8,000	8,000	0.00%
10-7-10-1-45.03	Contract services election	5,000	3,679	5,000	8,000	60.00%
10-7-10-1-45.05	Contract services technology support	20,000	30,715	25,500	28,000	9.80%
10-7-10-3-44.00	Contracted services independent Auditors	28,000	24,500	10,000	13,000	30.00%
10-7-10-1-45.07	Contracted Grounds Maintenance	50,180	23,193	50,000	35,000	-30.00%
10-7-10-1-45.08	Community Well Being	5,000	3,850	5,000	5,000	0.00%
10-7-10-1-45.06	Technology equipment	12,000	22,723	6,000	4,000	-33.33%

TOWN OF RICHMOND FY25 BUDGET EXPENSES

Chart of Account #	Expense Budget Accounts	Budget FY 2023	Actual FY 2023	Budget FY 2024	Budget FY 2025	FY 24/25 % Change
10-7-10-2-31.00	Heat	8,000	9,133	10,000	10,500	5.00%
10-7-10-2-32.00	Electric	10,000	12,277	13,000	13,500	3.85%
10-7-10-2-32.01	Electric Vehicle Charging Station (moved to Library)	500	-	-	-	0.00%
10-7-10-2-33.00	Water and Sewer	7,000	7,099	8,000	8,000	0.00%
10-7-10-2-34.00	Trash removal	2,000	2,239	2,500	2,500	0.00%
10-7-10-2-62.00	Building maintenance	15,000	7,500	15,000	15,000	0.00%
10-7-10-2-62.01	Landscaping & tree maintenance	1,500	514	1,500	1,500	0.00%
10-7-10-3-42.01	VLCT membership dues	6,362	6,362	6,595	6,797	3.06%
10-7-10-3-80.00	County tax	23,100	25,697	24,500	27,000	10.20%
10-7-10-3-80.03	Emergency management	500	-	500	500	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.03	Flags	1,000	874	1,000	1,000	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.04	Greater Burlington Industrial Corp. (GBIC)	-	-	-	200	100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.06	Mount Mansfield Community TV (MMCTV)	-	-	-	5,000	100.00%
10-7-10-2-43.01	Fire protection	52,141	51,148	52,000	55,000	5.77%
Total - Town Administration		767,866	736,348	784,744	829,033	5.64%
ASSESSORS						
10-7-12-1-45.00	Contract Assessing services	24,000	24,701	31,000	32,000	3.23%
10-7-12-1-45.01	Contract reappraisal services (town wide)	64,500	68,223	-	-	0.00%
10-7-12-3-47.00	Tax map maintenance	1,500	-	1,500	1,500	0.00%
10-7-90-1-91.00	Reappraisal reserve	14,500	15,003	14,500	15,000	3.45%
Total - Assessors		104,500	107,927	47,000	48,500	3.19%
PLANNING AND ZONING						
10-7-15-0-10.00	Salaries	104,853	111,805	131,107	147,139	12.23%
10-7-15-0-10.01	Overtime	1,000	-	1,000	1,000	0.00%
10-7-15-0-11.00	SS/Medicare - Adm.	8,151	8,344	10,172	11,407	12.14%
10-7-15-0-12.00	Municipal retirement	7,145	7,270	8,917	10,367	16.26%
10-7-15-0-15.00	Health & Dental insurance	40,586	45,824	50,411	59,124	17.28%
10-7-15-0-15.03	Long term disability	575	628	850	900	5.88%
10-7-15-0-15.04	Internship Stipend	-	-	2,000	2,000	0.00%
10-7-15-1-27.00	Training/Education (includes lodging & meals)	800	917	1,000	2,500	150.00%
10-7-15-1-29.00	Travel - PZ (mileage reimbursement)	600	1,283	1,000	250	-75.00%
10-7-15-1-42.00	Association dues	500	449	750	750	0.00%
10-7-15-1-20.00	Office supplies	3,000	2,661	3,000	1,500	-50.00%
10-7-15-1-20.01	Office equipment (copier)	1,000	2,593	3,000	1,500	-50.00%
10-7-15-1-20.02	Cell Phones	-	-	-	1,000	100.00%
10-7-15-1-21.00	Postage - PZ	400	400	800	500	-37.50%
10-7-15-1-24.00	Advertising - PZ	4,000	2,461	3,500	3,000	-14.29%
10-7-15-1-45.00	Contract services planning & zoning	5,000	4,553	5,000	5,000	0.00%
10-7-15-1-43.01	Transportation Planning	20,000	4,239	20,000	10,000	-50.00%
10-8-90-5-95.08	Regional Planning Dues CCRPC	5,700	5,773	5,842	6,335	8.44%
10-7-15-3-43.00	Engineering	2,000	-	2,000	2,000	0.00%
10-7-15-3-43.02	Legal Reserve (10K reserve balance limit)	8,000	8,000	5,000	10,000	100.00%
Total - Planning and Zoning		213,310	207,200	255,349	276,272	8.19%

TOWN OF RICHMOND FY25 BUDGET EXPENSES

Chart of Account #	Expense Budget Accounts	Budget FY 2023	Actual FY 2023	Budget FY 2024	Budget FY 2025	FY 24/25 % Change
POLICE DEPARTMENT						
10-7-20-0-10.00	Regular salaries	358,987	179,459	384,599	346,580	-9.89%
10-7-20-0-10.07	Bonus	-	-	-	797	100.00%
10-7-20-0-10.06	On-call hours	11,500	2,268	11,500	12,000	4.35%
10-7-20-0-10.99	Overtime	20,000	11,010	20,000	15,000	-25.00%
10-7-20-2-04.00	Short Term Contracts	-	360	-	-	0.00%
10-7-20-0-10.30	Health insurance opt out	5,000	2,885	5,000	5,000	0.00%
10-7-20-0-11.00	Social Security/Medicare	30,453	14,766	34,425	29,597	-14.02%
10-7-20-0-12.00	Municipal retirement	38,184	19,576	40,392	39,351	-2.58%
10-7-20-0-15.00	Health insurance	83,590	39,053	87,243	76,947	-11.80%
10-7-20-0-15.01	Health insurance HSA	1,041	275	522	-	-100.00%
10-7-20-0-15.03	Long term disability	1,515	1,024	2,070	1,920	-7.25%
10-7-20-0-15.04	Short Term disability	535	365	600	720	20.00%
10-7-20-0-10.05	Life insurance	2,000	713	2,000	2,000	0.00%
107-20-1-22.04	Contract Services Chief of Police	-	-	-	78,000	100.00%
10-7-20-0-10.04	Constable training	500	178	500	500	0.00%
10-7-20-1-27.00	Training/Education	5,000	1,051	5,000	5,000	0.00%
10-7-20-1-29.00	Travel	500	228	500	500	0.00%
10-7-20-1-16.00	Uniforms, vests, tasers	7,600	4,282	10,000	10,000	0.00%
10-7-20-1-16.01	Body Cameras	5,000	2,919	4,000	4,000	0.00%
10-7-20-1-20.00	Office supplies	2,500	1,214	2,500	2,500	0.00%
10-7-20-1-22.00	Office equipment (Copier & DPS)	8,000	5,774	8,000	8,000	0.00%
10-7-20-1-22.01	Computer - office & Camera	1,500	57	1,500	1,500	0.00%
10-7-20-3-95.21	Community Relations	-	-	-	1,200	0.00%
10-7-20-1-28.00	Forensic testing	500	-	500	500	0.00%
10-7-20-1-30.00	Telephone/Internet	10,000	10,007	10,500	8,500	-19.05%
10-7-20-1-30.01	Cell Phones	-	-	-	2,000	100.00%
10-7-20-1-22.02	General/PACIF insurance	31,342	24,806	23,910	26,854	12.31%
10-7-20-2-20.10	Polygraph testing	800	-	800	800	0.00%
10-7-20-3-20.00	Police supplies (non office & non uniform)	5,000	24,607	5,000	5,000	0.00%
10-7-20-5-50.00	Cruiser Fuel: Gas	15,150	8,766	25,000	25,000	0.00%
10-7-20-5-50.02	Cruiser Fuel: Electric	1,050	393	1,000	1,000	0.00%
10-7-20-3-35.00	Equipment repair	1,500	252	1,500	1,500	0.00%
10-7-20-5-52.00	Police cruiser repair	8,000	4,621	8,000	8,000	0.00%
10-7-20-5-52.19	Police cruiser tires	3,500	-	3,500	3,500	0.00%
10-7-20-5-52.18	Police cruiser equipment	23,000	8,641	-	-	0.00%
10-7-20-0-90.01	Police cruiser purchase	76,000	-	-	-	0.00%
10-7-20-5-50.01	Community outreach Howard Center	8,749	8,749	10,000	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.20	Chittenden Unit for Special Investigations	-	-	-	3,431	100.00%
Total - Police Department		767,996	378,296	710,061	727,197	2.41%

TOWN OF RICHMOND FY25 BUDGET EXPENSES

Chart of Account #	Expense Budget Accounts	Budget FY 2023	Actual FY 2023	Budget FY 2024	Budget FY 2025	FY 24/25 % Change
LIBRARY DEPARTMENT						
10-7-35-0-10.00	Salaries	169,483	186,140	194,486	216,437	11.29%
10-7-35-0-10.01	Bonus	-	-	-	1,892	100.00%
10-7-35-0-10.30	Health insurance opt out	5,000	5,039	5,000	5,000	0.00%
10-7-35-0-11.00	Social Security/Medicare	13,435	13,413	15,360	17,196	11.95%
10-7-35-0-12.00	Municipal retirement	11,778	7,753	7,855	12,398	57.84%
10-7-35-0-15.00	Health insurance	29,616	30,886	31,700	35,476	11.91%
10-7-35-0-15.03	Long term disability	670	702	710	840	18.31%
10-7-35-1-27.00	Training/Education	300	495	300	300	0.00%
10-7-35-1-29.00	Travel	300	-	300	300	0.00%
10-7-35-1-20.00	Office supplies	2,000	2,204	2,000	2,250	12.50%
10-7-35-1-21.00	Postage	500	927	1,000	1,000	0.00%
10-7-35-1-22.00	Computer	2,250	2,246	2,500	2,500	0.00%
10-7-35-3-20.01	Books	17,000	17,325	17,000	20,000	17.65%
10-7-35-3-20.02	Technology Public Use Room	-	-	-	3,000	100.00%
10-7-35-3-45.01	Programs	1,200	874	1,200	1,200	0.00%
10-7-35-1-29.01	General/PACIF insurance	4,515	5,138	6,258	7,950	27.04%
10-7-35-1-30.00	Telephone	2,700	2,400	3,554	2,700	-24.03%
10-7-35-2-31.00	Heat	2,500	3,662	3,500	4,000	14.29%
10-7-35-2-32.00	Electricity	4,200	5,291	4,700	5,200	10.64%
10-7-35-2-32.00	Electric Vehicle Charging Station	-	1,106	800	1,000	25.00%
10-7-35-2-33.00	Water and Sewer	2,050	1,558	2,000	2,000	0.00%
10-7-35-2-62.00	Building Maintenance (routine)	12,000	15,156	12,000	15,000	25.00%
10-7-90-2-92.01	Library reserve	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	0.00%
Total - Richmond Free Library		293,497	314,315	324,223	369,639	14.01%

TOWN OF RICHMOND FY25 BUDGET EXPENSES

Chart of Account #	Expense Budget Accounts	Budget FY 2023	Actual FY 2023	Budget FY 2024	Budget FY 2025	FY 24/25 % Change
FIRE DEPARTMENT						
10-7-40-0-10.00	Salaries	50,000	52,634	55,000	57,000	3.64%
10-7-40-0-11.00	Social Security/Medicare	3,850	4,026	4,235	4,389	3.64%
10-7-40-1-18.00	Medical	-	1,487	1,500	1,000	-33.33%
10-7-40-1-27.00	Training/Education	2,000	283	2,000	1,000	-50.00%
10-7-40-1-29.00	Travel	1,600	414	1,600	1,000	-37.50%
10-7-40-1-30.00	Telephone/Internet	3,500	4,234	3,500	4,000	14.29%
10-7-40-1-30.01	Cell Phones	-	-	-	500	100.00%
10-7-40-1-95.00	Public relations	600	508	600	700	16.67%
10-7-40-2-31.00	Heat	3,000	2,574	4,000	4,000	0.00%
10-7-40-2-32.00	Electricity	2,300	2,238	2,500	2,500	0.00%
10-7-40-2-33.00	Water and Sewer	2,000	1,285	2,000	2,000	0.00%
10-7-40-2-62.00	Maintenance - General	10,000	4,085	10,000	10,000	0.00%
10-7-40-2-30.00	General/PACIF insurance	7,681	10,291	8,915	9,766	9.55%
10-7-40-5-35.01	Radio repair & replacement	10,000	5,538	10,000	10,000	0.00%
10-7-40-5-35.03	Radio dispatch	5,600	7,000	5,600	5,600	0.00%
10-7-40-5-50.00	Gas, oil & diesel fuel	3,500	3,654	5,000	4,000	-20.00%
10-7-40-5-51.01	Pump testing	1,000	1,100	1,500	1,500	0.00%
10-7-40-5-52.00	Fleet maintenance	10,000	6,888	10,000	10,000	0.00%
10-7-40-5-52.02	Hose testing	4,000	3,762	4,500	5,500	22.22%
10-7-40-5-53.01	Equipment repair	3,000	1,964	3,000	3,000	0.00%
10-7-40-5-55.00	Supplies	3,000	3,893	3,500	3,500	0.00%
10-7-40-5-57.00	Equipment purchase	35,000	16,976	35,000	35,000	0.00%
10-7-40-5-80.05	2018 Engine principal #3	48,572	48,572	48,572	48,572	0.00%
10-7-40-5-80.06	2018 Engine interest #3	4,138	3,941	3,109	2,065	-33.58%
10-7-90-5-90.03	2005 Engine bond	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	0.00%
10-7-40-5-80.03	2005 Engine Interest	965	96,481	517	126	-75.63%
10-7-90-5-93.04	Safety equipment & gear reserve	40,000	40,000	40,000	5,000	-87.50%
10-7-40-5-90.01	FY23 Brush Truck	200,000	-	-	-	0.00%
10-7-90-5-93.00	Fire Capital reserve	55,000	55,000	150,000	220,000	46.67%
Total - Fire Department		520,306	388,828	426,148	461,718	8.35%

TOWN OF RICHMOND FY25 BUDGET EXPENSES

Chart of Account #	Expense Budget Accounts	Budget FY 2023	Actual FY 2023	Budget FY 2024	Budget FY 2025	FY 24/25 Change	%
RECREATION & TRAILS							
10-7-60-0-10.00	Recreation salaries	2,800	2,450	2,800	2,340		-16.43%
10-7-60-0-11.00	Social Security/Medicare	216	187	216	180		-16.67%
10-7-60-1-42.01	General/PACIF insurance	355	378	438	527		20.32%
10-7-60-2-32.00	Electricity	800	660	750	750		0.00%
10-7-60-2-33.00	Water and Sewer	1,800	1,969	1,500	2,000		33.33%
10-7-60-2-34.00	Trash removal	1,500	1,485	1,500	1,750		16.67%
10-7-60-2-62.00	Park maintenance	3,000	1,016	3,000	3,000		0.00%
10-7-60-2-62.01	Trails maintenance	1,000	-	1,000	1,000		0.00%
10-7-60-2-62.03	Gardening & Landscaping	-	-	-	1,000		100.00%
10-7-60-2-62.02	Recreation equipment	3,000	1,014	3,000	3,000		0.00%
10-7-60-3-95.01	Special events	500	-	500	500		0.00%
10-7-60-3-95.00	Conservation commission supplies	500	-	500	500		0.00%
10-7-90-2-92.02	Conservation fund 1Cent	48,305	48,305	78,163	-		-100.00%
10-7-60-3-95.03	Volunteers Green parking lot	5,000	5,000	-	-		0.00%
10-7-60-3-95.04	July 4th / Fireworks	-	12,500	13,000	15,000		15.38%
10-8-90-5-92.21	Lake Iroquois Association	-	-	-	2,000		100.00%
10-8-90-5-92.22	Lake Iroquois Recreation District	2,000	-	2,000	2,000		0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.09	Richmond Community Band	-	-	-	400		100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.21	Richmond Farmers Market	-	-	-	2,500		100.00%
10-7-60-3-95.05	Camel's Hump Little League Field	-	-	-	3,000		100.00%
10-7-60-3-95.06	Halloween on the Green	-	-	-	350		100.00%
Total - Recreation & Trails		70,776	74,965	108,367	41,797		-61.43%

TOWN OF RICHMOND FY25 BUDGET EXPENSES

Chart of Account #	Expense Budget Accounts	Budget FY 2023	Actual FY 2023	Budget FY 2024	Budget FY 2025	FY 24/25 Change	%
CHARITABLE APPROPRIATIONS (Items in this section moved to other sections. Included here to view historical funding.)							
10-8-90-5-95.01	VT Family Network	500	500	500	-	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.02	Age Well	2,500	2,500	2,500	-	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.04	Greater Burlington Industrial Corp. (GBIC)	200	200	200	-	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.06	Mount Mansfield Community TV (MMCTV)	5,000	5,000	5,000	-	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.07	Lund	1,000	1,000	1,000	-	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.09	Richmond Community Band	400	400	400	-	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.10	Richmond Rescue	78,012	78,012	58,338	-	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.12	Special Services Transportation Agency	1,000	2,808	3,000	-	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.13	UVM Home Health & Hospice	10,500	10,500	11,000	-	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.14	VT Center for Independent Living	375	375	375	-	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.16	Committee on Temporary Shelter (COTS)	1,000	1,000	1,000	-	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.17	Our Community Cares Camp (OCCC)	3,000	3,000	3,000	-	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.18	Steps against domestic violence	1,200	1,200	1,250	-	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.20	Chittenden Unit for Special Investigations	6,234	6,234	6,234	-	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-92.21	Lake Iroquois Association	2,000	2,000	2,000	-	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.21	Richmond Farmers Market	1,500	1,500	1,500	-	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.22	Turning Point Center of Chittenden County	-	-	1,000	-	-	-100.00%
Total - Appropriations		114,421	116,229	98,297	-	-	-100.00%
CONTRACTED - Social Services							
10-8-90-5-95.12	Special Services Transportation Agency (SSTA)	-	-	-	3,000	3,000	100.00%
10-7-20-5-50.01	Community outreach - Howard Center	-	-	-	10,000	10,000	100.00%
10-7-20-4-00.00	Williston Community Justice Center	-	-	-	15,840	15,840	100.00%
DONATIONS - Social Services (items will be voted on by voice vote at Town Meeting)							
10-8-90-5-95.01	VT Family Network	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.02	Age Well	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.14	VT Center for Independent Living	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.16	Committee on Temporary Shelter (COTS)	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.17	Our Community Cares Camp (OCCC)	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.18	Steps against domestic violence	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.22	Turning Point Center of Chittenden County	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.31	Hope Works	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
DONATIONS - Health Services							
10-8-90-5-95.10	Richmond Rescue	-	-	-	58,338	58,338	100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.13	UVM Home Health & Hospice	-	-	-	12,500	12,500	100.00%
Total - Donations & Contracted Social and Health Services		-	-	-	99,678	99,678	100.00%
General Fund Total		2,852,671	2,324,108	2,754,188	2,853,834	3.62%	3.62%

TOWN OF RICHMOND FY25 BUDGET EXPENSES

Chart of Account #	Expense Budget Accounts	Budget FY 2023	Actual FY 2023	Budget FY 2024	Budget FY 2025	FY 24/25 % Change
HIGHWAY						
11-7-50-0-10.00	Regular salaries	316,263	342,730	393,726	412,443	4.75%
11-7-50-0-10.02	Bonus	-	-	-	2,459	100.00%
11-7-50-0-10.01	Compensation Study Contingency	30,000	30,000	-	-	0.00%
11-7-50-0-10.98	Overtime	45,000	48,166	45,000	50,000	11.11%
11-7-50-0-10.30	Health insurance opt out	5,000	8,154	10,000	12,500	25.00%
11-7-50-0-11.00	Social Security/Medicare	28,202	29,076	34,167	36,760	7.59%
11-7-50-0-12.00	Municipal retirement	24,385	27,742	29,614	31,638	6.83%
11-7-50-0-15.00	Health & Dental Insurance	99,178	76,385	65,251	63,481	-2.71%
11-7-10-0-15.03	Long term disability	1,835	2,202	2,325	2,970	27.74%
11-7-50-0-16.00	Uniforms	3,000	2,843	3,500	3,500	0.00%
11-7-50-2-29.00	Education /Licenses	200	120	200	200	0.00%
11-7-50-1-29.00	Travel	200	-	200	200	0.00%
11-7-50-1-20.00	Office supplies	1,000	414	1,000	1,000	0.00%
11-7-50-1-30.00	Telephone/Internet	3,200	3,659	3,300	2,800	-15.15%
11-7-50-1-30-01	Cell Phones	-	-	-	1,000	100.00%
11-7-50-2-29.01	General Insure/VLCT PACIF	27,213	31,442	33,489	33,623	0.40%
11-7-50-2-31.00	Heat	8,000	7,026	9,000	9,000	0.00%
11-7-50-2-32.00	Electricity - Garage	2,700	2,786	2,700	3,000	11.11%
11-7-50-3-32.01	Electricity - Street lights	18,500	14,198	18,000	16,000	-11.11%
11-7-50-2-33.00	Water and Sewer	2,400	1,657	2,000	2,000	0.00%
11-7-50-2-34.00	Trash removal	1,300	1,720	1,500	1,800	20.00%
11-7-50-2-62.00	Building maintenance	8,000	5,707	8,000	8,000	0.00%
11-7-50-5-35.00	Radio	600	354	600	600	0.00%
11-7-50-5-35.01	Radio repair	300	525	300	300	0.00%
11-7-50-5-50.00	Gas & Oil	1,000	2,779	1,000	2,000	100.00%
11-7-50-5-50.02	Diesel fuel	43,000	60,265	55,000	60,000	9.09%
11-7-50-6-46.00	Engineers/Consultants - roads	500	-	500	500	0.00%
11-7-50-5-52.00	Repair - Dump Truck Fleet	15,000	29,923	15,000	15,000	0.00%
11-7-50-5-52.06	Repair - Pickup Truck Fleet	1,000	732	1,000	1,000	0.00%
11-7-50-5-52.01	Repair - Excavator	2,000	952	500	500	0.00%
11-7-50-5-52.04	Repair - Grader	1,000	599	1,000	1,000	0.00%
11-7-50-5-52.05	Repair - Loader	500	33	500	500	0.00%
11-7-50-5-52.07	Repair - Sidewalk plow	500	20	500	500	0.00%
11-7-50-5-52.08	Repair - Roadside mower	500	1,075	1,000	1,000	0.00%
11-7-50-5-52.09	Repair - Tractor	400	2,725	500	500	0.00%
11-7-50-5-52.10	Repair - Utility vehicle	1,500	1,825	1,500	1,500	0.00%
11-7-50-5-53.00	Repair - Small equipment	1,000	197	1,000	1,000	0.00%
11-7-50-5-52.03	Winter maintenance attachments	300	-	500	500	0.00%
11-7-50-6-57.01	Cutting edges	10,000	7,920	11,000	10,000	-9.09%
11-7-50-5-52.18	Tire chains	1,200	652	1,200	1,000	-16.67%

TOWN OF RICHMOND FY25 BUDGET EXPENSES

Chart of Account #	Expense Budget Accounts	Budget FY 2023	Actual FY 2023	Budget FY 2024	Budget FY 2025	FY 24/25 % Change
11-7-50-5-52.19	Tires	8,000	7,729	9,000	9,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-45.18	Equipment rental	15,000	12,258	10,000	10,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-57.00	Small equipment purchase	7,000	4,164	7,000	7,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-57.03	Welding & cutting supplies	1,000	672	1,000	1,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-57.04	Equip. rental wood chip	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,500	25.00%
11-7-50-6-57.19	Equipment parts - Miscellaneous	1,000	707	1,000	1,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-60.19	Supplies - Miscellaneous	1,000	376	1,000	1,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-60.00	Patching	1,000	1,372	2,000	2,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-60.01	Chloride	15,000	14,806	15,000	15,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-62.02	Sweeping	4,200	4,500	5,000	5,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-63.00	Centerline paint & shoulder	4,000	5,195	7,000	28,400	305.71%
11-7-50-6-63.02	Signs	3,000	4,558	4,500	4,500	0.00%
11-7-50-6-63.03	Crosswalks Illuminated	-	-	6,500	-	-100.00%
11-7-50-6-63.04	Traffic Calming measures	-	2,605	10,000	10,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-64.00	Culverts	6,500	555	7,500	7,500	0.00%
11-7-50-6-60.03	Gravel & aggregates	140,000	107,373	130,000	120,000	-7.69%
11-7-50-6-60.05	Salt	95,000	94,723	100,000	100,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-60.06	Sand	40,000	43,849	40,000	40,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-64.01	Retreatment	294,000	284,351	325,000	295,000	-9.23%
11-7-50-6-64.02	Storm water & sidewalks	120,000	98,014	140,000	140,000	0.00%
11-7-90-2-90.11	Jericho Road principal	43,200	43,200	43,200	43,200	0.00%
11-7-90-2-90.13	Jericho Road Interest	17,387	17,387	15,761	14,068	-10.74%
11-7-90-5-90.15	Project 4a Millet storm water	7,046	7,046	7,046	7,046	0.00%
11-7-90-5-90.36	2017 FY20 Grader principal	30,000	30,000	30,000	-	-100.00%
11-7-90-5-90.37	2017 FY20 Grader interest	553	1,052	553	-	-100.00%
11-7-90-5-90.33	2019 FY20 Dump truck #4 principal	26,500	26,500	24,000	-	-100.00%
11-7-90-5-90.34	2019 FY20 Dump truck #4 interest	929	885	442	-	-100.00%
11-7-90-5-90.44	2020 FY20 Dump Truck #2 principal	26,920	26,920	26,920	1,920	-92.87%
11-7-90-5-90.45	2020 FY20 Dump Truck #2 interest	1,065	1,014	552	37	-93.30%
11-7-90-5-90.50	Dump Truck #3	157,500	172,838	-	-	0.00%
11-7-90-5-90.51	Deposit paid with tax revenue	17,500	17,500	-	-	0.00%
11-7-90-5-90.52	Bucket Loader #9	117,000	94,744	-	-	0.00%
11-7-90-5-90.53	Deposit paid with tax revenue	13,000	13,000	-	-	0.00%
11-7-90-5-90.54	Excavator #10	191,250	175,174	-	-	0.00%
11-7-90-5-90.55	Deposit paid with tax revenue	33,750	33,750	-	-	0.00%
11-7-90-5-93.01	Reserve - Highway Capital	25,000	25,000	50,000	218,000	336.00%
11-7-90-5-93.02	Reserve - Bridge & Culvert	37,000	37,000	37,000	55,000	48.65%
11-7-90-5-93.03	Reserve - Guardrail	5,000	5,000	15,000	11,000	-26.67%
11-7-90-5-93.04	Reserve - New Sidewalks	30,000	30,000	25,000	-	-100.00%
11-7-90-5-93.05	Reserve - New Transportation Infrastructure	-	-	-	25,000	100.00%
Total - Highway Department		2,244,176	2,194,417	1,854,546	1,965,945	6.01%
Budget Amounts for Voter Approval		5,096,847	4,518,525	4,608,734	4,819,779	4.58%

