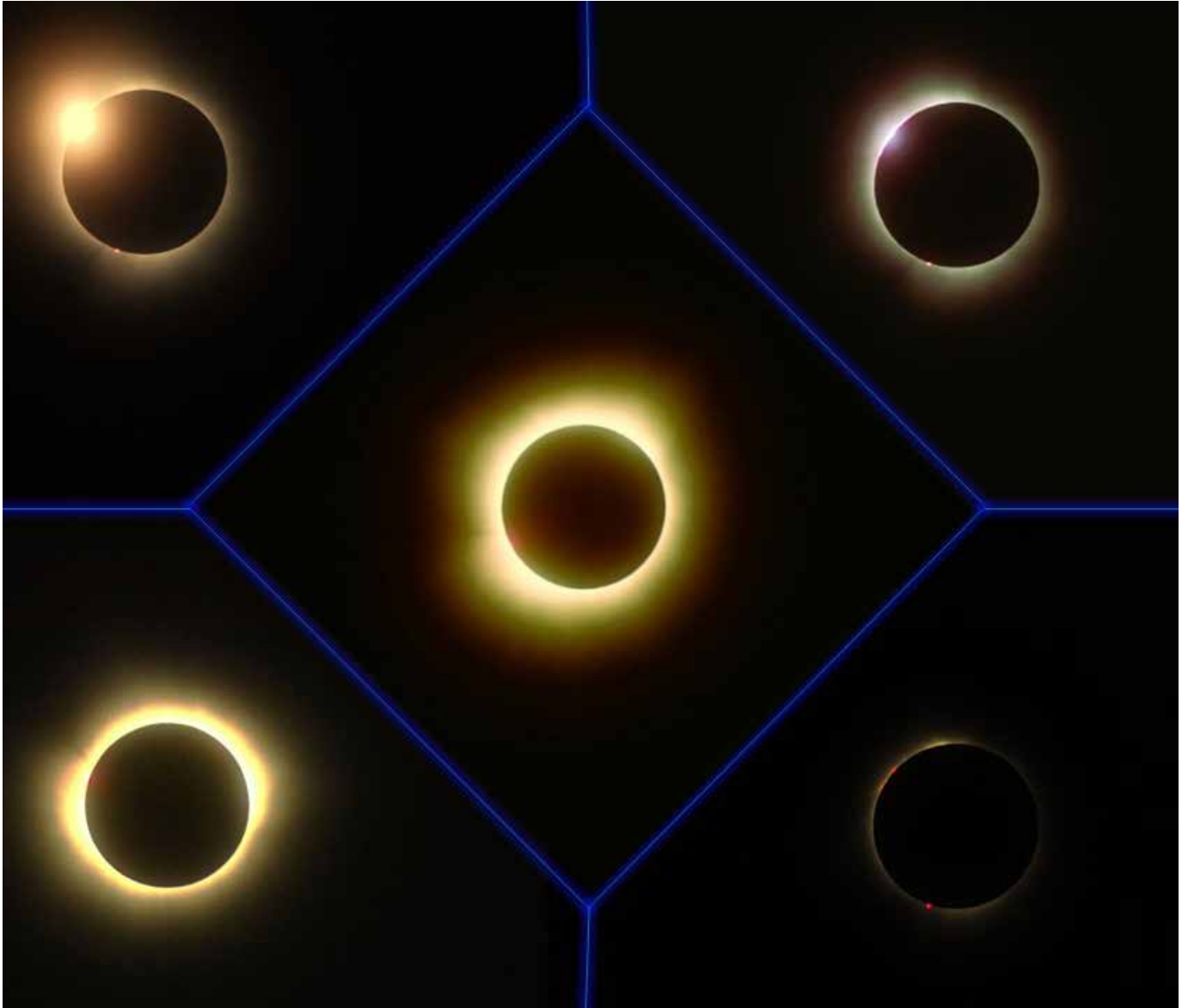


# TOWN OF RICHMOND, VERMONT



**230<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL REPORT  
FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024**

## DEDICATION OF THE 2025 TOWN REPORT TO LINDA PARENT



With deep appreciation and admiration, the Town of Richmond dedicates the 2025 Town Report to Linda Parent, who has served as our Town Clerk with unparalleled dedication and excellence for over 20 years. Linda's tenure exemplifies the highest ideals of public service, marked by professionalism, kindness, and an unwavering commitment to our community.

A lifelong resident of Richmond, Linda's journey of service began decades ago, culminating in her role as Town Clerk. Linda even attended school in the Town Center building, where she spent her career, which resulted in her being in the same building for two historical events which occurred decades apart, President Kennedy's death and the attacks on September 11. Over the years, she has become a cornerstone of our town, someone who not only understands the intricacies of municipal governance but also embodies the spirit of Richmond. Linda's door has always been open to residents seeking guidance, whether on local regulations, genealogy research, or simply a kind word during challenging times.

Linda's contributions extend far beyond the Town Clerk's office. She has volunteered her time and energy to numerous causes and organizations, including the 4th of July Parade Committee, the Richmond Historical Society, Celebrate Richmond Vermont, and Our Community Cares Camp, to name just a few. Her leadership during crises such as Tropical Storm Irene, when she worked to protect town property by deploying pumps in the town center's basement, and the COVID-19 pandemic, when she ensured residents could still access town services through creative solutions like parking lot notary services, demonstrated her resourcefulness and unwavering dedication.

Her compassion and kindness have touched countless lives. Linda often served as the first friendly face for new residents, helping them acclimate to Richmond and navigate Vermont's regulations. She supported families in stressful situations and ensured that elections were conducted with professionalism and integrity. Her advocacy for the Richmond Historical Society, including securing vault space for historical documents and championing their request for dedicated space in the town center, is another testament to her commitment to preserving Richmond's heritage.

Linda's dedication to the town has been so wholehearted that her license plate proudly reads "CLERK1," a reflection of how deeply she embraced her role. Her professional accolades include being named the Vermont Town Clerk of the Year in 2022 by the Vermont Municipal Clerks and Treasurers Association, but her true legacy lies in the countless lives she has touched with her warmth, knowledge, and willingness to help.

As Linda retires from her role, we honor her decades of service and the indelible mark she leaves on Richmond. Her wisdom, kindness, and tireless work ethic have set a standard for public service that will inspire for years to come.

Thank you, Linda, for everything you have done to make Richmond a better place. You will always be a part of our town's heart and history.

**TOWN OF RICHMOND, VERMONT  
2024 – 2025**

**Warning for the  
Two Hundred Thirtieth**

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

**Chartered October 1794**

**To be held at**

**March 4, 2025 at 10:00 AM**

**CAMELS HUMP MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**The polls will be open for in-person voting Tuesday March 4, 2025**

**7am-7pm at Camels Hump Middle School**

**Ballots will be available after February 13, 2025.**

**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 Feb 28.**

**An informational Selectboard meeting will be held at on**

**February 24, 2025 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 eclipse photo was taken on Johnnie Brook Road by John VanHouten. He is also the author of the "Five Gold Rings" song included.**

**Thank you to Becky Burk & 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 2024.**

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Photo by Jake Levinson

## ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>TERM ENDS</u>
<b>Town Moderator</b>	Clinton Buxton	1 Year	2025
<b>Town Clerk</b>	Linda M. Parent	3 Year	2025
<b>Town Treasurer</b>	James Feinson	3 Year	2025
<b>Selectboard</b>	Joel Furr	3 Year	2027
	Adam Wood	2 Year	2026
	David Sander	3 Year	2026
	Lisa Miller	2 Year	2025
	Bard Hill	3 Year	2025
<b>Cemetery Trustees</b>	Clinton Buxton	5 Year	2025
	George Gifford	5 Year	2026
	Linda M. Parent	5 Year	2027
	Heidi Bormann	5 Year	2028
	Dennis Gile	5 Year	2029
<b>Constable</b>	Andrew Squires	1 Year	2025
<b>Library Trustees</b>	Kathleen Templin	5 Year	2025
	Laurie Dana	5 Year	2026
	Amy R. Wardwell	5 Year	2027
	Matthew Crabb	5 Year	2028
	Rafael Kennedy	5 Year	2029
<b>State Representative</b>	Jana Brown	2 Year	2028
<b>Mt Mansfield Modified</b>	Heather Chadwick	3 Years	2025
<b>Union School Directors</b>	Alison Conant	3 Years	2025
	Tara J. Arneson	3 Years	2026
	Katie A. Nelson	3 Years	2027
<b>Justices of the Peace</b>	All 2 Year terms ending		2026
	Aimee Alexander	Mary Houle	
	Denise Begins Barnard	Keith Kasper	
	Andrew Bessette	Matthew Moultroup	
	Heather Chadwick	Michael Parent	
	Francis Churchill	Marshall Paulsen	
	Joel Furr	Becky Vigneault	

**SCHEDULED TOWN MEETINGS & OFFICE HOURS**

[www.richmondvt.gov/calendar](http://www.richmondvt.gov/calendar) ~ 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	TBD		Town Center
Gardening Committee	TBD		Town Center
July 4 Parade & Fireworks Committee	1st & 3rd Thursdays January - August	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	4th Monday of each month	6:00 PM	Town Center
Volunteer's Green & Browns Court Project Committee	TBD		Town Center
Housing Committee	4th Wednesday of each month	5:30 PM	Town Center
Parking Advisory Committee	2nd & 4th Monday of each month	6:00 PM	Town Center
Town Center & Library Building Committee	2nd Wednesday of each month	7:00 PM	Town Center
Transportation Committee	TBD		Town Center
Mt. Mansfield Unified Union School District #12	2nd & 4th Monday of each month <a href="http://www.mmuusd.org">www.mmuusd.org</a> ~ for up to date meeting information & agendas	6:30 PM	TBA

**TOWN CLERK** 802-434-2221 x 2  
Monday - Thursday 8 AM - 4 PM  
Friday 8 AM - noon

**TOWN MANAGER** 802-434-5170 or 802-434-2221 x 1  
Monday - Friday 8 AM - 4 PM

**TOWN PLANNER** 802-336-2289  
**ZONING ADMINSTRATOR** 802-434-2430  
Monday - Thursday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM  
Friday 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

**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	Suzanne Krohn	802-434-3036
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	802-434-5170
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission Clean Water Advisory	Keith Osborne	802-336-2289
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission Planning Advisory	Keith Osborne / Virginia Clark	802-336-2289
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission Board of Directors	Bard Hill	802-434-5672
Chittenden Solid Waste District Energy Coordinator	Andrew French Jeffrey Forward	802-922-3069 802-434-2344
Emergency Management Coordinator	Josh Arneson	802-434-5170
Chittenden Unit for Special Investigations Board Member	Jay Furr	802-434-4601
Forest Fire Warden	Dennis Gile	802-316-7558
Assistant Forest Fire Warden	Gerald Levesque	802-310-7182
<b>To obtain a Burn Permit, call Shelburne Dispatch</b>		<b>802-985-8051</b>

Weigher of Coal	Jay Furr	802-434-4601
	Jeff Forward	802-434-2344
Lake Iroquois Committee	Jack Linn	802-434-4882
Town Fence Viewer	vacant	
Inspector of Lumber, Shingles & Wood	Jon Kart	802-999-7515
Town Health Officer	Eric Wood	802-735-4702
Town Tree Warden	Caitlin Littlefield	978-807-1494
Deputy Town Tree Warden	Matthew Leonetti	802-760-7577
Richmond Rescue Representative	Amy Wardwell	802-434-3385

**SCHOOL OFFICIALS**

Superintendent, MMUUSD	Dr. John Alberghini	802-434-2128
Principal, MMUHS	Michael Weston	802-899-4690
Principal, CHMS	Gretchen Muller	802-434-2188
Principal, RES	Jeremy Rector	802-434-2461



*Eclipse photo by Eric Thomas*

## TOWN COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

### SELECTBOARD

David Sander, Chair  
Bard Hill  
Adam Wood

Lisa Miller, Vice Chair  
Jay Furr

### CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Judy Rosovsky, Chair  
Daniel Schmidt  
Kit Emery  
Sam Pratt  
Jeanette Malone

Elizabeth Wright  
Alison Anand – alternate  
Robert Low – alternate  
Susannah Zeveloff

### DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

David Sunshine, Chair  
Roger Pedersen  
Matt Parisi

Matthew Dyer  
Padraic Monks

### JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> PARADE & FIREWORKS COMMITTEE

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

Amanda Cobb  
Ken Nussbaum  
Justin Spence

### PLANNING COMMISSION

Virginia Clarke, Chair  
Mark Fausel  
Alison Anand

Rebecca Connell  
Chris Granda  
Ian Bender

### RECREATION COMMITTEE

Mark Fausel - no quorum, not meeting

### TRAILS COMMITTEE

Hannah Harrington, Co-Chair  
Jean Bressor  
Mike Donahue  
Tyler Merritt  
Alexandra McAleer

Callie Ewald  
Alison Aiken, Co-Chair  
Chase Rosenberg  
Ben Feinson (non-voting)

### WATER & SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Morgan Wolaver, Chair  
Jay Furr  
Lisa Miller

Erin Farr, Vice Chair  
Bard Hill

## TOWN COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

### ANDREWS COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Ian Stokes, Chair  
Melissa Wolaver  
Wright Preston  
Brad Elliott – Conservation Commission Recommendation  
Sam Pratt – Conservation Commission Representative  
Jim Cochran – Trails Committee Recommendation  
Chase Rosenberg – Trails Committee Representative

Cecilia Danks  
Julian Portilla

### HOUSING COMMITTEE

Mark Hall, Chair  
Connie vanEeghan, Clerk  
Virginia Clarke, Planning Commission Representative

Andrew Mannix  
Nick Blanchet – Alternate

### PARKING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Diane Mariano  
Charles Gilroy  
Matt Buckley

John Cohn  
John Rankin

### TOWN CENTER & LIBRARY BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

Adam Wood, Chair  
Matt Cherouny  
Cara LaBounty

Amy Wardwell  
Mike Storrs

### TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Jon Kart

Keith Jennings - no quorum, not meeting

### VOLUNTEERS GREEN & BROWNS COURT PROJECT (3 Parks

Denise Barnard, Co-Chair  
Jeanne Agner  
Mary Lefebvre  
Frances Thomas

Kendra Ziskie, Co-Chair  
Meghan Andrews  
Theresa Storrs

### COMMITTEE TO EXPLORE PATH FINDING

Mark Aiken  
Jared Katz

Gary Bressor

### GARDENING COMMITTEE

Erin Farr  
Jessica Clements  
Mary Houle

Jim Feinson  
Marilynne Johnson

## **RICHMOND TOWN MEETING**

**March 5, 2024**

Residents gathered March 5 at Camels Hump Middle School to take care of the business of our town. Moderator Clint Buxton welcomed all and reviewed the ins and outs of the procedures of the meeting. We held a moment of silence in honor of the Veterans and those now serving in the military to protect the freedoms we have today. Boy Scout Troop #23 served as Honor Guard and presented the Flags of our Country and State. This year approximately 250 people attended the in-person meeting, many more than in previous years. In attendance were 11 members of the AmeriCorp group serving with the Williston FEMA office.

Town Manager Josh Arneson presented the proposed budget of \$4,819,779 to meet expenses and liabilities of the Town for Fiscal Year 2025. After the presentation, Richmond resident, Cara LaBounty proposed an amendment to remove \$200,000 from the budget, second by Peter Scherber. This was proposed to lower the tax rate. This vote was taken by “paper ballot” and was defeated; Yes 75 to reduce the budget and No to hold the budget at the printed amount. The budget later passed in the original amount of \$4,819,779 by voice vote.

Other articles were voted on and approved to support social service groups listed in the warning, totaling \$16,760.

Jeff Forward gave a presentation of the Article 12 bond vote, regarding the renovation & capital improvements to the Richmond Town Center. This article was voted by Australian ballot. The total proposed bond would have been \$9,841,603, subject to reduction of grant funds and other state & federal aid. This bond vote was defeated, with a vote of Yes 666 and No 772.

Article 13 on the ballot was to approve funding the Conservation fund by adding 1 cent to the town tax rate. This article passed, Yes 1014 and No 420.

Close to 1500 voters cast their ballots early and throughout the day.

All unopposed officers were elected: Clint Buxton, Moderator; Jay Furr, three year Selectboard; Dennis Gile, Cemetery Trustee; Rafael Kennedy, Library Trustee, Andy Squires, Constable and Katie Nelson, MMUUSD School Director.