TOWN OF RICHMOND FY25 BUDGET REVENUE

Chart of Account #	Revenue Budget Accounts	Budget FY23	Actual FY23	Budget FY24	Budget FY25	FY 24/25 % Change
	Administration Operations					
10-6-01-1-01.10	PROPERTY TAX REVENUE	1,811,013	1,823,082	2,410,419	1,984,407	-17.67%
10-6-01-1-01.12	Delinquent tax penalty	10,000	10,011	10,000	10,000	0.00%
10-6-01-1-01.13	Delinquent tax interest	7,000	1,232	10,000	10,000	0.00%
10-6-01-1-01.14	Current taxes - interest	8,000	8,986	10,000	10,000	0.00%
10-6-01-1-01.19	Education fee retained	16,199	4,942	15,187	17,082	12.47%
10-6-01-1-01.17	State PILOT funds	4,879	4,942	4,942	5,000	1.18%
10-6-02-2-10.10	Act 60 Reappraisal grant	15,000	15,003	15,000	15,000	0.00%
10-6-02-2-10.12	Equalization grant	1,750	1,765	1,760	1,765	0.28%
10-6-02-2-10.13	Railroad tax	3,800	3,601	3,800	4,000	5.26%
10-6-02-2-10.14	Current Use/Hold Harmless program	83,686	85,675	85,675	85,000	-0.79%
10-6-10-1-01.11	Zoning permits/hearing fees	20,000	33,507	35,000	35,000	0.00%
10-6-10-1-20.01	Water/Sewer admin. reimbursement	30,000	30,000	41,500	43,394	4.56%
10-6-10-1-20.05	Water/Sewer audit reimbursement	13,000	7,467	4,833	5,000	3.46%
10-6-10-1-21.01	Town Center rent - utilities reimbursement	23,000	23,057	23,000	25,000	8.70%
10-6-10-1-21.03	Town Center rent - insurance reimbursement	4,863	5,226	6,100	6,100	0.00%
10-6-10-2-62.00	Town Center rent - building maintenance	15,000	7,500	15,000	15,000	0.00%
10-6-10-1-40.05	Net Interest on General Checking Account	7,000	99,876	14,000	100,000	614.29%
10-6-10-3-11.10	Beverage licenses	1,300	1,475	1,500	1,400	-6.67%
10-6-10-3-11.11	Dog licenses	4,500	4,245	4,000	4,000	0.00%
10-6-10-3-30.10	Recording fees	30,000	15,106	20,000	20,000	0.00%
10-6-10-3-30.12	Vault time & copies	3,000	2,408	2,000	2,500	25.00%
10-6-10-3-30.13	Certified copies	2,700	5,608	2,500	3,000	20.00%
10-6-10-3-30.14	Marriage licenses	200	270	300	250	-16.67%
10-6-10-3-30.15	Vehicle registration Fees	100	87	72	100	38.89%
10-6-10-3-30.18	Cannabis Fees	-	100	-	100	100.00%
10-6-20-2-01.10	Police local fines	4,500	7,894	5,000	5,000	0.00%
10-6-20-2-02.10	Police receipts	750	480	500	500	0.00%
10-6-20-2-04.00	Police short term contracts	1,000	135	1,500	250	-83.33%
10-6-20-2-20.10	Police overtime/equipment grants	-	-	-	-	0.00%
10-6-20-2-20.11	Uniform traffic tickets	10,000	1,978	3,500	2,000	-42.86%
10-6-20-2-97.00	PD sale of town property	5,000	8,695	5,000	-	-100.00%
10-6-35-2-32.00	Electric Vehicle Charging Station	500	1,106	800	1,000	25.00%
10-6-35-3-00.10	Bolton Fees	1,000	11,090	800	800	0.00%
10-6-35-3-20.02	Technology - Public Use Room Fees	-	-	-	3,000	100.00%
10-6-60-6-00.10	Field use fees	500	1,379	500	-	-100.00%
	FUND BALANCE USAGE					
10-6-00-0-00.01	Fire Brush Truck - transfer from fund 53 Capital Reserve	200,000	-	-	-	0.00%
10-6-20-1-98.01	Police Cruiser - transfer from fund 51 Capital Reserve - equipment	24,750	-	-	-	0.00%
10-6-12-1-45.01	Reappraisal Reserve - transfer from fund 61 Reserve	64,500	64,500	-	-	0.00%
10-6-00-0-00.02	Community Well being - transfer from fund 14 Opioid Reserve	-	-	-	5,000	100.00%
10-0-00-0-00.00	General Wage Contingency Offset from General Unassigned Funds	50,000	26,554	-	-	0.00%
10-0-00-0-00.00	Contract Grounds Maintenance from General Unassigned Funds	50,180	-	-	-	0.00%
10-0-00-0-00.00	Server, Phone, Legal from General Unassigned Funds	24,000	-	-	-	0.00%
10-0-00-0-00.00	General Offset from General Unassigned funds	300,000	-	-	433,186	100.00%
	Total General Fund Revenue	2,852,671	2,318,978	2,754,188	2,853,834	3.62%
11-6-01-1-01.10	Current year property tax	1,631,526	1,631,526	1,237,646	1,849,945	49.47%
11-6-02-2-05.10	Highway state aid	113,500	121,137	113,500	113,500	0.00%
11-6-50-0-01.10	Overweight permits	1,500	1,600	1,500	1,500	0.00%
11-6-50-0-01.12	Public right of way permits	1,400	400	1,400	500	-64.29%
11-6-50-0-01.11	Access permits	500	100	500	500	0.00%
	FUND TRANSFERS					
11-6-90-5-90.49	Utility Truck transfer from fund 55	-	-	-	-	0.00%
11-0-00-0-00.00	Highway Wage Contingency Offset from Highway Restricted fund	30,000	30,000	-	-	0.00%
11-0-00-0-00.00	Highway Equipment Offset from Highway Restricted funds	415,000	409,654	500,000	-	-100.00%
10-0-00-0-00.00	Highway Equipment Offset from General unassigned funds	50,750	-	-	-	0.00%
	Total Highway Revenue	2,244,176	2,194,417	1,854,546	1,965,945	6.01%
	Total General & Highway Revenue	5,096,847	4,513,395	4,608,734	4,819,779	4.58%
	(non tax revenue)	1,654,307	1,058,786	960,669	985,427	2.58%

TOWN OF RICHMOND FY25 BUDGET TAX RATE

Tax Rate Estimate FY2025					
	Grandlist 06/21/23	Amount To Be Raised	Tax Rate per \$100		
<u>Current Fiscal Year</u>					
FY 2023 - 2024	\$ 7,816,261	\$ 3,648,065	\$ 0.4667	GF rate for tax billing purposes	
			\$ 0.0015	GF rate for exemptions	
			\$ 0.4682	Town rate/SB Approved 07/06/23	
<u>Next Fiscal Year</u>					
FY 2024 - 2025	\$ 7,816,261	\$ 3,834,352	\$ 0.4906	GF rate for tax billing purposes	
			\$ 0.0015	GF rate for exemptions	
			\$ 0.4921	Total Town Rate/SB - To be set July 2024	
			\$ 0.0239	Rate Increase over prior year tax rate	
			\$ 5.10%	Percentage increase over prior year	

Estimated Amount to be raised from FY25 Property Taxes to support Exemptions					
<u>Exemptions</u>	Homestead \$	Non-Homestead \$	Homestead School Rate	Non-Homestead School Rate	Tax dollars
Veterans	\$ 330,000		1.0494		3,463
Veterans		\$ 60,000		1.2098	726
Richmond Terrace		\$ 635,638		1.2098	7,690
Total dollars to be raised					11,879
<u>Tax Rate for Exemptions</u>					
FY 2024- 2025		Grandlist July 1, 2023 \$ 7,816,261	Tax dollars \$ 11,879	Tax Rate 0.0015	GF rate for exemptions



CSC seniors scaring up some fun distributing candy at the town's Halloween event.

CAPITAL RESERVE EXPENDITURES PLANNED FOR FY25

	FY25 Reserve Expenditures
Fire	
Safety Equipment reserve	
Air Tanks	3,000
Turnout Gear	10,000
Highway	
Capital Reserve	
Tractor Ventrac	52,000
Guardrail Reserve	
Southview	40,000
LIBRARY	
New Boiler	20,000
Flooring	15,000
Lighting	15,000

TOWN OF RICHMOND, VERMONT

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGETARY BASIS
 BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts	Variance Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Budgetary Fund Balance, July 1	\$ 863,767	\$ 863,767	\$ 863,767	\$ -
Resources (Inflows):				
Taxes:				
Property taxes	8,412,474	8,412,474	8,472,847	60,373
Intergovernmental revenues:				
State PILOT	4,879	4,879	4,942	63
Act 60 Reappraisal grant	15,000	15,000	15,003	3
Equalization grant	1,750	1,750	1,765	15
Railroad tax	3,800	3,800	3,600	(200)
Hold Harmless program	83,686	83,686	85,675	1,989
Charges for services	164,413	164,413	156,929	(7,484)
Interest income	7,000	7,000	99,876	92,876
Interest on taxes/penalties	25,000	25,000	20,228	(4,772)
Proceeds from sale of assets	5,000	5,000	8,695	3,695
Miscellaneous	17,699	17,699	108,528	90,829
Amounts Available for Appropriation	<u>9,604,468</u>	<u>9,604,468</u>	<u>9,841,855</u>	<u>237,387</u>
Charges to Appropriations (Outflows):				
Town administration	752,863	752,863	746,128	6,735
Assessors	104,500	104,500	92,925	11,575
Planning and zoning	205,310	205,310	196,762	8,548
Police department	767,996	767,996	396,381	371,615
Library department	281,496	281,496	302,315	(20,819)
Fire department	425,306	425,306	198,039	227,267
Recreation and trails	22,471	22,471	26,660	(4,189)
Charitable appropriations	114,421	114,421	110,376	4,045
Education	6,649,765	6,649,765	6,649,765	-
Transfers to other funds	130,003	130,003	178,308	(48,305)
Total Charges to Appropriations	<u>9,454,131</u>	<u>9,454,131</u>	<u>8,897,659</u>	<u>556,472</u>
Budgetary Fund Balance, June 30	<u>\$ 150,337</u>	<u>\$ 150,337</u>	<u>\$ 944,196</u>	<u>\$ 793,859</u>
Utilization of Assigned Fund Balance	\$ 289,250	\$ 289,250	\$ -	\$ (289,250)
Utilization of Unassigned Fund Balance	424,180	424,180	-	(424,180)
	<u>\$ 713,430</u>	<u>\$ 713,430</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (713,430)</u>

See accompanying independent auditor's report and notes to financial statements.

TOWN OF RICHMOND, VERMONT

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGETARY BASIS
 BUDGET AND ACTUAL - HIGHWAY FUND
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts	Variance Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Budgetary Fund Balance, July 1	\$ 940,838	\$ 940,838	\$ 940,838	\$ -
Resources (Inflows):				
Taxes:				
Property taxes	1,631,526	1,631,526	1,631,526	-
Intergovernmental Revenues:				
State aid	113,500	113,500	121,137	7,637
Better roads grants	-	-	16,563	16,563
FEMA reimbursement	-	-	354,202	354,202
Charges for services	3,400	3,400	2,100	(1,300)
Miscellaneous revenues	-	-	88,332	88,332
Amounts Available for Appropriation	<u>2,689,264</u>	<u>2,689,264</u>	<u>3,154,698</u>	<u>465,434</u>
Charges to Appropriations (Outflows):				
Payroll and benefits	552,863	552,863	564,455	(11,592)
Office expenses	4,400	4,400	7,036	(2,636)
Buildings and grounds	49,813	49,813	50,337	(524)
General expenses	18,500	18,500	17,856	644
Vehicles	77,800	77,800	90,187	(12,387)
Road maintenance	760,200	760,200	711,535	48,665
Bridge repair	-	-	81,903	(81,903)
FEMA	-	-	164,667	(164,667)
Capital outlay	495,750	495,750	507,006	(11,256)
Debt service:				
Principal	264,512	264,512	133,666	130,846
Interest	20,338	20,338	20,338	-
Transfers to other funds	-	-	97,000	(97,000)
Total Charges to Appropriations	<u>2,244,176</u>	<u>2,244,176</u>	<u>2,445,986</u>	<u>(201,810)</u>
Budgetary Fund Balance, June 30	<u>\$ 445,088</u>	<u>\$ 445,088</u>	<u>\$ 708,712</u>	<u>\$ 263,624</u>

TOWN OF RICHMOND FUND BALANCE JUNE 30, 2023

	Fund Balance July 1, 2022	Increase (Decrease)	Fund Balance June 30, 2023
General Fund			
Restricted for Highway Use	\$ 940,838	\$ (232,126)	\$ 708,712
Unassigned	\$ 848,517	\$ 74,156	\$ 922,673
TOTAL	<u>\$ 1,789,355</u>	<u>-\$157,970</u>	<u>\$ 1,631,385</u>
Major Funds, Committed			
Town Center Reserve Fund	\$ 430,781	\$ (175,362)	\$ 255,419
TOTAL	<u>\$ 430,781</u>	<u>\$ (175,362)</u>	<u>\$ 255,419</u>
Non-Major Special Revenue Funds			
Reappraisal	\$ 82,738	\$ (52,206)	\$ 30,532
Library Reserve	\$ 2,286	\$ 999	\$ 3,285
Fire Fundraising	\$ 10,583	\$ 157	\$ 10,740
Lister Education Reserve	\$ 1,357	\$ -	\$ 1,357
Records Restoration	\$ 184,023	\$ 12,778	\$ 196,801
Adam Muller Flags	\$ 5,405	\$ -	\$ 5,405
Recreation Path	\$ 1,201	\$ -	\$ 1,201
Tennis	\$ 330	\$ 19	\$ 349
Soccer	\$ 14,240	\$ (1,877)	\$ 12,363
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)	\$ 618,606	\$ 610,982	\$ 1,229,588
Recreation Tree Replacement	\$ 237	\$ -	\$ 237
Opioid	\$ -	\$ 6,364	\$ 6,364
Donations - July 4th Celebration	\$ -	\$ 4,351	\$ 4,351
Legal - Planning and Zoning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Andrews Community Forest	\$ 33,668	\$ (4,168)	\$ 29,500
TOTAL	<u>\$ 954,674</u>	<u>\$ 577,399</u>	<u>\$ 1,532,073</u>
Non-Major Capital Projects Funds			
Police Reserve	\$ 40,783	\$ -	\$ 40,783
Fire Safety Equipment	\$ -	\$ 13,728	\$ 13,728
Library Reserve	\$ 44,989	\$ 10,245	\$ 55,234
Fire Department Reserve	\$ 153,233	\$ 9,271	\$ 162,504
Fire Impact Fees	\$ 22,661	\$ 2,624	\$ 25,285
Sidewalk Reserve Fund	\$ 10,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 40,000
Highway Reserve	\$ 93,701	\$ 25,000	\$ 118,701
Bridge and Culverts	\$ 344,926	\$ 37,000	\$ 381,926
Guardrails	\$ 9,016	\$ 5,000	\$ 14,016
Railroad Street Planning Grant	\$ 7,069	\$ -	\$ 7,069
Conservation	\$ 385,688	\$ (118,737)	\$ 266,951
TOTAL	<u>\$ 1,112,066</u>	<u>\$ 14,131</u>	<u>\$ 1,126,197</u>
Non-Major Permanent Funds			
Cemetery Fund	\$ 164,351	\$ 7,504	\$ 171,855
TOTAL	<u>\$ 164,351</u>	<u>\$ 7,504</u>	<u>\$ 171,855</u>
Fiduciary Funds			
Edmunds Trust	\$ 24,993	\$ 202	\$ 25,195
Shonyon A - School Athletics	\$ 3,196	\$ 26	\$ 3,222
Shonyon P - Scholarships	\$ 3,456	\$ 28	\$ 3,484
TOTAL	<u>\$ 31,645</u>	<u>\$ 256</u>	<u>\$ 31,901</u>

Richmond Village Housing Note Receivable

Note receivable consists of a \$300,000 mortgage loan made to the Richmond Village Housing Limited Partnership on March 9, 1999. The proceeds originated from a Grant Agreement dated January 9, 1998 between the Town of Richmond and the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development. The note bears interest of 2.5% with principal and interest payments deferred until March 31, 2014. In August, 2014, the Selectboard agreed to a 15-year deferral of principal and to-date accrued interest until March, 2029. The mortgage remains secured by deed on the real property.

TOWN CENTER FUND FY2023

Balance 7/1/22 **\$ 430,781**

Income from Rents

Post Office	\$	93,666
Radiate Art	\$	444
MMCTV	\$	15,407
Richmond Historical Society	\$	1
Richmond Senior Center	\$	1
Donations/Reimbursement	\$	-
Interest	\$	7,765
Total Income	\$	117,284

Expenses

Building Maintenance	\$	176,110
Building Utilities	\$	23,057
Building Insurance	\$	5,226
Maintenance Work at Library	\$	88,253
Total Expenses	\$	292,646

Excess Revenues over (under) **\$ (175,361)**

Balance 6/30/23 **\$ 255,420**

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

RHR Smith & Company CPA's of Maine have been hired to audit the financial books for the Town of Richmond. Excerpts from their annual audit have been included in this report. The full report is available at the town office and under the documents section at www.richmondvt.gov – see "2023 Town Audit."



July flooding

DELINQUENT & LATE TAX POLICY

Property Taxes in General. Property taxes are due each year in four installments: 8/15, 11/15, 2/15 and 5/15. After each installment deadline, late balances will be assessed interest charge based on the principal of the debt. For the first three months of a late balance, 1% will be assessed. Thereafter, 1.5% will be assessed. The following day after the 5/15 installment is due, any remaining balances are then considered delinquent. Delinquent balances are assessed an annual 8% penalty fee in addition to the 1% and/or 1.5% quarterly assessment as described above, per the Richmond Charter.

In all cases, when partial payments are received, interest must be credited first with the remainder being divided proportionally between the principal amount of the tax and the penalty fee.

Late and Delinquent Taxes in General. It is in the best interest of the Town and the taxpayer to remain current on all tax obligations. The purpose of this policy is to establish clear guidelines so that all late and delinquent taxpayers will be treated fairly and will know what to expect.

Late Taxes. Within two weeks after a quarterly tax payment is due, those with late balances will receive a letter from the Finance Department that details the amount due.

Delinquent Taxes. Following the final tax due date of May 15th, the Delinquent Tax Collector (“the Collector”) will be given the Warrant listing all delinquent taxpayers and the amounts due. Within five days of receiving the Warrant, the Collector will send by return receipt mail a copy of this policy, a Delinquent Tax Agreement and the amount of taxes, penalty, and interest due. Within this mailing, the Collector will request that the taxpayer submit a suitable Delinquent Tax Agreement (Agreement) within 30 business days to avoid initiation of a Tax Sale.

A suitable Agreement is one that has been accepted and executed with the signature of both the taxpayer and the Collector. A suitable Agreement is one that defines a payment schedule which results in all delinquent taxes to be paid in full prior to the 5/15 tax deadline for the following year. At no time can current taxes be late during the term of the Agreement. This will breach the Agreement.

The Collector will also provide a list of programs and organizations that may help assist the property owner with the payment of taxes. The Collector will work with the taxpayer to develop an agreement that can take advantage of relief programs that may take time to implement.

If at any time the executed Agreement is breached by missing a designated payment or other terms of the Agreement, the taxpayer will be notified by return receipt mail and has 30 days to pay the amount due in full before the Collector proceeds with a tax sale or other enforcement actions.

If a suitable Agreement has not been submitted by the taxpayer to the Collector within thirty days, the taxpayer will be notified by return receipt mail that they have twenty days to pay the amount due in full before the Collector proceeds with a tax sale or other enforcement action.

If the amount due is \$1,500 or less, the Collector may pursue the matter in Small Claims Court and/or pursue other legal collection procedures in conjunction with the process listed below for Tax Sales.

Tax Sales. The Collector will begin the tax sale process in accordance with the State Statutes to collect the delinquent taxes, interest, penalty, and allowable fees, as follows:

- An Attorney hired by the Collector for such purpose will notify the taxpayer of the tax sale decision, the date by which full payment must be received, and the cost to expect once the tax sale process begins.
- The Attorney will notify all mortgage holders, lessees, and lien holders in accordance with the State Statute.
- The Attorney will place a lien on the property.

- Once the deadline date has expired and full payment has not been received, the Attorney will proceed with the tax sale in accordance with State Statute (32 V.S.A. Section 5252).
- Cost of preparing and conducting the tax sale, including legal fees, and advertising, will be charged to the delinquent taxpayer, according to law.

If no one purchases the lien at the tax sale, or if in the judgment of the Collector, proceeding with the tax sale is inadvisable, the Collector shall collect the delinquent taxes using any or all the methods permitted by law.

Tax sales shall be conducted twice a year, if necessary, to ensure agreements are enforced and delinquent balances do not become unduly burdensome on the taxpayer.

During this reporting period, eight properties were served with legal papers to be sold at tax sale.

Laurie Brisbin, Delinquent Tax Collector



Richmond Farmers Market Cider Pressing

DELINQUENT TAX REPORT-COLLECTED as of 6/30/23

Tax Year	Principal	Interest	Penalty	Total Collected
2018-2019	\$ 507.73	\$ 349.28	\$ 40.61	\$ 897.62
2019-2020	\$ 540.32	\$ 263.14	\$ 43.23	\$ 846.69
2020-2021	\$ 2,762.52	\$ 781.49	\$ 221.00	\$ 3,765.01
2021-2022	\$ 71,994.13	\$ 6,647.15	\$ 5,759.54	\$ 84,400.82
Total Collected	\$ 75,804.70	\$ 8,041.06	\$ 6,064.38	\$ 89,910.14

DELINQUENT TAX REPORT-OUTSTANDING as of 6/30/23

Tax Year	Principal	Interest	Penalty	Total Outstanding
2019-2020	\$ 471.08	\$ 285.33	\$ 37.69	\$ 794.10
2020-2021	\$ 438.24	\$ 191.96	\$ 35.04	\$ 665.24
2021-2022	\$ 1,855.74	\$ 392.63	\$ 148.46	\$ 2,396.83
2022-2023	\$ 56,798.86	\$ 3,777.08	\$ 4,543.91	\$ 65,119.85
Total Outstanding	\$ 59,563.92	\$ 4,647.00	\$ 4,765.10	\$ 68,976.02

WHEN ARE MY PROPERTY TAXES DUE?

Property taxes are due in four installments:

August 15

November 15

February 15

May 15

A 1% interest charge is assessed on the 16th day of each month for late payments for the first three months and 1.5% after three months.

IMPORTANT: A 8% penalty in addition to the interest is added on May 16

Please be sure to declare your homestead if applicable when doing your state income taxes. There is also a State Payment Adjustment available dependent on your household income.

RICHMOND ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Richmond Equalization results for 2024 were:

CLA (common level of assessment) 103.45

COD (coefficient of Dispersion) 14.91

2022 CLA 82.43 COD 15.30

2023 REAPPRAISAL YEAR-no 3yr equalized CLA calculated

2024 CLA 103.45 COD 14.91

The Town of Richmond completed a Town-wide Reappraisal for the 2023 Grand List Year. The purpose of the Reappraisal was to bring the Property Assessment to Fair Market Value as of April 1, 2023. The Real Estate Market has been very active in the past few years and continues to be very strong in Richmond and in Vermont as a whole. The real estate market continues to show steady increase since the Reappraisal was completed.

The Assessors office accounts for all property value changes (new construction, subdivision, boundary line adjustment, additions, and improvements). The number of permits issued and approved subdivisions has been relatively steady, and these improvements will be completed in the Assessor's office and any property that has a valuation change will be sent an official "Change is Assessment" notice in May 2024. The notice will explain the grievance process and relevant dates for grievance.

It has been a pleasure working with the residents and staff in Richmond. If you have any questions or concerns regarding assessment values or procedures, please contact the Assessor's Office by email at Assessors@Richmondvt.gov

Lisa Truchon, VMPA

Assessor/NEMRC

SELECTBOARD

When we look back on 2023, it's likely that one overarching item will dominate everyone's memories – the July flooding. Not just the damage that the flood did to town facilities and roads, but the damage to houses and other structures, causing great harm to many town residents. But we will also remember that our town came together to help one another in the wake of the storm, with volunteers pitching in to help their friends, neighbors, and even relative strangers, just because it was the right thing to do. Moreover, our town staff did an amazing job, putting in many hours of overtime to restore services, get our roads back into usable condition and to repair Volunteers Green, restore water and sewer service, and work with Federal and state agencies. We are all grateful for the way our town came together in a time of crisis.

2023 was a busy year in many ways.

Police

Police and policing issues loomed large in public discourse. The town Police Department went through a transition, with our acting chief and one of two remaining full-time officers leaving to pursue other opportunities. The Town Manager attempted to fill the chief position and continued to look for police officer candidates. However, the chief search did not result in a hire, though several candidates were interviewed. We failed in filling any officer positions, a dilemma shared by many towns in Vermont (and the Vermont State Police) which have many open police positions. Police staffing issues have been a major issue not just in Vermont but across the USA in recent years and Richmond is no exception.

Fortunately, we were able to contract with the town of Hinesburg for police coverage, beginning with a certain number of patrol hours to supplement what the Richmond department was able to do, and then, when we had no serving staff (The one remaining officer was on military leave), contracting to provide full police coverage using Hinesburg officers, supervised by the Hinesburg police chief, Anthony Cambridge. This involved two separate contracts, one for police coverage and one for police chief services, with Chief Cambridge being named interim police chief of the Richmond police department. Our current contracts run through the end of June, and we expect to renew the contracts for a period of years to be determined at upcoming Selectboard meetings.

The Selectboard has also met with the Hinesburg Selectboard regarding our ongoing relationship. Both sides expressed their satisfaction with how well things are going. Richmond residents have expressed their appreciation of the professionalism and competence of the Hinesburg Police Department staff, and it was apparent that both towns are interested in continuing the relationship and expanding cooperation.

We have several candidates for officer positions and believe that within a few months we may be looking at a fully staffed police department. (We have four officer positions and one chief position in all.) We have also reduced the number of police vehicles from six to four by selling two of our oldest patrol vehicles.

Highway

On the highway front, we have been working on a variety of initiatives. We are conducting speed studies coordinated by the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission to establish what the safe and appropriate speeds are on roads such as Cochran Road and Hinesburg Road. CCRPC will also be working with us to identify what the appropriate traffic calming measures would be for specific zones, such as residential areas along Cochran Road, where the speed limit is 25 miles per hour, but many drivers routinely exceed that limit. While many people would like to see speed tables and speed bumps installed throughout the town (and others are just as adamant that they don't want them) we want to make sure that whatever traffic calming measures are put in place are installed at the appropriate locations and not just wherever seems appropriate.

Again, we thank our town Highway Department for the amazing and selfless work they put in during July and again in December after the flooding to reopen roads and repair damaged facilities. The flooding resulted in approximately \$500,000 of expenses repairing roads and town property, money which came out of available unassigned funds which were on hand. We expect to be reimbursed for the majority of this by the state and federal government over the next year or two.

ARPA

During 2023 we authorized spending of up to \$368,002 of the \$1.2 million received from the Federal government via ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) for upcoming sidewalk projects to add sidewalks along Bridge Street as part of the Complete Streets program. These projects will, when complete, significantly improve pedestrian safety in the downtown area. The expected start date of these projects will be spring of 2025 and we hope to have them completed by end of the fall 2025.

ARPA dollars were also allocated to paying for the cemetery fence on Bridge Street and for repairs to the library. We have not yet allocated or expended all the remaining ARPA dollars but expect the bulk of what remains to be spent on recreation improvements on Browns Court and Volunteers Green, as this was a priority of the numerous town voters who contributed their ideas to the ARPA survey. The ARPA money must be allocated fully by the end of 2024 and expended by the end of 2026. To assist us with this work, the ARPA committee and the town Selectboard decided that what was needed was a dedicated committee to focus specifically on the developing ideas and plans for how the money could best be spent in the available space that the Town owns. We solicited candidates for this committee and were able to formally appoint the Volunteers' Green and Browns Court Project Committee in August. They have been working hard and have come up with quite a few exciting ideas.

Andrews Community Forest

Selectboard met with the Andrews Community Forest Committee on August 14 to discuss issues involving the Andrews Community Forest such as public engagement, trail planning, communication between the Selectboard and the ACFC, ACFC membership, ACFC by-laws, and the role of Zoning and the Development Review Board in approving potential new trails.

Water Resources

2023 it became evident that our wastewater treatment plant needed serious upgrades and maintenance. Our town Water and Wastewater staff leapt to prioritize needed repairs and worked with the Water and Sewer Commission to obtain materials and replacement parts. We are also conducting the 20-year engineering study of the treatment plant – an end-to-end reevaluation of the plant itself and the wastewater treatment system. We are very grateful to the Water and Wastewater staff for all they did during the flooding to keep the system running and to bring water back online as quickly as possible and end the boil notice that the state had mandated after our water pump house had been inundated during the flooding.

Zoning

2023 saw the culmination of a review of zoning ordinances in the Village Residential/Commercial District and Gateway Residential/Commercial District ending with updated zoning ordinances for these areas, changing such things as what could be in each district, density requirements, residential and commercial space, and so on. We are indebted to the Planning Commission for their hard work developing the proposed changes and for the numerous citizens who spoke up at the public engagement hearings we conducted during 2023.

Property Reappraisal

2023 saw the completion of the town-wide reappraisal, conducted by Lisa Truchon from NEMRC. After initial appraisals were completed, residents had an opportunity to grieve their appraisals in meetings with Lisa; only two reappraisals were appealed to the Board of Civil Authority. Reappraisals are required from time to time to ensure that town residents' properties are valued appropriately and are not based on out-of-date information. Our grand list increased from \$4,830,494 to \$7,816,261 which will result in a decrease in the overall tax rate percentage as we need a smaller percentage of a larger grand list to pay the town's bills.

Finance

Town staff prepared an updated capital plan for major expenditures such as fire trucks, police cars, earthmoving equipment, and so on so we can set aside an appropriate amount each year to pay for these items when the time comes rather than taking out loans or issuing bonds. This capital plan is available for public review on the town's website. This was in addition to the excellent work town staff put in to developing budget documents and managing town investments and certificates of deposit.

Other

The town took steps to obtain Narcan/Naloxone administration training for town employees at the Richmond Town Center and have obtained Narcan supplies to have available at the Town Center. We are working on a plan on how to publicize the availability of these supplies and how to manage the program on an ongoing basis.

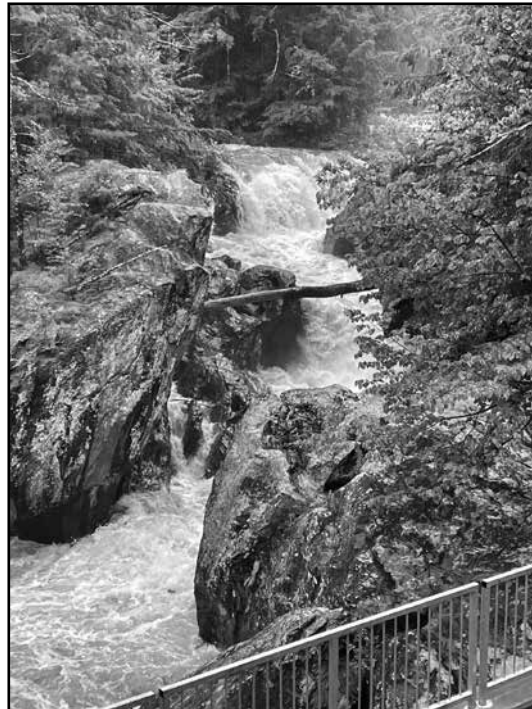
Staff changes for 2023 included hiring Keith Osborne as Planning and Zoning Administrator and the departure of acting police chief Ben Herrick and officer Alyson Dengler. Steve Cote was named our new Water and Wastewater Superintendent. Adriana Hashinaga was hired as the Assistant Town Clerk, Mary Houle was hired for the position of Maintenance Assistant/Flower Bed Maintenance, Susan Krohn and Jennifer Sprague were hired onto the Library staff. Mike Coyle was hired as an Operator in Training in Water and Wastewater. Jennifer Esser and Anne Marie Andriola departed from the Library staff, Allen Carpenter moved on from the Water and Wastewater Department, and Martha Laing retired from her position of Assistant Town Clerk.

In conclusion

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as members of the Richmond Selectboard during 2023. Our town residents are deeply invested in community affairs and are valued partners in keeping Richmond thriving. Our thanks to everyone who worked together in 2023 to make Richmond a wonderful place to work and live.

Appreciatively,

Jay Furr, Chair, Richmond Selectboard



Gorge post flooding.

TOWN MANAGER

In 2023 we accomplished much as a town. While we spent 2020 through 2022 responding to and recovering from the COVID pandemic, 2023 brought its own challenges in the form of three floods. I want to send a big THANK YOU to all Town staff for the ability to respond to the flooding in a proactive way prior to the floods, mitigating the damage during the floods, and diligent work after the floods for clean-up.

Police Department: Ben Herrick began 2023 as the Interim Police Chief and left the department in the spring to pursue other opportunities. As Richmond police officers also left to pursue other opportunities and attempts to hire new police officers were unsuccessful, we contracted with the Town of Hinesburg to provide police coverage to the Town of Richmond. In addition, after the Police Chief search ended unsuccessfully the Town contracted with the Town of Hinesburg to have Police Chief Anthony Cambridge serve as the Town of Richmond's Interim Police Chief. Chief Cambridge has been hard at work focusing on patrols and community policing in Richmond, upgrades to the Richmond police department, equipment, and supplies, sale of two unused police cruisers, and actively working on hiring Richmond police officers.

Water and Wastewater: Interim Water and Wastewater Superintendent Allen Carpenter resigned in the summer of 2023. After Carpenter's resignation Steve Cote was promoted from the position of Lead Mechanical Operator to the position of Water and Wastewater Superintendent. Cote has worked diligently on handling mechanical failures as they arise, creating a list of critical items to address, working with the engineers on the 20-year evaluation of the wastewater treatment facility, and responding to three floods in 2023. Cote has provided transparent leadership with a focus on accomplishing the most urgent tasks while keeping customer service top of mind.

Highway: Three floods have managed to keep Road Foreman Pete Gosselin and the Highway Department very busy. They spent most of July through October of 2023 putting roads back together themselves and managing some contractors for this work as well. In addition to the roads, they have been instrumental in repairing Volunteers' Green after the flooding. Prior to the flooding they reconstructed the sidewalk on the southern section of Bridge St., a project which has added greatly to the pedestrian experience on Bridge St.

Fire Department: Chief Dennis Gile and the Fire Department continued their focus on improving safety for the firefighters and providing excellent service to our Town. In addition to the usual calls for service the Fire Department was indispensable during the three floods. They monitored rising flood waters over night to ensure residents were safe, assisted the Highway Department with closing roads, and assisted residents by pumping flood water out of basements.

Planning and Zoning: Planning and Zoning Director Keith Osborne continues to work with the Planning Commission on updates to the Zoning Regulations. The Department has also been leading several other planning projects with the Transportation Committee focused on improving safety on Richmond roads. Zoning Administrative Officer Tyler Machia handles a full plate of permits and applications to the Development Review Board, while also helping to guide residents through the flood recovery process.

Library: Library Director Rebecca Mueller and the Richmond Free Library continues to offer valuable services to the community including many community events and an expansion of lending electronic material in addition to traditional books. Work was conducted on the Library steeples and several windows as part of an ongoing effort to refurbish the building.

Finance: Finance Director Connie Bona continues to manage the Town finances and each additional project and grant adds to the number of financial items she is charged with keeping track of. The flooding will also add more to her plate as we work through the FEMA claim for reimbursement of flood related expenses.

Thank you to Town Clerk and Justices of the Peace: Town Clerk Linda Parent and the Justices of the Peace ran a smooth Town Meeting in 2023, our first in person Town Meeting since 2020 when the COVID pandemic forced in the person portion of Town Meeting to be suspended for two years.

Thank You Volunteers: In addition to the Town staff, Richmond has a very active community which volunteers for special projects, grant writing, assistance to neighbors affected by floods, and serves on Town committees, boards, and commissions. I am continually amazed at the large number of volunteer hours that go into helping to keep Richmond a vibrant community. Thank you to all the volunteers.

Please feel free contact me any time with any questions or concerns by phone at 802-434-5170 and by email jarneson@richmondvt.gov and of course you can always stop by the Town Center to say hi.

Thank you,

Josh Arneson

Town Manager



A crowded town vault.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

The Town Clerk's office is a busy office, as we are a local spot to go to for questions and answers. Whether the question is town related or simply for information, we try our best to help the public. The office is open to the public, but we continue to assist many residents and researchers by phone and email.

Our voter checklist stands at 3422 registered voters. Thank you to all who assist at the elections. The combination of the Board of Civil Authority and volunteer election workers makes for a more efficient day. There is no deadline to register to vote in Vermont. You will be able to register on the day of the election. You can register prior to the election by visiting the town clerk's office or by going on-line to **olvr.sec.state.vt.us**. You must reside in the Town of Richmond to be on our voter checklist.

My thanks to the Richmond Highway Department and the Camels Hump Middle School staff who assisted with the moving of equipment and set up of the voting area.

Boy Scout Troop #23 provides set up help Town Meeting and serves as the official color guard for the annual meeting in March.

Three elections / votes were held in 2023. The statistics are as follows:			
<u>Election / Vote</u>	<u>date</u>	<u>voters on checklist</u>	<u>total residents voted</u>
Town Meeting	3/6/2023	3378	approximately 145
Business Meeting			
Town Meeting	3/7/2023	3378	764
Australian Ballot Voting			
Special Meeting to	4/29/2023	3378	95
Change date of Town Business Meeting			

You or a family member may request early / absentee ballots be mailed to you. The request can be made in person, in writing, or by telephone. We are not allowed, per state law, to hand a ballot to anyone, but the voter the ballot is intended for. We would appreciate that to make the early voting process be more efficient, please return your town meeting voted ballots to the Clerk's office before March 6, 2024.

When counting the ballots every ballot must be checked by hand. Every write in vote must be recorded for the official report to the Secretary of State in Montpelier. Even if you write yourself or a friend into an office to be silly, each name must be recorded and reported to the Secretary of State. This process adds several hours to an already long day. We do welcome any true write-in campaigns.

VT State Statute requires that all dogs be registered in the town they reside in, by April 1 of each year. Although many rabies vaccinations are valid for three years, the animal must be re-registered each year. The vaccination is an important step in protecting your family's health, as well as your pet. Richmond and Huntington Town Clerks team together each year to hold a rabies clinic. The clinic is a completely volunteer effort by the Clerks and their staff at the clinic. The rabies clinic will be held March 23, 2024 at the Huntington Town Garage. Special thanks go to Dr. Kerry Lindemuth and her family who donate their time to administer the vaccinations. At the clinic you are given a rabies tag to attach to the animal's collar and a copy of the rabies certificate. You may register your dog in person at the clerk's office, by mail or using the large white drop box. Please include a copy of the rabies certificate and the \$15.00 fee. After April 1, the fee increases to \$20 per dog. We will mail your tag & license to you. It is very important to have your name and phone number on the dog's collar. Identification makes it easier to return the pet to its family if lost or injured. We understand that it is very difficult to lose a pet, but please let us know if the pet no longer lives with your family.

Green Mountain Passports are available at the Town Clerk's Office for a fee of \$2.00. There is no fee for veterans. The application is on the town website. This lifetime pass gets those Vermont residents that are at least 62 years of age or a Veteran into the State Park system at no charge.

We offer Notary Public service at no charge to Richmond residents.

I do have an email list established for residents to receive an email when something of interest or importance comes up. This may include such things as road closings, reminders of tax payments being due or water line breaks. Of course, every email might not affect every resident, but a mass email will go out. At no time do I publish these emails. If you would like to be included and have not been receiving notices from me, please send your request to lparent@richmondvt.gov. Notices are also posted on the Front Porch Forum.

Before COVID forced closing the in-person Town Meeting, it was voted to try holding the Town Meeting on the Monday Night before the scheduled 1st Tuesday in March. It was an attempt to get more people to participate in the process of local government. The evening meeting did not increase the participation of the meeting. It was decided to hold a special meeting to see if the public wanted to return the business section of the meeting to the 1st. Tuesday of March. The result of that meeting has made the change to return to the traditional meeting date. This year the Town Meeting will be held on March 5, 2024. An informational meeting for an explanation of the 2024-2025 town budget and Australian Ballot items will be presented at the Selectboard Meeting to be held Monday, February 26, 2024 at 7pm at the Richmond Town Center.

2023 proved to not be without turmoil, as heavy rains in July and December inundated the State of Vermont, including Richmond. Many homes had their basements filled with water. Roads were destroyed and septic & water systems were overwhelmed. A group of volunteers, led by Richmond resident, Susan Whitman organized a volunteer cleanup committee to organize workers, tools, and equipment necessary to assist with whatever needs the people required. Members of Our Community Cares Camp, Boy Scout Troop #23 and Cub Scout Troop #646 provided dinners and breakfast to those affected.

Many thanks go to former Assistant Town Clerk, Martha Laing. Martha retired in March & we wish her a happy retirement & a chance to do more traveling. March brought us a new Assistant Town Clerk, Richmond resident Adriana Hashinaga. She is an excellent addition to the office and has learned her duties quite quickly. Duncan Wardwell, Assistant to the Town Manager, has the corner office and handles issues such as minutes of meetings, insurance issues, organizing the building use and all-around assistant to Town Manager Josh Arneson.

I enjoy my position and the opportunity to assist the residents of Richmond. The door to my office is always open. Everyone working together makes Richmond a wonderful place to live.

Proudly serving Richmond,

Linda M. Parent, CVC, Richmond Town Clerk

Have you checked out the services available at the town clerk's office?

- ✓ REGISTERED TO VOTE?
- ✓ LICENSED YOUR DOG OR REPORTED CHANGES?
- ✓ PAID YOUR WATER / SEWER BILL?
- ✓ ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR ACCOUNTS?
- ✓ REPORTED A NEW ADDRESS?
- ✓ SUBMITTED A ZONING PERMIT APPLICATION?
- ✓ OBTAINED COPIES OF DEEDS?
- ✓ POSTED YOUR LAND?
- ✓ FILED A NAME CHANGE CERTIFICATE?
- ✓ RESEARCHED YOUR GENEALOGY?
- ✓ APPLIED FOR YOUR MARRIAGE LICENSE?
- ✓ OBTAINED COPIES OF MARRIAGE, BIRTH OR DEATH CERTIFICATES?
- ✓ HAD DOCUMENTS NOTARIZED?
- ✓ PAID YOUR PARKING TICKET?
- ✓ REQUESTED AN EXCESS WEIGHT PERMIT?
- ✓ PAID YOUR PROPERTY TAXES?
- ✓ APPLIED FOR YOUR GREEN MOUNTAIN PASSPORT?
- ✓ ASKED ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT TOWN SERVICES?



Construction on a new dam for Gillett Pond began in the spring as fundraising entered its final phase. Photo courtesy of Bob Low.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Winter 2022 / 2023 started with rain, minor flooding and continuous snow from December 23rd to the 27th. The remainder of the winter had mixed freezing rainstorms and snowstorms. Spring mud season was very mild and short lived due to upgrades to our dirt road network through the gravel plan. All the dirt roads were in good condition and held up well during mud season.

Full-time employees of the Highway Department are Peter Gosselin – foreman; Dillon Laforce – assistant foreman / mechanic; Kyle Leggett – operator; Glenn Murray – operator; Dan O’Shaughnessy – operator and Ray Wilson - operator.

Two years ago I proposed a restructuring plan to the Selectboard which includes eliminating Town property grounds mowing and maintenance. In place of these tasks, we took on large infrastructure projects in house with the Highway staff. I am pleased to report that so far this concept has worked well. The first project (Bridge Street stormwater and sidewalk replacement) is 100% complete. Stormwater upgrades and curbing were installed on Bridge Street by Town staff this past summer 2022. The remaining sidewalk work excavation and preparation was completed this past spring. We contracted the installation of the concrete sidewalk with J&M concrete of Richmond.

And then July came. All I can say is WOW! Two major flooding events within one week. The first flood event of July 10th was mostly defined to the Winooski River valley. This caused major flooding in the village wiping out the Volunteer’s Green playground, ballfields and concession stand as well as flooding on Esplanade and Bridge Street. To add insult to injury the next weather event of July 16th was not a valley flooding but a microburst of storm cells dumping enormous amounts of rainwater at once. This rainfall produced such a high amount of water we sustained numerous road and slope washouts throughout the Town. Due to the amount of road damage, and that most roads were down to one lane, I opted to reach out for contracted help. The contractors hired were John Scott excavating of Huntington and Dirt Tech of Jericho. Damaged roads from the July events are highlighted below.

John Scott repaired four roads for the town. Cochran Road; Hillview Road; Williams Hill Road and Worthiem Road. The repairs to these roads were culvert replacements, surface replacement, ditching and rock lining.

Dirt Tech was tasked with a half mile stretch of Stage Road. The repairs to this road were culvert replacement / cleaning, road base and ditch replacement, slope erosion repair and rock lining.

The remaining roads were repaired by the Highway Department:

Snipe Ireland Road – Large diameter culvert replacement; Large diameter culvert excavation to repair undermining, Slope repair with ledge rock.

Jericho Road – Cross culvert replacement, travel lane subbase rebuilds, asphalt patching, ditch rock lining, reset outfall of road crossing culvert.

Southview Drive – Slope repair with ledge rock.

Johnnie Brook Road – Surface gravel replacement.

Kenyon Road – Travel Lane subbase and gravel replacement. Ditching and rock lining.

Huntington Road – Travel lane subbase replacement. Road crossing culvert replacement. Shoulder, driveway access repairs and rock lining for .50 miles. Asphalt patching.

Stage Road – Replaced 36” diameter road crossing culvert.

Jones Mill Road – Repaired Road crossing culvert headwall. Resurfaced section of road.

Hinesburg Road – Slope repair with ledge rock. Shoulder and slope repairs. Culvert cleaning and asphalt patching.

Hidden Pines Circle – Ditch and driveway erosion repair.

Cemetery Road – Surface gravel repair from high water. Cross culvert replacement. Asphalt patching.

Lawrence Road – Travel Lane subbase and surface gravel repair. Driveway access repairs and ditch cleaning.

Besaw Road – Road crossing culvert erosion repair.

Mountain View Drive – Driveway access repairs, shoulder and ditch repair. Asphalt patching.

Palmer Lane – Road crossing culvert washout repair.

Durand Road – Road crossing culvert washout repair.

Tilden Avenue – Inlet of underground stormwater cleanout. Subbase repair on Tilden Avenue path.

Christmas Hill Road – Travel Lane subbase and surface gravel replacement. Ditch cleaning and driveway access repairs.

Railroad Street – Underground stormwater system repair.

Volunteer's Green – Playground subbase replacement, playground equipment repair, installation of certified playground mulch, seed and topsoil circumference of playground. Backstop repairs. Field silt removal. Park road gravel repair.

Bridge Street – Sidewalk erosion repair. Water House and pump station roadway repairs, asphalt patching. These repairs took the Highway crew over three months to complete. Because of this unforeseen work we have not started our 2023 summer work plan.

In addition to the above road repairs we performed the following:

- Sweeping of all village streets, sidewalks, and developments
- Line striping of crosswalks and parking lots
- Roadside mowing of all town roads
- Gravel road grading
- Hauling gravel and rip rap stone for the summer work plan
- Hauling road gravel for stockpile
- Hauling and stockpiling winter sand
- Highway Department fleet maintenance and inspections
- Fire Department fleet maintenance and inspections
- Volunteer's Green buildings and playground maintenance
- Snipe Ireland Road Better Road Grant – Included road widening, ditching, culvert installation, ditch rock lining and surface gravel
- Stage Road – replaced failed 18" diameter road crossing culvert
- Town wide brush cutting / chipping

We applied for a VTRANS structure grant as well as a Class 2 Roadway grant. We were not awarded either grant this year due to recent awards and grant cycles. We have been awarded an additional Better Roads grant for last 500 feet of Snipe Ireland Road. The Snipe Ireland Road BRG project is scheduled for fall 2024.

Contracted work for the summer includes the following:

J&M concrete construction of Richmond was awarded our concrete contract for Bridge Street. J&M finished the installation of the new concrete sidewalk this spring with the Highway department.

F.W. Whitcomb was awarded the paving contract which included the following: Milling and replacing the asphalt surface from the Bridge Street railroad crossing to the Iron Truss Bridge on Bridge Street. Paving the Volunteer's Green parking lot, Jonesville section of Cochran Road, Duxbury Road, North apron on Dugway Road and Highway Garage lot. Southview Drive was not completed due to July flooding events and paving priority rescheduling.

The Highway Department had 1 new purchase this year. The 2017 Chevrolet 2500 pickup truck was replaced with a 2023 Chevrolet 2500 pickup truck. The pickup truck was purchased through state contract pricing from Cody Chevrolet. We appreciate your continued support of the Capital Equipment, Gravel, and Paving plans. The crew and I take pride in our work and continue to work toward better roads, bridges, and sidewalks. Please don't hesitate to call me at (802) 434-2631 or e-mail me at: pgosselin@richmondvt.gov

Peter Gosselin, Richmond Road Foreman

WINTER SAND POLICY AND WINTER PARKING INFORMATION

The Town of Richmond makes sand available to Town residents to help them with icy sidewalks and driveways. Residents will find the sand pile across from the Town Garage on Thompson Road. The sand is supplied only for Town residents and only for use at their home. Landlords and businesses should arrange for sand spreading from several local contractors.

Because the sand is intended for home use, residents are asked to limit themselves to collecting two buckets per trip. It is highly recommended residents pick up their sand before a storm, so they do not need to drive on icy roads. During a storm, the Road Crew is busy maintaining the roads and might not be able to restock the pile.

It is illegal to plow snow across a town road. The snow that is left in the road will freeze, causing a dangerous situation for other drivers and for the snowplow. Under 19 VSA §1105, you could be fined \$1,000 plus damages and legal fees.

There is a winter parking ban in effect November 1 to April 1 of each year. There shall be no parking on streets or sidewalks between the hours of midnight and 8 AM. There is no overnight parking allowed in any municipal lot during the same times. These parking rules are from a portion of the Town Ordinances /VT Traffic Ordinances / Parking Regulations.

These rules will be enforced so as not to impede the prompt and orderly removal of snow and application of sand or salt. Any vehicles violating these ordinances will be towed at the owner's expense.

TOWN OF RICHMOND 7 - YEAR GRAVEL PLAN FISCAL YEARS 2025 THROUGH 2031							
The order of road resurfacing may change based on certain variables. The priority is to resurface all gravel roads within 7 years, however major road upgrades may become necessary, impacting the schedule. The timing of the resurfacing for a road is based on current road conditions, amount of traffic, and funding limits.							
FISCAL YEAR	Budgeted Gravel	Additional trucking to Haul Gravel	Culvert repair or replacement	Brush clearing, flagging & ditching	Miles	Anticipated Road and Mileage to receive gravel resurfacing	
FY 25 Summer 2024	\$120,000	\$10,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	2.55	Kenyon Road - 2.25 miles of 2.25 miles Volunteers Green - .30 miles of .30 miles	
FY 26 Summer 2025	\$120,000	\$10,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	2.60	Rogers Lane - .40 miles of .40 miles Stage Road - 1.5 miles of 2.80 miles Lawrence Road - .30 miles of .30 miles Grandview Drive - .30 miles of .30 mile Besaw Road - .10 miles of .10 miles	
FY 27 Summer 2026	\$125,000	\$12,000	\$2,500	\$2,000	3.4	Stage Road - remaining 1.3 miles of 2.80 miles Wes White Hill Road - 2.10 miles of 2.10 miles	
FY 28 Summer 2027	\$125,000	\$12,000	\$2,500	\$2,000	3.35	Dugway Road - 3.35 miles of 3.35 miles	
FY 29 Summer 2028	\$125,000	\$12,000	\$2,500	\$2,000	2.00	Williams Hill Road - 1.40 miles of 1.40 miles Worthiem Road - .30 miles of .30 miles Old County Road - .30 miles of .30 miles	
FY 30 Summer 2029	\$130,000	\$12,000	\$2,500	\$2,000	3.40	Johnnie Brook Road - 1.40 miles of 1.40 miles Snipe Ireland Road - 2.0 miles of 2.55 miles	
FY 31 Summer 2030	\$130,000	\$12,000	\$2,500	\$2,000	3.35	Snipe Ireland Road - remaining .55 miles of 2.55 miles Hillview Road - 2.30 miles of 2.30 miles Christmas Hill Road - .50 miles of .50 miles	
7 - year resurfacing cycle continues					Note: Plan includes gravel and rip rap stone for all roads		

TOWN OF Richmond 12 - YEAR PAVING PLAN FISCAL YEARS 2025 THROUGH 2038			
FISCAL YEAR	Budgeted Paving	MILES PAVED OR PLANNED	ANTICIPATED AND MILEAGE TO BE PAVED
			NOTES
FY25 Summer 2024	\$295,000	2.28	Huntington Road - 1.75 miles of 4.15 miles Hillview Road - .40 miles of .40 miles Millitt Street - .13 miles of .13 miles
FY26 Summer 2025	\$300,000	2.21	Huntington Road - remaining 1.7 miles of 4.15 miles Bridge Street - remaining .11 miles of .57 miles Cochran Road - remaining .40 miles of 3.68 miles
FY27 Summer 2026	\$300,000	2.15	Huntington Road - remaining 2.15 miles of 4.15 miles
FY28 Summer 2027	\$325,000	2	Jericho Road - 2.0 miles of 2.33 miles
FY29 Summer 2028	\$325,000	1.9	Esplanade Street - .26 miles of .26 miles Church Street - .18 miles of .18 miles Tilden Avenue - .18 miles of .18 miles Baker Street - .11 miles of .11 miles Brown's Court - .19 miles of .19 miles Burnett Court - .11 miles of .11 miles Lemroy Court - .19 miles of .19 miles Depot Street - .15 miles of .15 miles School Street - .09 miles of .09 miles Farr Road - .11 miles of .11 miles Lower Jericho Road - remaining .33 miles of 2.33 miles
FY30 Summer 2029	\$330,000	2.02	Sherwood Forest Road - .07 miles of .07 miles Hidden Pines Drive - .20 miles of .20 miles Hidden Pines Circle - .70 miles of .70 miles Hidden Pines Extension - .09 miles of .09 miles Bradford Terrace - .20 miles of .20 miles Westfall Drive - .45 miles of .45 miles Westfall Extension - .09 miles of .09 miles Mary Drive - .22 miles of .22 miles

FY31 Summer 2030	\$330,000	1.94	Kenyon Road apron - .05 miles of .05 miles Mountain View Road - .74 miles of .74 miles Cemetery Road - .10 miles of .10 miles Johnny Brook Apron - .15 miles of .15 miles Rogers Lane - .10 miles of .10 miles Governor Peck Road - .80 miles of .80 miles	Governor Peck grant eligible
FY32 Summer 2031	\$335,000	2.15	Greystone Drive - 95 miles of .95 miles Wes White Hill Road - .90 miles of .90 miles Apple Tree Lane - .10 miles of .10 miles Highland Drive - .20 miles of .20 miles	
FY33 Summer 2032	\$335,000	2.5	Hinesburg Road - 2.50 miles of 2.90 miles	Hinesburg Road grant eligible
FY34 Summer 2033	\$335,000	2.6	East Hill Road - 1.20 miles of 1.20 miles Hinesburg Road - remaining 1.40 miles of 2.90 miles	Hinesburg Road grant eligible
FY35 Summer 2034	\$335,000	2	Cochran Road - 2.0 miles of 3.68 miles	Cochran Road grant eligible
FY 36 Summer 2035	\$340,000	1.73	Cochran Road - remaining 1.28 miles of 3.68 miles Dugway Road apron - .05 miles of .05 miles Duxbury Road - .20 miles of .20 miles Volunteer's Green parking lot - .10 miles of .10 miles Bridge Street parking lot - .05 miles of .05 miles Fire Station parking lot - .05 miles of .05 miles	
TOTALS & NOTES	\$3,885,000	25.48		Village streets are estimated at a higher cost due to utilities, surface milling, and paving quantities. Some village street developments and parking lots may be changed to a 15-year resurfacing cycle dependent on condition.

NEED TO DISPOSE OF UNWANTED DRUGS?

The Richmond Police Department, in conjunction with CVS Pharmacy & Partnership for Drug- Free Kids sponsors a medication disposal collection box at the Town Center. **It is a large red box, like a postal collection box, located on the 2nd floor of the town center.** It provides an environmentally safe way to dispose of expired or unwanted medications. It can accept prescription medications, patches, and ointments. Over the counter medications as well as vitamins, drug samples & pet medications can be deposited there. When full, a Richmond Police Officer will empty it for collection with the Drug Enforcement Agency for proper disposal. They cannot accept liquids, aerosols, inhalers, or needles. **There are collection stations for needles “sharps” located on the outside wall at the Town Center and at the Richmond Rescue building located at the end of Railroad Street.**

Let's all try to keep unwanted drugs out of our homes and dispose of them properly.

CONSTABLE AND ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

As Constable I am completing my ninth year in office. Most of my Constable work usually revolves around some traffic control work, for example when Cochran Road is closed for a race. And parking control on Cochran Road around Huntington Gorge on Dugway Road. I am available for other duties when RPD wants another hand, such as Independence Day, Float-A-Palooza or when needed/requested for bad weather events. Many people in the area come out to play in our rivers, causing some parking issues. The parking at Bombardier Meadow was closed this year and new parking ordinance changes eliminated parking along that east portion of Cochran Road. I had expected that to become more of an issue than it became. Dugway Road has new parking rules which creates a 2 mile long “No Parking” zone on the west side of the road. There were numerous cars parked in that zone, but fewer than I had expected. I did not keep an exact count of the parking tickets I wrote but it was around 80.

For the Fourth of July I coordinated the road closure for the parade and for the traffic control for the fireworks. We were very fortunate to have the assistance of Hinesburg Police. That was my first real experience working with Hinesburg Police and I found it to be a very good relationship. I look forward to the continuation of that effort.

This was my sixth year as the Animal Control Officer. This is a separate office from Constable but related enough that I combine the reports. There have been more lost dogs than barking dogs this year. When I can identify a roaming dog by his registration tag, he gets home a lot sooner. I cannot state it too strongly that a collar and ID are critical in getting a lost dog back home quickly! Otherwise the dog has to spend time in the pound while we wait for the owner to contact us. Collars and town registration tags are required by both state law and town ordinance. I have also noticed that the roaming dogs reported to me are almost always lacking a collar and tags.

If your dog is barking constantly or roaming the neighborhood causing a nuisance to the neighbors, please notice what's happening and take care of it before I or the police have to get involved. And be sure your dog wears his collar and has his dog tag as required by state law and town ordinance. In most cases we can resolve the barking problem with the owners without having to write tickets for violation of the town ordinance.

Complaints continue about loose dogs all around town and at Volunteers Green. When I look in the Green every time I go through the village, it never seems to be the right time.

Recently I have again received complaints of dogs being loose without collars or tags. This makes it difficult to take the simple route of just talking with the owner and getting to a simple resolution. If your dog is creating a nuisance and must be captured to find the owner, it is much more likely to have penalties involved.

Respectfully,

Andy Squires, Constable and Animal Control Officer

RICHMOND FIRE DEPARTMENT

The officers of the Richmond Fire Department are: Chief Dennis Gile, Assistant Chief Gerald Levesque, Captains are Mark Klonicke, Eric Wood, Jake Kilpeck and Lieutenant Mike Carter. The treasurer is Sherry Gile. The firefighters are: Russell Causley, Richard Dana, Roger Brown, Christopher Fahner, Vikas Mangipudi, Benjamin Owens, Luke O'Leary, Dylan Paquette, Michael Parent, Muangthai Prachankhet (PAR), John Sirois Jr., Harland Stockwell, Aaron Toth and Graham Wolfson. I would like to congratulate Dylan Paquette, one of our new members, for completing the Chittenden County Basic Fire Class at Saint Michaels College.



I would like to say thank you to all the Richmond Firemen for the time and dedication they have put in this year. They have put in a total of over 4300 plus hours of training and fire calls.

We are always looking for volunteers for the fire department. There is a great need for daytime and nighttime firefighters. Please contact our business phone at 802-434-2002 or any firefighter to receive an application. The requirements are: 18 years of age, in good physical condition and the desire to help fellow citizens in an emergency.

The officers and members of the Richmond Fire Department would like to thank our mutual aid departments from the following towns for responding into Richmond: Bolton, Huntington, Williston, Hinesburg, and Underhill Jericho.

I would like to extend a special thanks to the 5 five senior citizens that are on the Fire Department who have made over 95% of the fire calls this year, Rich Dana, Gerald Levesque, Mike Parent, Graham Wolfson and Dennis Gile. Thank you for your dedication.

Fire calls for the year 2023 was a busy year for Richmond Fire Department with 226 calls. This is an increase of 10 calls over 2022 (216).

The following calls were car accidents on I-89 /68, car accidents, not on I-89 /57, mutual aid /14, rescue assist /24, Co Alarms /8, cancel calls/10, flood/13 other/32.