This year there was one contested race on the ballot, for the two-year position of Selectboard member: Adam Wood was the winner with 878 votes. His opponent was Matthew Moultroupe with 458 votes.



Under other non-binding business, a resolution was presented and approved to support an immediate & permanent ceasefire by both Hamas and Israeli governments. This was supported by the agreement of those present.

Also under non-binding business, the question of shall the town investigate developing housing on the town owned property located on Brown's Court, locally referred to as Brown's Court Ballfield. The consensus of those present was that the ballfield should remain a recreational area, with the possibility of housing to be explored elsewhere in Richmond. It was asked that a document be drawn up to make Browns Court Ballfield to be held only for recreational purposes in perpetuity, as the original agreement was intended. So accepted by those in attendance.

Members of the Richmond Housing Committee offered the following non-binding resolution: Shall the Richmond Housing Committee engage diverse members of the Richmond community in town-wide conversations about housing, to share both the needs and the options relevant to Richmond? It was accepted by those in attendance.

Thanks were expressed to Selectman Jeff Forward who is stepping down from the board.

Thanks to all who volunteered their time to be election workers and the groups who set up their information and wares for all the town to see. Special thanks to the Boy Scouts of Troop #23 who helped set up and tear down the gymnasium. Thank you to the staff of Camels Hump Middle School for their assistance with the day. The lunch this year was sponsored by the Community Senior Center. It was a tremendous hit! Thank you.

Linda M Parent, CVC  
Richmond Town Clerk

Clinton Buxton  
Richmond Moderator



*Photos by Lisa Cross Dowd*

## **TOWN OF RICHMOND FY26 BUDGET NOTES**

This document provides some details about the budgets contained in the Town Report. It is hoped that these details will help provide a better explanation and understanding of the Municipal Budget.

The notes are divided into two sections:

- 1) General Budget Notes: Provides information which applies generally to the budgeting process.
- 2) Budget Notes Specific to the FY26 Budget: Provides information specific to the FY26 Budget.

### 1) General Budget Notes:

- The majority of the Municipal Budget that is presented for approval by the voters is prepared by the Selectboard with feedback from Town Staff.
- The Library section which is included in the Municipal Budget is prepared by the Library Trustees with feedback from the Library Director.
- Water and Wastewater:
  - The Water and Wastewater Budgets contained in this Town Report are the FY25 Water and Wastewater Budgets that were approved at the Water and Sewer Annual Meeting on May 21, 2024.
  - The Water and Wastewater Budgets are not on the ballot in March.
  - The Water and Wastewater Budgets are not part of the tax rate.
  - The Water and Wastewater rates are paid by the customers of the Water and Wastewater Department.
  - The Municipal Budget includes a Fire Protection Fee paid to the Water and Wastewater Department for the purpose of providing water for the Fire Department.
  - The 2025 Water and Sewer Annual Meeting will be held in May of 2025, the exact time and date to be decided by the Water and Sewer Commission. Please attend that meeting where the FY26 Water and Wastewater Budgets will be discussed and considered for approval.
- The Town is responsible for collecting taxes for the Municipal Budget and for the Education Tax. These amounts are combined on tax bills. The Education Tax generally accounts for about 70% of the combined total of Municipal and Education Taxes.

- Explanation of Reserve Funds and Unassigned & Restricted Funds:
  - Reserve Funds function like savings accounts and are typically used for larger capital purchases or projects. Funds can be added to the reserves yearly from tax revenue and that amount is decided by the voters as part of the Municipal Budget.
  - Unassigned and Restricted Funds are a combination of underspending and unbudgeted revenue – i.e., surplus. These funds become Unassigned Funds and Restricted Funds.
    - Restricted Funds are designated specifically to the Highway Department and may not be used for expenses in any other department.
    - Unassigned Funds may be used for any Municipal expense, including Highway expenses.
    - In November 2023 the Selectboard adopted the Fund Balance Policy which limits the total of Unassigned and Restricted Funds to not more than 15% of the Municipal Budget.
    - Any amount over 15% must be used for emergencies or put toward the next budget to reduce taxes raised.

## 2) Budget Notes Specific to the FY26 Budget.

- Fiscal Year Explanation:
  - Fiscal Years are named according to the calendar year in which they end.
  - The previous fiscal year was FY24.
    - FY24 began on July 1, 2023 and ended on June 30, 2024.
  - Currently it is FY25.
    - FY25 began on July 1, 2024 and will end on June 30, 2025.
  - The budget being voted on is for FY26.
    - FY26 will begin on July 1, 2025 and will end on June 30, 2026.
- Spending from FY25 to FY26 is down by \$45,333. The budgeted FY25 Expenses were \$4,915,898. Budgeted FY26 Expenses are \$4,870,565.
  - Note the FY25 Expenses include the totals for the Conservation Reserve Fund and Charitable Appropriations, both of which are voted on separately from the main budget. If the Conservation Reserve Fund and Charitable Appropriations all pass for FY26 this would add \$99,878 to the budget which would result in an increase in expenses of \$54,545, or 1.11%, from FY25 to FY26.

- Tax Rate:
  - The tax rate presented here, and all estimates that follow, are based on an estimated FY26 Grand List value.
  - There will be some adjustments to the Grand List between now and when the Selectboard sets the final FY26 tax rate in July 2025.
  - The tax rate is budgeted at 0.5308, which is an increase over FY25 of 6.83%. This represents an additional \$33.93 in taxes per \$100,000 of property value. The total taxes per \$100,000 of property value would be \$530.83.
  - While budgeted expenses are down from FY25 to FY26, the tax rate increase is due to a lack of Unassigned and Restricted Funds to use to offset the tax rate. This lack of funds is due to the July 2024 flood which created expenses of around \$2M.
    - In FY25 \$433,186 of Unassigned Funds were used to help offset the amount of funds that needed to be raised in taxes.
    - In FY26 there is only \$78,647 in Unassigned Funds available to help offset the amount of funds that need to be raised in taxes.
- Conservation Reserve Fund:
  - The Conservation Reserve Fund is a separate Article on the ballot. It is not included in the budget as presented. If this passes it will be an addition to the tax rate and to the budget.
  - The question on the ballot is to approve funding the Conservation Reserve Fund by adding one cent to the municipal tax rate in FY26.
  - The estimated contribution to the Conservation Reserve Fund would be \$80,503 based on the estimated Grand List value of \$8,050,387.
  - If this article passes the actual funding for the Conservation Reserve Fund will be based on the Grand List value when the tax rate is set.
  - \$80,503 added to the budget will increase the estimated tax rate increase from FY25 to FY26 by 2.01%. This represents an additional \$10 in taxes per \$100,000 of property value.
- Social Service Appropriation Requests are voted on separately by the voters:
  - If all the Social Service Appropriation Requests are approved it would add \$19,375 to the budget, and would increase the estimated tax rate increase from FY25 to FY26 by 0.48%. This represents an additional \$2.41 in taxes per \$100,000 of property value.
  - Every \$1,000 added to the budget will increase the estimated tax rate increase from FY25 to FY26 by 0.025%. This represents an additional \$0.12 in taxes per \$100,000 of property value.

# TOWN OF RICHMOND FY26 BUDGET EXPENSES

PLEASE SEE "BUDGET NOTES" LOCATED IN THIS REPORT JUST BEFORE THE BUDGET FOR MORE DETAILS ON THE BUDGET

Chart of Account #	Expense Budget Accounts	Budget FY 2024	Actual FY 2024	Budget FY 2025	Budget FY 2026	FY 25/26 Change	%
<b>TOWN ADMINISTRATION</b>							
10-7-10-0-10.00	Administration salaries	327,683	340,278	353,108	375,400		6.31%
10-7-10-0-10.00	Administration Bonus	-	-	-	168		100.00%
10-7-10-1-45.02	Contract services animal	3,000	3,202	3,000	2,187		-27.10%
10-7-10-0-10.01	Delinquent Tax Collector	10,000	9,581	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	10,000	10,077	10,000	10,000		0.00%
10-7-10-0-11.00	SS/Medicare - Adm.	27,318	27,336	29,345	30,242		3.06%
10-7-10-0-11.01	Child Care Contribution Tax	-	-	-	1,772		100.00%
10-7-10-0-12.00	Municipal retirement	20,736	21,982	22,646	24,996		10.38%
10-7-10-0-15.00	Health & Dental Insurance	20,817	23,084	23,611	39,522		67.39%
10-7-10-0-15.01	Health insurance HSA	1,044	973	901	368		-59.16%
10-7-10-0-15.03	Long term disability	1,750	1,637	1,740	2,160		24.14%
10-7-10-0-15.04	Health insurance broker fees	2,300	3,520	2,500	3,500		40.00%
10-7-10-1-42.00	Association dues	350	70	350	100		-71.43%
10-7-10-0-17.00	Recognitions/Awards	1,250	2,417	2,000	2,500		25.00%
10-7-10-1-27.00	Training/Education	5,000	486	5,000	5,000		0.00%
10-7-10-1-29.00	Travel - Adm.	250	37	400	400		0.00%
10-7-10-0-10.03	Election expenses	1,500	3,803	2,500	4,000		60.00%
10-7-10-1-25.03	Town reports	5,000	2,642	3,000	4,000		33.33%
10-7-10-1-20.01	Recording books	3,600	2,029	3,000	3,000		0.00%
10-7-10-1-20.00	Office supplies	6,500	8,212	8,000	8,000		0.00%
10-7-10-1-22.00	Office equipment	10,000	6,148	10,000	7,500		-25.00%
10-7-10-1-30.00	Telephone/Internet	6,000	6,408	9,500	9,500		0.00%
10-7-10-1-30.01	Cell Phones - Admin	-	-	1,000	1,000		0.00%
10-7-10-1-21.00	Postage - Adm.	9,500	9,410	9,000	9,500		5.56%
10-7-10-1-23.00	Website administration	3,850	3,399	4,000	3,500		-12.50%
10-7-10-1-24.00	Advertising - Adm.	3,000	4,915	3,000	4,500		50.00%
10-7-10-3-48.00	General/PACIF Insurance	17,601	16,262	19,280	11,370		-41.03%
10-7-10-3-48.01	Town Center building insurance	6,100	7,128	8,155	10,279		26.04%
10-7-10-3-43.00	Legal	30,000	35,654	30,000	35,000		16.67%
10-7-10-3-46.00	Engineering Review	1,500	-	1,500	1,000		-33.33%
10-7-10-1-45.00	Contract services admin	8,000	16,130	8,000	8,000		0.00%
10-7-10-1-45.03	Contract services election	5,000	2,975	8,000	5,000		-37.50%
10-7-10-1-45.05	Contract services technology support	25,500	30,806	28,000	32,000		14.29%
10-7-10-3-44.00	Contracted services independent Auditors	10,000	10,700	13,000	15,000		15.38%
10-7-10-1-45.07	Contracted Grounds Maintenance	50,000	32,815	35,000	40,000		14.29%
10-7-10-1-45-08	Community Well Being	5,000	4,831	5,000	5,000		0.00%
10-7-10-1-45-06	Technology equipment	6,000	2,898	4,000	4,000		0.00%
10-7-10-2-31.00	Heat	10,000	9,177	10,500	10,500		0.00%
10-7-10-2-32.00	Electric	13,000	13,672	13,500	14,000		3.70%
10-7-10-2-33.00	Water and Sewer	8,000	4,560	8,000	6,500		-18.75%
10-7-10-2-34.00	Trash removal	2,500	2,468	2,500	3,000		20.00%
10-7-10-2-62.00	Building maintenance	15,000	44,067	15,000	25,000		66.67%
10-7-10-2-62.01	Landscaping & tree maintenance	1,500	2,066	1,500	3,000		100.00%
10-7-10-3-42.01	VLCT membership dues	6,595	6,595	6,797	6,947		2.21%
10-7-10-3-80.00	County tax	24,500	26,438	27,000	27,000		0.00%
10-7-10-3-80.03	Emergency management	500	-	500	-		-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.03	Flags	1,000	395	1,000	750		-25.00%
10-8-90-5-95.04	Greater Burlington Industrial Corp. (GBIC)	-	200	200	200		0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.06	Mount Mansfield Community TV (MMCTV)	-	5,000	5,000	5,000		0.00%
10-7-10-2-43.01	Fire protection	52,000	49,899	55,000	38,033		-30.85%
<b>Total - Town Administration</b>		<b>784,744</b>	<b>821,383</b>	<b>829,033</b>	<b>874,394</b>		<b>5.47%</b>

## TOWN OF RICHMOND FY26 BUDGET EXPENSES

Chart of Account #	Expense Budget Accounts	Budget FY 2024	Actual FY 2024	Budget FY 2025	Budget FY 2026	FY 25/26 Change	%
<b>ASSESSORS</b>							
10-7-12-1-45.00	Contract Assessing services	31,000	32,730	32,000	34,000		6.25%
10-7-12-3-47.00	Tax map maintenance	1,500	4,795	1,500	3,000		100.00%
10-7-90-1-91.00	Reappraisal reserve	14,500	14,500	15,000	7,500		-50.00%
<b>Total - Assessors</b>		<b>47,000</b>	<b>52,025</b>	<b>48,500</b>	<b>44,500</b>		<b>-8.25%</b>
<b>PLANNING AND ZONING</b>							
10-7-15-0-10.00	Salaries	131,107	140,778	147,139	155,258		5.52%
10-7-15-0-10.01	Overtime	1,000	-	1,000	1,000		0.00%
10-7-15-0-11.00	SS/Medicare - Adm.	10,172	10,358	11,407	12,032		5.48%
10-7-15-0-11.01	Child Care Contribution Tax	-	-	-	688		100.00%
10-7-15-0-12.00	Municipal retirement	8,917	9,556	10,367	11,329		9.28%
10-7-15-0-15.00	Health & Dental insurance	50,411	56,421	59,124	51,521		-12.86%
10-7-15-0-15.01	Health Insurance HSA	-	-	-	368		100.00%
10-7-15-0-15.03	Long term disability	850	978	900	660		-26.67%
10-7-15-0-15.04	Internship Stipend	2,000	-	2,000	2,000		0.00%
10-7-15-1-27.00	Training/Education (includes lodging & meals)	1,000	1,446	2,500	2,500		0.00%
10-7-15-1-29.00	Travel - PZ (mileage reimbursement)	1,000	465	250	1,000		300.00%
10-7-15-1-42.00	Association dues	750	180	750	500		-33.33%
10-7-15-1-20.00	Office supplies	3,000	688	1,500	1,500		0.00%
10-7-15-1-20.01	Office equipment (copier)	3,000	1,368	1,500	1,500		0.00%
10-7-15-1-20.02	Cell Phones	-	-	1,000	1,000		0.00%
10-7-15-1-21.00	Postage - PZ	800	199	500	1,000		100.00%
10-7-15-1-24.00	Advertising - PZ	3,500	1,512	3,000	3,000		0.00%
10-7-15-1-45.00	Contract services planning & zoning	5,000	200	5,000	5,000		0.00%
10-7-15-1-43.01	Transportation Planning	20,000	5,448	10,000	2,500		-75.00%
10-8-90-5-95.08	Regional Planning Dues CCRPC	5,842	5,842	6,335	6,750		6.55%
10-7-15-3-43.01	Engineering	2,000	205	2,000	2,000		0.00%
10-7-15-3-43.02	Legal Reserve (10K reserve balance limit)	5,000	7,890	10,000	10,000		0.00%
<b>Total - Planning and Zoning</b>		<b>255,349</b>	<b>243,534</b>	<b>276,272</b>	<b>273,106</b>		<b>-1.15%</b>