Currently Richmond Fire Department has 5 trucks:

- 2009 Pickup is our Brush Truck
- 2005 Rescue Truck which has extrication tools for car accidents, exhaust fans, chain saws and tools needed for house fires and car accidents.
- 2015 Engine 2 truck has a 1250 GPM pump and an 1800-gallon tank. This is our main attack pumper.
- 2011 Engine 1 is a pumper tanker which has a 1250 GPM pump and 1000-gallon tank.
- 2019 Engine 3 which is a Pumper Tanker which has a 1250 GPM pump and a 2000-gallon water tank.
- And last but not forgotten, the 1932 Maxum, Richmond's first firetruck.

The Richmond Fire Department continues to use Shelburne Dispatch as our Emergency Dispatch. Thanks again for an excellent job. Shelburne Dispatch has also agreed to issue burning permits for Richmond. They can be reached by calling 802-985-8051.

Submitted by Chief Dennis Gile

PLANNING - ZONING - DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

The Planning and Zoning Department helps administer local regulations, including the Zoning Regulations, Sub-division Regulations, and the Public Improvement Standards. In addition, the department provides support to the Selectboard, Planning Commission, Development Review Board, Transportation Committee, Recreation Committee, and Housing Committee. Current Planning and Zoning Department staff consists of Keith Osborne (Town Planner) and Tyler Machia (Zoning Administrator).

Staff are happy to assist residents by answering questions about local planning projects, permit requirements, enforcement, as well as any community-wide issues. The Planning Commission, Development Review Board, Transportation Committee, Housing Committee, and Planning and Zoning Staff welcome feedback from community members on town-wide policies, ongoing projects, development activities, and community issues. Public hearings on permit applications and ordinance changes are announced in Seven Days or Burlington Free Press. Notices are also posted at the Town Offices, Post Office, the Richmond Market, and on the Town web website. Residents interested in serving on any boards or committees are encouraged to express their interest by contacting Town Planner Keith Osborne or Duncan Wardwell, Assistant to the Town Manager.

PLANNING COMMISSION

We started 2023 with the resignation of our Town Planner, Ravi Venkataraman, who left his 3-year stint with Richmond to take a job with Burlington's transportation planning department. This left us on our own for about four months until Keith Osborne was hired for the newly titled position of Director of Planning and Zoning. We remain grateful to Ravi for his creativity, dedication, and professionalism as he helped us move forward in our task of updating and revising our zoning ordinance.

During this four-month period we finalized our revisions to the Village and Gateway Residential/Commercial Zoning Districts (that the Planning Commission approved in 2022) and arranged for the Selectboard to begin their public hearing and adoption process. The changes we proposed in these revisions included enabling additional housing, including multifamily housing, in the village to help reduce Chittenden County's housing shortage. Housing uses were also added to the Gateway area, where formerly only commercial uses were allowed. Requirements were introduced to reduce the likelihood of a "big box invasion" of our scenic entrance to Richmond, while still allowing commercial activities. The Planning Commission conducted extensive public outreach in this process, and after some changes at the Selectboard level, the zoning amendments were adopted on June 26, 2023.

Over the summer months, two significant events took place that began to occupy our time: the passage of Act 47 (the "HOME Act – Housing Opportunities Made for Everyone") by the state legislature; and the request by a resident of the Industrial/Commercial Zoning District to enable additional housing in that district. Act 47 is the state's attempt to help resolve the housing crisis by mandating zoning and planning changes at the municipal level, as well as some changes to Act 250 and other state-level procedures. The requirements of Act 47 went into effect on July 1, 2023, so the Planning Commission has been working to incorporate these changes into our ordinance as soon as possible, to reduce confusion for those proposing development. We have also welcomed guests from the Jericho Planning Commission and Buttermilk's Creamery project to help us think about housing and how we can enable affordability.

Two of the main changes required by Act 47 require that all districts served by town water and sewer infrastructure allow a residential density of at least 5 dwelling units per acre, and to allow multifamily buildings with 3 – 4 dwelling units. The mandated area includes most of our central village. The Planning Commission understands that this is a significant change from what we are used to, but also understands that without additional housing other kinds of change will happen that we are not used to either. At the same time, we are mindful of the climate and biodiversity crises, that require actions sometimes at odds with more building. Compromises will be required. This work will carry us well into 2024.

The second project we have been working on is how to allow some additional housing in the Industrial/Commercial Zoning District without removing the potential for further commercial uses in this area. Our current strategy involves utilizing the Planned Unit Development (PUD) provision to allow more residential uses on properties in the district that are already in residential use, of which there are quite a few. This has also required clarifying some ambiguities of the PUD section and thinking about the existing “Master Development Plan” language that requires conceptualizing future, as yet un-permitted, development. At this writing, The Planning Commission prepares to take public input on this packet of amendments, to be followed by refinement, and then transmission to the Selectboard in early 2024 for their public hearing process and adoption.

I would like to thank the Planning Commissioners and the public for their time and attention to these matters. These are complicated issues and often require difficult decisions that might not please everyone. We often walk a line between initiating creative and novel solutions and sticking with the “tried and true” which may not be working anymore but at least feels familiar. We have been glad to welcome the knowledge and experience of our new planner, Keith, and hope to develop more consistent ties with the other committees whose goals overlap with ours in the coming year. We have been glad of everyone who has spent time with us at our meetings discussing the many aspects of planning for Richmond’s future. Commissioners Alison Anand, Mark Fausel, Chris Granda, Joy Reap, Adam Wood and I work hard to strike the right balance as we work through the issues. We currently have one vacancy on the Commission and would love to fill it with an additional resident interested in the future of our much-loved town.

Virginia Clarke

Chair, Richmond Planning Commission

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

In 2023, 78 Zoning Permits were issued by staff. The number of Zoning Permits per type, in comparison to the past five years, is as follows:

Zoning Permits Issued by Type of Project	Permits issued in 2023	Permits issued in 2022	Permits issued in 2021	Permits issued in 2020	Permits issued in 2019
Accessory Dwelling	5	4	3	1	0
Accessory Structure	17	20	25	34	23
Addition and Renovation	30	24	27	37	31
Administratively Created Lot	2	2	0	0	0
Boundary Adjustment	0	2	5	4	8
Home Occupation/Cottage Industry	0	0	2	3	2
Mobile Home Replacement	2	2	0	0	1
New Construction Commercial	1	0	0	0	0
Sign	2	2	3	1	1
Single-Family Dwelling	14	11	14	7	6
Two-Family Dwelling	0	0	0	1	0
Multifamily Dwelling	0	0	0	1	0
Other	12	NA	NA	NA	NA

In addition, staff issued 14 Certificates of Occupancy in 2023. Certificates of Occupancy are issued after construction is complete for significant projects, including new houses, additions, and accessory apartments.

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

The Town of Richmond Development Review Board (DRB) is responsible for all development review functions for land development projects that require a public hearing, including Site Plan Review, Conditional Use Review, Subdivision review, and appeals. Current and alternate members are listed in the Town Report.

Notably, the DRB reviewed and approved an addition to facilitate 4 dwelling units to the building hosting the Gifford's Funeral Home, review and approval of Building 2 of the Jolina Court PUD and the review and approval of a 7-lot subdivision off of Hillview Road. The DRB also held two appeal hearings.

As shown in the table below, the DRB reviewed several Subdivision, Site Plan Review, and Conditional Use applications.

Applications reviewed by the Development Review Board	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Site Plan	1	0	3	1	4
Conditional Use Review	6	9	6	10	10
Subdivision Sketch Plan	3	3	1	3	4
Preliminary Subdivision Application	3	2	1	1	6
Final Subdivision Application	5	0	1	3	3
Subdivision Amendments	4	2	3	3	3

Respectfully submitted by Virginia Clarke, Chair, Planning Commission, David Sunshine, Chair, Development Review Board, Tyler Machia, Zoning Administrator and Keith Osborne, Town Planner.

RICHMOND FREE LIBRARY

The Library continues to carry out traditional functions such as maintaining a physical collection of books, magazines and movies and lending to a patron base of nearly 2,000 card holders. It also offers a variety of programs for children and adults, from regular story times to book discussions. The physical collection also includes many non-traditional items to borrow such as museum passes, Storytime bags (read aloud books about Pets, Gardening, Seasons, Friends, and more), puzzles, snowshoes, trekking poles, a sewing machine, blood pressure monitors, STEAM kits with varied themes and a firewood moisture meter. Computers, printers, copiers, and a fax machine are available to the public.

After the severe flooding in July 2023, the Library offered space so that the Richmond Farmer's Market could continue. We were glad to host!

Regular youth programs include Baby Laptime, Storytime, Playgroup, Hora de Cuentos (Spanish Storytime), Lego club, Baby Brunch, programs for middle school students, exciting scavenger hunts, visits by Vermont Institute of Natural Science and the Very Merry Theatre, and a full schedule of summer programs. Adult programming has included support for ongoing book club discussions, author talks, concerts, book launches, art workshops and stunning exhibits in the display case and on the walls. Some of the offerings included: Alyx the Magician, The History of the Civil Air Patrol, Understanding Surveying, concerts, cartooning, dances, and more.

The Library's digital offerings were greatly expanded. Adding the services Hoopla and Palace Project, has increased the number of items that can be downloaded by hundreds of thousands of titles. Hoopla has proven to be very popular. An average download costs \$1.90 and nearly 300 titles are downloaded each month. We are grateful that the Friends of the Richmond Free Library have provided funds to help offset these costs.

Our regular digital resources continue: Libby with curated eBooks and audiobooks; Rocket Languages offering 25 languages from American Sign Language to Russian; Learning Express that provides tutorials and career exploration; Vermont Online Library that has thousands of reference entries on a variety of topics and for all ages; and Universal Class, an online continuing education service that offers instruction on over 500 topics. More information on these resources is on our website.

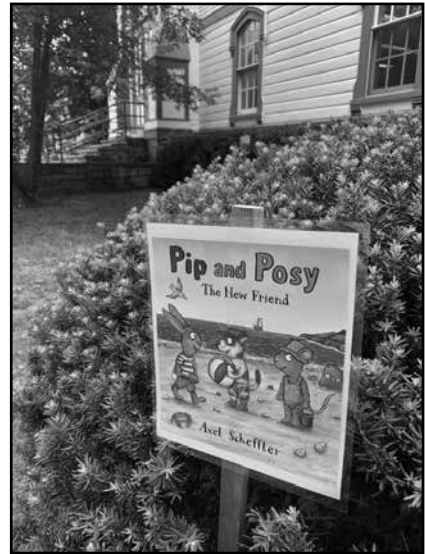
The Friends of the Library held a book sale on December 1st and 2nd with great success. The Friends support summer programming and special acquisitions. We thank Mary Keller Butler for her excellent leadership, hours of work, and organization.

The library provided hundreds of free COVID test kits in the last two years. The kits were obtained from the Vermont Department of Health. There are no more kits available, but staff are directing interested people to contact Covid.org to obtain free kits through the mail

Remember that your Library card allows you to borrow directly from 25 area libraries. The library may also obtain items on your behalf from even more libraries using inter-library loan requests. During fiscal year 2023, the library obtained 575 books for our patrons from other libraries.

Visit the Library's website at www.richmondfreelibraryvt.org for more information, subscribe to our newsletter or like us on Facebook where you can see announcements of special events.

Submitted by Rebecca Mueller, Director



Richmond Library Story Walk



Richmond Library Summer Story Time

DOG LICENSE REPORT

There were 396 dogs registered in the Town of Richmond this year. All dogs and wolf hybrid animals are required by State Statute 20 V.S.A § 3581 to be licensed on or before April 1 of each year. Every year the numbers go down for those registered, but we believe there are many dogs that are not registered in the town where they live. This statute includes the registration of service dogs. The town must keep a copy of the rabies vaccination on file. The registration fee includes \$1.00 for each dog to be placed in the VSNIP program. The rest of the fee is used to provide supplies and various items for animal control. It also covers the cost of the doggie poo bag stations at the park and their supplies.

Thanks to Rod West for keeping an eye on the poo bag stations and refilling them at Volunteer's Green. Linda Parent keeps an eye on the supplies at Brown's Court. Please clean up after your dog. When you use a bag, please throw it in the trash can provided. Do not simply leave them on the ground. A big thank you to Maryann Barnes & Martha Nye for disposing of the trash can contents from Browns Court. Richmond Highway empties the cans at Volunteers Green.

It is imperative to have your dog registered and be up to date with their rabies vaccination. With the registration and vaccination on file at the town office we can provide the information to the hospital or police in a timely manner to assist in treatment if there is a dog bite. Please do your part to make your pet legal in the eyes of the law. Many dogs that are posted on Facebook are not registered. If the Police or Animal Control Officer are called to an animal complaint, you will incur a fine, as well as the need to register the animal. A rabies clinic is being planned for March 23, 2024; it will be held at the Huntington Town Garage. The hours will be from 9 am – noon. There will be a preregistration site on the Huntington VT town website. Often rabies clinics will be held in other towns and at Tractor Supply Store.

The Animal Control Officer continues to be called to pick up dogs that have wandered away. We find that rescued dogs tend to wander off and not know where their new home is. Please have a tag attached to your pet's collar with your contact information and the pet's name. If the owner cannot be located the dog will be impounded. If the animal has been injured, it will be taken to the emergency veterinarian. The animal's owner will be held responsible for all services rendered. The Animal Control Officer is Andrew Squires of Richmond. He can be reached at 363-7162. He handles domestic animal complaints. Currently, we do not have an officer that is able to relocate wildlife.

Please let the Clerk's office know if your pet no longer lives with your family. We hate to contact the family, if necessary, only to find that the pet has died. The Town of Richmond recognizes our part in the welfare of our pet population.

Have your pet spayed or neutered. Part of the registration fee is sent to the State of Vermont who administers the VSNIP Program. (VT Spay Neuter Incentive Program). This year we sent the State \$396,000.00. This program provides low / no cost neutering / spaying for pets. Many Vermonters are now without employment. Finding money to provide these services may be hard to come by. VSNIP helps with this procedure if there are funds available. Our beloved pets provide unconditional love, support & company. Sometimes pets are at risk of abuse by those they love. Please reach out if you have a concern about your pet or even neighborhood pets.

PETS ARE PART OF THE FAMILY, PROTECT THEM AND THEIR HUMANS ...

GET THEM VACCINATED AGAINST RABIES & REGISTER YOUR DOG

RABIES CLINIC

MARCH 23, 2024

9 am – noon

**Huntington Town Garage
(located behind the Town Hall)**

Rabies vaccination \$20 per animal

Microchipping will be available \$35 per animal

Dogs must be leashed / Cats must be crated

**Bring proof of a previous rabies vaccination to
receive a 3-year booster vaccination.**

**Dog licenses for Richmond & Huntington will be
available.**

Families from all towns are welcome.

Questions:

Richmond 802-434-2221 x 2 ~ Linda Parent

Huntington 802-434-2032 ~ Heidi Racht

cash & checks only



Thing 1 and Thing 2

VITAL RECORDS					
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
BIRTHS	43	33	39	43	18
DEATHS	36	25	28	36	34
MARRIAGES	19	23	25	25	32

Vital records are public documents that are recorded in the Town Clerk's Office. Certified copies are available upon request at a cost of \$10.00 each. All VT Birth & Death Cerificates are available from any VT Town Clerk's office. You will be required to show identification and complete an application. Marriage certificates are available in the town that issued the license. Genealogy research can be done during regular office hours.

BIRTHS FOR THE PERIOD OF 2023

CHILD'S NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	PARENT'S NAME
TIMMONS, RONAN C	JANUARY 28, 2023	NICOLE MANDEVILLE & SCHUYLER TIMMONS
JONES, VANDER L	FEBRUARY 6, 2023	RACHEL & CHASLEY JONES
MEISENHEIMER, LOUISA A	APRIL 3, 2023	NATALIE ELVIDGE & REINHART MEISENHEIMER
KENNEY, JUDE P	APRIL 13, 2023	KYLA & MICHAEL KENNEY
NOVOGROSKI, JACOB D	APRIL 28, 2023	KAITLIN & BENJAMIN NOVOGROSKI
MOBBS, BRAXTON H	MAY 25, 2023	BRETT MOBBS & BRIDGETT YOUNGMAN
PASCUAL, RAFAEL F	MAY 30, 2023	RACHEL PASCUAL & JORGE PASCUAL-LOPEZ
CARPENTER, WILDER L	JUNE 12, 2023	AUBREY & CONOR CARPENTER
BLANCHET, CURTIS A	JUNE 28, 2023	KELLY & NICHOLAS BLANCHET
BLANCHET, CLAIRE H	JUNE 28, 2023	KELLY & NICHOLAS BLANCHET
ORGANEK, LANDON W	JULY 9, 2023	LEAH MCCUE & GARRETT ORGANEK
FILKINS, ARCHER D	SEPTEMBER 20, 2023	CAITLIN & BRENDAN FILKINS
SANTILLAN, ALAN M	SEPTEMBER 27, 2023	MAYRA & JORGE SANTILLAN
MAXWELL, WREN E	OCTOBER 13, 2023	MICHAYLA & KYLE MAXWELL
DRINKWATER, LAKLYNN S	NOVEMBER 11, 2023	CHELSEA DRINKWATER
RYBA, ADELINE R	NOVEMBER 16, 2023	BROOKE & JEFFREY RYBA
WILLEN, RHYS E	DECEMBER 12, 2023	ALISON CROCKER & MICHAEL WILLEN
CHARPENTIER, ORIN M	DECEMBER 18, 2023	KELLY & ALEX CHARPENTIER

DEATHS FOR THE PERIOD OF 2023

NAME OF DECEASED	DATE OF DEATH	PLACE OF DEATH
RODRIGUEZ, REMY	DECEMBER 22, 2022	BURLINGTON
HUMPHREY, MAURICE L	JANUARY 7, 2023	RICHMOND
CALEVRO, JOSEPH F	JANUARY 16, 2023	BURLINGTON
LAWRENCE, TODD D	JANUARY 24, 2023	BURLINGTON
KELLEY, SHIRLEY I	FEBRUARY 5, 2023	RICHMOND
LABOUNTY, CHERYL A	FEBRUARY 5, 2023	BURLINGTON
HUMPHREY, JUDITH A	FEBRUARY 16, 2023	COLCHESTER
KNIGHT, AMANDA E	FEBRUARY 19, 2023	BURLINGTON
PLANTIER, THOMAS B	MARCH 3, 2023	BURLINGTON
SMITH, REBECCA C	MARCH 7, 2023	RICHMOND
LAPLANT, BARBARA S	MARCH 12, 2023	BURLINGTON
HARVEY, IDA D	MARCH 22, 2023	RICHMOND
JONES, DONALD	MARCH 27, 2023	ST ALBANS CITY
MAY, STEPHEN V	APRIL 4, 2023	RICHMOND
LELAND, ROSEMARIE M	APRIL 17, 2023	RICHMOND
ASHLEY, PAUL W	APRIL 25, 2023	RICHMOND
SAVOIE, DAVID L	MAY 5, 2023	COLCHESTER
PARKER, RICHARD G	MAY 9, 2023	RICHMOND
HARVEY, SEWARD F	MAY 27, 2023	SHELBURNE
BOUCHARD, ELIZABETH A	MAY 30, 2023	SHELBURNE
ROLAND, MARGARET D	JUNE 4, 2023	RICHMOND
HARTNETT, KATHERINE G	JULY 14, 2023	RICHMOND
MURRAY, ALICE J	AUGUST 4, 2023	BURLINGTON
MEANS, PATRICIA E	AUGUST 11, 2023	RICHMOND
TRUAX, KATHLEEN A	AUGUST 18, 2023	BURLINGTON
LACLAIR, ROBERT D	AUGUST 28, 2023	COLCHESTER
WHITE, DONALD A	SEPTEMBER 12, 2023	BURLINGTON
FOLEY, JOYCE K	SEPTEMBER 19, 2023	COLCHESTER
POULIN, MICHAEL D	SEPTEMBER 23, 2023	MORRISTOWN
MOBBS, MADELINE M	SEPTEMBER 23, 2023	COLCHESTER
BECKETT, NANCY J	OCTOBER 21, 2023	RICHMOND
HALL, KUAKOOL Y	NOVEMBER 11, 2023	RICHMOND
HAYES, NANCY R	NOVEMBER 17, 2023	COLCHESTER
POULIN, CAROLJEAN	DECEMBER 14, 2023	COLCHESTER

MARRIAGES FOR THE PERIOD OF 2023

SPOUSE	SPOUSE	MARRIAGE DATE
MARSHALL, RANDALL A JR	ASHFORD, MICHELLE L	MARCH 15, 2023
PIDGEON, NAOMI L	WHEEL, BAILEY M	APRIL 24, 2023
PARKER, MATTHEW G	ROOT, JUNE E	APRIL 29, 2023
MURRAY, PEGGY J	PHELPS, SUSAN D	APRIL 30, 2023
BARRON, JESSE L	BENTLEY, CHRISTEL A	JUNE 3, 2023
CRONIN, ELIZABETH B	GHEE, ALEXANDER W	JUNE 10, 2023
LIBERTY, COURTNEY E	MACONE, WILLIAM A	JUNE 18, 2023
HJALMARSSON, BRITTA A	WERNER, JACK B	JUNE 23, 2023
BLANCHARD, SABRINA A	KEMPTON, JULIAN D	JUNE 24, 2023
SALISBURY, ELENA G	SALAS, ISABEL	JUNE 24, 2023
LUCE, EMILY S	MATHERLY, RYAN D	JULY 7, 2023
LIPPINCOTT, ISABEL R	PEYTON, JOSEPH N	JULY 8, 2023
FOLEY, JOYCE K	DUTKIEWICZ, MICHAEL C	AUGUST 16, 2023
STROM, KAYLA A	LEVY, TUCKER D	AUGUST 17, 2023
HAYWARD, ELIAS E	FANNING, MARY E	AUGUST 26, 2023
GORMLEY, BRENDAN M	HAKER. CORINN L	AUGUST 26, 2023
POWERS, CHERYL C	DUNCAN, KAREN A	SEPTEMBER 1, 2023
BRUNOVSKY, MEGAN L	ALEXANDER, STEVEN G	SEPTEMBER 2, 2023
RIDEOUT, KORIN B	MURRAY, JOSHUA R	SEPTEMBER 2, 2023
CASTANO, JOSEPH A	CONNOR, CAROLYN R	SEPTEMBER 2, 2023
LEGGETT, KYLE T	GOSELIN, JORDYN R	SEPTEMBER 9, 2023
MCELHANEY, NICHOLE M	DAVIGNON. NICOLE W	SEPTEMBER 11, 2023
BADEAU, ALEC M	BAEDER, PAIGE	SEPTEMBER 16, 2023
CAIN, RODNEY M	DAIFI, YOUNESS	SEPTEMBER 21, 2023
MENDELSON, NICOLE L	HUMPHREY, WILLIAM O	SEPTEMBER 23, 2023
HEBERT, RYAN M	COTE, RAPHAELLE M V	SEPTEMBER 25, 2023
NEIL, REBECCA T	COHN, MAXWELL M	OCTOBER 7, 2023
MOBBS, BRET A	YOUNGMAN, BRIDGETT A	OCTOBER 7, 2023
BEST, RANDY A	WINN, BROOKE C	OCTOBER 10, 2023
THOMAS, CAMERON LR	CARFARO, SOPHIA I C	OCTOBER 13, 2023
HURST, TRISHA L	JENKINS, CHRISTOPHER G	OCTOBER 13, 2023
BARNES, HALEY M	GERMAIN, SKYLER L	OCTOBER 14, 2023
POWELL, KATHRYN B	O'BRIEN, SEAN T	OCTOBER 21, 2023

PROPERTY TRANSFERS FOR THE PERIOD OF 2023

BUYER	SELLER	LOCATION
41 DUXBURY LLC	DM CROSS REVOCABLE TRUST	41 DUXBURY RD
47 JERICHO ROAD LLC	CHARBONNEAU, JOSEPH & SUSAN	47 JERICHO RD
APPELBAUM, JESSE & BARRETT, HEATHER	SHAH, HARSH & MOULTROUP, ADAM	3159 EAST MAIN ST
ATKINS, STEVE & LARA	HUNTINGTON HOMES	1054 KENYON RD
BABY MONSTER LLC	SCHEY, TAMMY	1108 WEST MAIN ST
BERNSTEIN, FRANZ & CAITLIN	BIGGIO, CHARLES & JESSICA	679 OLD COUNTY LN
BETYSTEHNER, KRISTEN & BARNETT, AUTUMN	BAILEY, PETER	150 SYLVAN RIDGE RD
BURLINGTON HOME BUYERS LLC	LACLAIR, NANCY	1586 HINESBURG RD
CAHILL, PETER & SCHAFFER, ANASTASIA	SHRINER, WILBUR	206 BEAVER POND RD
CALABRESE, CATHERINE	CROSS, PETER & KELLY	1903 HINESBURG RD
CARRUBBA, AMANDA & KEVIN	CHURCH, SCOTT & ROUILLER, REBECCA	1091 SOUTHVIEW DR
CLEVELAND, VICKIE LEE	CLARK, CHRISTOPHER & VANESSA	188 WOLF LN
CONTOIS, KAYLEE & REED, LUCAS	HUMPHREY, JUDITH ESTATE	2793 HUNTINGTON RD
DENNISON, ANDREW & HADDAD LINDSEY	BURLINGTON HOUSE BUYERS LLC	451 GOVERNOR PECK HWY
DIPALMA, ROBERT & THERESA	WEBSTER TRUST	375 WILLIAMS HILL RD
FALCON MANAGEMENT	KING, AMY & ROBERTS, KEN	108 LOWER CIR
FLEMING, RONALD & TAMMY	FALCON MANAGEMENT	327 SUMMERS ST
GIBSON, LAWRENCE & WACHTEL, SARAH	BRAASCH, NJAMA & SARAH	2222 JERICHO RD
HAHN, JESSE & O'REILLY, MAIREAD	GREEN, COLIN & CAMPBELL, CARENE	115 EAST HILL RD
HARTMAN-MATTSON, GLENN & PERKINS, ALEX	LAZAR, NANCY	1727 STAGE RD
HOLCOMB, JOCELYN	SMITH, LARRY	157 HILLTOP CIR
HUMPTY FARMS LLC	CASWELL FAMILY	1150 STAGE RD
HUNTER, PAUL & VANESSA	DELONG, PHILIP & ELISSA	205 FIDDLEHEAD LN
INGRAHAM, SAMUEL & KATHERINE	PARENT, LINDA	1506 JERICHO RD
JONES, CHASLEY & RACHEL	UNDERWOOD, ROBERT & MARY JO	2244 HINESBURG RD
KASMAI, , KEVIN & DREHER, ERIN	COLOMBO, SALVATORE & DENISE	529 STONEFENCE RD
KIRKPATRICK, DONALD & LINDA	SMART, JOAN & BERTEAU, KIMBERLY	187 HILLTOP CIR
LAZARUS, ISABELLE & KATZ, DAVID	RENNER, NEIL & AMY	206 BRADFORD TERR
LUCAS, SCOTT	SLOAN, STANLEY	256 JOAN AVE
MCCORMACK, JAY	GIFFORD, GEORGE & KRUGER, ANN	1350 JERICHO RD
MELIN, JOHN & CLARK, CAROL	PAINE, STEPHEN	101 FARR RD
O'GRADY, SASHA & KEVIN	SMITH, JEAN ESTATE	205 JERICHO RD

RICHMOND STATE REPRESENTATIVE

REPRESENTATIVE JANA BROWN



In Montpelier, we continue to work on the issues that matter most to Vermonters: flood recovery, housing, workforce development, climate action and resiliency, and building a Vermont that works for everyone across all fourteen counties. In recent years, we've made historic investments to create additional housing, support our childcare system, advance our climate goals, and invest in programs that improve the daily lives of Vermonters. We will continue to build a state budget that sets the stage for a strong future.



To provide our community with the most updated information on this legislative session, I will distribute a legislative update this upcoming Town Meeting Day. Copies will be available at the Library, the Richmond Town Office, and online at www.janabrownforvt.com. Please reach out to me at jbrown@leg.state.vt.us and I would also be happy to mail copies upon request.

I will continue to hold community meetings throughout the legislative session, please join me for conversation and to share your feedback. It is an honor to represent our community in the State House.

RICHMOND WATER RESOURCES

Another year and another chapter turned for Richmond Water Resources Dept. Many new changes have been made to the department, including personnel. Allen Carpenter finished up his time here in August after a 10-year dedication to the town and the department, while Stephen Cote has taken over the Superintendent position after about 2 years of service to the town. We have also hired one new operator by the name of Michael Coyle and obtained a grade 5 wastewater contract operator by the name of Nathaniel Fredericks of Simon Operation Services.

With some big personnel changes to the department have also come with some big learning curves and our focus has been to merely stay afloat. We have learned much about our dewatering press in Allen's absence along with drinking water fluoridation, compliance testing, our infrastructure, so on and so forth. In our time trying to get a bigger understanding of our system and staying in compliance, some big roadblocks had gotten in our way, including not 1, but 2 large scale floods that could've been catastrophic to how we operate things here at the plant on a day-to-day basis. In the end we handled these in swift Richmond fashion and nothing too serious occurred.

We kept up with our optimum range of .7 ppb or Fluoride throughout most of the year. In November our fluoride pump needed to be replaced. The State was informed that we had an issue and provided us with a new pump. The new pump has since been installed and is in normal operation.

Our 20-year engineering study has gone underway amidst all the hardships in 2023. Hoyle Tanner and our department have been in close communication looking to optimize what the new plant will operate like in the future years to come. We have also improved our current plant practically and aesthetically as much as we can for the time being. Upkeep has finally been made a necessity and we have the bodies to do it. With the combination of Steve, Mike and Brad, many changes have been made and big projects have begun. The future of RWRD is looking bright.

On a side note, we as a department would like to send out a big thank you to the Highway Department guys for always being right there to help us when things get shaky. Whether it be plowing and salting our yard or saving us from the little island we call our facility when roaring waters are tearing through the Volunteers' Green. They've been there for us through thick and thin and we really appreciate those guys and all they do for us and the Town of Richmond.

Water Resources Team: Stephen Cote, Bradley Snow, Michael Coyle & Nathaniel Fredericks

STATEMENT G

TOWN OF RICHMOND, VERMONT

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - PROPRIETARY FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2023

	Enterprise Funds		Total
	Water	Sewer	
ASSETS			
Current assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,513,949	\$ -	\$ 1,513,949
Accounts receivable (net of allowance for uncollectibles)	135,286	157,345	292,631
Prepaid items	1,106	2,580	3,686
Due from other funds	-	1,145,248	1,145,248
Total current assets	<u>1,650,341</u>	<u>1,305,173</u>	<u>2,955,514</u>
Noncurrent assets:			
Capital assets:			
Land and construction in progress	119,562	24,411	143,973
Buildings and improvements	93,418	487,888	581,306
Distribution and collection systems	5,091,886	1,993,155	7,085,041
Phosphorus upgrade	-	3,939,064	3,939,064
Vehicles and equipment	20,450	100,550	121,000
Total capital assets	5,325,316	6,545,068	11,870,384
Less: accumulated depreciation	(914,687)	(2,669,024)	(3,583,711)
Net capital assets	<u>4,410,629</u>	<u>3,876,044</u>	<u>8,286,673</u>
Total noncurrent assets	<u>4,410,629</u>	<u>3,876,044</u>	<u>8,286,673</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>6,060,970</u>	<u>5,181,217</u>	<u>11,242,187</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Deferred outflows related to pensions	19,490	45,607	65,097
TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	<u>19,490</u>	<u>45,607</u>	<u>65,097</u>
TOTAL ASSETS AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	<u>\$ 6,080,460</u>	<u>\$ 5,226,824</u>	<u>\$ 11,307,284</u>
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$ 12,340	\$ 88,821	\$ 101,161
Accrued payroll and related liabilities	693	7,298	7,991
Due to other funds	1,152,862	-	1,152,862
Current portion of long-term obligations	126,931	71,638	198,569
Total current liabilities	<u>1,292,826</u>	<u>167,757</u>	<u>1,460,583</u>
Noncurrent liabilities:			
Noncurrent portion of long-term obligations:			
Bonds payable	2,133,777	397,649	2,531,426
Notes from direct borrowings payable	25,857	-	25,857
Accrued compensated absences	1,539	3,591	5,130
Net pension liability	53,050	124,139	177,189
Total noncurrent liabilities	<u>2,214,223</u>	<u>525,379</u>	<u>2,739,602</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>3,507,049</u>	<u>693,136</u>	<u>4,200,185</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Deferred inflows related to pensions	1,653	3,867	5,520
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	<u>1,653</u>	<u>3,867</u>	<u>5,520</u>
NET POSITION			
Net investment in capital assets	2,124,235	3,407,155	5,531,390
Restricted	263,743	756,430	1,020,173
Unrestricted	183,780	366,236	550,016
TOTAL NET POSITION	<u>2,571,758</u>	<u>4,529,821</u>	<u>7,101,579</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND NET POSITION	<u>\$ 6,080,460</u>	<u>\$ 5,226,824</u>	<u>\$ 11,307,284</u>

See accompanying independent auditor's report and notes to financial statements.

TOWN OF RICHMOND, VERMONT

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION
 PROPRIETARY FUNDS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Enterprise Fund		Total
	Water	Sewer	
OPERATING REVENUES			
Charges for services	\$ 397,831	\$ 864,629	\$ 1,262,460
Other	520	556	1,076
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	<u>398,351</u>	<u>865,185</u>	<u>1,263,536</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Payroll, taxes and benefits	95,219	225,279	320,498
Supplies	7,647	87,784	95,431
Utilities	14,589	114,319	128,908
Contracted services	7,820	146,718	154,538
Equipment	12,009	1,868	13,877
Repairs and maintenance	10,889	83,040	93,929
Insurance	5,373	11,234	16,607
Other	12,141	59,710	71,851
Depreciation	105,773	117,605	223,378
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>271,460</u>	<u>847,557</u>	<u>1,119,017</u>
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	<u>126,891</u>	<u>17,628</u>	<u>144,519</u>
NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)			
Interest income	6,259	25,066	31,325
Interest expense	(140,460)	(15,368)	(155,828)
TOTAL NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)	<u>(134,201)</u>	<u>9,698</u>	<u>(124,503)</u>
INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS	<u>(7,310)</u>	<u>27,326</u>	<u>20,016</u>
CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS			
Capital contributions	297,695	-	297,695
Loan forgiveness	238,204	-	238,204
TOTAL CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS	<u>535,899</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>535,899</u>
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	528,589	27,326	555,915
NET POSITION - JULY 1	<u>2,043,169</u>	<u>4,502,495</u>	<u>6,545,664</u>
NET POSITION - JUNE 30	<u>\$ 2,571,758</u>	<u>\$ 4,529,821</u>	<u>\$ 7,101,579</u>

See accompanying independent auditor's report and notes to financial statements.

The Water and Wastewater budget contained in this Town Report show the approved FY24 Water and Wastewater budget that was approved at the Water and Sewer Annual Meeting on May 16, 2023. The 2024 Water and Sewer Annual Meeting will be held in May of 2024, exact time and date to be decided by the Water and Sewer Commission. Please join us for that meeting where the FY25 Water and Sewer budget will be discussed and considered for approval.

FY24 Water and Wastewater Budget

Account #	Description	Budgeted FY22	Actual FY22	Budgeted FY23	Budgeted FY24	+INCREASE (DECREASE)
WATER REVENUE						
20-6-00-3-00.00	Water User Receipts	326,560	333,594	317,547	320,384	0.89%
20-6-00-3-01.00	Sale of Water from Hydrant	1,500	2,046	1,500	1,500	0.00%
20-6-03-5-40.05	Net Interest on Checking Account	500	856	500	6,000	1100.00%
20-6-00-4-10.02	Hook On Fees – Water	500	250	500	500	0.00%
20-0-00-0-00.00	Fund Balance Usage	-	-	27,339	-	-100.00%
20-6-10-4-10.04	Fire Service Fees	50,432	50,432	51,148	49,899	-2.44%
Water Revenue Sub Totals		379,492	387,178	398,534	378,283	-5.08%
WATER RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES (30% of total)						
20-7-80-0-10.00	Salaries	63,593	65,885	77,277	83,002	7.41%
20-7-80-0-10.30	Insurance Opt Out	1,500	1,500	1,500	-	-100.00%
20-7-80-0-10.99	Overtime	900	3,135	2,400	2,400	0.00%
20-7-80-0-11.00	Social Security/Medicare	5,081	5,168	6,181	6,576	6.39%
20-7-80-0-12.00	Municipal Retirement	4,031	5,624	5,318	5,765	8.41%
20-7-80-0-15.00	Health Insurance	7,372	8,299	15,023	19,310	28.54%
20-7-80-0-15.01	Health Savings Account	1,248	420	458	313	-31.66%
20-7-80-0-15.03	Long Term Disability	420	408	407	570	40.05%
20-7-80-1-16.00	Uniforms	400	164	400	400	0.00%
20-7-80-1-20.00	Office Supplies/Postage	300	296	300	670	123.33%
20-7-80-1-22.00	Office Equipment	200	155	200	200	0.00%
20-7-80-1-22.01	Computer	-	69	-	450	100.00%
20-7-80-1-22.02	Computer Support	-	646	1,777	1,800	1.29%
20-7-80-1-24.00	Advertising	200	-	200	200	0.00%
20-7-80-1-26.01	Administrative Expense	9,000	9,000	9,000	12,450	38.33%
20-7-80-1-26.03	Audit Expenses	6,673	3,030	1,305	1,450	11.11%
20-7-80-1-27.00	Staff Training/Education/Licenses	800	956	800	1,300	62.50%
20-7-80-1-27.01	Safety Training	100	-	100	100	0.00%
20-7-80-1-29.00	Travel	300	-	300	300	0.00%
20-7-80-1-30.00	Telephone	2,500	1,527	2,500	2,500	0.00%
20-7-80-1-42.00	Association Dues	200	140	200	200	0.00%
20-7-80-1-43.00	Legal	-	664	-	500	100.00%
20-7-80-1-48.00	W & S General Insurance	8,498	7,023	5,782	6,300	8.96%
Water Administration Expense Totals		113,316	114,109	131,428	146,756	11.66%
WATER OPERATIONS EXPENSES						
20-7-83-4-16.00	Personal Protective Equip	500	244	500	500	0.00%
20-7-83-4-31.00	Heat	600	626	600	600	0.00%
20-7-83-4-32.00	Electricity	8,500	10,799	8,500	10,100	18.82%
20-7-83-4-34.00	Trash Removal	800	2,117	800	1,500	87.50%
20-7-83-4-41.00	System Permits/Fees/Licenses	1,900	1,293	1,900	1,900	0.00%
20-7-83-4-45.00	Water Contracted	5,000	3,041	5,000	4,000	-20.00%
20-7-83-4-45.02	Equipment Rental	500	220	500	500	0.00%
20-7-83-4-46.00	Engineering	2,000	145	2,000	1,000	-50.00%
20-7-83-4-50.00	Gas, Oil & Diesel Fuel	500	227	500	500	0.00%
20-7-83-4-52.00	Fleet Maintenance	1,000	46	1,000	1,000	0.00%
20-7-83-4-62.00	Water Line	20,000	2,261	20,000	15,000	-25.00%
20-7-83-4-62.03	Pumps/Tanks	5,000	5,251	5,000	5,000	0.00%
20-7-83-4-62.04	Asphalt Repair	5,000	-	5,000	5,000	0.00%
20-7-83-4-62.05	Equipment Purchase	500	33	500	500	0.00%
20-7-83-4-62.06	Supplies	1,000	96	1,000	1,000	0.00%
20-7-83-4-62.07	Meters	3,000	653	3,000	3,000	0.00%
20-7-83-4-65.00	Water Treatment Chemicals	1,000	779	1,000	2,600	160.00%
Water Operating Expense Totals		56,800	27,831	56,800	53,700	-5.46%
WATER CAPITAL EXPENSES						
20-7-90-5-93.01	Water Capital Reserve	36,000	36,000	36,000	-	-100.00%
20-7-90-5-90.03	Short-term (10 yr) capital fund	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	0.00%
20-7-90-2-90.09	Distribution System Capital fund	15,000	15,000	15,000	20,000	33.33%
20-7-90-2-90.16	Water Reservoir gap principal (2025)	25,857	25,857	25,857	25,857	0.00%
20-7-90-2-90.17	Water Reservoir gap interest	1,975	1,482	1,482	990	-33.20%
20-7-90-5-90.01	RF3-302 Water Reservoir principal (2048)	37,705	37,705	37,705	37,705	0.00%
20-7-90-5-93.02	RF3-335 East Main principal	25,140	25,140	25,140	25,140	0.00%
20-7-90-2-90.07	Jericho Road Loan Principal (2032)	26,208	26,208	26,208	26,208	0.00%
20-7-90-2-90.08	Jericho Road Loan Interest	11,491	11,491	10,549	9,562	-9.36%
20-7-90-5-90.13	RF3-365 Bridge Upper & Crossing Principal (2047)	10,000	9,865	9,865	9,865	0.00%
	RF3-444 Bridge Street Middle (2062)	-	-	2,500	2,500	0.00%
20-7-90-1-00.00	Unbudgeted Capital Expense	-	-	-	-	0.00%
Water Capital Expense Totals		209,376	208,748	210,306	177,827	-15.44%
TOTAL WATER REVENUE		379,492	387,178	398,534	378,283	-5.08%
TOTAL WATER EXPENSES		379,492	350,688	398,534	378,283	-5.08%
BALANCE		-	36,490	-	-	

FY24 Water and Wastewater Budget

Account #	Description	Budgeted FY22	Actual FY22	Budgeted FY23	Budgeted FY24	+INCREASE (DECREASE)
WASTEWATER REVENUE						
21-6-00-3-00.01	Sewer User Receipts	357,337	373,213	361,326	292,874	-19%
21-6-00-4-10.03	Hook On Fees – Sewer	1,000	3,213	1,000	1,000	0%
21-6-03-5-40.05	Net Interest on Checking Account	1,200	1,998	1,500	14,000	833%
21-0-00-0-00.00	Fund Balance Usage	-	-	48,394	-	-100%
21-6-01-4-11.10	Septage Receipts	430,000	483,577	460,000	550,000	20%
Waste Water Revenue Subtotal		789,537	862,001	872,220	857,874	-2%
WASTEWATER RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES (70% of total)						
21-7-80-0-10.00	Salaries	148,381	153,731	180,312	199,270	11%
21-7-80-0-10.30	Insurance Opt Out	3,500	3,500	3,500	-	-100%
21-7-80-0-10.99	Overtime	2,100	7,314	5,600	5,600	0%
21-7-80-0-11.00	Social Security/Medicare	11,857	12,058	14,423	15,344	6%
21-7-80-0-12.00	Municipal Retirement	9,405	13,146	12,408	13,451	8%
21-7-80-0-15.00	Health Insurance	17,201	19,363	35,053	45,056	29%
21-7-80-0-15.01	Health Savings Account	2,913	980	1,070	731	-32%
21-7-80-0-15.03	Long Term Disability	960	953	949	1,330	40%
21-7-80-1-16.00	Uniforms	900	355	900	900	0%
21-7-80-1-20.00	Office Supplies/Postage	500	691	500	500	0%
21-7-80-1-22.00	Office Equipment	400	281	400	400	0%
21-7-80-1-22.01	Computer	-	2,299	-	1,050	100%
21-7-80-1-22.02	Computer Support	-	308	4,145	4,200	1%
21-7-80-1-24.00	Advertising	400	-	400	400	0%
21-7-80-1-26.01	Administrative Expense	21,000	21,000	21,000	29,050	38%
21-7-80-1-26.03	Audit Expenses	6,237	7,071	3,045	3,383	11%
21-7-80-1-27.00	Employee Training/Education/Licenses	1,800	739	1,800	2,770	54%
21-7-80-1-27.01	Safety Training	300	-	300	300	0%
21-7-80-1-29.00	Travel	700	-	700	700	0%
21-7-80-1-30.00	Telephone	3,800	3,548	3,800	3,800	0%
21-7-80-1-42.00	Association Dues	400	326	400	400	0%
21-7-80-1-43.00	Legal	3,000	2,856	3,000	3,000	0%
21-7-80-1-48.00	W & S General Insurance	15,868	13,958	11,341	13,000	15%
Wastewater Administration Expense Subtotal		251,622	264,477	305,046	344,635	13%
WASTEWATER OPERATIONS EXPENSES						
21-7-82-2-32.01	Electricity	1,000	-	1,000	1,000	0%
21-7-82-2-62.03	Pump Station Maintenance	1,800	-	1,800	1,800	0%
21-7-82-3-16.00	Personal Protective Gear	500	982	500	500	0%
21-7-82-3-31.00	Heat	10,000	8,400	10,000	10,000	0%
21-7-82-3-32.00	Plant Electricity	40,000	38,747	40,000	45,000	13%
21-7-82-3-32.02	WWTF water bill	32,000	31,515	32,000	32,000	0%
21-7-82-3-34.00	Rubbish Removal	1,500	4,213	1,500	4,300	187%
21-7-82-3-41.00	System Permits/Certs/Licenses	800	1,128	800	800	0%
21-7-82-3-45.00	Wastewater Contracted	7,500	5,339	7,500	7,500	0%
21-7-82-3-45.01	Biosolids Contracted	4,500	5,994	4,500	4,500	0%
21-7-82-3-45.02	Equipment Rental	500	70	500	500	0%
21-7-82-3-45.03	Biosolids Disposal/CSWD	120,000	153,967	130,000	160,000	23%
21-7-82-3-46.00	Engineering	500	2,281	500	500	0%
21-7-82-3-50.00	Gas, Oil & Diesel Fuel	1,800	735	1,800	1,800	0%
21-7-82-3-52.00	Fleet Maintenance	2,500	188	2,500	2,500	0%
21-7-82-3-62.00	Wastewater Facility Repair	8,000	19,672	8,000	12,000	50%
21-7-82-3-62.01	Biosolids Facility Repair	8,000	14,003	8,000	9,000	13%
21-7-82-3-62.02	Collection System Repair	4,000	1,222	4,000	4,000	0%
21-7-82-3-65.00	Wastewater Chemicals	10,000	7,947	10,000	17,000	70%
21-7-82-3-65.01	Biosolids Chemicals	70,000	94,220	90,000	98,100	9%
21-7-82-3-66.00	Supplies	5,000	3,076	5,000	4,000	-20%
Wastewater Operating Expense Subtotal		329,900	393,699	359,900	416,800	16%
WASTEWATER CAPITAL EXPENSES						
21-7-90-5-93.00	Wastewater Capital Reserve	70,000	70,000	70,000	10,000	-86%
21-7-90-5-93.04	Short-term (10 yr) capital fund	50,000	50,000	50,000	10,000	-80%
21-7-90-5-93.11	Collection System Capital Fund	10,000	10,000	10,000	-	-100%
21-7-90-2-90.01	RFL-101 planning-ww (2027)	12,081	12,021	12,081	12,021	0%
21-7-90-2-90.06	Project 7a Sanitary Sewer (2032)	14,093	14,093	14,093	14,093	0%
21-7-90-2-90.02	Phosphorus SRF(2026)	22,220	22,220	22,220	22,220	0%
21-7-90-2-90.14	Jericho Rd Loan Principal (2032)	20,592	20,592	20,592	20,592	0%
21-7-90-2-90.16	Jericho Rd Loan Interest	9,029	9,029	8,288	7,513	-9%
21-7-82-1-00.00	Unbudgeted Capital Expense	-	-	-	-	0%
Wastewater Capital Subtotal		208,015	207,955	207,274	96,439	-53%
TOTAL WASTEWATER REVENUE		789,537	862,001	872,220	857,874	-2%
TOTAL WASTEWATER EXPENSES		789,537	866,131	872,220	857,874	-2%
BALANCE		-	(4,130)	-	-	

RICHMOND CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

Riverview Cemetery was organized in 1856. It is located on eight acres on Route 2, west of the village. The site is mowed and trimmed by a contractor, but the Commissioners pick up debris left behind regularly. There are many grave sites available in the newer part of the cemetery. To inquire about the Cemetery or to purchase a burial site, please contact Linda Parent, Town Clerk. We try to enforce the rules of the Cemetery when it comes to decorating the cemetery plots. There is a printed book with all Cemetery information in it, which is available at the Town Clerks office. Planting of flowers is permitted but shall be contained within the 14" in front of the base of the monument, please no fences. Artificial flowers are prohibited and will be removed by a cemetery designee. Trees and shrubs may not be planted in the Cemetery. Please do not leave personal items of value, sentimental or monetary. We get reports of these items missing. The Cemetery is not responsible for missing items. Dogs are not allowed to roam the cemetery at any time. Signage has been posted to stress that the Riverview Cemetery is closed from dusk to dawn. There is no legitimate reason for anyone to be in the cemetery after dark. Police do take notice.

Many of the older stones have been worn and damaged over time. It is important to remember that cemeteries should not be used as playgrounds. Through the years many tombstones have been damaged by children climbing on them. We also ask that winter recreation not take place in the cemetery. Skiing, snowshoeing and especially snow machines are prohibited.

Boy Scout Troop 23 has been very helpful in placing the Veteran Flags in Riverview Cemetery and the Village Cemetery before Memorial Day and removing them after Veterans Day.

Work has begun on the restoration of Richmond's first cemetery, located on Cemetery Road. Regrettably that area has been untended for many years. Many of the first Richmond residents are buried there. There have been several trees removed and others trimmed to protect the area where the stones are placed. With more interest in the area, we will be working on stone restoration and tree clearing in the upcoming year. There has been a problem with mountain bikers cutting through the cemetery to Hinesburg Road. Hill Cemetery is a burial ground and should not be used for recreation. If anyone is interested in helping with the restoration, please contact any member of the Cemetery Commission.

As reported last year, the Daughters of the American Revolution and the VT Old Cemetery Association had chosen the Village Cemetery as a restoration project in 2023. Unfortunately, due to uncooperative weather, the project had to be postponed. The date that has been assigned to Richmond will be Saturday, September 14, 2024. We will need at least 15 folks that will guarantee their presence on the workday. We will be cleaning, righting & repairing old tombstones. It is said to be a very fulfilling workday

2023 brought new fencing to the Village and Riverview Cemeteries. The Village Cemetery is now surrounded by fencing that enhances the look and security of the area. The Cemetery Commissioners paid for ½ of the fencing at the Village Cemetery & installation, with a 50% grant from the ARPA funds. The Riverview Cemetery has replaced the old rusty and rotted chain link fencing at the old entrance on Route 2 with new black chain link fence.

There is a lot of history and information to be found in our local cemeteries. There are several cemeteries in the Town of Richmond. Holy Rosary Cemetery is located at the end of Tilden Avenue. More information on burials there may be obtained at the Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church office. There are three cemeteries that no longer accept burials. They are St. Mary's Cemetery located on Cochran Road, the Village Cemetery located on Bridge Street and the Hill Cemetery located on Cemetery Road.

People doing genealogy research are welcome to contact the Town Clerk's Office. We will help you find where your relatives are buried.

The town cemeteries are governed by Vermont state law. The Cemetery Commissioners who are elected each for a five-year term, enforce those statues. If anyone has any questions regarding the cemeteries, please contact a Cemetery Commissioner.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cemetery Commissioners: Clint Buxton, George Gifford, Dennis Gile, Heidi Bormann & Linda Parent

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The mission of the Richmond Conservation Commission (RCC) is to assist residents and town officials in recognizing and protecting the natural, scenic, recreational, historic, educational, cultural, scientific, agricultural, and archaeological resources located within the town. The Commission meets at 7:30 PM on the second Tuesday of the month. More information can be found at: <https://www.richmondvt.gov/boards-meetings/conservation-commission>.

Using Selectboard-approved Conservation Reserve Fund monies, the RCC sponsored two public forums for discussion of conservation matters with a focus on the Andrews Community Forest. Well over 40 attended a workshop last April that brought experts in from the Northeast Wilderness Trust, a Wildlife Biologist for the Green Mountain National Forest, the Recreation Program Manager, VT Forests, Parks and Recreation and a Private Lands Habitat Biologist, VT Fish and Wildlife to discuss balancing conservation and trail-based recreation. Some 60 attended a later talk by Keeping Track science director Sue Morse discussing the ecology and wildlife habitat of the Andrews Community Forest, balancing the needs of sensitive wildlife habitats with trail-based recreation.

Funding by the Richmond Conservation Reserve Fund (CRF) also was devoted to continuing Emerald Ash Borer abatement, support for the repair of the Gillett Pond Dam, an initial phase of trails repairs from our July storms and an amphibian road crossing initiative. Though its lifetime, the CRF has leveraged some \$3.80 for every Fund dollar spent.

Throughout much of the year were ongoing discussions of the Andrews Community Forest and supporting the Forest Committee. Cross membership between the Conservation Commission and the Forest Committee continues to assure open discussion and exchange of ideas regarding Forest Conservation Management and the development of an updated Forest Management Plan. The Conservation Commission foresees a continuing need for CRF support for planning and implementation.

A good deal of attention was paid to discussion regarding how to establish a bike-pedestrian route between the Village and Riverview Commons. Additional topics over the year ranged from managing our annual Green-Up Day, to developing the capacity to manage invasive species by establishing a tool repository, to recreation planning, to assessing steps needed to improve river resiliency. Thanks as always to the Richmond Highway crew and Linda Parent for their help with Green-Up Day.

RICHMOND TOWN ENERGY COORDINATOR RICHMOND CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE

The Richmond Climate Action Committee (RCAC) is a citizen committee dedicated to reducing our town's contribution to the climate crisis, while building a just, resilient, and sustainable community through local action. We meet monthly to discuss and plan and promote both individual and collective actions. We maintain a website at <https://richmondclimateaction.net/>

This has been a year when consequences of climate disruption have been even more evident: extreme weather, floods, and gardening challenges.

In collaboration with Richmond Free Library, RCAC has co-hosted Book Discussions featuring three books this year: "We are the Weather" by Jonathan Safran Foer; "Braiding Sweetgrass" by Robin Wall Kimmerer about indigenous peoples' wisdom, and "The Nutmeg's Curse" by Amitav Ghosh about the history of colonialism and the abuse and exploitation of people and resources in colonized lands with consequences that are increasingly evident.

We keep updated about Town business and lobby for consideration of the impacts of fossil fuels and effects on climate. Our focus has been on improving Richmond as a bike/pedestrian friendly town. We've seen improved sidewalks, etc., planning for changes on Cochran Road, Bridge Street, and West Main Street and Gateway improvements to Park and Ride and beyond. Also, RCAC draws attention to energy upgrades to Town-owned buildings, and using ARPA funds with a focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. We've investigated possibilities for a shuttle bus to the Park and Ride and to/from parking for access to recreation on the Rivershore. We've supported the Planning Commission's vision of compact residential and commercial development in the downtown.

The Farmers' Market provided opportunities to showcase electric cars, mowers and other garden battery-powered tools owned by Richmond residents. One member helped to staff the Regional Energy Committee Booth at the Champlain Valley Fair.

We get updates about State business from our Rep. Jana Brown. Actions in the legislature this past year included the Affordable Heat Act and H 126 (to conserve 30% of Vermont's land by 2030, and 50% by 2050). The 2024 session promises to include introduction of legislation promoted by the project "Make Big Oil Pay" (a project of VPIRG and Sierra Club, VBSR, VCV, VNRC). We co-hosted an event at the Library to hear about this campaign to create a fund for gas and oil companies to compensate for climate and other damage caused by the burning of fossil fuels.

Keep an eye on Front Porch Forum and our website to find out about opportunities to get involved or contact our Town Energy Coordinator, Jeff Forward at forward@gmavt.net 802-735-3026.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ian Stokes for the Richmond Climate Action Committee



Baby checking out the Richmond Farmers Market

GARDENING COMMITTEE

The Richmond Gardening Committee has been formed to keep our public spaces maintained and in bloom. We are hoping to support the efforts currently being made at the Town Center. Many beautiful plants were installed and maintained throughout the growing season at the Town Center this year.

We are establishing a plan to refurbish and maintain the gardens at Volunteers Green and the Welcome to Richmond signs. We are also looking ahead to think about how we can support or involve interested community members in gardening. Any ideas or members are welcome to join us!

RICHMOND HOUSING COMMITTEE

The Housing Committee advises the Selectboard, the Planning Commission, and Town Staff on the housing needs of the Town of Richmond. The Committee is responsible for gathering the community's demographic information and housing data, generating housing-policy related ideas and concepts, ensuring that housing is made available for all protected classes—including race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, family status, marital status, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, receipt of public assistance, as well as abuse, sexual assault, or stalking victims—and educating the community on housing-related issues.

Based on its 2021-22 grant-funded study that investigated town-wide housing needs, the Housing Committee has focused its efforts on advocating for changes it recommended in that study. The Committee has worked with the Planning Commission to push for more density in Richmond Village, more diversity in housing types, and increased accessibility to housing. By early 2023 and with help from University of Vermont student Juliana Ward, the Housing Committee compiled Richmond's current demographics and housing data into an updated housing needs assessment.

In 2023, the Housing Committee continued its advocacy efforts to improve housing availability and housing accessibility in town. The Committee evaluated 6 separate parcels of land as potentially available for housing, affordable housing, or senior housing and presented its report to the Selectboard on Sept 5, 2023. The Committee also supported the work of the Transportation Committee in examining the development of walkable and bikeable infrastructure that would support additional housing and the work of the Parking Advisory Committee in its consideration of a homeless sheltering concern. The Committee will continue to monitor and evaluate Richmond's housing issues, inform town leadership of housing needs, and push for regulatory changes to help create housing opportunities.

In 2024 the Committee will continue to monitor and evaluate Richmond's housing issues, inform town leadership of housing needs, and push for regulatory changes to help create housing opportunities. The Committee will support the Planning Commission in its work to incorporate new rules into Richmond's zoning regulations as the result of the passage of Act 47, adopted by the state legislature in 2023.

The Housing Committee has been operating while understaffed and is looking to grow its members to capacity in '24. The Housing Committee meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 5:30 pm. All are welcome to attend and provide feedback.

Respectfully submitted by: Mark Hall, Chair; Connie van Eeghen, Clerk; Matt Parisi, Member; Virginia Clarke, Planning Commission Representative

PARADE & FIREWORKS CELEBRATION

The Committee is looking forward to planning the celebration for July 2024. Everyone had a fun time in 2023. There was plenty of music, food & fun. It is imperative that the committee receives assistance with the festivities both in the planning stages and on the 4th! The Committee is aging out and needs new members. We do need new volunteers if the festivities are to continue. Please contact Linda at 802-434-2221 to express your interest.

RICHMOND RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Richmond Recreation Committee serves the communities of Richmond, Huntington, and Bolton by overseeing and designing a variety of diverse recreational programs accessible to all residents. The committee currently has four members, three from Richmond and one from Huntington. We need a member from Bolton and additional members from the other two towns. We strongly encourage residents of any of the three towns to join our committee!