# TOWN OF RICHMOND FY26 BUDGET EXPENSES

Chart of Account #	Expense Budget Accounts	Budget FY 2024	Actual FY 2024	Budget FY 2025	Budget FY 2026	FY 25/26 % Change
<b>POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>						
10-7-20-0-10.00	Regular salaries	384,599	20,810	346,580	375,242	8.27%
10-7-20-0-10.07	Bonus	-	-	797	-	-100.00%
10-7-20-0-10.06	On-call hours	11,500	-	12,000	-	-100.00%
10-7-20-0-10.99	Overtime	20,000	444	15,000	15,000	0.00%
10-7-20-0-10.30	Health insurance opt out	5,000	962	5,000	-	-100.00%
10-7-20-0-11.00	Social Security/Medicare	34,425	2,115	29,597	30,049	1.53%
10-7-20-0-11-.01	Child Care Contribution Tax	-	-	-	1,717	100.00%
10-7-20-0-12.00	Municipal retirement	40,392	1,486	39,351	42,205	7.25%
10-7-20-0-15.00	Health insurance	87,243	1,119	76,947	119,438	55.22%
10-7-20-0-15.01	Health insurance HSA	522	-	-	1,035	0.00%
10-7-20-0-15.03	Long term disability	2,070	11	1,920	2,230	16.15%
10-7-20-0-15.04	Short Term disability	600	12	720	720	0.00%
10-7-20-0-10.05	Life insurance	2,000	-	2,000	2,000	0.00%
10-7-20-0-15.06	K9 Expense	-	-	-	100	100.00%
10-7-20-1-22.04	Contract Services Chief of Police	-	386,485	78,000	78,000	0.00%
10-7-20-0-10.04	Constable training	500	-	500	500	0.00%
10-7-20-1-27.00	Training/Education	5,000	-	5,000	3,200	-36.00%
10-7-20-1-29.00	Travel	500	197	500	-	-100.00%
10-7-20-1-16.00	Uniforms, vests, tasors	10,000	5,401	10,000	5,000	-50.00%
10-7-20-1-16.02	Tasors	-	-	-	5,000	100.00%
10-7-20-1-16.01	Body Cameras	4,000	2,919	4,000	4,000	0.00%
10-7-20-1-20.00	Office supplies Admin	2,500	1,028	2,500	500	-80.00%
10-7-20-1-22.00	Office equipment (Copier & DPS)	8,000	3,483	8,000	5,000	-37.50%
10-7-20-1-22.01	Computer - Office & Camera	1,500	102	1,500	3,000	100.00%
10-7-20-3-95.21	Community Relations	-	191	1,200	1,200	0.00%
10-7-20-1-28.00	Forensic testing & Evidence Collection	500	-	500	500	0.00%
10-7-20-1-30.00	Telephone/Internet	10,500	7,789	8,500	8,500	0.00%
10-7-20-1-30.01	Cell Phones	-	-	2,000	2,000	0.00%
10-7-20-1-22.02	General/PACIF insurance	23,910	24,211	26,854	39,013	45.28%
10-7-20-2-20.10	Polygraph testing	800	-	800	250	-68.75%
10-7-20-3-20.00	Police supplies (non office & non uniform)	5,000	7,692	5,000	4,000	-20.00%
10-7-20-3-20.02	Police Equipment (non office, non uniform, non car)	-	-	-	10,500	100.00%
10-7-20-5-50.00	Cruiser Fuel: Gas	25,000	316	25,000	15,000	-40.00%
10-7-20-5-50.02	Cruiser Fuel: Electric	1,000	422	1,000	750	-25.00%
10-7-20-3-35.00	Equipment repair	1,500	-	1,500	-	-100.00%
10-7-20-5-52.00	Police cruiser repair	8,000	6,999	8,000	10,000	25.00%
10-7-20-5-52.19	Police cruiser tires	3,500	6,498	3,500	-	-100.00%
10-7-20-0-90.01	Police Capital Reserve	-	-	-	-	0.00%
10-7-20-5-50.01	Community outreach Howard Center	10,000	9,490	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.20	Chittenden Unit for Special Investigations	-	-	3,431	6,853	99.74%
<b>Total - Police Department</b>		<b>710,061</b>	<b>490,183</b>	<b>727,197</b>	<b>792,502</b>	<b>8.98%</b>

## TOWN OF RICHMOND FY26 BUDGET EXPENSES

Chart of Account #	Expense Budget Accounts	Budget FY 2024	Actual FY 2024	Budget FY 2025	Budget FY 2026	FY 25/26 % Change
<b>LIBRARY DEPARTMENT</b>						
10-7-35-0-10.00	Salaries	194,486	204,390	216,437	222,814	2.95%
10-7-35-0-10.01	Bonus	-	-	1,892	168	-91.12%
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	15,360	14,720	17,196	17,555	2.09%
10-7-35-0-11.01	Child Care Contribution Tax	-	-	-	1,003	100.00%
10-7-35-0-12.00	Municipal retirement	7,855	11,610	12,398	12,142	-2.06%
10-7-35-0-15.00	Health insurance	31,700	34,676	35,476	38,026	7.19%
10-7-35-0-15.03	Long term disability	710	733	840	700	-16.67%
10-7-35-1-27.00	Training/Education	300	81	300	300	0.00%
10-7-35-1-29.00	Travel	300	115	300	300	0.00%
10-7-35-1-20.00	Office supplies	2,000	2,021	2,250	2,500	11.11%
10-7-35-1-21.00	Postage	1,000	745	1,000	1,500	50.00%
10-7-35-1-22.00	Computer	2,500	2,228	2,500	3,500	40.00%
10-7-35-3-20.01	Books	17,000	19,630	20,000	20,000	0.00%
10-7-35-3-20.02	Technology Public Use Room	-	-	3,000	3,000	0.00%
10-7-35-3-45.01	Programs	1,200	1,637	1,200	1,500	25.00%
10-7-35-1-29.01	General/PACIF insurance	6,258	7,013	7,950	9,197	15.69%
10-7-35-1-30.00	Telephone	3,554	2,382	2,700	2,700	0.00%
10-7-35-2-31.00	Heat	3,500	3,046	4,000	3,500	-12.50%
10-7-35-2-32.00	Electricity	4,700	5,652	5,200	6,000	15.38%
10-7-35-2-32.01	Electric Vehicle Charging Station	800	3,153	1,000	5,000	400.00%
10-7-35-2-33.00	Water and Sewer	2,000	1,385	2,000	1,600	-20.00%
10-7-35-2-62.00	Building Maintenance (routine)	12,000	11,004	15,000	15,000	0.00%
10-7-90-2-92.01	Library reserve	12,000	12,000	12,000	-	-100.00%
<b>Total - Richmond Free Library</b>		<b>324,223</b>	<b>343,260</b>	<b>369,639</b>	<b>373,005</b>	<b>0.91%</b>



# TOWN OF RICHMOND FY26 BUDGET EXPENSES

Chart of Account #	Expense Budget Accounts	Budget FY 2024	Actual FY 2024	Budget FY 2025	Budget FY 2026	FY 25/26 % Change
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>						
10-7-40-0-10.00	Salaries	55,000	65,793	57,000	70,000	22.81%
10-7-40-0-11.00	Social Security/Medicare	4,235	5,033	4,389	5,390	22.81%
10-7-40-0-11.01	Child Care Contribution Tax	-	-	-	332	100.00%
10-7-40-1-18.00	Medical	1,500	908	1,000	1,000	0.00%
10-7-40-1-27.00	Training/Education	2,000	677	1,000	1,000	0.00%
10-7-40-1-29.00	Travel	1,600	788	1,000	1,000	0.00%
10-7-40-1-30.00	Telephone/Internet	3,500	4,544	4,000	4,500	12.50%
10-7-40-1-30.01	Cell Phones	-	-	500	500	0.00%
10-7-40-1-30.02	Recognition & Awards - Annual Banquet	-	-	-	2,500	100.00%
10-7-40-1-95.00	Public relations	600	610	700	1,000	42.86%
10-7-40-2-31.00	Heat	4,000	2,255	4,000	3,000	-25.00%
10-7-40-2-32.00	Electricity	2,500	2,568	2,500	2,800	12.00%
10-7-40-2-33.00	Water and Sewer	2,000	1,354	2,000	2,000	0.00%
10-7-40-2-62.00	Maintenance - General	10,000	6,602	10,000	10,000	0.00%
10-7-40-2-30.00	General/PACIF insurance	8,915	10,847	9,766	13,425	37.47%
10-7-40-5-35.01	Radio repair & replacement	10,000	7,402	10,000	10,000	0.00%
10-7-40-5-35.03	Radio dispatch	5,600	5,852	5,600	5,600	0.00%
10-7-40-5-50.00	Gas, oil & diesel fuel	5,000	3,107	4,000	4,000	0.00%
10-7-40-5-51.01	Pump testing	1,500	1,100	1,500	1,500	0.00%
10-7-40-5-52.00	Fleet maintenance	10,000	19,182	10,000	15,000	50.00%
10-7-40-5-52.02	Hose testing	4,500	3,813	5,500	4,500	-18.18%
10-7-40-5-53.01	Equipment repair	3,000	2,029	3,000	3,000	0.00%
10-7-40-5-55.00	Supplies	3,500	6,079	3,500	4,500	28.57%
10-7-40-5-57.00	Equipment purchase	35,000	22,348	35,000	15,000	-57.14%
10-7-40-5-60.01	Fire Department Needs Assessment	-	-	-	25,000	100.00%
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	3,109	3,208	2,065	1,035	-49.88%
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	517	333	126	-	-100.00%
10-7-90-5-93.04	Safety equipment & gear reserve	40,000	40,000	5,000	-	-100.00%
10-7-90-5-93.00	Fire Capital reserve	150,000	150,000	220,000	180,000	-18.18%
<b>Total - Fire Department</b>		<b>426,148</b>	<b>425,004</b>	<b>461,718</b>	<b>446,154</b>	<b>-3.37%</b>

## TOWN OF RICHMOND FY26 BUDGET EXPENSES

Chart of Account #	Expense Budget Accounts	Budget FY 2024	Actual FY 2024	Budget FY 2025	Budget FY 2026	FY 25/26 % Change
<b>RECREATION &amp; TRAILS</b>						
10-7-60-0-10.00	Recreation salaries	2,800	2,580	2,340	2,600	11.11%
10-7-60-0-11.00	Social Security/Medicare	216	197	180	200	11.11%
10-7-60-0-11.01	Child Care Contribution Tax	-	-	-	11	100.00%
10-7-60-1-42.01	General/PACIF insurance	438	482	527	1,009	91.44%
10-7-60-2-32.00	Electricity	750	391	750	700	-6.67%
10-7-60-2-33.00	Water and Sewer	1,500	1,019	2,000	1,500	-25.00%
10-7-60-2-34.00	Trash removal	1,500	2,228	1,750	2,000	14.29%
10-7-60-2-62.00	Park maintenance	3,000	11,791	3,000	3,000	0.00%
10-7-60-2-62.01	Trails maintenance	1,000	310	1,000	1,000	0.00%
10-7-60-2-62.03	Gardening & Landscaping	-	-	1,000	1,000	0.00%
10-7-60-2-62.02	Recreation equipment	3,000	-	3,000	3,000	0.00%
10-7-60-3-95.01	Special events	500	-	500	-	-100.00%
10-7-60-3-95.00	Conservation commission supplies	500	-	500	-	-100.00%
10-7-90-2-92.02	Conservation fund 1Cent	78,163	78,163	79,359	-	-100.00%
10-7-60-3-95.04	July 4th / Fireworks	13,000	12,500	15,000	15,000	0.00%
10-8-90-5-92.21	Lake Iroquois Association	-	-	2,000	2,000	0.00%
10-8-90-5-92.22	Lake Iroquois Recreation District	2,000	3,000	2,000	3,000	50.00%
10-8-90-5-95.09	Richmond Community Band	-	-	400	400	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.21	Richmond Farmers Market	-	-	2,500	2,500	0.00%
10-7-60-3-95.05	Camel's Hump Little League Field	-	-	3,000	3,000	0.00%
10-7-60-3-95.06	Halloween on the Green	-	-	350	350	0.00%
<b>Total - Recreation &amp; Trails</b>		<b>108,367</b>	<b>112,661</b>	<b>121,156</b>	<b>42,270</b>	<b>-65.11%</b>

# TOWN OF RICHMOND FY26 BUDGET EXPENSES

Chart of Account #	Expense Budget Accounts	Budget FY 2024	Actual FY 2024	Budget FY 2025	Budget FY 2026	FY 25/26 % Change
<b>CHARITABLE APPROPRIATIONS (Items in this section moved to other sections. Included here to view historical funding. )</b>						
10-8-90-5-95.01	VT Family Network	500	500	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.02	Age Well	2,500	2,500	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.04	Greater Burlington Industrial Corp. (GBIC)	200	200	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.06	Mount Mansfield Community TV (MMCTV)	5,000	5,000	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.07	Lund	1,000	1,000	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.09	Richmond Community Band	400	400	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.10	Richmond Rescue	58,338	58,338	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.12	Special Services Transportation Agency	3,000	3,008	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.13	UVM Home Health & Hospice	11,000	11,000	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.14	VT Center for Independent Living	375	375	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.16	Committee on Temporary Shelter (COTS)	1,000	1,000	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.17	Our Community Cares Camp (OCCC)	3,000	3,000	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.18	Steps against domestic violence	1,250	1,250	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.20	Chittenden Unit for Special Investigations	6,234	6,234	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-92.21	Lake Iroquois Association	2,000	2,000	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.21	Richmond Farmers Market	1,500	1,500	-	-	0.00%
10-8-90-5-95.22	Turning Point Center of Chittenden County	1,000	1,000	-	-	0.00%
<b>Total - Appropriations</b>		<b>98,297</b>	<b>98,305</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>CONTRACTED - Social Services</b>						
10-8-90-5-95.12	Special Services Transportation Agency (SSTA)	-	-	3,000	3,500	16.67%
10-7-20-5-50.01	Community outreach - Howard Center	-	-	10,000	12,500	25.00%
10-7-20-4-00.00	Williston Community Justice Center	-	-	15,840	15,840	0.00%
<b>DONATIONS - Social Services - Voted</b>						
10-8-90-5-95.01	VT Family Network	-	-	500	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.02	Age Well	-	-	3,500	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.14	VT Center for Independent Living	-	-	375	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.16	Committee on Temporary Shelter (COTS)	-	-	1,000	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.17	Our Community Cares Camp (OCCC)	-	-	3,000	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.18	Steps against domestic violence	-	-	1,500	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.22	Turning Point Center of Chittenden County	-	-	5,000	-	-100.00%
10-8-90-5-95.31	Hope Works	-	-	1,885	-	-100.00%
	LUND	-	-	-	-	-100.00%
<b>DONATIONS - Health Services - Not Voted</b>						
10-8-90-5-95.10	Richmond Rescue	-	-	58,338	60,088	3.00%
10-8-90-5-95.13	UVM Home Health & Hospice	-	-	12,500	12,500	0.00%
<b>Total - Donations &amp; Contracted Social and Health Services</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>116,438</b>	<b>104,428</b>	<b>-10.31%</b>
<b>General Fund Total</b>		<b>2,754,189</b>	<b>2,586,354</b>	<b>2,949,953</b>	<b>2,950,360</b>	<b>0.01%</b>