Throughout the past year, we have engaged in many activities and projects. In January 2023, our committee presented a proposal to the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Committee requesting ARPA funds for improvements at Volunteers Green, including a new playground structure and repairs to other structures at the park. In the spring, our committee, in partnership with town employees, had the playground at Volunteers Green inspected by the VT League of Cities and Towns to identify the current condition and needed repairs. A second inspection was also completed after the July flooding. On Green Up Day in May, we hosted a spring cleanup at Volunteers Green and had a few families come out to help us spruce up the park!

We continue our efforts to raise funds for a new playground at Volunteers Green by combining grant and town funds. The devastating flooding in July 2023, and the second flooding event in December, reminded us just how susceptible Volunteers Green is to flood damage. We are moving ahead with plans for improvements at Volunteers Green while thinking critically about what is appropriate for such a vulnerable area and what we can do to help prevent/decrease damage to structures in the future. Our committee is currently working in partnership with the Volunteers Green and Browns Court committee to secure funding for a new playground and the repair of other current structures at Volunteers Green. In December 2023, we submitted another proposal for a VOREC (Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative) grant and expect to hear if we are selected in the spring of 2024. If selected, the VOREC grant will cover approximately half of the cost of a new playground.

One of our members has put a lot of time into updating the recreation webpage on the town website (community section) with information for community members regarding recreation opportunities in the towns of Richmond, Huntington, and Bolton. This fall our committee updated the selectboard regarding our work and discussed ways to communicate regularly with the selectboard. We have also collaborated with the Senior Center, the Trails Committee, the Volunteers Green and Browns Court committee, and other groups as appropriate.

Our committee continues to promote the use of the snowshoes available to borrow at the Richmond Free Library. Coming up on February 24 - 26, 2024, During February school break, we will be hosting some community snowshoeing events in partnership with the Senior Center! We are also planning to conduct community engagement regarding a new playground structure for Volunteers Green in partnership with the Volunteers Green and Browns Court Committee. Be on the lookout for more information regarding this soon!

TOWN CENTER & LIBRARY BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Town Center building, built in 1907, has reached a point where doing nothing is not an option. Deteriorating windows, electrical, HVAC and plumbing systems are impacting the working conditions for town employees and tenants. The lack of a safe egress from the second floor and lack of sprinklers and a building-wide fire alarm system are safety concerns. In addition, increasing energy costs, the effects of climate change, and addressing flood resilience make this renovation necessary. The 1953 addition that houses the Post Office is also deteriorating, with holes in the concrete foundation, flooding issues and little to no roof insulation.

The Selectboard formed the Town Center & Library Building Committee in 2019 to propose solutions to the deteriorating Town Center Building & campus. The Committee solicited community input, worked intensively with architects; site planners; engineers; local/state/federal zoning regulators and others to gather recommendations, evaluate multiple options, finalize a preliminary renovation plan, and develop a realistic cost for the project. On Town Meeting Day, we will vote on an article that would authorize the Town to borrow up to \$9,841,603 to renovate the Town Center building and parking lot.

Highlights of the proposed renovation plan

- This renovation plan creates an essentially “new” building inside the existing, structurally-sound, envelope.
- HVAC, plumbing and electrical systems will be brought up to code and meet energy-efficiency standards. This includes adding missing ventilation and cooling and upgrading the building’s air quality to current standards.
- Existing windows will be replaced with new energy-efficient windows that will also restore the historic appearance of the building as well as the windows at ground level.
- Fossil-fuel based heating system will be replaced with high efficiency electric heating & cooling.
- Interior work spaces will be reconfigured for more efficiency, keeping all town services on one floor. Office and meeting spaces will be upgraded to meet current and future technology needs.
- Fire alarm system will be brought up to code and a sprinkler system added.
- The iron fire escape will be replaced with a safer enclosed stairwell which meets code
- An inadequate roof structure, flooding issues and poor insulation in the 1953 Post Office addition will be addressed.

Estimated Project Costs

The architects worked closely with the committee to form a comprehensive proposal that addresses all these critical building needs. A professional construction estimator was then hired to estimate costs. His estimate summarized below was based on over 300 individual inputs.

Direct construction costs	\$7,264,298
15% Contingency	\$1,089,645
Fees	\$694,537
Moving and Misc	\$106,500
7.5% Inflation allowance	\$686,623
Total Project Cost	\$9,841,603

The committee realizes that this is a big-ticket project and tried to categorize the elements of the project into must do, should do, and could do items. Must do were things that were necessary for the health and safety of the occupants like flood mitigation measures, replacing the leaky 100-year-old windows and installing a new heating and ventilating system fell into the must do category. Then came items like electrical, lighting, plumbing and sprinkler

systems, which are the types of things that really should be done if a building is going to be essentially gutted for the other reasons. About 95% of the items fell into must do and should do categories. The only non-essential item the committee identified was about \$600,000 of the site work to make the greenspace between the library and the Town Center building. The remaining \$600,000 of the sitework is necessary for stormwater management. The committee felt that the value of the greenspace was worth the \$600,000 price tag since it provided a much safer and more attractive connection between the two buildings.

Recommendation

The good news is that the foundation, walls, and roof of the historic building are sound and in good condition. However, much of the rest of the building needs to be brought up to current life safety codes. Even so, the architect determined it is far less costly to restore this building than it would be to tear it down and build new. The committee believes that the renovation plan being presented will address existing issues and ensure that the Town Center, Post Office and site are safe, functional, flood resilient and energy efficient well into the next 100 years.

For more information

For information, site plans and design documents, go to <https://www.richmondvt.gov/boards-meetings/town-center-and-library-buildings-committee>

Richmond Free Library Building

The Committee also worked to address issues with the exterior of the Library building to restore the exterior. We commissioned a new building assessment, with a small grant from the Preservation Trust of Vermont. Repair work on the woodwork and slate on the Library towers was completed this past summer and was partially funded through a grant from the Vermont Division of Historic Preservation. The 5 remaining historic windows are being restored this summer and completion of the wood repair and painting, funded through Richmond's ARPA funds, is planned for summer 2024.

If you have questions, you can contact any member of the committee.

Jeff Forward, Chair

Josh Arneson

Laurie Dana

Amy Wardwell

David Healy

Jake Marin

RICHMOND TRAILS COMMITTEE

The mission of the Trails Committee is to establish and maintain paths for non-motorized transportation and recreation in Richmond, to link with other towns when feasible, and to promote safe citizen use of these paths. The committee meets on the third Tuesday each month at the Town Center. In the summer months, meetings are often held out on the trail working on a few small maintenance projects or on a larger project together. Minutes of our meetings are posted at the Town website. A map of Richmond Trails is available at the Town's web site.

The following Richmond residents have served as members of the Committee during

2023: Hannah Harrington (Co-Chair), Alison Aiken (Co-Chair), Jean Bressor, Callie Ewald, Jed Rankin, Jim Monahan, Halle Harklau, Mike Donahue, Tyler Merritt, Alexandra McAleer, and Chase Rosenberg.

Like many Vermonters' homes and infrastructure, the trail network experienced significant amount of precipitation this past summer. The two heavy rain events in July caused substantial damage across the network, including erosion, trees across the trails, and many small to large bridge washouts. The most notable were two bridges that had been recently constructed by the Trails Committee and volunteers along the Rivershore trail and the large bridge on the Old Jericho Rd Trail. The committee and countless volunteers spent the remainder of the summer cleaning up trails, repairing and replacing bridges, and working to improve drainage on the trail network. Many groups rallied around the trail network to collaborate during trail days. One particular example of this was when over 20 volunteers from the Trails Committee, Richmond Running Club, and Richmond Mountain Trails joined to manually lift a bridge that had floated downstream and walk it back to its appropriate location along the Rivershore Trail – many hands make light work, thank you Richmond!

Other noteworthy activities included:

- Collaborated with Mount Mansfield Union High School students to build a bridge and short trail connecting the Overrockers parking lot to the beginner trails at Cochran's
- Coordinated with Umiak to establish an access plan for steps providing access to river and trail users near Overrockers Park
- Re-route sections of Sip of Sunshine and the Rivershore Trail to improve drainage and trail user safety
- Worked with community members addressing concerns and issues relating to trail signage and usage
- Constructed two new bridges on the Rivershore Trail and moved lumber to two other locations for construction
- Worked with Town Officials to get FEMA to look at the trail damage and bridge washout on Old Jericho Rd. Currently working on a grant application for repair of the trail and replacement of the bridge in 2024
- Participated as interested parties and a representative on the board in the management of the Andrews Town Forest. Members also participated in the Master Steering Bike/Ped Committee and collaborated with the Parking committee

Expenditures of the allocated \$1000 this year enabled purchasing of materials for signs and bridge building materials.

The committee would like to offer a sincere thank you, as always, to landowners and to guardians of conserved lands who facilitate public access to designated trails. Numerous Richmond residents have responded to calls for volunteers to work on the trails throughout 2023.

The committee is also fortunate to enjoy excellent collaborations with the Richmond Running Club, Richmond Mountain Trails, CHMS Mountain Bike Club, Richmond Land Trust, Vermont Youth Conservation Corps, the Cross Vermont Trails Association, Cochran Ski Area, Vermont Dept. of Forest, Parks and Recreation, Local Motion, RiseVT, and the Richmond Conservation Commission.

A final flood event in December saw the Winooski River rise again and erase some of the hard work done to repair bridges and trails after the July events. Although disheartened, the Committee will again re-build. However, one of the focus points of 2024 will be for the Trails Committee to evaluate what can be done to make Richmond's trails and structures more resilient to these events.

Contact the Committee with any questions or suggestions via the email address located on the Richmond, VT website.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The Richmond Transportation Committee is an advisory committee working to improve transportation safety and options (roads, paths, mass transit and services) for everyone. This year, the Committee continued its focus on planning for sidewalks, trails, and safe ways to get around Richmond to benefit pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists. In late 2023, with town staff and outside consultants, we launched design and engineering work on two sidewalks.

There is a prescribed process in Vermont for securing federal/state/regional funds for road and transportation planning, design and construction. The Committee works closely with the Town Manager, Planner and Selectboard on project selection. Projects typically move through four stages:

- 1.Planning: determining needs, leading to
- 2.Scoping/Design: how might a project work in a specific location, to
- 3.Engineering: develop fine-scaled blueprints guiding contractors, to
- 4.Construction: build the project.

Funding, technical expertise, and logistical support for planning is provided by the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission. Design and construction with state or federal funding generally covers 80% of the total cost and the remaining 20% is funded by the town.

This year, planning and scoping focused on:

- 1.Richmond Western Gateway Scoping Study - investigating possible bicycle and pedestrian connections between Richmond Village center, elementary/middle school campus, Riverview Commons mobile home park and the exit 11 Park and Ride [report expected spring 2024].
- 2.Richmond Route 2 Targeted Scoping for Improving Shoulder Widths (also known as the Pinch Point Study) - identified pinch points where a 5-foot shoulder has not been met on Route 2 between Richmond village and I-89 and cost estimates to achieve safer 5-foot shoulders.
- 3.Local Bus Route: Green Mountain Transit - analysis of potential transit service in Richmond, including a line-haul bus route and feeder bus service. The current low population density of the village and the high cost of operating a bus route result in a relatively high cost per passenger, that the consultant indicated would not be financially supported by the State of Vermont.
- 4.Cochran Road Selectboard – an initiative based on public demand for improved safety and comfort for all road users, the project involved placing temporary traffic calming measures, a traffic count study, and a final report [report expected spring 2024]
- 5.Cochran Road Corridor Study – exploring entire length of Cochran Road corridor from the Round Church to Jonesville center, for safer walking and bicycle bicycling, as well as final recommendations for traffic calming [expected end date: summer 2024].

Final design and engineering are taking place for two new sidewalks on the east side of Bridge Street. The upper Bridge Street project goes from the Northfield Savings Bank to Jolina Court and the lower Bridge Street project goes from Jolina Court to across from Esplanade Street. A state grant was secured for the lower Bridge Street project and federal ARPA funds will be used for the upper Bridge Street sidewalk and for the town match for the lower sidewalk.

Following VTrans' repaving of Route 2 this past year, future efforts to make Route 2 safer for motorists, bikes, and walkers remain. Expanded shoulder widths and connections for safer walking and biking continue to be explored, and a new left turn signal from Bridge Street to Route 2 will be installed in 2024.

The committee welcomed Susan Wells and said goodbye to two valued members of the Transportation Committee – Allen Knowles and Cameron Wong.

Whether you like to walk, bicycle, drive or seek public transit options in town, we want to hear from you. We meet the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:30 PM.

See more information about the Transportation Committee on the town web site: <https://www.richmondvt.gov/boards-meetings/transportation-committee>

Respectfully submitted by:

Chris Cole (chair), Cathleen Gent (vice-chair), Keith Jennings, Jon Kart, Susan Well



Flooding at Conant Farm.

CELEBRATE RICHMOND VT

Celebrate Richmond VT was organized in 2022 as a non-profit organization started by Richmond residents to host events celebrating Richmond throughout the year.

In the Spring of 2023 Celebrate Richmond VT joined with the Richmond Soccer League to sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt at Volunteers Green, where Celebrate Richmond VT provided food and crafts for all participants, children and parents.

Halloween was celebrated with the Richmond Community Seniors and MMCTV Staff to bring joy to the Halloween Trick or Treaters. Thank you to Hale & Hearty members and other residents that donated candy for this event.

In December we helped make Christmas a little brighter for 20 Richmond children. We spent \$100 on each child, taking suggestions from their wish list. After purchasing the gifts, an elf wrapping session was held to beautifully wrap the gifts, making each package extra special. What fun we had!

We couldn't get out of 2023 without lighting up Richmond for the holidays with the Light Up Richmond Extravaganza. Many homes and businesses were lit throughout our beautiful community, bringing everyone together in the holiday spirit. It is amazing the types and amounts of decorations the judges had to choose from. There were the traditional lit Christmas Trees, lit sidewalks, candles in the windows, giant roosters, giant minions, and a sparkly backhoe all decorated. Even Snoopy and Charlie Brown joined their cast of characters to celebrate Richmond. There were also fun giant gnomes and a Christmas candy window display.

We can only do this good work, with support from the public. We do accept donations in any amount. Checks may be made out to Celebrate Richmond VT. Donations may be mailed to PO Box 285 or dropped off with the Town Clerk at her office.

If you have ideas of other activities to celebrate our wonderful town, please let us know.



2023 Annual Report to our Towns

Message to All Our Seniors: You're Why We're Here!

2023 Summary

In 2023, more seniors than ever took advantage of the dozens of weekly programs and activities we offer. As many newcomers discovered, it's easy to participate just by showing up! No experience is necessary, there's no membership fee, and it's available to all our seniors free or with optional fees. Also, there is no physical "center." Everything we do takes place in spaces made available in our town facilities, libraries, schools and churches.

We've also begun to focus on community support activities that help seniors with different needs. The foot clinic we coordinate with the great support of Richmond Family Medicine and volunteer registered nurses is one example, and we're exploring others for 2024.

Simply stated, the Community Senior Center is woven into our towns' fabric, and provides extensive and diverse recreational, wellness and learning opportunities for seniors in our towns. And we're here for all of you!

Here's why participation continues to grow.

Over 500 area seniors participated in our activities and programs in 2023. We ask about their diverse interests and abilities, then identify others with those interests, find a volunteer who's enthusiastic about leading each new activity, and provide what's necessary to make it work.

The key is to offer what seniors want. And that opens our door to a growing number of seniors with interests that vary from needle arts to indoor ice skating.

Turning ideas into activities and programs.

These are some of entries on our weekly newsletter activities and programs calendar that expands as seniors introduce new ideas:

- Script reading, with members taking on roles in the cast.
- Needle arts, where participants learn and share ideas.
- Pickleball outdoors when weather permits, and indoors when it doesn't.
- Socializing over coffee and conversation somewhere in each town.
- Planting, tending and harvesting at our Friendship Garden.
- Indoor ice skating, bowling, and softball like you've never experienced.

-2-

- On-line presentations by noted authors and historians.
- Popular card and table games.
- French and Spanish conversation.
- An on-line group that shares interesting life stories.
- A memoir writing class, and sessions to sharpen skills in writing anything seniors choose.
- Hiking, kayaking, and casual walks at locations throughout the county.
- Wellness activities including Bone Builders and on-line weight-loss support.
- For the musically inclined, group sing-a-longs and learning to play the ukulele.

Who does all this?

Over 50 volunteers lead and coordinate activities and programs! They arrange schedules, facilities and equipment, coordinate transportation and communicate with participants. Some new-comers also volunteer to lead activities they recommend. Each leader ensures that first-timers get enough instruction to “learn the ropes.”

What else does it take to make it all happen?

Our weekly newsletter now goes to almost 900 email addresses. It describes current activities and programs and community events, and is loaded with articles and photos from senior contributors. The CSC website also tells people all about us. It includes our weekly newsletters, videos of past programs, and our community service initiatives.

Our cadre of volunteers also includes professionals who donate their time and expertise in such areas as accounting, communications and financial planning.

How do we fund it all?

We’re proud of the many people whose donations let us realize the budget required to fund our activities and programs, and most importantly, to help provide a healthier, more enriching lifestyle for so many seniors. It also allows us to keep fees optional for activities such as bowling that have an associated cost.

We do it all without tapping into town tax revenues. We also appreciate the significant support our towns and local churches give us by providing the spaces we need. It’s a much better approach than having to support the cost of our own “bricks and mortar.”

What's new for 2024?

Three new members will add their skills to the CSC Board of Directors. We welcome the experience and energy that Debra Herbst and Jess Handrik of Bolton and Darryl Smith of Richmond bring to help build on what we do.

Another new initiative involves CSC volunteers who will bring activities to seniors in their homes. Similarly, we'll continue our on-line programming started during the COVID isolation era that gives seniors at-home access to certain activities and to presentations by noteworthy speakers.

Looking ahead, we'll explore more ways we can serve seniors including those who can't attend activities in person. Once again, our volunteers, donors, towns and local organizations continue to make it all possible. Thank you!

ELDERLY AND DISABLED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

The Elderly & Disabled Persons (E&D) Transportation Program provides door-to-door transportation trips for Non-Medicaid / Non-Medicare medical appointments. This program is funded by the Vermont Agency of Human Services, with municipal partners including the Town of Richmond. The E&D grant program covers 80% of the transportation cost and Richmond covers 20% of the cost for each ride. Each rider is asked to donate for the ride. For Richmond residents, SSTA provides the transportation services for this program. For more information, please contact SSTA at 802-878-1527.

GREEN UP VERMONT

Green Up Vermont is the not-for-profit 501(c) (3) organization working to enhance our state's natural landscape, waterways, and the livability of our communities by involving people in Green Up Day and raising awareness about the benefits of a litter free environment. The success of Green Up for Vermont in Richmond depends upon Richmond Residents. The combined efforts of individuals, civic groups and the Richmond Highway Department who volunteer their time and the financial support given by the public and private sectors throughout Vermont make it all possible.

Through their combined efforts 1.55 TONS (3100 LBS) of trash and 144 discarded tires were removed from the roadside in Richmond on Green Up Day in 2023.

Mark your calendars May 4, 2024, the first Saturday in May

Put on your gloves, get together with your family, invite some friends, and come join us to make Richmond an even more beautiful place to live.

HALE AND HEARTY SENIOR CLUB

The Hale and Hearty Senior Club of Richmond provides a chance for seniors in our community to meet, socialize and to share information in areas of mutual and community interest and concern. The Club meets on the second Wednesday of each month from September through June in the Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church Parish Hall at 6 pm for a potluck supper, business meeting and program. The club is open for membership to all Richmond residents who are 60 years or older and the spouse of a member regardless of age.

The programs that are offered at our meetings vary in content from topics concerning healthy living, community concerns, to entertaining and fun filled evenings. Each year the club normally sponsors at least one bus trip to an area of interest in Vermont or a nearby state. In 2023 many seniors enjoyed a trip to Fort Ticonderoga.

If you are 60 or older and live in Richmond, come, and join us as our guest to see if you would like to become a regular member.

Current officers are Linda Parent, President; Connie Carpenter, Vice President; Tess Storrs, Secretary and David Thomas, Treasurer.

Hope you will consider joining us, it is always a lot of fun.

Submitted by

Linda Parent, President

LAKE IROQUOIS ASSOCIATION

The Lake Iroquois Association (LIA) is a volunteer organization with a mission of maintaining and enhancing a healthy lake ecosystem. LIA does this through monitoring, prevention, and partner initiatives, research, education, and advocacy.

The LIA was very excited to receive the Lake Wise Gold award from Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VT-DEC) this year. The Lake Wise Program is a VT-DEC sponsored program. In order for a lake to achieve Lake Wise Gold status, 15% of a lake's total shoreline property owners must receive the Lake Wise Award. The Lake Wise Program was developed to educate lake shore property owners and incentivize them to invest and implement best management practices that enhance shoreline protection. Shoreline property owners undergo an assessment of their parcel of land. That land must meet specific criteria set forth in the program to be awarded the coveted Lake Wise designation. There are over 800 lakes and ponds in Vermont, and Lake Iroquois is one of only three in the state that have received this status. The LIA continues to work with property owners to help them achieve this Lake Wise Award.

Below are some of the activities that LIA completed during the past year.

Sampling and Monitoring

Aquatic.Plant.Survey

Two plant surveys were conducted in 2023, one in the second week of June and the other plant survey was completed in the middle of September. These reports may be reviewed on the LIA website at <https://www.lakeiroquois.org/abput/annual-reports>

Lake.Tributary.Water.Quality.Monitoring.

LIA has partnered with LaRosa Partnership Program (LPP) since 2011. This partnership has enabled LIA to identify tributaries of greatest concern that contribute to sediment and phosphorus pollution in the lake. LIA is then able to take action to remediate these problem areas.

Conservation.

LIA continues to partner with the Loon Restoration Project, managed by Erik Hansen of the Vermont Center for Ecostudies. This year, LIA was pleased to report another successful hatch of two babies in the first week of June. This was the fourth successful hatch in the last four years.

Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention

Greeter and Boat Wash Program.

Our greeter and boat wash program runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. This past season we saw over 2800 launches with over 235 washes, about 12% of the watercraft. We are hoping to receive increased funding for 2024 to be able to run the greeter and boat wash program more days of the week.

The program is designed to educate recreational watercraft users on the importance of preventing invasives traveling from lake to lake. At present Lake Iroquois has only two aquatic invasive species, whereas, Lake Champlain has 51.

Miscellaneous Highlights

Beebe Lane Stormwater Improvement Grant.

On behalf of the Lake Iroquois Recreation District (LIRD), LIA applied for and received a \$50,000 Watersheds United Vermont matching grant in support of implementation of this project. These funds will hopefully be paired with a successful Congressionally Directed Spending request from Senator Bernie Sanders' office, which will fund an additional \$320,000. Both LIRD and LIA have each committed matching funds to help with this project. LIRD has committed \$10,000 and LIA has committed to a match of \$15,000, with an anonymous donor pledging to bridge the final \$10,000. This project will improve water quality by correcting elevated sediment and phosphorus levels in the lake. Implementation of road-specific stormwater best management practices will address the issues of flooding, erosion, and difficulty with access. LIRD and LIA expect this project to be implemented and up and running in the latter portion of 2024.

Watershed Action Plan.

The development of The Watershed Action Plan is funded by a Lake Champlain Basin Program grant in coordination with the Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District, and the Lewis Creek Association. The Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) is a result of the Watershed Action Plan. With the QAPP complete, field surveys have been identified and an implementation of projects for corrective action in the Lake Iroquois and Patrick Brook watersheds will be considered for work.

The Lake Iroquois Association is grateful for and appreciates the funding and support from the people and the town of Richmond.

MOUNT MANSFIELD COMMUNITY TELEVISION (MMCTV)

MMCTV offers a digital platform for good old fashioned Vermont civic discourse with Town Meeting Day live streams, as well as providing info year-round and leading up to town meeting day so you can be informed of the issues.



Have you ever dreamed of hosting your own TV program or podcast? Make it happen with MMCTV! Helping people learn the skills to tell our important local stories is another key part of what we do, serving Jericho, Richmond, and Underhill since 1997.

5 MOST-VIEWED VIDEOS IN 2023

- #1 MMU Graduation Livestream
- #2 Jericho Town Plan Kickoff Highlights
- #3 Richmond July 2023 Flooding - compiled from footage from you!
- #4 Richmond Selectboard Meeting 7-5-2023
- #5 “Sue Morse: Enjoying Our Trails with Wildlife in Mind”

2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

- Editing/archiving 369 local meetings and related videos, including many streamed live on Comcast Cable and Youtube!
- Producing 39 videos for over 20 not-for-profit/public organizations.
- Increasing MMU sports and cultural live streams coverage and holding middle school workshops/TV camp.
- Digitizing and uploading VHS content online from our archives.
- “Haunting” the Richmond Town Center on Halloween, with animations in windows
- Applying for a Low Power FM radio license with the FCC.

HOW TO WATCH MMCTV:

On Cable: Comcast channels 1076 (public/educational) and 1086 (government) Online: Youtube (mmctv@youtube) OR Internet Archive (<http://bit.ly/MmctvVideos>)

HOW TO SUPPORT MMCTV

We are a 501c3 nonprofit organization with an annual budget of \$200,000 in 2023. We have one full-time staff, 3 part-time staff, 2 hybrid meeting producers and a great team of field producers, including accomplished MMU alums and area students and volunteers of all ages.

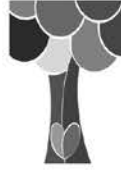
MMCTV is largely supported by franchise fees from Comcast cable viewers in our three towns - thank you! In recent years, we have worked to diversify our income – a necessity due to cable “cord-cutting”. Municipal support has become key in covering part of our labor costs for streaming and archiving a growing number of local meetings. Since the pandemic, we started to receive short-term funding from the state of Vermont and are working – as Vermont’s 24 community media centers – on a new funding bill seeking to find a non-cable funding source for our work. We also rely on donations to continue to serve our communities and do more. Please consider setting up a monthly donation of any size at www.MtMansfieldCtv.org/donations

Contact: Angelike Contis, Director, MMCTV, 203 Bridge St., 3rd Floor/P.O. Box 688, Richmond, VT 05477. Tel. 802 434-2550. Online: MtMansfieldCtv.org, e-mail angelike@mmctv15.org



Our Community Cares Camp, Inc.

PO Box 503
 Richmond, VT 05477
 Email: occcvermont@gmail.com
 802-434-6006



Jana Brown ~ Connie van Eeghen ~ Jessica Johnson ~ Gretchen Muller ~ Marikje Shelmandine ~ Kyle Silliman-Smith

Our Community Cares Camp (OCCC) continues its unwavering commitment to addressing food insecurity and creating an environment where every child can find success within the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District. Our dedication is firmly rooted in our core principles, which encompass the provision of nourishing, thoughtfully prepared meals, the facilitation of opportunities for discovering new talents, and the cultivation of leadership skills through enriching activities. At the heart of our mission is the active cultivation of a community marked by inclusivity, diversity, service, and, most notably, the promotion of healthy and positive youth development.

Our approach ensures that children receive steadfast support from caring adults, helping them not only envision their future but also fostering a sense of belonging and community engagement. According to the 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 84% of the district's youth have access to at least one trusted adult or teacher when they seek assistance. Importantly, the bonds formed and values instilled during our camp extend well beyond the summer, potentially leaving a lasting impact on the lives of all involved.

In the summer of 2023, OCCC positively influenced the lives of 86 campers, along with 53 counselors, staff, and CITs. As of now, our financial records for the current year are pending. However, based on the 2022 financial data, the cost associated with sending a camper to our camp was \$1,131.00 for four weeks or \$283.00 per week. In fiscal year 2022, the total expenditure for the camp amounted to \$105,183.00, accommodating 93 campers. Notably, the cost per camper is expected to rise this year due to the State of Vermont's increase in the minimum wage, combined with general price hikes in goods brought about by inflation and supply chain challenges.

During the summer season, we provided a total of 2,018 meals, encompassing both breakfast and lunch. However, a recent federal change by the USDA in early 2023 now ensures that all children receive free breakfast and lunch during the school year, with schools reimbursed by state and federal resources. Unfortunately, this policy doesn't extend to the summer season, where only meals served to children eligible for free or reduced-cost meals are eligible for reimbursement. It's crucial to highlight that we remained committed to delivering freshly prepared meals sourced from local farms and businesses, enabling us to meet the essential nutritional requirements for the children's growth and development despite not all summer meals being eligible for reimbursement.

We've continually grown stronger over the past 14 years, persevering through adversity each year. This past summer, we faced the challenge of persistent rain. Nonetheless, the children remained engaged, active, and content with our diverse range of activities, from field trips to STEM activities. Our ability to achieve such success is significantly bolstered by the support we receive from various community entities, funders, and dedicated volunteers. The camp exudes an overwhelmingly positive atmosphere, thanks to the love and boundless energy that everyone contributes day in and day out. The memories created during these experiences are sure to leave a lasting mark on the children, and we eagerly look forward to the arrival of summer 2024!

Respectfully submitted,

Susanne Parent
 Executive Director

Our Community Cares Camp, Inc. is a registered 501(c) (3) non-profit corporation.

www.ourcommunitycarescamp.org
<https://www.facebook.com/OCCCVT>

Building a caring community - where every child can find success.

RICHMOND COMMUNITY BAND

Richmond Community Band is an all-volunteer non-profit organization comprised of Richmond residents and members from nearby towns. All ages and abilities are welcome, we invite anyone who plays a concert band instrument to join us. Recent members include teens through octogenarians of wide-ranging experience. If you can find and recognize your instrument from sixth grade, or we can probably loan you one, come play with us.