## TOWN OF RICHMOND FY26 BUDGET EXPENSES

Chart of Account #	Expense Budget Accounts	Budget FY 2024	Actual FY 2024	Budget FY 2025	Budget FY 2026	FY 25/26 % Change
<b>HIGHWAY</b>						
11-7-50-0-10.00	Regular salaries	393,726	400,269	412,443	454,584	10.22%
11-7-50-0-10.02	Bonus	-	-	2,459	5,476	122.68%
11-7-50-0-10.98	Overtime	45,000	59,666	50,000	50,000	0.00%
11-7-50-0-10.30	Health insurance opt out	10,000	12,135	12,500	20,000	60.00%
11-7-50-0-11.00	Social Security/Medicare	34,167	32,131	36,760	40,815	11.03%
11-7-50-0-11.02	Child Care Contribution Tax	-	-	-	2,332	100.00%
11-7-50-0-12.00	Municipal retirement	29,614	31,877	31,638	36,979	16.88%
11-7-50-0-15.00	Health & Dental Insurance	65,251	64,843	63,481	55,868	-11.99%
11-7-11-0-15.01	Health Insurance HSA	-	-	-	-	0.00%
11-7-10-0-15.03	Long term disability	2,325	2,333	2,970	3,040	2.36%
11-7-50-0-16.00	Uniforms	3,500	3,185	3,500	3,750	7.14%
11-7-50-2-29.00	Education /Licenses	200	108	200	200	0.00%
11-7-50-1-29.00	Travel	200	96	200	200	0.00%
11-7-50-1-20.00	Office supplies	1,000	49	1,000	500	-50.00%
11-7-50-1-30.00	Telephone/Internet	3,300	4,622	2,800	4,000	42.86%
11-7-50-1-30-01	Cell Phones	-	-	1,000	1,000	0.00%
11-7-50-2-29.01	General Insure/VLCT PACIF	33,489	34,441	33,623	41,804	24.33%
11-7-50-2-31.00	Heat	9,000	6,228	9,000	7,500	-16.67%
11-7-50-2-32.00	Electricity - Garage	2,700	2,565	3,000	3,000	0.00%
11-7-50-3-32.01	Electricity - Street lights	18,000	14,970	16,000	17,000	6.25%
11-7-50-2-33.00	Water and Sewer	2,000	1,548	2,000	1,750	-12.50%
11-7-50-2-34.00	Trash removal	1,500	1,870	1,800	2,000	11.11%
11-7-50-2-62.00	Building maintenance	8,000	7,617	8,000	10,000	25.00%
11-7-50-5-35.00	Radio	600	-	600	500	-16.67%
11-7-50-5-35.01	Radio repair	300	416	300	500	66.67%
11-7-50-5-50.00	Gas & Oil	1,000	1,923	2,000	500	-75.00%
11-7-50-5-50.02	Diesel fuel	55,000	52,628	60,000	65,000	8.33%
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	18,509	15,000	16,000	6.67%
11-7-50-5-52.06	Repair - Pickup Truck Fleet	1,000	316	1,000	1,000	0.00%
11-7-50-5-52.01	Repair - Excavator	500	699	500	750	50.00%
11-7-50-5-52.04	Repair - Grader	1,000	1,034	1,000	1,500	50.00%
11-7-50-5-52.05	Repair - Loader	500	470	500	750	50.00%
11-7-50-5-52.07	Repair - Sidewalk plow	500	621	500	250	-50.00%
11-7-50-5-52.08	Repair - Roadside mower	1,000	717	1,000	1,000	0.00%
11-7-50-5-52.09	Repair - Tractor	500	-	500	500	0.00%
11-7-50-5-52.10	Repair - Utility vehicle	1,500	1,207	1,500	2,000	33.33%
11-7-50-5-53.00	Repair - Small equipment	1,000	1,725	1,000	1,000	0.00%
11-7-50-5-52.03	Winter maintenance attachments	500	-	500	500	0.00%
11-7-50-6-57.01	Cutting edges	11,000	12,167	10,000	10,000	0.00%
11-7-50-5-52.18	Tire chains	1,200	898	1,000	1,000	0.00%
11-7-50-5-52.19	Tires	9,000	8,791	9,000	10,000	11.11%
11-7-50-6-45.18	Equipment rental	10,000	9,621	10,000	10,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-57.00	Small equipment purchase	7,000	2,273	7,000	7,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-57.03	Welding & cutting supplies	1,000	630	1,000	1,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-57.04	Equip. rental wood chip	2,000	2,034	2,500	2,600	4.00%
11-7-50-6-57.19	Equipment parts - Miscellaneous	1,000	44	1,000	1,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-60.19	Supplies - Miscellaneous	1,000	-	1,000	1,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-60.00	Patching	2,000	4,818	2,000	5,000	150.00%
11-7-50-6-60.01	Chloride	15,000	13,986	15,000	15,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-62.02	Sweeping	5,000	4,500	5,000	5,500	10.00%
11-7-50-6-63.00	Centerline paint & shoulder	7,000	5,540	28,400	30,000	5.63%
11-7-50-6-63.02	Signs	4,500	3,142	4,500	4,500	0.00%
11-7-50-6-63.03	Crosswalks Illuminated	6,500	-	-	-	0.00%
11-7-50-6-63.04	Traffic Calming measures	10,000	3,626	10,000	10,000	0.00%

# TOWN OF RICHMOND FY26 BUDGET EXPENSES

Chart of Account #	Expense Budget Accounts	Budget FY 2024	Actual FY 2024	Budget FY 2025	Budget FY 2026	FY 25/26 % Change
11-7-50-6-64.00	Culverts	7,500	7,325	7,500	10,000	33.33%
11-7-50-6-60.03	Gravel & aggregates	130,000	103,475	120,000	120,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-60.05	Salt	100,000	79,900	100,000	100,000	0.00%
11-7-50-6-60.06	Sand	40,000	15,796	40,000	35,000	-12.50%
11-7-50-6-64.01	Retreatment	325,000	271,425	295,000	300,000	1.69%
11-7-50-6-64.02	Storm water & sidewalks	140,000	86,756	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	15,761	15,761	14,068	12,312	-12.48%
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	-	-	0.00%
11-7-90-5-90.37	2017 FY20 Grader interest	553	656	-	-	0.00%
11-7-90-5-90.33	2019 FY20 Dump truck #4 principal	24,000	24,067	-	-	0.00%
11-7-90-5-90.34	2019 FY20 Dump truck #4 interest	442	463	-	-	0.00%
11-7-90-5-90.44	2020 FY20 Dump Truck #2 principal	26,920	26,920	1,920	-	-100.00%
11-7-90-5-90.45	2020 FY20 Dump Truck #2 interest	552	570	37	-	-100.00%
11-7-90-5-93.01	Reserve - Highway Capital	50,000	50,000	218,000	175,000	-19.72%
11-7-90-5-93.02	Reserve - Bridge & Culvert	37,000	37,000	55,000	-	-100.00%
11-7-90-5-93.03	Reserve - Guardrail	15,000	15,000	11,000	10,000	-9.09%
11-7-90-5-93.04	Reserve - New Sidewalks	25,000	25,000	-	-	0.00%
11-7-90-5-93.05	Reserve - New Transportation Infrastructure	-	-	25,000	-	-100.00%
Total - Highway Department		<b>1,854,546</b>	<b>1,673,248</b>	<b>1,965,945</b>	<b>1,920,205</b>	-2.33%
<b>Budget Amounts for Voter Approval</b>		<b>4,608,734</b>	<b>4,259,602</b>	<b>4,915,898</b>	<b>4,870,565</b>	-0.92%

# TOWN OF RICHMOND

## FY26 BUDGET REVENUES

Chart of Account #	Revenue Budget Accounts	Budget FY24	Actual FY24	Budget FY25	Budget FY26	FY 25/26 % Change
	Administration Operations					
10-6-01-1-01.10	PROPERTY TAX REVENUE	2,410,420	2,416,181	2,080,526	2,466,521	18.55%
10-6-01-1-01.12	Delinquent tax penalty	10,000	9,319	10,000	10,000	0.00%
10-6-01-1-01.13	Delinquent tax interest	10,000	3,863	10,000	5,000	-50.00%
10-6-01-1-01.14	Current taxes - interest	10,000	7,977	10,000	9,000	-10.00%
10-6-01-1-01.19	Education fee retained	15,187	17,419	17,082	19,861	16.27%
10-6-01-1-01.17	State PILOT funds	4,942	4,942	5,000	5,000	0.00%
10-6-02-2-10.10	Act 60 Reappraisal grant	15,000	15,079	15,000	15,000	0.00%
10-6-02-2-10.12	Equalization grant	1,760	1,774	1,765	1,800	1.98%
10-6-02-2-10.13	Railroad tax	3,800	3,601	4,000	4,000	0.00%
10-6-02-2-10.14	Current Use/Hold Harmless program	85,675	81,082	85,000	85,000	0.00%
10-6-02-2-10.18	Land Use Change Penalties	-	3,935	-	2,000	100.00%
10-6-10-1-01.11	Zoning permits/hearing fees	35,000	43,670	35,000	40,000	14.29%
10-6-10-1-20.01	Water/Sewer admin. reimbursement	41,500	41,500	43,394	45,202	4.17%
10-6-10-1-20.05	Water/Sewer audit reimbursement	4,833	1,467	5,000	5,000	0.00%
10-6-10-1-21.01	Town Center rent - utilities reimbursement	23,000	19,758	25,000	25,000	0.00%
10-6-10-1-21.03	Town Center rent - insurance reimbursement	6,100	7,128	6,100	10,279	68.51%
10-6-10-2-62.00	Town Center rent - building maintenance	15,000	15,000	15,000	25,000	66.67%
10-6-10-1-40.05	Net Interest on General Checking Account	14,000	203,760	100,000	50,000	-50.00%
10-6-10-3-11.10	Beverage licenses	1,500	970	1,400	1,400	0.00%
10-6-10-3-11.11	Dog licenses	4,000	3,763	4,000	4,000	0.00%
10-6-10-3-30.10	Recording fees	20,000	12,542	20,000	15,000	-25.00%
10-6-10-3-30.12	Vault time & copies	2,000	1,369	2,500	2,000	-20.00%
10-6-10-3-30.13	Certified copies	2,500	1,656	3,000	2,000	-33.33%
10-6-10-3-30.14	Marriage licenses	300	310	250	250	0.00%
10-6-10-3-30.15	Vehicle registration Fees	72	45	100	100	0.00%
10-6-10-3-30.18	Cannabis Fees	-	200	100	200	100.00%
10-6-20-2-01.10	PD local fines	5,000	2,475	5,000	2,500	-50.00%
10-6-20-2-02.10	PD receipts	500	20	500	100	-80.00%
10-6-20-2-04.00	PD short term contracts	1,500	-	250	-	-100.00%
10-6-20-2-20.10	PD Overtime Grants	-	-	-	-	0.00%
10-6-20-2-20.11	PD Uniform traffic tickets	3,500	4,022	2,000	5,000	150.00%
10-6-20-2-97.00	PD sale of town property	5,000	9,987	-	-	0.00%
10-6-35-2-32.00	Library Electric Vehicle Charging Station	800	3,153	1,000	5,000	400.00%
10-6-35-3-00.10	Library Non Resident Fees	800	1,845	800	2,000	150.00%
10-6-35-3-20.02	Library Public Technology Use Room Fees	-	-	3,000	3,000	0.00%
10-6-60-6-00.10	Recreation Field use fees	500	405	-	500	0.00%
	<b>FUND BALANCE USAGE</b>					0.00%
10-6-00-0-00.02	Community Well being - transfer from fund 14 Opioid Reserve	-	-	5,000	5,000	0.00%
10-0-00-0-00.00	General Offset from General Unassigned funds	-	-	433,186	78,647	0.00%
	<b>Total General Fund Revenue</b>	<b>2,754,189</b>	<b>2,940,215</b>	<b>2,949,953</b>	<b>2,950,360</b>	0.01%
11-6-01-1-01.10	Current year property tax	1,237,646	1,237,646	1,849,945	1,792,105	-3.13%
11-6-02-2-05.10	Highway state aid	113,500	124,685	113,500	125,000	10.13%
11-6-50-0-01.10	Overweight permits	1,500	1,425	1,500	1,500	0.00%
11-6-50-0-01.12	Public right of way permits	1,400	585	500	600	20.00%
11-6-50-0-01.11	Access permits	500	990	500	1,000	100.00%
	<b>FUND TRANSFERS</b>					0.00%
11-0-00-0-00.00	Highway Equipment Offset from Highway Restricted funds	500,000	-	-	-	0.00%
	<b>Total Highway Revenue</b>	<b>1,854,546</b>	<b>1,365,331</b>	<b>1,965,945</b>	<b>1,920,205</b>	-2.33%
	<b>Total General &amp; Highway Revenue</b>	<b>4,608,735</b>	<b>4,305,546</b>	<b>4,915,898</b>	<b>4,870,565</b>	-0.92%
	<b>(non tax revenue)</b>	<b>960,669</b>	<b>651,719</b>	<b>985,427</b>	<b>611,939</b>	-37.90%

## TOWN OF RICHMOND FY26 BUDGET TAX RATE

Tax Rate Estimate FY2026					
	Grandlist 07/15/24	Amount To Be Raised		Tax Rate per \$100	
<u>Current Fiscal Year</u>					
FY 2024 - 2025	\$ 7,935,922	\$ 3,930,471	\$	0.4953	GF rate for tax billing purposes
			\$	0.0016	GF rate for exemptions
			\$	0.4969	Town rate/SB Approved 07/06/23
<u>Next Fiscal Year</u>					
FY 2025 - 2026	Grandlist 01/09/25 \$ 8,050,387	\$ 4,258,626	\$	0.5290	GF rate for tax billing purposes
			\$	0.0018	GF rate for exemptions
			\$	0.5308	Total Town Rate/SB - To be set July 2025
			\$	0.0339	Rate Increase over prior year tax rate
				6.83%	Percentage increase over prior year

Estimated Amount to be raised from FY26 Property Taxes to support Exemptions					
Exemptions	Homestead \$	Non-Homestead \$	Homestead School Rate	Non-Homestead School Rate	Tax dollars
Veterans	\$ 450,000		1.1991		5,396
Veterans		\$ 60,000		1.3446	807
Richmond Terrace		\$ 635,638		1.3446	8,547
Total dollars to be raise					14,749
<u>Tax Rate for Exemptions</u>					
FY 26		Grandlist 01/09/25 \$ 8,050,387	\$ 14,749	Tax Rate	0.0018 GF rate for exemptions

## CAPITAL RESERVE EXPENDITURES PLANNED FOR FY26

### FY26 Reserve Expenditures

#### Fire

Safety Equipment reserve

Air Tanks 1,500

Turnout Gear 10,000

#### Highway

Capital Reserve

Dump Truck #4 245,000

Pickup Truck with plow #5 57,000

#### LIBRARY

Library Reserve

Painting 25,000



## SCHEDULE 1

## TOWN OF RICHMOND, VERMONT

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGETARY BASIS  
 BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts	Variance Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Budgetary Fund Balance, July 1	\$ 944,196	\$ 944,196	\$ 944,196	\$ -
Resources (Inflows):				
Taxes:				
Property taxes	9,854,751	9,854,751	9,860,513	5,762
Intergovernmental revenues:				
State PILOT	4,942	4,942	4,942	-
Act 60 Reappraisal grant	15,000	15,000	15,079	79
Equalization grant	1,761	1,761	1,774	13
Railroad tax	3,800	3,800	3,601	(199)
Current use program	85,675	85,675	81,082	(4,593)
Other	15,187	15,187	48,724	33,537
Charges for services	139,305	139,305	134,792	(4,513)
Interest income	14,000	14,000	203,760	189,760
Interest on taxes/penalties	30,000	30,000	21,159	(8,841)
Proceeds from sale of assets	5,000	5,000	9,987	4,987
Miscellaneous	29,100	29,100	49,734	20,634
Amounts Available for Appropriation	11,142,717	11,142,717	11,379,343	236,626
Charges to Appropriations (Outflows):				
Town administration	783,744	783,744	824,186	(40,442)
Assessors	32,500	32,500	37,740	(5,240)
Planning and zoning	244,507	244,507	232,701	11,806
Police department	710,061	710,061	490,461	219,600
Library department	312,223	312,223	332,830	(20,607)
Fire department	226,148	226,148	225,002	1,146
Recreation and trails	28,204	28,204	36,760	(8,556)
Charitable appropriations	107,139	107,139	109,005	(1,866)
Unclassified	102,663	102,663	195,861	(93,198)
Education	7,444,332	7,444,332	7,444,332	-
Transfers to other funds	207,000	207,000	207,000	-
Total Charges to Appropriations	10,198,521	10,198,521	10,135,878	62,643
Budgetary Fund Balance, June 30	\$ 944,196	\$ 944,196	\$ 1,243,465	\$ 299,269

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, 2024

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts	Variance
	Original	Final		Positive (Negative)
Budgetary Fund Balance, July 1	\$ 708,712	\$ 708,712	\$ 708,712	\$ -
Resources (Inflows):				
Taxes:				
Property taxes	-	-	1,237,646	1,237,646
Intergovernmental Revenues:				
State aid	113,500	113,500	124,685	11,185
Better roads grants	-	-	20,000	20,000
FEMA reimbursement	1,237,646	1,237,646	323,983	(913,663)
Charges for services	3,400	3,400	3,000	(400)
Miscellaneous revenues	-	-	8,464	8,464
Amounts Available for Appropriation	<u>2,063,258</u>	<u>2,063,258</u>	<u>2,426,490</u>	<u>363,232</u>
Charges to Appropriations (Outflows):				
Payroll and benefits	580,083	580,083	603,253	(23,170)
Office expenses	41,689	41,689	42,500	(811)
Buildings and grounds	23,200	23,200	20,305	2,895
General expenses	18,900	18,900	15,386	3,514
Vehicles	121,700	121,700	131,034	(9,334)
Road maintenance	793,500	793,500	600,286	193,214
FEMA	-	-	392,175	(392,175)
Debt service:				
Principal	124,120	124,120	124,187	(67)
Interest	24,354	24,354	24,496	(142)
Transfers to other funds	127,000	127,000	127,000	-
Total Charges to Appropriations	<u>1,854,546</u>	<u>1,854,546</u>	<u>2,080,622</u>	<u>(226,076)</u>
Budgetary Fund Balance, June 30	<u>\$ 208,712</u>	<u>\$ 208,712</u>	<u>\$ 345,868</u>	<u>\$ 137,156</u>

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

## TOWN OF RICHMOND FUND BALANCE JUNE 30, 2024

	Fund Balance July 1, 2023	Increase (Decrease)	Fund Balance June 30, 2024
<b>General Fund</b>			
Restricted for Highway Use	\$ 708,712	\$ (362,844)	\$ 345,868
Unassigned	\$ 922,673	\$ 253,671	\$ 1,176,344
TOTAL	\$ 1,631,385	\$ -\$109,173	\$ 1,522,212
<b>Major Funds, Committed</b>			
Town Center Reserve Fund	\$ 255,419	\$ 10,761	\$ 266,180
TOTAL	\$ 255,419	\$ 10,761	\$ 266,180
<b>Non-Major Special Revenue Funds</b>			
Reappraisal	\$ 30,532	\$ 14,450	\$ 44,982
Library Reserve	\$ 3,285	\$ (231)	\$ 3,054
Fire Fundraising	\$ 10,740	\$ (4,679)	\$ 6,061
Lister Education Reserve	\$ 1,357	\$ -	\$ 1,357
Records Restoration	\$ 196,801	\$ 18,527	\$ 215,328
Adam Muller Flags	\$ 5,405	\$ (3,862)	\$ 1,543
Recreation Path	\$ 1,201	\$ -	\$ 1,201
Tennis	\$ 349	\$ 2	\$ 351
Soccer	\$ 12,363	\$ 4,979	\$ 17,342
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)	\$ 1,229,588	\$ (188,947)	\$ 1,040,641
Recreation Tree Replacement	\$ 237	\$ -	\$ 237
Opioid	\$ 6,364	\$ (2,806)	\$ 3,558
Donations - July 4th Celebration	\$ 4,351	\$ 2,275	\$ 6,626
Legal - Planning and Zoning	\$ -	\$ (940)	\$ (940)
Andrews Community Forest	\$ 29,500	\$ -	\$ 29,500
Fund 48 - K9 Fund	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
TOTAL	\$ 1,532,073	\$ (159,232)	\$ 1,372,841
<b>Non-Major Capital Projects Funds</b>			
Police Reserve	\$ 40,783	\$ -	\$ 40,783
Fire Safety Equipment	\$ 13,728	\$ 11,471	\$ 25,199
Library Reserve	\$ 55,234	\$ 2,615	\$ 57,849
Fire Department Reserve	\$ 162,504	\$ (119,257)	\$ 43,247
Fire Impact Fees	\$ 25,285	\$ 8,072	\$ 33,357
Sidewalk Reserve Fund	\$ 40,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 65,000
Highway Reserve	\$ 118,701	\$ (118,701)	\$ -
Bridge and Culverts	\$ 381,926	\$ 37,000	\$ 418,926
Guardrails	\$ 14,016	\$ 15,000	\$ 29,016
Railroad Street Planning Grant	\$ 7,069	\$ -	\$ 7,069
Conservation	\$ 266,951	\$ 26,447	\$ 293,398
TOTAL	\$ 1,126,197	\$ (112,353)	\$ 1,013,844
<b>Non-Major Permanent Funds</b>			
Cemetery Fund	\$ 171,855	\$ (19,275)	\$ 152,580
TOTAL	\$ 171,855	\$ (19,275)	\$ 152,580
<b>Fiduciary Funds</b>			
Edmunds Trust	\$ 25,195	\$ 255	\$ 25,450
Shonyon A - School Athletics	\$ 3,222	\$ 33	\$ 3,255
Shonyon P - Scholarships	\$ 3,484	\$ 35	\$ 3,519
TOTAL	\$ 31,901	\$ 323	\$ 32,224

### 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 OF RICHMOND  
Town Center Fund FY2024**

**Balance 7/1/23** **\$ 255,420**

**Income**

Post Office - Rent	\$	97,161
Radiate Art - Rent	\$	-
MMCTV - Rent	\$	15,407
Richmond Historical Society - Rent	\$	1
Richmond Senior Center - Rent	\$	-
Library Room Rentals	\$	9,688
Donations/Reimbursement	\$	-
Interest	\$	8,726
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>130,983</b>

**Expenses**

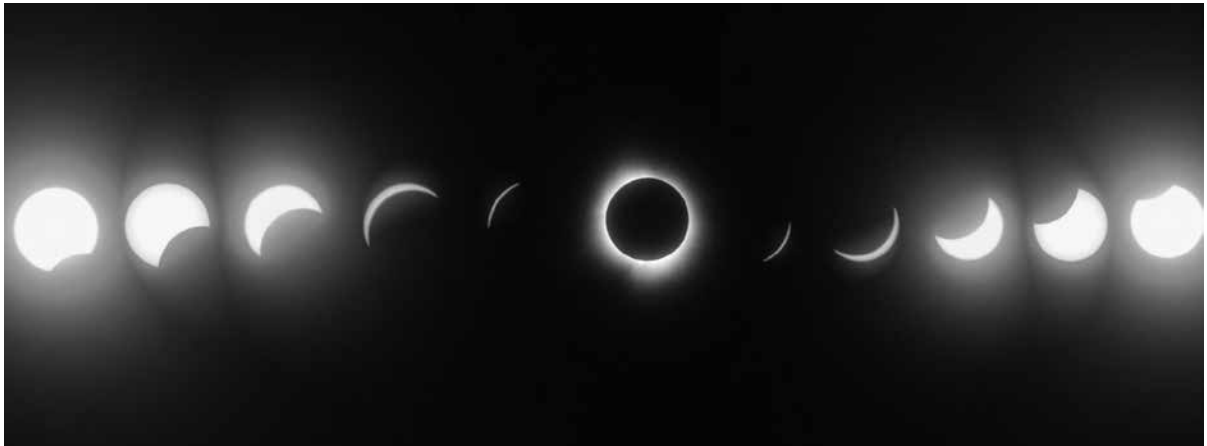
Building Maintenance	\$	42,786
Building Utilities	\$	19,757
Building Insurance	\$	7,128
Maintenance Work at Library	\$	50,550
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>120,221</b>

**Excess Revenues over (under)** **\$ 10,762**

**Balance 6/30/24** **\$ 266,182**

## 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](http://www.richmondvt.gov) – see "2024 Town Audit."



*Photo by Cali Rankin*

## POLICY ON LATE AND DELINQUENT TAXES

**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 tax payer 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 Assistant or his/her designee 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 tax payers 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 tax payer 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 tax payer 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 tax payer 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.

In the event that 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 of 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.

**DELINQUENT TAX REPORT-COLLECTED AS OF 6/30/24**

Tax Year	Principal	Interest	Penalty	Total Collected
2019-2020	\$471.08	\$310.85	\$37.69	\$819.62
2020-2021	\$164.95	\$102.24	\$13.19	\$280.38
2021-2022	\$1,403.26	\$333.31	\$112.26	\$1,848.83
2022-2023	\$50,380.70	\$5,586.89	\$4,030.45	\$59,998.04
<b>TOTAL COLLECTED</b>	<b>\$52,419.99</b>	<b>\$6,333.29</b>	<b>\$4,193.59</b>	<b>\$62,946.87</b>

**DELINQUENT TAX REPORT-OUTSTANDING AS OF 6/30/24**

Tax Year	Principal	Interest	Penalty	Total Outstanding
2020-2021	\$273.29	\$161.20	\$21.85	\$456.34
2021-2022	\$452.48	\$200.56	\$36.20	\$689.24
2022-2023	\$6,418.16	\$1,443.58	\$513.46	\$8,375.20
2023-2024	\$48,216.26	\$2,790.64	\$3,857.23	\$54,864.13
<b>TOTAL OUTSTANDING</b>	<b>\$55,360.19</b>	<b>\$4,595.98</b>	<b>\$4,428.74</b>	<b>\$64,384.91</b>

**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 16<sup>th</sup> 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.

## ASSESSORS' OFFICE

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, 2025. The notice will explain the grievance process and relevant dates for grievance.

Each year the State of Vermont Department of Taxes (Property Valuation & Review) calculates the 3 year statistical average for CLA and COD based on valid sales of property in each municipality. The CLA and COD are used to equalize the State Wide Education Grand List. The table below shows the information for 2024 and 2025. The Town of Richmond completed the last Town Wide Reappraisal in 2023, and the Real Estate Market in Richmond continues to be strong.

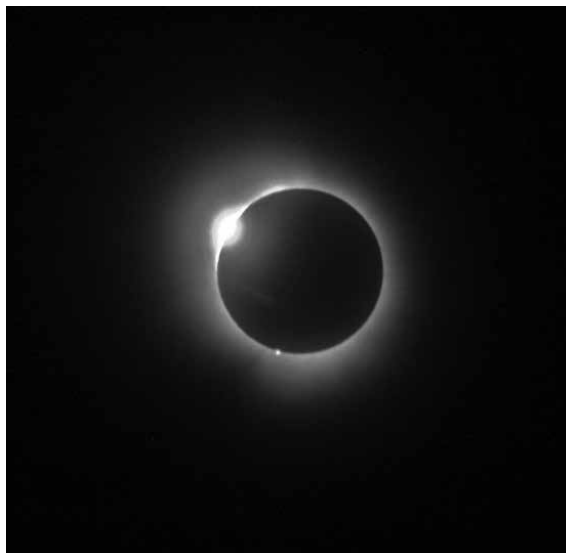
Richmond Equalization results:

	2024	2025	+/-
CLA (common level of assessment)	103.45	92.84	-10.61
COD (coefficient of Dispersion)	14.91	10.74	-4.17

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](mailto:Assessors@Richmondvt.gov)

Lisa Truchon, VMPPA

Assessor/NEMRC



*Photo by Robert Low*



## SELECTBOARD

2024 was an eventful year for the town. The July flooding caused extensive damage to many homes, both public and private roads, and to town property. This flood damaged some properties that have never been flooded before, as well as properties that have seen flooding in the past. Fortunately, the wonderful community of Richmond banded together. Neighbors helped neighbors, and town staff worked exhaustively to protect life and property. Town services were maintained or restored with much hard work and collaboration. Town staff worked mandatory overtime, resulting in canceled family functions and planned vacations.

The events of 2024 resulted in a considerable amount of work for the selectboard. The unprecedented flooding in July resulted in unthinkable hardships and trauma for many residents and generated considerable unplanned expenses for the town.

The selectboard and town staff have worked tirelessly to trim the 2025 budget. The town is budgeted to spend less money in 2025, however, due to the extreme expenses from the 2024 flood the town has considerably less cash on hand. This resulted in a small tax increase for 2025.

After considering feedback from citizens regarding pedestrian safety and accessibility on Bridge Street, the selectboard proceeded to the design and build phase of construction of a new sidewalk on the eastern side of Bridge Street. The Bridge Street Sidewalk Project was ultimately canceled due to public feedback, and concerns about potential disruption of unmarked graves in the cemetery.

The selectboard also solicited further study of pedestrian and vehicular traffic safety at the intersection of Bridge Street, Cochran Road, Thompson Road and Hinesburg Road. After hearing considerable public feedback, the selectboard declined to conduct further work on improvements at this intersection at this time.

The selectboard considered proposals from The Three Parks Committee, which was tasked with revitalizing Volunteers Green, Browns Court, and the Round Church Green utilizing ARPA funds. This committee worked hard to generate proposals to revive these town owned properties to generate recreational opportunities for residents, while also considering plans for resiliency to protect Volunteer's Green from ongoing flooding damage. After considerable public feedback, the selectboard approved a plan to install Pickleball Courts at Browns Court Park.

The Town Center Committee generated a plan to revitalize and renovate the Town Center. These renovations were planned to provide flood resiliency, address decades of deferred maintenance, make the building more accessible, improve pedestrian safety in the parking lot, and renovate the building to better suit the needs of the town.

There were several public meetings and there was considerable citizen engagement to provide information about this project. There was a bond vote to fund the proposed project. The bond vote failed.

2024 was a challenging year for the town to provide police services. There is a nationwide shortage of police staffing, and that problem is present here in Richmond too. The town continues to collaborate with Hinesburg for Police Coverage for Richmond. We hired one full-time officer, Corporal Matthew Cohen, as well as "Duke" a K9 officer, a first for Richmond.

Perhaps the most exciting event to occur in 2024 was the total solar eclipse in April. Richmond was almost directly in the path of totality. This event also brought a considerable number of people from out-of-town.

After listening to feedback from concerned citizens regarding unsafe vehicle speeds, the town installed speed humps on Cochran Road. Public feedback has indicated these speed humps are effectively slowing traffic to safer speeds.

After receiving considerable feedback about visibility and traffic safety, the town painted fog lines (reflective white shoulder lines) on Cochran Road, Hinesburg Road and Huntington Road.

After years of collaboration with VTRANS and the town, the Rt. 2 paving project was completed. This project included wider shoulders from the Village to the Park and Ride, improvements at the intersection of 117, the Park and Ride, and a new improved traffic signal at Bridge St. These improvements have resulted in improved traffic flow, and fewer traffic back-ups at the Bridge Street intersection.

Our town was able to have another well attended, well organized and fun July 4th celebration. We were blessed with great weather this year on the 4th.

The most challenging event in 2024 was undoubtedly the July flooding event. This flooding again devastated several neighborhoods, multiple private residences, multiple roads, (both public and private) and several town properties. Our town staff worked tirelessly to protect life and property and maintain services throughout the storm. The Highway department worked tirelessly to restore town roads and Volunteer's Green. The Fire Department performed several rescues, pumped out basements, and pumped the basement of the town center.

Water and sewer worked around the clock to protect the treatment plant and the town well. Water and sewer service was not interrupted throughout the flood event, despite significant damage to the water/sewer infrastructure. Town staff worked diligently to coordinate recovery efforts and assist residents with repairs.

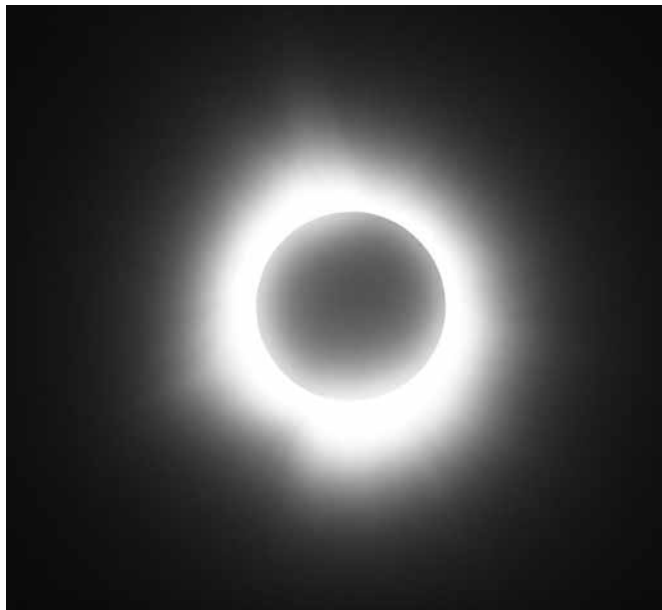
We held a special town meeting to discuss a request to move the annual budget vote to Australian Ballot. The residents in attendance voted to move the budget vote to Australian Ballot at this meeting.

2024 was a very eventful year. Your selectboard strives to represent the citizens of Richmond. Please feel free to reach out to selectboard members and provide your input and feedback. Community feedback is necessary for the Selectboard to effectively manage town resources and services.

I am proud to both live in and serve our wonderful community.

Be well,

David Sander, Chairman, Richmond Selectboard



*Photo by Cooper Wyman*

## TOWN MANAGER

In 2024 we accomplished much as a town, and we once again suffered from devastating flooding in July. 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:** The Town continued to contract with Hinesburg for police and police chief services in 2024. This arrangement has been very beneficial as hiring police officers has proven to be very challenging and Chief Cambridge has provided great leadership for the department. We welcomed Corporal Matthew Cohen to the Richmond Police Department this year. Corporal Cohen comes with his Comfort K9, Duke. The function of the Comfort K9 is to provide interaction during investigations involving children or adults to reduce anxiety and increase communication between the adult or child victim/witness and investigators. To provide comfort for people during times of crisis, and to provide aid and comfort to individuals, groups and communities impacted by violence, tragedy, or traumatic events. The Department responded quickly to an increase in break-ins in the fall of 2024 and kept the community informed of the best steps to protect their property.