RCB usually rehearses 7pm to 9pm Mondays during the summer in the hall of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Catholic Church and plays several free concerts in the Volunteers Green band shell. In 2023, we scheduled four performances around vacations and floods. Our first concert is on the 4th of July, when we muster a float in the parade and perform a concert afterwards. We acknowledge and thank the Farr and Linn families for providing and manning the float.

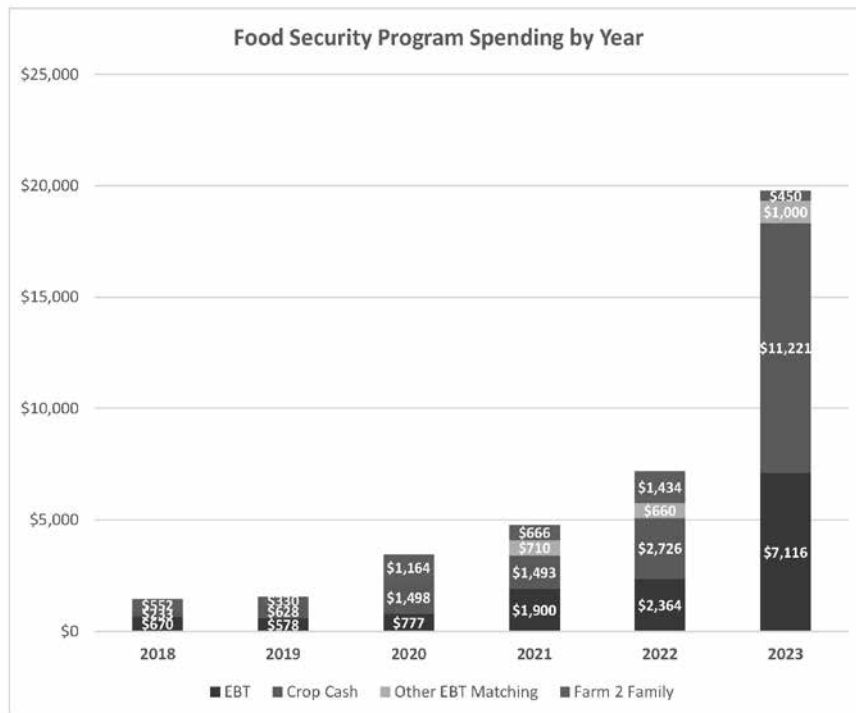
The band and audiences appreciate the conducting of Barb Heath, who often plays an instrument during sections where we don't need musical direction. On the 4th of July and sometimes subsequent concerts, guest conductor Matt Felis directs a few marches while Barb covers needed saxophone or other instrumental parts. To allow her more opportunities for playing music, additional music directors to share conducting are welcome, as well as more instrumentalists.

As we begin our next quarter century, Richmond Community Band thanks all who attend our concerts and the greater Richmond community for supporting us. We hope you will continue to support the town band tradition by joining us in the band or audience in 2024.

RICHMOND FARMERS MARKET

The Richmond Farmers Market is dedicated to strengthening the direct connection between producers and consumers by providing an inclusive space for all members of the community to convene over and celebrate local food, artisanal crafts, music and more.

We provide access to fresh, healthy foods for all locals, strengthening our agricultural economy and local food systems and connecting residents with local producers. In addition, we provide access to local produce for food-insecure Vermonters. Vermonters can swipe their EBT cards at the market and triple their benefits through the state's Crop Cash and new Crop Cash Plus program. In 2021, the farmers market secured grant funding to run a program to increase those benefits. In 2022 and 2023, the board committed to continuing the increase benefits program through a mix



of Crop Cash and Farmers Market funding. Eligible Vermonters can also use Farm to Family coupons at the market, using the state program that aims to get local produce into the hands of families who need it. Food security program spending in these programs has risen exponentially since 2019:

The market also provides economic opportunity for local businesses and entrepreneurs, creating a solid vending space for established small businesses and an incubator space for new ones. In 2023 we welcomed 16 start-up businesses, and 17 Richmond-based businesses, including three farms and two prepared food vendors. Other vendors are former Richmond residents who still feel connected to the community, or vendors who chose the Richmond Farmers Market specifically because their products are for sale in Richmond stores. The Market also draws an estimated 60 percent of its clientele from other towns, many of whom visit other Richmond businesses after they visit the market. Local kids can also have a free booth at the market to flex their entrepreneurial skills. We had 7 youth booths this year.

We also provide a safe, inclusive social space for residents. The opportunity to shop outside in a safely distanced environment has been crucial in the past several years, especially as COVID waves have resurfaced this summer. Many families attend the market as a family outing, and others catch up with friends and neighbors while there. It's also a safe space for young Richmond residents to recreate, exercise on the playground while their parents shop, and try new locally-made food. Many come with their parents, or even walk straight to the market after school. Fall afternoons at the market are full of kids! We also welcome many seniors who shop regularly at the market. People of all ages and socio-economic backgrounds gather and socialize at the market.

The Farmers Market also provides free entertainment for all ages, bringing local bands to perform every week. Many of these performers are Richmond residents. We have also provided children's activities like juggling and crafts, and a cider press and fall events for families, a grain milling demonstration, and more.

In addition, we provide a space for other local groups and community organizations to reach out to residents and share their missions through our free Community Booth offering. In 2023, we hosted the Richmond Climate Action Committee, the Community Senior Center, the Richmond Free Library, Richmond Cub Scouts, community organization Walk to Shop, WIC's Farm to Family program, DCF Foster Parenting representatives, FEMA, an electric car show, and more. In recent years, we have also held a First Responder Day, giving locals a chance to connect with the Richmond Police Department, Fire Department, and Richmond Rescue, and hosted UVM's Expanded Food & Nutrition Program, a locally organized e-bike test ride program, Richmond Racial Justice Committee, Spectrum Youth and Family Services, the Richmond Historical Society, the Williston-Richmond Rotary, the Richmond Housing Committee, a community art project with Radiate Artspace, Richmond's ARPA fund representatives, PTOs and school boards, Halloween on the Green, and voter awareness groups.



Farmer's Market Produce

RICHMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Submitted by Fran Thomas, RHS President

A Note from the President:

The Richmond Historical Society quietly turned 50 years old on September 9, 2023, while the Old Round Church observed its 210th birthday. The Society is commonly thought of as the “keeper” of the Old Round Church but our mission encompasses much more. Our bylaws state our mission as:

1. To discover, collect, preserve and exhibit whatever relates to the history of the town of Richmond and to perform all other appropriate functions as authorized by law.
2. To foster and promote interest and constructive effort and research in the history of Richmond.
3. To foster and promote interest, research, restoration, and preservation of the Round Church.

You will see from the rest of this report that the members of the Richmond Historical Board and volunteers from the community have been diligent in the past year in their efforts to follow that mission.

News from the Office:

Financial Position

This year, we had a very successful concert series as well as our usual donations and events at the church. We are also beginning to see sales and donations come through our new website e-commerce store. As a result, we remain in a strong cash position and expect to fund our near-term church maintenance and improvement projects, including the restoration of aging components of the church belfry. We have also begun accepting payments via PayPal and Venmo as an added convenience for people wishing to make donations or purchase Round Church merchandise.

Archives and Information Management

This year we retired our old website (www.oldroundchurch.com) and launched a brand-new website (www.RichmondVTHistory.org). The new website was completely redesigned and built from the ground up. Newer technology is being used that reduces the workload to maintain the site, improves cybersecurity, and provides cost savings through reduced IT fees. Along with the modern design, we now share more history from Richmond, Vermont, which includes a larger photo library, featured articles & artifacts, and a new e-commerce site. All this added content is bringing in more website visitors from around the state and across the world.

The Historical Society continues to catalog and archive a steady flow of donations to our collection. A searchable database of our physical collection can be found on our new website. A catalog of our digital collection will be added to the website this year, further enhancing our ability to provide research assistance to both in-person visitors and online researchers. We are grateful to the Town for renting us a room that houses our full collection and is accessible to the public.

Visitors are welcome to view our collection by appointment, and volunteer opportunities are abundant. If you enjoy stories and photos that tell Richmond’s history, your help would be welcome in working with the photos, creating displays, writing articles, or researching any topic that might be of interest to you.

The Richmond Historical Society would like to thank the following for their donations of a variety of items relative to the history of Richmond, Vermont: Fran Huntoon, Catherine Gent, Jeanne Agner, Jackie Winterstein, Abigail Miller of the Green Mountain DAR, the Linn Family from Harold and Emily Gyllensward, Eliot Lathrop of Building Heritage, Ken Rachlis, Jay Lowe, Mary Ann Kittinger, Martha Nye, Ryan Ackley, Brian Linden, Tom Carpenter, Vincent Palermo, Roger Bombardier, and Louise Bryan.

League of Local Historical Society and Museums Achievement Award – the Historical Society nominated long time Board member Gary Bressor for an Individual Achievement Award (which honors a person’s work and commitment to local history over an extended period) and were pleased that Gary was selected to receive the award at LLHSM’s annual meeting. Gary was one of the founding members of the Richmond Historical Society and has continued to contribute to the Society and its mission in numerous ways over its 50-year history.

News from the Round Church

Building and Grounds:

The Round Church grass parking lot suffered significant damage from the flood of July 11. We had the area tilled and reseeded in the fall, only to have it flooded again in December. We are hopeful that the new grass will survive the effects of the December flood. In 2024, we plan to have some work done on the oak supports in the belfry as well as a new door fabricated to replace the exterior south door that was destroyed during a December 2022 storm.

Visitor Season and Guide Service:

The July 2023 flood created some challenges for the Round Church Visitor Season. We are very grateful for the flexibility of our volunteer guides as the visitation schedule was altered a couple of times because of the flooding. Our guides committed to staying open when safe and made it possible for many visitors to tour and learn about our local landmark. Meg Fugate and Martha Turner teamed up once again to share the season’s overall planning and outreach duties. The Backroads Bike Tour groups had to move their location out of Richmond this year due to the flooding.

Weddings and other Reserved-Venue Events

We hosted five weddings this season, several with bell-ringing. In addition, the Round Church was used for two *a cappella* vocal groups, a religious service, and an antique harpsichord and miniature piano recital. As always, our wonderful volunteers were on site to make these events possible. The fees from weddings and other rentals support the cleaning and maintenance of the Round Church. Laura Brennan Moltz has volunteered to serve as our new Wedding and Special Events Coordinator, and Scott Ploof continues to be our dedicated cleaner.

Round Church Concert Series

Following up on the success of our 2022 Round Church Series, the RHS hosted four family entertainment events at the Round Church in 2023. As you will read below, Ryan Ackley put together an enjoyable selection of concerts performed by area musicians and vocalists. Stay tuned in 2024 for some more great music on the Lawn or in the Round Church. Thanks to Northfield Savings Bank, Richmond Market and Beverage, Sweet Simone’s and Original Mind for their support of the concerts.

Check our website Richmondvthistory.org for more information about concerts and other upcoming RHS events.

The Year in Review:

Highlights from a busy 2023 include:

March 5 – Annual Meeting and Winter Program in the Richmond Free Library:

Richmond’s One-Room Schools program prepared and presented by Karen Yaggy

May 28-30 – The Round Church opens to visitors on Memorial Day weekend

June 25 – Round Church Concert Series - *The Tenderbellies*

July 8 – Religious Service - Leigh Sykes

July 11 – *Ampersand* concert in the Round Church - Tim Parsons

August 26 – *Social Band* concert in the Round Church

August 27 – Round Church Concert Series - *Honey and Soul*

September 11 – *Old Round Church Pilgrimage*

Annual worship service held in the Round Church to celebrate its heritage as Richmond’s first community meeting hall. Sponsored by the Richmond Congregational Church.

September 24 – Round Church Concert Series – *The Larkspurs* (held outdoors on the Round Church Green)

October 1 – *Artis Wodehouse* Antique Organ Recital

October 22 – Round Church Concert Series - *Wild Branch*

November 11 – The return of our Annual Potluck Supper:

Richmonds in the USA – slide show program prepared and presented by Martha Turner

December 4 – Community Carol Sing in the Round Church:

Two sessions led by Tom Walters, complete with new song sheets.

In Closing:

We would like your assistance in accomplishing our mission. The Richmond Historical Society invites and encourages community members to join us as we work to preserve Richmond’s history. Prospective volunteers can find RHS projects to suit all sorts of interests, skill levels and time-commitment budgets. To learn more about what we do and how you can help, please talk to a board member, visit our website at www.richmondvthistory.org or email RHS@richmondvthistory.org

2023 Richmond Historical Society Board of Directors

Elected Officers

President – Fran Thomas

Vice President – Ryan Ackley

Secretary – Mary Ann Barnes

Treasurer – Mary Ann Kittinger

Committee Leaders

Acquisitions & Archives – Karen Yaggy

Building & Grounds – Gary Bressor

Information Technology – Kevin Kittinger

Round Church Guide Service – Martha Turner & Meg Fugate

Round Church Weddings/Event Reservations

Mary Ann Barnes

RICHMOND LAND TRUST

2023 was another active year for the Richmond Land Trust. We will remember it mostly for major weather events that impacted the use and appearance of several of our preserves and, also, as the year construction commenced on the new Gillett Pond Dam—the culmination of 10 years of planning and fundraising!

Construction started in the spring on the new dam at RLT’s **Gillett Pond Preserve**. Early in 2023, after 10 years of planning and fundraising by RLT and its community partners to acquire the Pond and ensure its survival, we finally had all permits in hand and sufficient funds to begin construction of the new dam. We put the project out to bid and soon the chosen contractor began clearing the site. But then July’s flooding brought construction to a halt. By the time construction could resume, fall was approaching, raising the risk of freezing temperatures that could prevent the dam’s concrete from properly curing. So we suspended construction until 2024. This spring, crews will return to install a temporary coffer dam, remove the existing dam, and build the new dam needed for the survival of the Pond and all of the ecological and recreational benefits it provides the community.

For getting us this far, we deeply thank all in the local community and beyond who’ve supported the project over the years. They include many individual donors at all levels as well as the Towns of Richmond and Huntington, former Senator Leahy and his team, and the federal Natural Resources Conservation Service. As of this report, this incredible generosity has put RLT and the Friends of Gillett Pond within just 1.4 percent – about \$15,000 – of raising the total project cost, including acquiring the Pond and replacing its dam.

Donations to help close the campaign can be made at tinyurl.com/GP2023. Or you can mail a check payable to “Friends of Gillett Pond” to: Friends of Gillett Pond, c/o Richmond Land Trust, P.O. Box 605, Richmond, VT 05477.

July’s deluges also had a significant impact on RLT’s **Willis Hill Preserve** when the brook running through the wetland below the sledding hill overflowed its banks. Pushing rocks and gravel into the wetland, the brook carved itself a new path, diverting the flow to a nearby culvert under Rt. 2 and onto farmland south of the road. Months later, what had been a productive corn field resembled a rice paddy as water collected between the newly upgraded Route 2 and the railroad embankment. Efforts are ongoing with State wetlands officials and other experts to restore the brook to its traditional path. That will drain the area below the sledding hill and the adjacent agricultural properties while ensuring the integrity of the area’s transportation infrastructure.

Unusual weather also factored into our stewardship of other RLT preserves around town. The wet and cool summer seemed to ease crowding at parking areas near Richmond’s popular river accesses. The temporary parking area in the hayfield at our **Bombardier Preserve** was closed but enough off-road space was left for people to unload passengers and watercraft. The new parking area at our **Becken Rivershore Preserve** served us well, especially as puddles and mud left over from the flooding made the old parking area more of a swamp. In 2024, the old parking area will be permanently closed and efforts taken to promote stabilization of the river bank. Apart from the weather, the community’s ongoing efforts to provide more and better recreation parking seems to be easing crowding and access concerns at these river accesses.

In closing, we want to thank everyone for supporting the Richmond Land Trust and our town’s strong ethic of land conservation. Special appreciation goes to:

The Richmond Trails Committee for helping keep RLT’s preserve trails open and safe year-round, especially in the flood-challenged lands along the Winooski River.

Richmond voters for continuing support of the Town’s Conservation Reserve Fund, which has been critical to the success of many of our local conservation projects and those of others in our community. We hope voters will again endorse the Conservation Reserve Fund as a practical and proven approach to enabling Richmond to take advantage of important conservation opportunities as they arise.

Finally, we invite anyone interested in helping conserve our town’s natural, agricultural, and historic resources to take a direct hand in our broad and very satisfying work by joining the Richmond Land Trust. If you’re interested, let us know at richmondlandtrust.org/contact. The more people we can involve in conserving some of Richmond’s best places and resources, the better the results for everyone.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy Hoff, Chair

Brad Elliott, Vice-Chair

RICHMOND RESCUE INC



This last year was the busiest in our history. We went on 1,252 calls and transported 750 patients between January 1, 2023, and December 31, 2023. Our volunteers and employees were excited to get more opportunities to keep their skills sharp.

Public education and outreach have been a big focus of the last year. Early in the year, we gave away more than 100 bicycle helmets to children who live in our service area. We also had a booth set up at the Vermont City Marathon Expo where we engaged with many runners and traded a few minutes of CPR instruction for a delicious stick of Cabot cheese or some Slopeside Maple Syrup.

We took delivery of Richmond Rescue Car 1 in the spring. Car 1 is a Ford Explorer equipped to provide a medical response when our ambulance is not available. It gives us more flexibility in our everyday response and allows our backcountry rescue team to transport their equipment more easily.

The other big purchase we made was adding two LUCAS Devices to our ambulances. Lucas Devices perform chest compressions instead of EMTs doing it manually. The device improves rescuer safety and never needs to take a break.

Statistics from 2023:

Total requests for service: 1,252

Calls for service in Richmond: 349

Calls for service on I-89 in Richmond: 29

Average ambulance response time in Richmond: 8 minutes

Number of active volunteers in 2023: 45

Total volunteer hours: 22,101

Address signs made in 2023: 81

Total address signs made since the start of the program: 1,112

The coming year will see the delivery of a 2023 Ford F550 ambulance. We were able to return our 2014 ambulance to the factory where they removed the patient care compartment and mounted it onto the new chassis. Remounting an ambulance in this way saves about 30% over buying a completely new ambulance.

Beyond responding to 911 calls, we are proud to offer several other public health services. We continue to offer affordable E911 address signage, courses, and bystander training through our CPR training center and car seat fitting. As a public health organization, we consider these initiatives central to our mission.

We are grateful for the privilege of serving our communities and look forward to the coming year.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors and
Members of Richmond
Rescue

911 ADDRESS SIGNS AVAILABLE THRU RICHMOND RESCUE

Help us, Help you! The time it takes to reach your home or business, once the Emergency Response System has been activated, is of the utmost importance. How many times has a friend, the pizza guy, or anyone else told you that they could not see your house or find a house number near the road? Being able to locate an emergency location is of utmost importance.

What can you do to help us, help you? You can:

*Put 4" reflective numbers on your mailbox (smaller ones are not easy to see)

*Put 4" reflective numbers and/or letters on your apartment door

*** TO PURCHASE A GREEN, REFLECTIVE 911 SIGN FOR \$10, CONTACT:**

RICHMOND RESCUE 216 RAILROAD STREET OR ORDER ONLINE AT www.richmondrescue.org

*Put that reflective sign at the end of your driveway, close to the road

Like a carbon monoxide detector and/or a smoke detector can give you peace of mind and potentially save your life, so can having a reflective 911 sign near the road where emergency responders can see it.

Local Health Office Annual Report: 2023

Burlington Local Health Office | 108 Cherry Street, Suite 102, Burlington, VT

Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the Vermont Department of Health. The Burlington Local Health Office provides essential services and resources to towns in Chittenden County. Some highlights of our work in

2023 are below. For more information, visit HealthVermont.gov/local/burlington



Women, Infants & Children (WIC), Family and Child Health

Our office served over 2,000 pregnant women, new mothers and young children this year. Our WIC staff provides families with healthy foods, nutrition education, breast/chest feeding support and referrals to health care providers and community resources. While we recently celebrated the return to in-person services, we still offer appointments over the phone so that everyone can easily use WIC services.

Learn more at www.healthvermont.gov/wic.



Emergency Preparedness

The Burlington Local Health Office supported community members impacted by the historic flooding this summer. Across the state, our staff helped at flood resource centers, gave out water test kits and shared information in our communities about how to stay safe. We prepare for future public health emergencies by working with community partners such as schools, hospitals and emergency personnel to ensure preparedness to distribute medicine, supplies and information.



Healthy Communities

Health is affected by more than just healthcare. Transportation, housing, education, food access, social connections and economic opportunity also play a role. Throughout the year, our office has worked with towns, schools, worksites, health care providers and other community organizations. These groups work together to evaluate the health and equity needs of our community and help create local policies and projects to improve the community's health and quality of life for all ages.



Vermont League of Cities and Towns

Serving and Strengthening Vermont Local Government

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. Staff responds to thousands of member questions and publishes guidance, templates, research reports, and FAQs. In 2023, VLCT specialists provided government-specific finance training as well as resources and consultation that help Vermont's cities and towns comply with federal rules for receiving federal ARPA and infrastructure funding. Staff also provides input to state leaders on designing and implementing grant programs for municipalities.
- **Trainings and timely communications on topics of specific concern to local officials.** The League provides training via webinars, classes at members' locations, and its annual member conference, the largest gathering of municipal officials in the state. In the wake of the 2023 floods, VLCT became a crucial information hub for local officials. VLCT's Equity Committee assists local officials in centering the work of justice, diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging in their municipalities' decision making, policies, practices, and programs.
- **Representation before the state legislature, state agencies, and the federal government**, ensuring that municipal concerns are heard collectively and as a single, united voice. VLCT's recent legislative efforts have helped cities and towns access additional resources to respond to the pandemic, repair roads and bridges, enact 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 2023 includes securing \$3 million for towns to expand their capacity to access state and federal grants through the Municipal Technical Assistance Program, fighting to balance changes to local zoning laws with state land use laws to facilitate housing construction, elevating awareness of the financial difficulties rural emergency medical services face, amplifying municipal concerns as the Legislature contemplates moving toward a state-led reappraisal system, 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 offers members group rates on important benefits for municipal employees: life, disability, dental, and vision insurance. All the programs offer coverage and products that members need and ask for, 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.



Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District

10 River Road Jericho, VT 05465

P:802-434-2128 F:802-899-4001

mmuusd.office@mmuusd.org

www.mmuusd.org

January 24, 2024

Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District Annual Report

The Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District (MMUUSD) Annual Report will be available February 14, 2024. The report will include a proposed 2024-25 school district budget, tax rate information and a review of operations, activities and assessment results for Mount Mansfield Unified Union's nine schools:

- Smilie Memorial School (PK-4)
- Brewster Pierce Memorial School (PK-4)
- Jericho Elementary School (K-4)
- Richmond Elementary School (PK-4)
- Underhill ID School (Preschools)
- Underhill Central School (K-4)
- Browns River Middle School (Grades 5-8)
- Camels Hump Middle School (Grades 5-8)
- Mt. Mansfield Union High School (Grades 9-12)

The Annual Report can be found at your local town office, public school, MMUUSD Central Office or online at <https://www.mmuusd.org/>. Upon request, a printed copy will be mailed to you by calling 434-2128.

If you have questions, please contact the Central Office at 434-2128 or by email at mmuusd.office@mmuusd.org.

Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District Our Schools



Smilie Memorial School

Derek Howard, Principal

Enrollment: Prek-4 65

This has been a wonderful year at Smilie Memorial School. It was my pleasure to welcome new and returning faculty and staff back from summer. New staff included Bolton residents Savanna Phillips and Stephanie Lafreniere who joined the team as para educators K-4 and Maureen Locker who joined our preschool team. In collaboration with Brewster Pierce Elementary School, we also welcomed Elbridge Minor who works as our integration specialist, supporting teachers with students who need additional support to access their learning.



After an abnormal summer, Bolton experienced flooding that impacted our community in many ways. At Smilie Memorial School, we pushed forward to create the best learning environment for our community. The art room was transformed with the replacement of flooring, removal of an old elevator and the removal of old shelving. During this process, we uncovered a mural that was painted 30 years ago by some of our parents. The mural will now be updated and renewed by our current students.

A fence was installed at the rear of the school preventing student access to Joiner Brook and it defines our school property. New tunnels were placed in the playground for students to explore.

At the entrance of the school, the Smilie Memorial School sign, which was designed a few years ago by one of our former parents, had an addition to it. Our former Principal, Barbara Tomasi-Gay, generously had a carving made called the "Welcoming Bear" to adorn the right side of the Smilie Memorial school sign. The black bear cub was created by Charlie O'Brien, from "Where The Bears Are", in Stowe. We are touched by this kind gift from Barbara. She hopes that it will delight staff, students and family members for years to come.



We are now planning a fundraiser to replace and redesign the Smilie School playground for the 2024/25 school year, as some of the old elements need to be replaced.

At the start of the 2023/24 school year, we introduced after-school clubs three nights a week to help support parents who work beyond 2:30 pm - this opportunity also extends learning opportunities for our students. The clubs included art, music, sports, and outdoor activities.

In May 2023, the Smilie Community Association funded a resident artist to work alongside our art teacher and students to produce two murals for the school gym. One of the murals shows the History of Bolton since 1790 and the other shows the watershed for the whole town of Bolton. Our mural project this year will be in liaison with the local indigenous communities depicting the landscape pre-1790.

Student Growth

The Smilie faculty have been meeting weekly as a Professional Learning Community (PLC) analyzing data to improve learning for all students. Weekly the teachers and support staff look at academic data from different curriculum areas including Math, ELA, Science, and Social Studies. As part of our Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS), student support staff feedback to teachers on the social emotional supports and interventions being implemented for students. Faculty meetings occur twice monthly, the agenda for these is set by our guiding coalition that also meets twice monthly. The collaboration between all staff, parents, and community is what makes Smilie Memorial School a safe and welcoming learning environment for all students.

School Safety

One of the first priorities this year has been to teach and reteach all of our school drills. This included fire drills, option-based drills, securing the building, hold in place and our evacuation drill. The evacuation drill is becoming a community event where the local fire department escorts the school to the fire station where we learn about bus evacuations, fire safety and get to meet our local volunteer firefighters.



School/Community Connections and Experiences

Fall 2023 was busy with the safety training, field trips to the Audubon and Shelburne farms, outdoor climbing with Petra Cliffs, all school hikes and lots of outdoor learning.

Smilie Memorial School believes that students benefit from outdoor learning experiences in many ways providing an experiential setting for learning in all subjects. Our belief in outdoor learning is not at the expense of traditional learning. At Smilie Memorial School we use outdoor learning to enhance our students' learning experience. Moving into winter we used our local partners of the Catamount Ski Trail Association, Cochran's ski area and Bolton Valley to provide experiences including Nordic and Alpine skiing and snowboarding.

On Memorial Day, our students visit Bolton Cemetery to pay tribute to our service men and women by placing flags on gravestones and listening to the last post being played on a bugle.

Smilie Memorial School continues to grow as the center of its community. We are preparing students to become independent Middle school learners while giving them lifelong happy memories.



Brewster-Pierce Memorial School

Sally Hayes, Principal

Enrollment: PreK-4 101

This year has been an incredible year of growth and learning for our students. Our staff, families and community work together to create a nurturing learning environment which allows the children of Huntington to thrive and reach their full potential. Our dedicated and skilled staff collaborate to provide enriching learning opportunities for all of our students, fostering academic and social/emotional growth. Our Partners in Education, parent group, is an integral part of our learning community, they are essential partners in supporting and enriching learning at Brewster-Pierce. Family and community members volunteer at BPMS in many ways including helping to serve lunch every week, assisting with the Book Fair, organizing families to clean out and add new plants to garden beds, teaching a small algebra group, leading fundraising events, appreciating the BPMS staff throughout the year are some of the ways PIE supports BPMS. PIE supported amazing learning opportunities during this year which included practicing the basics of Capoeira with our artist in residence, Fua, field trips to the Montshire Museum and ECHO, building a Gaga Ball Pit, providing alternative seating options and other teaching resources. We are grateful for the continued support of our families, the hard work of PIE makes us a stronger, enriched learning community. Our students and staff also experience many community connections throughout the year. This year we welcomed the Huntington Fire Fighters for fire safety learning, we enjoyed our annual hike day at Sleepy Hollow, we invited many Special People to a luncheon in November and we welcomed veterans at All School Morning Meeting.



Every day students are learning, growing and making connections between literacy, science, social studies, math and social emotional learning. Throughout the school week students also

experience physical education, music, art, library, guidance and STEM enrichment. During the past year we have continued to adjust our teaching practices to support student's readiness for reading and language development. Our literacy practices are responsive to the needs of each reader and are embedded in rich and meaningful learning contexts, which include speaking/communicating, listening, and writing. In PreK-2nd grade we focus on building strong phonemic awareness, auditory practice, and phonological awareness, understanding the letter and sound connection. In PreK-Fourth, we work to develop language comprehension and vocabulary knowledge to ensure we are providing a comprehensive approach to literacy instruction. We continue to work on combining content in order to provide opportunities for children to make connections and deepen their understanding of concepts. Our math practices continue to include a strong foundation using visual models and building a deep conceptual understanding of foundational math concepts. Mathematicians build on repeated practice of foundational skills which provide a strong scaffold for harder math concepts. Social and emotional learning continues to be an important part of learning every day. Staff help children work through identifying strong emotions and learning strategies for self regulation. We continue to prioritize managing peer relations and self management. This year we have been working on developing goals for social/ emotional learning based on age and developmentally appropriate expectations.



Our staff continues to focus on integrating themes of equity, diversity and inclusion in our teaching practices, our goal is to embed this work into the culture of our school. Classroom teachers and Mollie, our school librarian, continue to add culturally responsive books and content to our classroom libraries and school library. Adding new titles enriches opportunities for students to learn about multiple perspectives and see diverse representations in characters, stories and themes. We understand that the success in this important work will in part be measured by how we can engage our students in these dialogues in compassionate and developmentally appropriate ways.



Infusing wellness practices into the daily lives of students and staff is a priority at Brewster- Pierce. Every single day our students and staff get a lesson in healthy eating. The rainbow of food choices at breakfast, snack and lunchtime offers the opportunity to fuel our bodies with nutritious foods. Peter, Hilary, Anne and John work tirelessly each week to provide the highest quality food program possible, and we all benefit every single day. We also teach composting and recycling practices throughout the school day. Students help gather recycling and compost which provides a rich hands on experience. This year BPMS was awarded the Recycle Rally trophy for the second consecutive year. The CSWD Recycle Rally challenges teams of

students and teachers to raise awareness about proper management of their resources and protect the planet.

Outdoor Education is embedded into our school culture and learning. Brewster-Pierce students get to learn and thrive in their outdoor classrooms every week. The preschool forest classroom is very close to school in a beautifully wooded area with some hills for climbing. During this year our preschool team worked hard to add several new elements to the preschool forest including a new natural climbing structure, some climbing ropes, a platform surrounding a tree, two covered sandboxes and two swings. Preschool students are learning outside every single day and many of the topics for learning are chosen by them and are connected to the plants and animals that live in this special place. Kindergarten through fourth grade students also spend a day each week learning outdoors enjoying their own special learning space in the Community Forest. Outdoor learning provides opportunities to foster land stewardship and develop a deep connection to the land. We are grateful to access the Huntington Community Forest for learning and recreation every week.



Jericho Elementary School

Todd Rohlen, Principal

Enrollment: K-4 324



It is another great year of learning and fun here at JES! As most of you know, our beloved counselor of 30+ years, Tim Lane, retired, leaving big shoes to fill. Luckily, our new counselor, Kerrie

Colleran, has proven up to the task. She has been doing an amazing job supporting students, helping them navigate various issues, and teaching guidance classes for each classroom. These classes teach social skills, emotional management skills, and more. Kerrie has been super responsive to parents and families, so if you need anything from her, don't hesitate to reach out.

One big focus of the District and of JES has been working to have more effective literacy instruction, especially for our early readers. We are working strategically to keep the parts of our programs that were beneficial to learning, like a workshop model. This type of model allows teachers to meet with individuals and groups during reading blocks while kids continue to learn.

We are also adding new components to help kids learn to read more effectively. One example is a daily phonics program, called Heggerty, for K and 1st, that has proven to have big rewards. We have also implemented a new word study program, the University of Florida Literacy Institute, or UFLI. This is K-4 and will help with decoding words, spelling, and much more. While Jericho and the District have a far better success rate with literacy than the state average, we are looking to make it much more successful.



I really appreciate our teachers not only having high expectations for learning everyday, but making learning engaging and interesting for the children. There are creative ways to learn and demonstrate learning in all subject areas. Outdoor learning and enriching off campus experiences continue to be big parts of learning here at JES. We have so much good learning around our gardens, in our outdoor learning spaces, and more. So far this year we've had trips to Shelburne Farms, sailing on Lake Champlain, VT State Parks, and more!

Stay tuned for Sno-motion and more field trips to come during springtime! Teachers have also utilized "giving" to help with learning. The students have organized food drives and fundraisers, helping to raise their awareness of people (and animals) in need.



We worked creatively to have a whole school Open House this year. Building size and lack of parking space can get a bit tricky when hosting many people. However, we staggered people arriving based on last name, and that worked really well. There was always parking and room in the school. Both families and teachers reported that they were able to connect more personally than they would have if everyone had been there at once. It was also great to have families be able to see the whole school, UA teachers, previous teachers, and more. With our large enrollment, we may have to get creative to have family events, but we will continue to work on this.

I also want to give a big shout out to our parent organization, Partners in Education. They have hosted great events, like a fall campus clean up, the Harvest Fest, and more. Working with our PE teacher, Glenn Steinman, PIE was instrumental in getting our amazing new ice rink installed. This was funded through donations and from the town, but all completed through the volunteer efforts of our PIE members. They are also funding the return of an Artist-in-Residence here at JES. This spring, we will welcome Jeh Kulu, a west African drumming and dance company, in for a week to work with each class on west African dance! Stay tuned for more details on that. If you would like to get involved with PIE, they meet here at the school the first Wednesday of each month, or reach out to the office here and we can help.

Thank you to our JES families and the larger Jericho community for your continued support in making our school such a special place!



Richmond Elementary School

Jeremy Rector, Principal

Enrollment: PreK-4 340

It is my pleasure to present the 2023-2024 information for Richmond Elementary School. RES is a vibrant learning community that values equity, curiosity, and growth, and last school year our educators collectively focused on three main goals to promote a thriving educational environment for all of our young learners. Those three priorities were to:

- Establish effective routines, procedures, and community norms
- Build a stronger sense of community, and
- Nurture joy in learning.

In the spirit of continuous improvement over time, we believe an important next step for us this year is to reflect on our journey so far, and intentionally review and refine our actions to ensure best practices for all students. To that end, I am delighted to share the progress we have made in these areas, as well as speak to our professional commitments for the 23-24 school year.

Over the course of several faculty meetings last year, we came together as a staff to reflect on who we are as practitioners and to refine what we believe in. We used a backwards-design model to create a collective, guiding document to use to ground our decision-making and interventions this school year. Together, we identified that we are a school that believes:

- Our teaching and learning systems must be flexible and responsive, and must take the whole-child into consideration.
- Our school environment must provide each student exactly what they need to flourish as individuals and members of the community.
 - Emotional regulation and pro-social skills are essential components to successful learning.
 - Our curriculum decisions and implementation must be based on the needs and interests of our students, and teachers will drive curriculum utilizing evidence-based best practices, data, and targeted assessments.
 - Our school community is one in which everyone feels safe, valued, and connected.



This "Vision" outlined above is what the educators at RES aspire to, and is what we will continue to focus our energies on over

the next few years. This framework offers a compass for our continuous improvement plan moving forward, and is the foundation for which we determined this year's goals from.

RES educators aim to elevate our school's Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) processes to improve our methods for teaching social and emotional learning (SEL). SEL is not only interconnected to all forms of learning, but it is also essential to promoting mental health and wellness and a deep sense of community. We continue to prioritize common planning times for teachers, and allocate dedicated time for Professional Learning Communities (PLC). These steps to align professional schedules continue to allow our educators to collaboratively plan lessons, share best practices, and refine instructional strategies. With these common times and professional opportunities, educators have also been empowered to reinstate and revitalize community events aimed at promoting celebration and gratitude among our students and families. New community events this school year, such as the Lantern Walk, have provided valuable opportunities for students, teachers, parents, and staff to come together, to share common experiences, and to build a sense of unity and shared pride with one another in our accomplishments. In a significant stride towards inclusivity and enriching our students' educational experience, we are thrilled to also announce the successful establishment of a new, inclusive playground on the front of our campus that is geared toward our K-4 students, and a new multi-structured playground on the side of our building designed for our youngest learners. Both playgrounds are designed to foster collaboration, physical activity, and imaginative play, ensuring that all children can actively participate. These thoughtful expansions reflect our commitment to create an inclusive and holistic learning environment that empowers every child to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.



As we welcome the new year of 2024 at Richmond Elementary School, we remain dedicated to the collective vision that guides us. We will continue to strive to create an inclusive and holistic learning environment, keeping evidence-based practices and intentional feedback mechanisms



in mind to inform our efforts along the way. Our belief is that the progress we have made and our professional commitments for this new year will continue to pave the way for a future where every member of the Richmond Elementary School community thrives!



Underhill Central School

Jennifer Cote, Principal

Enrollment: K-4 140

Underhill Central School is full of positive, rich, and engaging experiences for all learners. Building community and a sense of belonging is a core value at UCS. We kicked off the school year with a Welcome Back Picnic and have included families and caregivers in the following events: open house morning, zucchini race, turkey trot, mask parade and various classroom celebrations. It's important to open our doors and maintain strong relationships between school and home.

All School Meeting is a regularly scheduled event at UCS. Students enjoy getting together with others to have a mindful moment, celebrate, share experiences and sing. It's a special time to have our entire community together. This winter all students will once again participate in our district's ski and snowboard program at Cochran's. Additionally, each grade level has created exciting opportunities for students. Our 3-4 teams are working with the Floating Classroom program at the Community Sailing Center in Burlington, 1-2 classrooms "traveled" during the month of December to explore cultures across the world and our Kindergarten classrooms toured Chapin



Apple Orchard and are immersed in play-based and outdoor learning experiences. Everyone at UCS continues to enjoy our beautiful outdoor space especially with the addition of the new all access path.

UCS is dedicated to our district's equity initiatives. Our staff utilize the district's Anti Bias Anti Racist (ABAR) council's lesson to reflect on our experiences and ensure we embrace the unique backgrounds, identities and perspectives of our community. We have recently explored the following dominant culture traits: perfectionism and the right to comfort personally and in staff meetings. Our equity work continues to move forward as we reflect and examine our own biases and assumptions.

Staff continue to strengthen our multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) to ensure all students learn at high levels. Our guiding coalition leadership group meets every other week to discuss our current systems and ways to support all learners. Professional Learning Communities meet

weekly to analyze student data, plan for instruction and assessments and identify students who need additional support. We believe that all students are our students at UCS and we use MTSS to support students in a timely manner.

We continue to put a lot of energy into meeting the social and emotional needs of our students. Staff use responsive classrooms to build community and create calm learning environments where everyone’s academic and social and emotional needs are met. The following schoolwide expectations are explicitly taught to the whole group and small group or 1:1: We ARE Kind, We ARE Honest, We ARE Respectful and We ARE Responsible to ourselves and each other. UCS is also working with Annie O’Shaughnessy to strengthen our restorative practice efforts which is complementary to social and emotional work completed school wide, in the classroom and through sessions with the school counselor.

Over the last few years, we have transitioned to a structured literacy approach. Classroom teachers are implementing new curriculum and assessment plans that include revised benchmark understanding and learning targets and a scope and sequence for phonics. We are using a variety of new resources for instruction and our system of support to ensure all learner’s needs are met. During early release and district curriculum committees, staff reflect and revise our practices as we interact with current research and engage in professional development.



UCS is a vibrant and welcoming community. Our staff care deeply about the students and families at UCS. We are committed to ensuring all students feel a sense of belonging and are engaged in their learning community.



Browns River Middle School

Kevin Hamilton, Principal
Rebecca Marsh, Assistant Principal

Enrollment: 5-8 370

Over the past year, Browns River Middle School students and staff have focused on building a stronger community through our student advisory program known as NEST. This year we are focusing on building a sense of belonging in our school when we meet in small multi age level groups each Wednesday morning.



We are working with the Vermont Council on the Arts and Barbara Paulson, our artist in residence, to help bring this sense of community to life by cooperatively working on a project that will be displayed at the end of the school year.

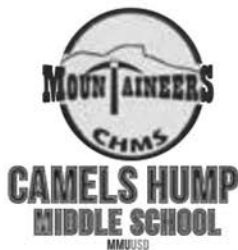
We recognize the importance of having our student community feel safe and supported in order for them to be successful as learners.

Our teachers continue to collaborate closely on the scope and sequence of the curriculum with the teachers at Camels Hump Middle School. Teachers are professionally supported by the academic coaches who work in both buildings and help us to remain closely aligned in our work in order for our students to have an equitable learning experience as they transition to MMU. The Wednesday early release days continue to be valuable time for our staff to have common time to plan and adjust student instruction based on reviewing student data.



The participation rate in co-curricular activities at BRMS continues to be extremely high with well over 90% of our students participating in at least one after school program. Students have the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of activities including: Art, Music, Drama, Writing, Athletics, Engineering, Cooking and many other choices. Many improvements were made to our recess area this summer and are looking to make some additional improvements this spring. The basketball court was resurfaced, a new outdoor volleyball court was installed, and we are currently working on developing a 9 hole disc golf course. Much of this work

was completed through private donations and grants from the towns of Jeicho and Underhill.



Camels Hump Middle School

Gretchen Muller, Principal
Joe O'Brien, Assistant Principal

Enrollment: 5-8 329

The 2023-2024 school year has been off to a fantastic start for Camels Hump Middle School. We welcomed 97 new 5th grade students along with several new teachers and a new assistant

principal. Our Mountaineer population of 329 students has demonstrated incredible motivation, resilience, positivity, flexibility and effort through the first trimester. The collaborative and intentional planning by our teachers and special educators shines through every day with high student engagement and joy in classrooms.



With another new school year brings more opportunities for our staff to continue with professional learning offered by our instructional coaches and our ABAR (anti-bias/anti-racist) faculty work group. Our teaching and support staff continue to elevate the learning experiences for all students ensuring differentiated and inclusive instruction with clear and common student learning goals across content areas that are aligned with Brown River Middle School. The CHMS staff also continue to bring a lens of equity into all learning and social settings at CHMS.



The beginning of the school year our staff continued work from last year to review, revise and implement new mission and vision statements along with collective commitments or belief statements that define what we do each and every day at Camels Hump Middle School. Our new vision statement or North Star is *“We strive to be Compassionate Humans Motivated to Succeed”*. Our new mission statement is: *“CHMS is here to create an inclusive learning community in which we support one another to be accountable for learning actively and collaboratively and to think creatively and critically. We encourage each other to grow, face challenges and live responsibly, while having fun and contributing positively.”*

An integral part of working towards our vision and mission and collective commitments has been our advisory program. While Camels Hump has incorporated advisory into the school day over the years and tried different approaches, the last year and half we’ve maintained a consistent advisory program. Our students are in small groups of 8-10, with grade-level peers and an advisor. This group of students and advisor stays together for all four years of middle school. The advisory time creates opportunities for students to make strong connections and maintain ongoing relationships with their peers and a trusted adult. Advisory provides time to have thoughtful discussions, learn from one another and enjoy each other through community building activities.



We are proud of all our Mountaineers and grateful for such a dedicated, supportive and collaborative staff!



Mt. Mansfield Union High School

Michael Weston, Principal
Krystina Fernandez, Assistant Principal
David Marlow, Activities Director

Enrollment: 9-12 710

The 2022-2023 school year was one in which we took many steps toward meeting our ultimate goal of graduating “Effective Engaged Citizens”. Specifically we took steps to help our students develop academic independence and advocacy skills. These two skills are crucial for involved citizens and, we believe, for MMUHS graduates. To



assist our students in acquiring and mastering these skills we give them an opportunity to practice them in generalized settings, such as Advisory and co-curriculars. We would be remiss if I did not point out that 91% of all MMUHS students participate in at least one co-curricular activity and many are in multiple activities. MMU continues to see students achieve academic success in many areas: MMU students achieved a proficient score on 78% of the AP Exams taken, MMUHS students take the SAT during their junior year and our scores continue to exceed state and national average, and our students earned 94% of their Proficiency



Based Graduation Requirements on schedule.

The 2022-2023 school year was capped off by the 56th Graduation Ceremony held in the MMUHS gymnasium, the first to be held there in over 20 years. There were 208 members of the Class of 2023 and they celebrated their graduation on a rainy Saturday morning. This class dealt with a lot in their time at MMU and it was fitting that they demonstrated their ability to overcome adversity right up to the end of their time with us. Their ability to deal with what is in front of them without complaint and with an attitude of togetherness is one that we all can learn something from. The Class of 2023 has spread out across the globe and I know they are representing CougarNation admirably. Finally, we want to thank our community for all you have done to create an environment that allows students to develop into the people they can be.



**OFFICIAL WARNING
MOUNT MANSFIELD UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT**

March 5, 2024

The legal voters of the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District comprising the voters of Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Richmond, and Underhill, are hereby notified and warned to meet at polling places hereinafter named for each of the above-referenced towns on **Tuesday, March 5, 2024**, at 7:00 a.m. (Huntington at 6:30 am) at which time the polls will open until 7:00 p.m. at which time the polls will close, to transact the following business involving voting by Australian ballot:

Article 1: To elect the following officers:
 a Moderator for one year,
 a Clerk for one year,
 a Treasurer for one year.

Article 2: Shall the voters of the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District authorize the school board under 16 V.S.A. 562 (9) to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for the school year?

Article 3: Shall the voters of the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District approve the School Board to expend **\$65,623,048**, which is the amount the School Board has determined to be necessary for the 2024-25 fiscal year?

Upon closing of the polls, the ballot boxes will be sealed, transported to and opened at Camels Hump Middle School in the Town of Richmond, the ballots commingled and publicly counted by representatives of the Boards of Civil Authority of the Towns of Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Richmond, and Underhill under the supervision of the Clerk of the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District.

Informational Hearing

Said persons and voters are further notified and warned that Thursday, February 29, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. at the Mount Mansfield Union High School, in Jericho, VT shall serve as an informational meeting to discuss Articles 3 which will be voted on by Australian ballot on March 5, 2024. A virtual option will be available at:

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/kpk-ufcr-tof>
 Or by phone dial: 1-225-424-8608 PIN: 989 763 072#

Polling Places

The voters residing in the Mount Mansfield Unified Union will cast their ballots in the polling places designated for their towns as follows:

Bolton	*	Smilie Memorial School	*	7 am - 7 pm
Huntington	*	Brewster-Pierce Memorial School	*	6:30 am - 7 pm
Jericho	*	Mt. Mansfield Union High School	*	7 am - 7 pm
Richmond	*	Camels Hump Middle School	*	7 am - 7 pm
Underhill	*	Browns River Middle School	*	7 am - 7 pm

**OFFICIAL BALLOT
MOUNT MANSFIELD UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
MARCH 5, 2024**

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- Use BLACK Pen to fill in the oval. **DO NOT USE PENCIL.**
- To vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballot, fill in the oval to the right of the name of that person.
- To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the person's name in the blank space provided and fill in the oval to the right of the write-in line. Please use block letters and stay within the box provided for write-ins.
- Do not vote for more candidates than the "VOTE for NOT MORE THAN #" for an office.
- If you make a mistake, tear, or deface the ballot, return it to an election official and obtain another ballot. **DO NOT ERASE.**

ARTICLE 1: To elect the following officers.

MODERATOR	CLERK	TREASURER
Vote for not more than one	Vote for not more than one	Vote for not more than one
DAVID CLARK <input type="radio"/>	JON MILAZZO <input type="radio"/>	DAVID CLARK <input type="radio"/>
(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>

ARTICLE 2: Shall the voters of the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District authorize the School Board under 16 V.S.A 562 (9) to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes in excess of anticipated revenue for the school year?

YES

NO

ARTICLE 3: Shall the voters of the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District approve the School Board to expend \$65,623,000, which is the amount the School Board has determined necessary for the 2024-25 fiscal year?

YES

NO

SAMPLE

**OFFICIAL WARNING
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MARCH 5, 2024
RICHMOND, VERMONT**

The legal voters of the Town of Richmond Vermont and the legal voters of the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District residing in Richmond are hereby notified and warned to meet at Camels Hump Middle School, in said Town, on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 9 AM to transact the following articles:

The voters are further warned to meet at Camels Hump Middle School, in said Town, on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, where the polls will be open at 7:00 am in the forenoon and close at 7:00 pm in the afternoon to vote the following by Australian ballot:

Town Officers and MMUUSD School Directors

- Article 1. To elect school and town officers for terms posted on ballot.
(To be voted by Australian ballot)
- Article 2. To hear and accept reports of the Town Officers.
- Article 3. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve a budget of \$4,819,779.00 to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town of Richmond in Fiscal Year 2025?
- Article 4. Shall the voters of Richmond vote to appropriate \$500.00 to Vermont Family Network to provide support to Richmond families with children with special needs, such amount being reasonably necessary for the support thereof?
- Article 5. Shall the voters of Richmond vote to appropriate \$3,500.00 to Age Well to provide support and guidance to town residents aged 60 years and older, such amount being reasonably necessary for the support thereof?
- Article 6. Shall the voters of Richmond vote to appropriate \$375.00 to VT Center for Independent Living for providing services to enhance the lives of town residents with disabilities, such amount being reasonably necessary for the support thereof?
- Article 7. Shall the voters of Richmond vote to appropriate \$1,000.00 to The Committee on Temporary Shelter to provide emergency shelter, services, and housing for town residents who are homeless or marginally housed, such amount being reasonably necessary for the support thereof?

- Article 8. Shall the voters of Richmond vote to appropriate \$3,000.00 to Our Community Cares Camp to provide enrichment and food services to children, internship opportunities for youth, job training, and development for young adults for town residents, such amount being reasonably necessary for the support thereof?
- Article 9. Shall the voters of Richmond vote to appropriate \$1,500.00 to Steps to End Domestic Violence for assisting town residents who have been affected physically, sexually, emotionally, or economically by domestic abuse in the transition to a safe, independent life, such amount being reasonably necessary for the support thereof?
- Article 10. Shall the voters of Richmond vote to appropriate \$5,000.00 to Turning Point Center of Chittenden County to provide to town residents an inclusive compassionate community supporting those on multiple paths to recovery through peer-driven services in a safe, substance-free environment, such amount being reasonably necessary for the support thereof?
- Article 11. Shall the voters of Richmond vote to appropriate \$1,885.00 to HOPE Works for their work to end all forms of sexual violence to town residents, such amount being reasonably necessary for the support thereof?
- Article 12. Shall the voters authorize renovating and making capital improvements to the Town Center building to address conditions affecting user health and safety concerns (i.e., deteriorating windows, electrical and HVAC systems, emergency egress deficiencies, and the absence of a sprinkler system) and to bring the building into compliance with flood-related zoning regulations, and to issue notes or other debt instruments in an amount not to exceed Nine Million, Eight Hundred Forty-One Thousand, Six Hundred Three and 00/100 Dollars (\$9,841,603.00) and for a term not to exceed thirty (30) years (the "Project"), subject to reduction by grants in aid and other state and federal funds then available to the Town for this purpose? (To be voted by Australian ballot)
- Article 13. Shall the Town of Richmond vote to approve funding the Conservation Reserve Fund by adding one cent to the municipal tax rate in the 2024-2025 fiscal year? (To be voted by Australian ballot)
- Advisory Article 14. Shall the Town of Richmond investigate developing housing on the Town owned property of Browns Ct.?
- Article 15. To transact any other Town business that may come legally before this meeting.

Richmond Select Board

DocuSigned by:
Jay Furr
8D1CC48AAB4146C...
Jay Furr, Chairperson

DocuSigned by:
David Sander
73AE4F692F4A959...
David Sander, Vice Chair

DocuSigned by:
Lisa Miller
5292C8D86843453...
Lisa Miller

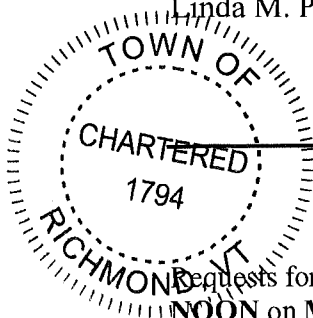
DocuSigned by:
Bard Hill
3ED4E25E30204EB...
Bard Hill

DocuSigned by:
Jeffrey Forward
49DD2DE73D8347D...
Jeffrey Forward

Received for record this *18th* day of January 2024.

Linda M Parent

Linda M. Parent, CVC, Town Clerk



SPECIAL NOTES

Requests for **early voter absentee ballots** will be accepted in the Town Clerk's Office until **NOON on March 1, 2024**

Richmond Select Board: The legal voters of the Town of Richmond are warned and notified that an informational meeting will be held at Richmond Town Center in the Town of Richmond on Monday, February 26, 2024 commencing at 7:00 PM for the purpose of explaining the 2024-2025 proposed budget and Australian ballot items. This meeting may also be attended online or by phone:

Join Zoom Meeting Online:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87155105423?pwd=WU81V1g1eXZVaTR3U2gvaVVndXJpUT09>

Join by Phone: +1 929 205 6099
Meeting ID: 871 5510 5423
Passcode: 025372

**REPUBLICAN PARTY
OFFICIAL PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY BALLOT
MARCH 5, 2024**

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- Use BLACK Pen to fill in the oval. **DO NOT USE PENCIL.**
- To vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballot, fill in the oval to the right of the name of that person.
- To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the person's name in the blank space provided and fill in the oval to the right of the write-in line. Please use block letters and stay within the box provided for write-ins.
- Do not vote for more candidates than the "VOTE for NOT MORE THAN #" for an office.
- If you make a mistake, tear, or deface the ballot, return it to an election official and obtain another ballot. **DO NOT ERASE.**

FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
Vote for not more than ONE

RYAN L. BINKLEY of Texas	<input type="radio"/>
CHRIS CHRISTIE of New Jersey	<input type="radio"/>
RON DESANTIS of Florida	<input type="radio"/>
NIKKI HALEY of South Carolina	<input type="radio"/>
VIVEK RAMASWAMY of Ohio	<input type="radio"/>
DONALD J. TRUMP of Florida	<input type="radio"/>
(Write-in)	<input type="radio"/>

SAMPLE

**DEMOCRATIC PARTY
OFFICIAL PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY BALLOT
MARCH 5, 2024**

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- Use BLACK Pen to fill in the oval. **DO NOT USE PENCIL.**
- To vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballot, fill in the oval to the right of the name of that person.
- To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the person's name in the blank space provided and fill in the oval to the right of the write-in line. Please use block letters and stay within the box provided for write-ins.
- Do not vote for more candidates than the "VOTE for NOT MORE THAN #" for an office.
- If you make a mistake, tear, or deface the ballot, return it to an election official and obtain another ballot. **DO NOT ERASE.**

FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Vote for not more than ONE

JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR of Delaware	<input type="radio"/>
MARK STEWART GREENSTEIN of Connecticut	<input type="radio"/>
JASON MICHAEL PALMER of Maryland	<input type="radio"/>
DEAN PHILLIPS of Minnesota	<input type="radio"/>
CENK UYGUR of California	<input type="radio"/>
MARIANNE WILLIAMSON of Washington, DC	<input type="radio"/>
(Write-in)	<input type="radio"/>

SAMPLE

2000

OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN AND TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
RICHMOND, VERMONT
MARCH 5, 2024

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- Use BLACK Pen to fill in the oval. **DO NOT USE PENCIL.**
- To vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballot, fill in the oval to the right of the name of that person.
- To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the person's name in the blank space provided and fill in the oval to the right of the write-in line. Please use block letters and stay within the box provided for write-ins.
- Do not vote for more candidates than the "VOTE for NOT MORE THAN #" for an office.
- If you make a mistake, tear, or deface the ballot, return it to an election official and obtain another ballot. **DO NOT ERASE.**

MODERATOR	CEMETERY TRUSTEE	FIRST CONSTABLE
One Year Term	Five Year Term	One Year Term
Vote for not more than ONE	Vote for not more than ONE	Vote for not more than ONE
CLINT BUXTON <input type="radio"/>	DENNIS GILE <input type="radio"/>	ANDY SQUIRES <input type="radio"/>
(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>
SELECTBOARD	LIBRARY TRUSTEE	TOWN MANAGED UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
Three Year Term	Five Year Term	Three Year Term
Vote for not more than ONE	Vote for not more than ONE	Vote for not more than ONE
JAY FURR <input type="radio"/>	RAFAEL MEDY <input type="radio"/>	KATIE A. NELSON <input type="radio"/>
Write-in <input type="radio"/>	Write-in <input type="radio"/>	Write-in <input type="radio"/>
MATTHEW ALTRUP <input type="radio"/>		
ADAM WOOD <input type="radio"/>		
(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>		

ARTICLES

Article 12. Shall the voters authorize renovating and making capital improvements to the Town Center building to address conditions affecting user health and safety concerns (i.e., deteriorating windows, electrical and HVAC systems, emergency egress deficiencies, and the absence of a sprinkler system) and to bring the building into compliance with flood-related zoning regulations, and to issue notes or other debt instruments in an amount not to exceed Nine Million, Eight Hundred Forty-One Thousand, Six Hundred Three and 00/100 Dollars (\$9,841,603.00) and for a term not to exceed thirty (30) years (the "Project"), subject to reduction by grants in aid and other state and federal funds then available to the Town for this purpose?

YES

NO

Article 13. Shall the Town of Richmond vote to approve funding the Conservation Reserve Fund by adding one cent to the municipal tax rate in the 2024-2025 fiscal year?

YES

NO

STATE & FEDERAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

Governor Honorable Phil Scott

1-802-828-3322

Vermont State House ~ 115 State Street ~ Montpelier VT 05633

Lt. Governor David Zuckerman

1-802-828-2226

Vermont State House ~ 115 State Street ~ Montpelier VT 05633

Secretary of State Sarah Copeland Hanzas

1-800-439-8683

128 State Street ~ Montpelier VT 05633

U.S. Senator Peter Welch

1-800-642-3193

199 Main Street, Floor 4 ~ Burlington VT 05401

U.S. Senator Bernard Sanders

1-800-339-9834

1 Church Street, Floor 3 ~ Burlington VT 05401

U.S. Representative Becca Balint

1-802-652-2450

159 Bank Street, Suite 204 ~ Burlington, VT 05401

State Senators ~ Chittenden ~ South East

Thomas Chittenden (D) 802-233-1913

Virginia Lyons, Williston (D) 802-863-6129

Kesha Ram Hinsdale (D) 802-881-4433

All mailing addresses: 115 State Street ~ Montpelier VT 05633

Chittenden 1 Representative

Jana Brown

PO Box 66

Richmond, VT 05477

Phone Statehouse 1-800-322-5616

Phone Home 802-999-4333

Email jbrown@leg.state.vt.us

"Home of the Round Church"
TOWN OF RICHMOND
Bridge Street, P.O. Box 285
Richmond, VT 05477



1794