**Water and Wastewater:** Water and Wastewater Superintendent Steve Cote and the Water and Wastewater Department have had a very busy 2024. They continued to work with the engineers on the 20-year evaluation of the wastewater treatment facility. The Department prepared well for the July flood, which helped to avoid a boil water notice, and keep the wastewater treatment facility operational throughout the flooding. They worked quickly to make necessary repairs in the days and weeks following the flood. The Department has also been busy installing new water meters which can be read remotely. The Department and staff received awards from the Green Mountain Water Environment Association including a 2024 Facility Excellence Award for both Water and Wastewater. Superintendent Steve Cote received the Michael J. Garofano Water Operator of the Year Award. Assistant Chief Operator Brad Snow was also recognized with the Bob Wood Young Professionals Award.

**Highway:** The July flood has kept Road Foreman Pete Gosselin and the Highway Department very busy in the second half of 2024. They spent most of July through November putting roads back together themselves and managing several contractors for this work as well. In addition to the flood response the crew added traffic calming features to the town roads including six speed humps on Cochran Rd. and fog lines on Cochran Rd., Huntington Rd., East Hill Rd., Wes White Hill, and Hinesburg Rd. The department also kept current on the paving plan resurfacing Huntington Rd., Southview Dr., Hillview Rd., Thompson Rd. and Millet St. We are also all very thankful for the Department's dedication each winter to the early mornings and late nights necessary to keep the roads clear of ice and snow.

**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 flood. They worked throughout the night of the flood responding to calls for help during the storm. In the days following the floods they 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. 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.

**Richmond Free Library:** Library Director Rebecca Mueller retired in the fall of 2024. We thank her for her long service to the Library and wish her a peaceful retirement. Suzanne Krohn was named the new Library Director. The Library continues to offer valuable services to the community including many community events and the lending of electronic materials in addition to traditional books. Work was completed on the exterior of the building including repairs to damaged sections of siding and the entire building was painted.

**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 2024 and were able to handle a very large turnout for the November election.

**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, by email at [jarneson@richmondvt.gov](mailto:jarneson@richmondvt.gov) and of course you can always stop by the Town Center.

Thank you,

Josh Arneson

Town Manager



*Seniors Playing Canasta*



*Senior Sing Along*

## 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 3500 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](http://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.

Five elections / votes were held in 2024. The statistics are as follows:

<u>Election / Vote</u>	<u>date</u>	<u>voters on checklist</u>	<u>total residents voted</u>
Town Meeting	3/05/2024	3447	1447
MMUUSD Budget	4/02/2024	3422	1071
VT State Primary	11/05/2024	3457	533
Special Town Meeting	11/09/2024	3500	130
General Election	11/05/2024	3495	2898

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 4, 2025.

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 29, 2025, 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](mailto:lparent@richmondvt.gov). Notices are also posted on the Front Porch Forum.

A special town meeting was held in November, with the decision to place the annual budget completely on the Australian Ballot. Also requested was that all community appropriations be voted on by Australian Ballot. These questions were passed in the affirmative by the 130 residents present. Therefore, all money items will be placed on the Australian Ballot, along with the selection of Town Officers and any articles presented by the Selectboard. This year the Town Meeting will be held on March 5, 2025. An informational meeting for an explanation of the 2025-2026 Town Budget and Australian Ballot items will be presented at the Selectboard Meeting to be held Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 7pm at the Richmond Town Center.

2024 proved to not be without turmoil, as heavy rains inundated the State of Vermont, including Richmond. Many homes had their basements filled with water. Roads were destroyed and septic & water systems were overwhelmed. Some residents lost the first floor of their homes. Volunteers organized cleanup efforts to assist those neighbors in need.

Adriana Hashinaga, Richmond Resident, holds the office of Assistant Town Clerk. She is an excellent addition to the office. She enjoys assisting the residents and has learned her duties quite well. 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, dealing with FEMA issues and all-around assistant to Town Manager Josh Arneson. The other office included in our little corner of the world is filled by the Town's Assessor, Lisa Truchon. She is a contracted Assessor who fills her position very well. She is very helpful creating the Grand List and helping residents with various questions regarding the valuation of their property.

This is the last Town Clerk's report that I will be submitting. I will be retiring from the position of Town Clerk, that I have held for 20 years in March 2025. In total, I have worked for the Town of Richmond for 34 years! I was named Town Clerk of the Year in 2022 by the Vermont Municipal Clerks & Treasurer's Association. I am very proud of all I have accomplished in my time serving the Town of Richmond. Being a lifelong resident of Richmond, I have been very proud and honored to represent those people living in Richmond. I certainly will miss the daily interaction with everyone. I wish my replacement well.

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?



## HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Winter 2023 / 2024 started with multiple snowstorms and then on December 18th we endured yet again another flood which was mainly limited to the Winooski River valley. The Volunteer's Green was flooded for the third time in 6 months washing out the playground, baseball diamonds, concession stand and fencing as well as the sewer pump station. 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.

In September we lost 3 full-time employees (Dillon Laforce; Ray Wilson; Dan O'Shaughnessy) to a neighboring Town for increased benefits and wages. I was able to hire 3 new employees in a quick fashion to restaff the department.

The newly hired employees are Colin Boyer, Shawn Williams and Eric Andrews. In addition to the 3 new hires, I promoted Kyle Leggett to assistant foreman. Colin Boyer comes to Richmond with good knowledge of the Richmond town roads with mechanical and heavy equipment experience. Shawn Williams comes to Richmond with heavy equipment experience, and as our new head mechanic. Shawn has many years of mechanical knowledge building and installing components on the plow trucks we own. Eric Andrews comes to Richmond with over 30 years of municipal highway experience and knowledge of all Richmond roads.

Due to the July 10 and 16th flooding events of 2023, we were unable to do all the planned summer roadwork. I combined the 2023 unfinished projects with the summer 24 projects with the intention of catching up. Well, that did not happen! July 10th tropical storm Beryl hit us, but this time with more damage than in 2023. We endured close to 8 inches of rain in a 10-hour time span. This is considered a historical off-the-chart rain event. The Richmond town road damage was the worst I have ever seen. The following roads were affected:

**Cochran Road** – Several sections of shoulder and cross culvert washed out.

**Dugway Road** – River embankment washouts in several places as well as washed out roadway.

**Wes White Hill Road** – Road and embankment washout in several places.

**Durand Road** – Culvert washout.

**Stage Road** - Road, shoulder and cross culvert washout in several places.

**Jones Mill Road** – Road washout and siltation.

**Snipe Ireland Road** – Two large diameter road cross culvert washouts.

**Huntington Road** – Road cross culvert and shoulder washout.

**Besaw Road** – Large diameter cross culvert washout.

**Lawrence Road** – Road and shoulder washout.

**Hillview Road** – Two large diameter cross culverts and several sections of shoulder and driveway culverts washed out.

**Mountain View Road** – Washed out sections of ditch and shoulder.

**Williams Hill Road** – Road and cross culvert washout.

**Wortheim Road** – Road and cross culvert washout.

**Palmer Lane** – Cross culvert washout.

**Johnnie Brook Road** – Road washout.



**Cemetery Road** – Road washout.

**Kenyon Road** – Shoulder washout.

**Hinesburg Road** – Road, shoulder and cross culvert washout.

**Volunteer's Green** – Park, playground, concession stand and ballfields washout.

**Railroad Street** – Underground storm water system washout.

**Tilden Avenue** – Pathway washout and storm inlet plugged.

All I can say is WOW! Four major flooding events within one year. The first flood event of 2023 on July 10th was mostly defined to the Winooski River valley. Then came the storm event of July 16th causing major damage to Town roads and triggering a FEMA declaration. Third was the flooding event of December 18 which caused flooding in the village wiping out the Volunteer's Green for a third time. And then July 10, 2024, added more insult to injury leaving us with major road damage and triggered another FEMA declaration.

Due to the amount of road damage, and the fact that most roads were reduced to one lane, and some completely closed, we opted to reach out for contracted help. The contractors hired were Dirt Tech of Jericho, Cowles Excavating of Richmond, Stromme Excavating of Richmond, Bevins Excavating of Milton, Engineers Construction of Williston, Richard Cowles LLC of Richmond, Spence Excavating of Richmond, Mow and Maintain of Huntington, E&S Transport of Richmond and FR Lafayette of Essex. These contractors were hired to repair the worst damaged section of roads, leaving the Highway Department to do the finished repairs.

Cowles Excavating repaired five roads for the town. Cochran Road; Hillview Road; Williams Hill Road; Cemetery Road and Wortheim Road. The repairs to these roads were culvert replacements, slope armoring, road surface replacement, ditching and rock lining.

Dirt Tech repaired two roads for the town. Hinesburg Road and Dugway Road. The repairs to Hinesburg Road were culvert replacement, road base and paving, ditch restoration, slope erosion repair and rock lining. The repairs to Dugway Road were road base and surface gravel, slope erosion repair and rock armoring.

Bevins Excavating repaired Snipe Ireland Road. They reset a washed out 10-foot diameter road crossing culvert, replaced 500 feet of washed-out road base and repaired slope erosion with rock armor.

Stromme Excavating repaired two roads for the town. Stage Road and Jones Mill Road. The repairs to Stage Road were replacing five road crossing culverts and six driveway culverts. Replace half mile washed out road base. The repairs to Jones Mill were removed silt from road and add new road gravel.

Engineer's Construction repaired two roads for the town. Wes White Hill and Huntington Road. The repairs made to Wes White Hill were armoring washed out road slope with ledge. Ditching, rock lining, road base and patch paving. The repairs made to Huntington Road were to replace washed out large road crossing culvert and pave asphalt patch.

Richard Cowles LLC supplied the Town with blasted rock for all Town road repairs in addition to additional trucking for road repairs.

Spence Excavating supplied additional trucking for material stockpiles and Huntington Road repairs.

E&S Transport supplied additional trucking for Stage Road, Hillview Road and Town stockpiles.

Mow and Maintain made repairs to the Volunteer's Green playground, ballfields and roadway.

FR Lafayette installed new guardrails on Wes White Hill, Besaw Road, Hillview Road and Snipe Ireland Road.

All of the above contractors made Richmond road repairs an immediate priority. I can't begin to thank them all enough for their help.

The Richmond Highway Department made repairs to following roads:

**Snipe Ireland Road** – Gravel road surface of washed out sections of road, ditch and rock armoring, topsoil seed and mulch.

**Stage Road** – Rock line one half mile of ditches and install rock headwalls on all culverts. Gravel road surface of washed-out sections of road. Replace one road crossing culvert.

**Wes White Hill** – Excavate land slide. Gravel road surface of washed-out sections of road.

**Durand Road** – Replace road crossing culvert. Repair road washouts.

**Cochran Road** – Asphalt patch road crossing culvert. Clean out plugged road crossing culvert.

**Johnnie Brook Road** - Gravel road surface of washed out section of road.

**Kenyon Road** – Armor washed out slope of road.

**Lawrence Road** – Repair washed out section of road and ditch.

**Besaw Road** – Replace large diameter washed out road crossing culvert.

**Dugway Road** - Gravel road surface of washed out section of road. Rock slope stabilization.

**Huntington Road** – Rebuild washed out ditches and rock line. Rock slope stabilization.

**Hillview Road** – Replace two large diameter washed out road crossing culverts. Rock slope stabilization. Gravel road surface on washed out sections of road.

**Jones Mill Road** – Gravel road surface on washed out section of road. Culvert headwall repair.

**Thompson Road** – Slope repair on road crossing culvert.

**Volunteer's Green** – Playground mulch. Field silt cleanup. Roadway surface gravel.

**Railroad Street** – Excavate and patch repair underground stormwater system.

**Tilden Avenue** – Gravel path surface. Cleanout stormwater system inlet.

**Mountain View Road** – Repair sections of washed-out ditch and rock line. Asphalt patch repair.

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
- Hauling and stockpiling winter sand
- Town wide brush cutting / chipping.
- Hillview Road gravel plan resurfacing
- Southview Drive- replaced three road crossing culverts
- Cemetery Road – one driveway culvert replacement
- Huntington Road – one driveway culvert replacement
- Wes White Hill Road – miscellaneous ditching
- Windstorm damage cleanup from July / December 2023 and January 2024
- Storm drains vacuum / cleaning
- Installed 1100 feet of granite curbing for East Main Street sidewalk project

Many of the seasonal work items had to be skipped due to the July storm event. Roadside mowing, East Main Street concrete sidewalk project, Tilden Avenue stormwater project, Grants in Aid project for Snipe Ireland Road as well as many planned road upgrades.

We applied for a VTRANS structure grant as well as a Class 2 Roadway grant. We were not awarded the Structures grant but were awarded a Class 2 Roadway grant for Huntington Road and completed the road resurfacing with the grant. We have been awarded an additional Better Roads grant for last 500 feet of Snipe Ireland Road. The Snipe Ireland Road BRG project is now rescheduled for fall 2025.

Contracted work for the summer includes the following:

Pike Industries were awarded the paving contract. Roads resurfaced were Thompson Road, Huntington Road, Hillview Road, Millett Street and Southview Drive.

The Highway Department had 1 new purchase this year. The 2016 Ventrac sidewalk tractor was replaced with a 2024 Ventrac sidewalk tractor from MTE equipment of Cohoes New York. 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](mailto:pgosselin@richmondvt.gov).

Peter Gosselin

Richmond Road Foreman

## **WINTER SAND POLICY AND WINTER PARKING INFO**

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						
January 2025						
FISCAL YEAR	Gravel	Extra trucking to Haul Gravel	Culvert repair or replacement	Brush clearing, flagging & ditching	Miles	Anticipated Road and Mileage to receive gravel resurfacing
FY 26 Summer 2025	\$120,000	\$10,000	\$2,500	\$2,000	2.60	Roger's Lane - .40 miles of .40 miles; Stage Road - 1.5 miles of 1.5 miles; Lawrence Road - .30 miles of .30 miles; Grandview Drive - .30 miles of .30 miles; Besaw Road - .10 miles of .10 miles;
FY 27 Summer 2026	\$125,000	\$12,000	\$2,500	\$2,000	3.40	Stage Road - remaining 1.3 miles of 2.80 miles; Wes White Hill Road - 2.10 miles of 2.10 miles Dugway Road - 3.35 miles of 3.35 miles
FY 28 Summer 2027	\$125,000	\$12,000	\$2,500	\$2,000	3.35	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 29 Summer 2028	\$125,000	\$12,000	\$2,500	\$2,000	2	Johnnie Brook - Road - 1.40 miles of 1.40 miles; Snipe Ireland Road - 2.0 miles of 2.55 miles
FY 30 Summer 2029	\$130,000	\$15,000	\$2,500	\$2,000	3.40	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
FY 31 Summer 2030	\$130,000	\$15,000	\$2,500	\$2,000	3.35	Kenyon Road - 2.25 miles of 2.25 miles; Volunteer's Green .30 miles of .30 miles
FY 32 Summer 2031	\$135,000	\$15,000	\$2,500	\$2,000	2.55	
<b>7-year resurfacing cycle continues</b>						
<b>Note: Plan includes gravel and rip rap stone for all roads</b>						

**TOWN OF RICHMOND 12-YEAR PAVING CYCLE**  
January 2025

FISCAL YEAR	Budget Amount	Miles Paved or Planned	Anticipated Road and Mileage to be paved	Notes
FY 26 Summer 2025	300,000	2.11	Bridge Street – (south side of Iron Truss bridge) remaining .11 miles of .57 miles Cochran Road – (village end) remaining .40 miles of 3.68 miles Huntington Road (village end) remaining .10 miles of 4.15 miles Jericho Road – 1.5 miles of 2.33 miles	Bridge Street, Huntington Road and Cochran Road scheduled for resurfacing after water main replacement and require asphalt surface milling (Jericho Road grant eligible)
FY 27 Summer 2026	295,000	2.07	Tilden Avenue - .18 miles of .18 miles; Baker Street - .11 miles of .11 miles School Street - .09 miles of .09 miles; Burnett Court - .11 miles of .11 miles Brown's Court - .19 miles of .19 miles; Lemroy Court - .19 miles of .19 miles Jericho Road .50 miles of 2.33 miles; Hidden Pines Circle - .70 miles of .70 miles	(Roads are not grant eligible) Tilden Avenue resurfacing scheduled after water main replacement. Village Streets require asphalt surface milling
FY 28 Summer 2027	295,000	1.93	Lower Jericho Road – remaining .33 miles of 2.33 miles School Street - .09 miles of .09 miles; Church Street - .18 miles of .18 miles Esplanade Street - .26 miles of .26 miles; Farr Road - .11 miles of .11 miles Round Church Road - .07 miles of .07 miles; Depot Street - .15 miles of .15 miles Mountain View Road - .74 miles of .74 miles	(Jericho Road grant eligible) Village Streets require asphalt milling
FY 29 Summer 2028	295,000	1.62	Sherwood Forest Road - .07 miles of .07 miles; Hidden Pines Dr - .20 miles of .20 miles Hidden Pines Extension - .09 miles of .09 miles Bradford Terrace - .20 miles of .20 miles Joan Avenue - .30 miles of .30 miles; Westall Drive - .45 miles of .45 miles Westall Extension - .09 miles of .09 miles; Mary Drive - .22 miles of .22 miles	(Roads are not grant eligible)
FY 30 Summer 2029	300,000	1.94	Mountain View Road - .74 miles of .74 miles; Cemetery Road - .10 miles of .10 miles Johnnie Brook apron - .15 miles of .15 miles; Kenyon Road apron(s) - .05 miles of .05 miles Roger's Lane - .10 miles of .10 miles; Governor Peck Hwy - .80 miles of .80 miles	(Roads are not grant eligible)
FY 31 Summer 2030	305,000	1.45	Greystone Drive - .95 miles of .95 miles; Apple Tree Lane - .10 miles of .10 miles Highland Drive - .20 miles of .20 miles; Duxbury Road - .20 miles of .20 miles	(Duxbury Road grant eligible)
FY 32 Summer 2031	305,000	2.0	Hinesburg Road – 2.0 miles of 3.90 miles	(Hinesburg Road grant eligible)
FY 33 Summer 2032	305,000	1.90	Hinesburg Road – remaining 1.90 miles of 3.90 miles	(Hinesburg Road grant eligible)
FY 34 Summer 2033	310,000	1.66	East Hill Road – 1.20 miles of 1.20 miles Fire Station parking lot - .03 miles of .03 miles Bridge Street municipal parking lot - .03 miles of .03 miles Town Center parking lot - .20 miles of .20 miles Volunteer's Green parking lot - .20 miles of .20 miles	(Roads are not grant eligible)
FY 35 Summer 2034	310,000	1.96	Bridge Street - .46 miles of .60 miles; Cochran Road – 1.50 miles of 3.68 miles	Cochran Road (grant eligible) Bridge Street requires asphalt milling
FY 36 Summer 2035	315,000	2.18	Cochran Road – remaining 2.18 miles of 3.68 miles	Cochran Road (grant eligible)
FY 37 Summer 2036	315,000	2.0	Huntington Road – 2.0 miles of 4.15 miles	Huntington Road (grant eligible)
	3,650,000	22.82		Village streets are estimated at a higher cost due to utilities, surface milling and paving quantities. Road asphalt surfaces evaluated annually and may require resurfacing more frequently based on surface wear

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 & ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

As Constable I am completing my tenth 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. Parking enforcement on Cochran Road and Dugway Road near the gorge is part of my duties. Many people in the area come out to play in our rivers, causing some parking issues. This year I wrote around 50 parking tickets events. 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.

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. Occasionally an animal welfare complaint comes up that is better addressed by the Constable than Animal Control. There have been more lost dogs than barking dogs again 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 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 must 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 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 many complaints of dogs being loose without collars or tags. 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

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

The members of the Richmond Fire Department are as follows: Chief Dennis Gile, Assistant Chief Gerald Levesque, Captains Mike Parent, Mark Klonicke, Jake Kilpeck and Lieutenant Mike Carter. The Treasurer is Sherry Gile. The firefighters are Rich Dana, Christopher Fahner, Andrew French, Vikas Manigipudi, Benjamin Owens, Dylan Paquette, Muangthai Prachankhet (PAR), Aaron Toth, Graham Wolfson, Eric Wood. Harland Stockwell is a life member.

We held our coin drop this year. The proceeds totaled \$3281.36. The money will be put to good use. It will be used to buy some new equipment for the firemen and the department.

I would like to thank all the Richmond firemen for the time and dedication they have put forth this year. They have put in a total of over 4800 plus hours of training and fire calls. I would like to thank Jake Kilpeck, Rich Dana and Gerald Levesque for the number of hours they have put in for setting up our new Utility 1 truck. This truck is the replacement truck for Brush 1. The Brush truck was sold to the Richmond Water and Sewer Department.

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 number 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.

Currently Richmond Fire Department has 5 trucks:

- 2023 Utility 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 water tank. This is our main attack pumper.
- 2011 Engine 1 is a pumper tanker which has a 1250 GPM pump and 1000-gallon water tank.
- 2019 Engine 3 which is a pumper tanker which has a 1250 GPM pump and a 2000-gallon water tank.
- 932 Maxum, this is Richmond's first fire truck.

Richmond Fire Department would like to thank our mutual aid departments: Huntington, Williston, Hinesburg and Underhill Jericho for responding to Richmond. Richmond Fire would like to extend our thanks to the Bolton Fire Department for their automatic dispatch to all our calls.

It's been a busy year for the Richmond Fire Department with 240 calls this year which is an increase of 14 calls over 2023 (226).

The following were calls for assistance:

• car accidents on I-89 - 49	• car fires - 2
• car accidents, not on I-89 - 42	• cancelled calls - 17
• CO alarms - 28	• LP gas leaks - 6
• mutual aid calls - 14	• gasoline spills - 2
• flood assistance - 14	• downed power lines - 24
• forest fire - 5	• structure fires - 14

I want to congratulate Jerry Levesque on being awarded FIRE FIGHTER OF THE YEAR for 2023 and well-deserved award.

Overall, 2024 was a good year!

Chief Dennis Gile

<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT FINANCIAL SUMMARY</b>	
As of 6/30/2024 (cash basis)	
<b>ASSETS</b>	Cash & Bank Accounts:
	RFD Checking                     \$     477.65
	RFD Savings                     \$   5,582.46
	<b>Total Cash &amp; Bank Accounts       \$6,060.11</b>
<b>LIABILITY &amp; EQUITY</b>	
	Liabilities                     \$           -
	Equity                         \$   6,060.11
	<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity       \$   6,060.11</b>
<i>Submitted by Sherry Gile, RFD Treasurer</i>	

**RICHMOND FIRE DEPARTMENT**

YEAR	# of FIRE CALLS
2014	145
2015	143
2016	164
2017	157
2018	163
2019	170
2020	154
2021	146
2022	216
2023	226
2024	240



## PLANNING AND ZONING

The Planning and Zoning Department helps administer local regulations, including the Zoning Regulations, Subdivision 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. The current Planning and Zoning Department staff consists of Keith Osborne, Director of Planning and Zoning and Tyler Machia, Zoning Administrative Officer.

This coming year one of many focuses will be on commencing the Town Plan re-adoption process with the Planning Commission as the lead committee on this endeavor. This process involves the gathering of information from standing town committees, scheduled public outreach events with assistance from our Regional Planning Commission (CCRCP), Selectboard meeting as well as the twice monthly Planning Commission meeting held on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month. The Town Plan is to be completed by November of 2026 with a Town vote prior to adoption earlier in the year.

Staff are here to assist residents by answering questions about local planning projects, permit requirements, enforcement, floodplain management as well as any community-wide issues. The Planning Commission, Development Review Board, 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 and the Richmond Front Porch Forum. Notices are also posted at the Town Offices, Post Office, the Richmond Market, and on the Town website, specifically on the review committee's homepage. 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

During 2024 the Planning Commission continued to work on updating the Richmond Zoning Regulations (RZR) to ensure that each zoning district is in alignment with the Town Plan and with any new statutory requirements or evolving community needs. The focus of our year's work has been reducing regulatory barriers to housing development in response to the statewide and county-wide housing shortage.

Projects included amending the Industrial/Commercial District near Exit 11 to allow additional housing on parcels where residences already exist while maintaining space for commercial enterprises and substituting "critical permit condition" language for the previous "master development plan" language in the Planned Unit Development section (5.12) of the zoning regulations. These amendments were approved by the Selectboard in May of 2024. A second project, occupying the whole of 2024 and into 2025, has been working out the right balance for amending the Jolina Court District to allow for a second multi-family building to be developed in the Creamery project. This work proved stubbornly troublesome due to the variety of strongly held opinions, but hopefully will be headed for resolution by the time you read this report.

A third time-consuming project arose from an idea championed by the committee tasked with utilizing ARPA funds to carry out desired improvements to Richmond's three parks – Brown's Trace Park, Round Church Green and Volunteers Green. The idea was to relocate the playground and restroom at Volunteers Green up onto the plateau where the bandshell is currently, in order to reduce the damage from repeated flooding, which appears to be the new normal, courtesy of climate change. Allowing for this relocation required zoning changes that needed careful crafting to maintain the efficacy and legality of our floodplain regulations. In December of 2024, after much discussion, the Planning Commission approved a packet of Flood Hazard Overlay District (FHOD) amendments for public hearing. The year ended with input from the state Agency of Natural Resources indicating that further work will be required to meet the standards required by FEMA and the National Flood Insurance Program. We hope to complete this work in early 2025.

Concurrently with the above-mentioned projects, the Planning Commission continued its work on updating the Village Residential Neighborhoods North and South Zoning Districts. This work, which had been started in 2023 with input from the residents of these areas of the village and incorporation of the new statutory requirements imposed by 2023's Act 47, became more complicated by 2024's further statutory requirements (Act 181). The state legislature, becoming increasingly concerned with the lack of progress towards creating more housing, made certain density and affordable housing requirements mandatory, which scrambled the progress we thought we were making. These revised amendments will be making their way to the Selectboard in early 2025.

Further plans for 2025 include gathering all the information needed for the 2026 re-adoption of our 2018 Town Plan. All residents are invited to participate in the process of updating the Plan by reviewing the Goals and Actions that were laid out in 2018 and by bringing forth any new ideas. The current Plan was completely overhauled in 2018, so we are not anticipating a major rewrite. New state and regional requirements will need to be incorporated, and new emphasis will likely be integrated into sections that deal with housing and resilience to meet evolving conditions. The Planning Commission will provide more information in early 2025 about opportunities for citizen input. The current Plan can be found on the Town of Richmond website under the tab "Ordinances and Policies," "2018 Town Plan."

Our current commissioners, Alison Anand, Ian Bender, Mark Fausel, Chris Granda and I have worked hard to resolve the difficult issues that arise when considering how to craft fair, equitable and reasonable regulations for the future. We have been joined by new member Rebecca Connell, and as of December of 2024 we are still seeking a seventh member to complete the Commission. We have been ably supported by Keith Osborne, Richmond's Director of Planning and Zoning, who has had his hands full dealing with our many flood-related issues, as well as participating in the "regular" processes of planning and regulation development. Please contact the Planning Department if you would like any further information about our completed or ongoing work, or if you would like to join us!

Virginia Clarke, Chair Richmond Planning Commission

## ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

In 2024, staff issued 97 Zoning Permits. The number of Zoning Permits per type, in comparison to the past five years, is as follows (Note: Some permits contained multiple categories):

In addition, staff issued 19 Certificates of Occupancy in 2024. Certificates of Occupancy are issued after construction is complete for significant projects, including new houses, additions, and accessory apartments.

Zoning Permits Issued by Type of Project	Permits issued in 2024	Permits issued in 2023	Permits issued in 2022	Permits issued in 2021	Permits issued in 2020
Accessory Dwelling	3	5	4	3	1
Accessory Structure	45	17	20	25	34
Addition and Renovation	18	30	24	27	37
Administratively Created Lot	2	2	2	0	0
Boundary Adjustment	2	0	2	5	4
Home Occupation/Cottage Industry	0	0	0	2	3
Mobile Home Replacement	1	2	2	0	0
New Construction Commercial	2	1	0	0	0
Sign	3	2	2	3	1
Single-Family Dwelling	6	14	11	14	7
Two-Family Dwelling	0	0	0	0	1
Multifamily Dwelling	0	0	0	0	1
Other	15	12	NA	NA	NA

## 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.

The DRB in Richmond meets to consider applications before it on the first and fourth Wednesdays in a month. Meetings are in person and remote participation is available as well. The DRB welcomes participation in applications it is considering from the citizens in Richmond.

The DRB urges any persons wanting to bring an application before the Board to do so as early as possible so the applicant can start and complete their project in a timely manner. It may take some time for some applications to work their way through the hearings process.

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	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Site Plan	3	1	0	3	1
Conditional Use Review	0	6	9	6	10
Subdivision Sketch Plan	3	3	3	1	3
Preliminary Subdivision Application	1	3	2	1	1
Final Subdivision Application	1	5	0	1	3
Subdivision Amendments	1	4	2	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

Richmond Free Library's mission is to provide resources and experiences that inspire, inform, entertain, and connect members of the community throughout their lives. The Library maintains a physical collection of books, magazines and movies and lends to a patron base of nearly 2,000 card holders. Readers also borrow thousands of digital books and audiobooks through the Library via the Libby, Hoopla and Palace services. The physical collection also includes over 120 non-traditional items such as museum passes, jigsaw puzzles, board and yard games, a seed library and a telescope. Richmond patrons have direct access to a network of almost 30 nearby libraries and can request additional materials through the inter-library loan program. Richmond loves to read, evident in our rank of second-highest circulation in the state for a town of our size.

The Library is truly a community hub, with 30,000 visitors and over 350 non-library events and meetings held in the last year. After another severe flood, the Library was able to offer space so that the Richmond Farmer's Market and playgroups could continue.

Youth Director Wendy DeForest provides a robust collection of programming for families and children of all ages. During the school year, the Library offers storytimes, LEGO Club, scavenger hunts, and crafts. Families also enjoyed a visit from the Siber Sled Dogs, Alyx the Magician, game night, a costume swap, and much more. The Library increased offerings for adults: book discussions and author talks, tech support, and everything from knitting and swing dancing lessons to documentary screenings.

The Friends of Richmond Free Library held a very successful book sale in December and continue to be vital supporters of the Library. The Friends funded Summer Reading programs, Hoopla, and the construction of shelving as we re-imagined our youth and public technology spaces. This year also saw some much-needed exterior repair work and a full re-painting of the Library, completed with ARPA and local funding. These two projects will keep this historic structure sound for years to come.

After over 23 years of service, our esteemed Library Director, Rebecca Mueller, retired. We are grateful for her stewardship and her unflagging enthusiasm for literacy, community engagement, and lifelong learning.

For information on new books, upcoming events, and more, visit the Library at [www.richmondfreelibraryvt.org](http://www.richmondfreelibraryvt.org), subscribe to our e-newsletter, or follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Submitted by Suzanne Krohn, Director



*Rebecca Mueller, Retiring Librarian*

## **DOG LICENSE REPORT**

There were 340 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 remaining \$8 provides supplies and various items for animal control. It also covers the cost of the doggie poo bag stations at the park and their supplies. The State of VT requires us to send them \$7.00 of each registration.

Thanks to Rod West for keeping an eye on the poo bag stations and refilling them at Volunteer's Green. Maryann Barnes 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 and 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 29, 2025, 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 802-363-7162. 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. Our beloved pets provide unconditional love, support and 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 PETS VACCINATED AGAINST RABIES!  
  
REGISTER YOUR DOG WITH THE TOWN**

# RABIES CLINIC

Saturday, March 29, 2025  
9 am – noon

*Huntington Town Garage  
(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

VITAL RECORDS					
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
BIRTHS	33	39	43	18	32
DEATHS	25	28	36	34	38
MARRIAGES	23	25	25	32	40

*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 Certificates 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 2024**

CHILD'S NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	PARENT'S NAME
MURRAY, WYATT P T	JANUARY 1, 2024	KORIN RIDEOUT & JOSHUA MURRAY SR
PARADIS, RUBEN J	FEBRUARY 23, 2024	MARATHA WATERMAN & COREY PARADIS
ANDERSON, INGRID C	MARCH 12, 2024	KAREN & TREVOR ANDERSON
BUTLER, HENRY W	MARCH 30, 2024	EMMA KELLY-KNICKERBOCKER & SIMON BUTLER
CLODGO, JESSARA E	APRIL 16, 2024	ERIN CLODGO & TYLER COOPER
PORTER, ISAIAH S	APRIL 16, 2024	ALI & BLAKE PORTER
PARISI, AMELIA M	APRIL 16, 2024	BLAIR KNOWLES & MATTHEW PARISI
SMITHFIELDS, SAWYER H	APRIL 24, 2024	LOGAN & JULIA SMITHFIELDS
BEDNAR, ELLA F	MAY 19, 2024	NICHOLE BAMBACIGNO & KEVIN BEDNAR
REISMAN, JUDE B	JUNE 1, 2024	CAITLAIN BARAN & DAVID REISMAN
DOLAN, HAZEL S	JUNE 5, 2024	CHRISTINE DOLAN & DEVIN TYMAN
MORANO, CLEA G	JUNE 9, 2024	ADESSA & JORDAN MORANO
SANTOYO, CARLOS JN	JUNE 26, 2024	FORLY MENA & CARLOS NAVARRETTE
HURST, JASMINE E	JUNE 30, 2024	COLTON HURST
DECAPUA, ASHER W	JULY 10, 2024	SUZANNE & MATTHEW DECAPUA
KENNEDY, ATTICUS T	JULY 18, 2024	KAREN MEJIA & KEVIN KENNEDY
HAMLIN, JOSEPH A	JULY 20, 2024	LAURA & JOHN HAMLIN
BRADLEY, CATALINA S	AUGUST 14, 2024	AMANDA & CHRISTIAN BRADLEY
KWIT, FRANCES E	AUGUST 21, 2024	NATALIE & MATTHEW KWIT
SISCO, ANNABELLE G	AUGUST 28, 2024	ALISON & DANIEL SISCO
INGRAHAM, ARTHUR D	SEPTEMBER 6, 2024	KATHERINE & SAMUEL INGRAHAM
SIEGEL, EMMETT J	SEPTEMBER 8, 2024	SOPHIA SENNING & DAVID SIEGEL
BURGHHER, FRANCIS E	SEPTEMBER 9, 2024	CAITLIN CORLESS & TIMOTHY BURGHHER
WILLIAMS, ADDISON J	SEPTEMBER 10, 2024	CHLOE & SHAWN WILLIAMS
BOURNE, OLIVIA R	SEPTEMBER 17, 2024	CHEYANNA & MICHAEL BOURNE
MATTOON, LUNA R	OCTOBER 11, 2024	KELSEY & IAN MATTOON
ST ONGE, WESLEY E	NOVEMBER 2, 2024	EMILY SPINE & COREY-JOHN ST ONGE
STOKES, SAL F	DECEMBER 1, 2024	GILLIAN GREFE & BRETT STOKES
JONES, DRAVEN C	DECEMBER 2, 2024	RACHEL & CHASLEY JONES
STEPP, ODESSA R	DECEMBER 2, 2024	LIANA DAGDAVARYAN & ZACHAARY STEPP
PAGE, ISABELLE M	DECEMBER 5, 2024	OLIVIA AULTMAN & ISAAC PAGE
WERNER, HARRIET M	DECEMBER 27, 2024	SHANNIN & KYLE WERNER

**DEATHS FOR THE PERIOD OF 2024**

NAME OF DECEASED	DATE OF DEATH	PLACE OF DEATH
LEBLANC, BEVERLY J	JANUARY 3, 2024	BURLINGTON
BUTKUS, ALBERT K	JANUARY 28, 2024	RICHMOND
ISBISTER, KELLY J	FEBRUARY 1, 2024	RICHMOND
BURRITT, LEONARD N	FEBRUARY 22, 2024	COLCHESTER
GLENNON, PETER J	FEBRUARY 23, 2024	RICHMOND
BATES, ROBIN H	FEBRUARY 27, 2024	RICHMOND
HOLMAN, JOAN V	MARCH 12, 2024	RICHMOND
FLEMING, RONALD N	MARCH 14, 2024	RICHMOND
ALVAREZ, EDWARD F	MARCH 15, 2024	BURLINGTON
BEAMS, IRVING J	MARCH 29, 2024	COLCHESTER
DOWNING, LOYAL H	APRIL 4, 2024	COLCHESTER
PREAVY-CARRIER, KIM M	APRIL 7, 2024	BURLINGTON
HALLMAN, EUGENE G	APRIL 18, 2024	BURLINGTON
VERBURG, JACOB	APRIL 19, 2024	SOUTH BURLINGTON
RIGGS, HARRIET W	APRIL 26, 2024	ESSEX JUNCTION
GEORGE, KEITH O	MAY 26, 2024	ST ALBANS
COCHRANE, PATRICIA E	JUNE 1, 2024	RICHMOND
EMERY, ROBERT W	JUNE 1, 2024	RICHMOND
HADDOCK, WILLIAM L	JUNE 5, 2024	BURLINGTON
MOULTROUP, CHARLOTTE	JUNE 12, 2024	RICHMOND
PELISSIER, RYAN	JUNE 22, 2024	BURLINGTON
BLOW, MARILYN A	JULY 1, 2024	RICHMOND
JACOBS, CLARE H	JULY 24, 2024	COLCHESTER
DURANT, JOHN F JR	JULY 28, 2024	SHELBURNE
MURRAY, RUSSELL J SR	JULY 29, 2024	RICHMOND
SMITH, FRANCES H	AUGUST 5, 2024	BURLINGTON
HARRINGTON, RYAN T	AUGUST 23, 2024	BURLINGTON
TOURVILLE, PATRICIA P	AUGUST 24, 2024	RICHMOND
CHAPLIN, SANDRA M	SEPTEMBER 9, 2024	RICHMOND
MURRAY, PATRICIA A	SEPTEMBER 11, 2024	RICHMOND
MCHUGH, BARBARA M	OCTOBER 6, 2024	ST ALBANS
PLOOF, PAUL C	OCTOBER 13, 2024	RICHMOND
MORRILL, NADINE E	OCTOBER 19, 2024	RICHMOND
JANES, LINDA C	OCTOBER 22, 2024	RICHMOND
THOMAS, PETER E	OCTOBER 26, 2024	BURLINGTON
FARR, PEGGY M	OCTOBER 31, 2024	RICHMOND
WINTERSTEEN, WILLIAM	NOVEMBER 21, 2024	ESSEX
DWIRE, WENDALL A	DECEMBER 21, 2024	RICHMOND



**MARRIAGES FOR THE PERIOD OF 2024**

SPOUSE	SPOUSE	MARRIAGE DATE
HARRINGTON, HANNAH	MORSE, ADAM	JAN 28, 2024
LUDWIN-PERRY, SARAH	GRAB, ALEC	JAN 29, 2024
WHEEL, REBECCA	MULLEN, MICHAEL	FEB 22, 2024
RETZLAFF, THOR	ZEHREN, TAYLOR	APRIL 2, 2024
FISCHER, BRIANNA	DUFFY, JORDAN	MAY 26, 2024
PUTNAM, TIMOTHY	AIKEN, KATHRYN	JUNE 15, 2024
BAENEN, ALISON	HOLDAHL, JUSTIN	JUNE 21, 2024
DEBRUYN, ROBERT	HEDENBERG, HUNTER	JUNE 22, 2024
ZHOU, ZHONGHUI	ANTOINE, CHRISTOPHER	JUNE 22, 2024
TRIVETTE, MINTA	ROSENBERG, CHASE	JUNE 28, 2024
KASMAI, KEVAN	DREHER, ERIN	JUNE 29, 2024
GREUBEL, JOHN	KASPER, HANNAH	JULY 6, 2024
PILLSBURY, JEFFREY	MACEACHERN, KIMBERLEY	JULY 7, 2024
KALB, HEIDI	NASCA, PETER	JULY 13, 2024
KIM, ZENAIDA	CUSICK, RICHARD	JULY 18, 2024
INGHAM, HEATHER	FINDHOLT, ERIK	JULY 21, 2024
JONES, RACHEL	MORRIS, CHARLES III	JULY 28, 2024
PARENT, EMMA	BUFFO, JOSEPH	JULY 30, 2024
ADLER, IAN	SACKS, CLAUDIA	AUGUST 3, 2024
SCRIVENER, AMY	TEW, RAYMOND	AUGUST 6, 2024
SOLL, BENJAMIN	ZIMINSKY, MARIAN	AUGUST 17, 2024
REYNOLDS, WILLIAM	HONIGMAN, OLIVIA	AUGUST 17, 2024
NIXON, ELIZABETH	BOOTH, EVAN	AUGUST 24, 2024
FINAN, MICHELLE	ALEXIS, CHRISTIAN	AUGUST 24, 2024
BOVEE, MARA	BICKNELL, JOSHUA	AUGUST 24, 2024
LABERGE, ABIGAIL	BENIGA, PHILLIP	AUGUST 24, 2024
CAMPBELL, HEATHER	RUSHFORD, ROBERT	SEPTEMBER 1, 2024
HARTMAN-MATTSON, GLENN	PERKINS, ALEX	SEPTEMBER 19, 2024
LAZARUS, ISABELLE	KATZ, DAVID	SEPTEMBER 28, 2024
LAURIA-POST, IAN	MACDONALD, IONA	OCTOBER 10, 2024
LUCAS, SCOTT	FAHLE, KAYLA	OCTOBER 11, 2024
BARKER, BENJAMIN	BARTLETT, ALLYSON	OCTOBER 13, 2024
COOKSON, JACOB	CARLSON, LINDSEY	OCTOBER 19, 2024
SHEA, AMY	MURRAY, LAURA	NOVEMBER 2, 2024
QUATTROCCI, SASHA	QUATTROCCI, CODY	NOVEMBER 19, 2024
GRAMS, JOHN	SMERAL, KRISTIN	NOVEMBER 20, 2024
RAINVILLE, ELIZA	RANSOM, NATHANIEL	NOVEMBER 27, 2024
WALKER, BRETT	WETHERBY, STEVEN	NOVEMBER 28, 2024
DALEY, MARY-KATHLEEN	SMITH, TALIA	DECEMBER 12, 2024
CROSS, HEATHER	NOVOA ROJAS, TITO	DECEMBER 22, 2024

## TOWN OF RICHMOND PROPERTY SALES 2024

BUYER	SELLER	LOCATION
117 WEST MAIN LLC	VT FARM BUREAU SERVICE	117 WEST MAIN ST
ARTS, KATHERINE & HAUSKNECHT, NOAH	SANTOR, JONATHAN	179 LAWRENCE RD
BARRON, THOMAS & KATHLEEN	FALCON MANAGEMENT	108 LOWER CIRCLE
BERGSTOL, MATTHEW	MEIMANN, MICHAEL & MARIE	945 EAST HILL RD
BIESADECKI, CHRISTINA & JEFFREY	O'NEIL, ABIGAIL & SCOTT	140 WOLF LN
BRAYDEN, THOMAS & JENNIFER	BERNSTEIN, FRANZ & CAITLIN	679 OLD COUNTY LN
CARBONNEAU, ABIGAIL	CSH VENTURES LLC	220 WINDY WOODS RD
CHARPENTIER, ALEX & KELLY	FREEBERN, MICHAEL & CINDY	131 CHURCH ST
DONOVAN, WILLIAM & LINDA	RICHARD PARKER ESTATE	1061 JOHNNIE BROOK RI
DUGGENTO, ERICA	FALCON MANAGEMENT	134 HILLTOP CIRCLE
DUMOND WAGNER, VISCAYA & BOWDEN, CHARLES	VANLANDINGHAM, JANE & EMERSON, BETSY	139 WES WHITE HILL
DUNNE, JODY & CODY	FECTEAU RESIDENTIAL	67 FIELD LN
FAULKNER, ZACHARY & ROGERS, BRITTANY	JANET TORREY ESTATE	762 HILLVIEW RD
FECTEAU RESIDENTIAL HOMES	DUGGENTO, ERICA	134 HILLTOP CIRCLE
GOODSON, MICHAEL ET AL	MOULTROUP, CONSTANCE	3260 HUNTINGTON RD
GREER, MATTHEW & DANIEL, LAURA	CYR, MICHAEL & SENSENICH, JENNIFER	95 DEER CREEK RD
HARRINGTON, HANNAH & MORSE, ADAM	RITA DOHERTY TRUST	222 WEST MAIN ST
HOLT, MEGAN & KIWALIK, URSZULA	CHENEY, BETH & JASON	128 STONEFENCE RD
HUBBARD, MARK & KATHLEEN	THOMAS, MICHAEL & RATHGEB, MARY	191 JOAN AVE
KNOWLES, ALLEN & CLARA	BOMBARDIER, TIMOTHY & KAREN	160 LEMROY CT
LAFAVE, CLAIRE	MORRIS, JANET & TUCKER, GREG	176 BROWNS CT
LAWRENCE, BRIAN	RICHARDS, MARTIN & JULIE	361 WESTALL DR
LEBLANC, ROGER & SHAWN	LAPINE, RAYMOND	65 HILLTOP CIRCLE
LEDUC, BRIAN	SCOTT, EDWARD & ROBIN	8 ROBBINS MOUNTAIN R
LEONARD, MATTHEW & BUCKLEY, MEGHAN	MUSCAT, MATTHEW & SUSAN	431 SOUTHVIEW DR
MANDIGO, EDWIN & JAMIE	CARDINAL, RONALD & CHASTITY	75 HILLTOP CIRCLE
MARRO, CHERYL	CAPPONI, ELIZABETH	53 FIELD LN
MASTERSEN, SONYA	DYER, MATTHEW & CHADWICK, HEATHER	1147 EAST MAIN ST
MILLET BROTHERS LLC	WASLINGTON, FREDERICK & ANDREA	111 MILLET ST
MOSSEY, SHONA & BOYJER, ROBERT	HAYDEN, BRADLEY & MELISSA	130 DIMICK LN
O'LEARY, LUKE & KERRI	BARBARA MCHUGH TRUST	1130 HINESBURG RD
ORR, TYLER & FAITH	BROOKS, JONATHAN	20 LAWRENCE RD
PATTERSON, PHILLIP	TEMPLIN, JOSEPH	83 EAST MAIN ST
PELLETIER, JOSEPH & WEERMAN, RENEE	PEEBLES, BRUCE & DARLENE	147 JERICHO RD
PETIPAS, RENEE & ELROUBY, NABIL	BUCKLEY, MEGHAN	737 EAST HILL RD
PFAFF, WILLIAM	ROSSI FAMILY TRUST	128 EAST MAIN ST
PINEMARTEN PROPERTIES LLC	LB RICHMOND LLC	39 ESPLANADE
PIOTROWSKI, BEN & GAIL & STANLEY	BURLINGTON HOUSE BUYERS	1586 HINESBURG RD
POWERS, ANDREW & AMY	BOUCHARD ESTATE	650 SNIPE IRELAND RD
RANKIN ENTERPRISES LCC	MUMFORD, PETER & MARIAN	932 WEST MAIN ST
RANZ, ELLEN & RUNGE, HANS	FEINSON, JAMES	2359 HUNTINGTON RD
RAYMOND, MONICA	SMIALEK, CHRISTIAN	227 WORTHEIM RD
ROBERGE, MICHELE	PLOOF, PAUL	453 MEADOW LN
RODJENSKI, AMY	CHIARELLO, MARCELLA	203 HILL TOP CIRCLE
SADRI, ARIYA & ZIMMER, MARY	CONNELLY, DOUG & PALCHAK, ELIZABETH	251 BRIDGE ST
SATENSTEIN, JOHN	CLARK, BAIRD & EMMA	2168 JERICHO RD
SCHRAML, CHLOE	SMITH, JONATHAN	194 LOWER CIRCLE
SETTA, BRYCE & JOHANNA	DETARNOWSKY, NIXON & NANCY	80 PHOENIX CIRCLE
SPILLANE & CURLEY PROPERTIES	ZINN LIVING TRUST	3215 EAST MAIN ST
STEPP, ZACHARY & DAGAVARYAN, LIANA	BURNETT, MICHAEL	540 STONEFENCE RD
TAUSSIG, MARY	KLEIN, JONATHAN & STEPHANIE	1807 KENYON RD
TEMPLIN, JOSEPH	NOVOTNY, KIRSTEN	111 CHURCH ST
TOMLINSON, NATHANIEL & WEISSER, JODI	DAIGLE, RICHARD & JANET	19 ROBBINS MOUNTAIN
ZABEL, KARYN & MORSE, LAUREN	JAMES BEAMS TRUST	334 GRANDVIEW DR

## POLICE

It has been an interesting, yet successful year of first's for our police department. We completed a full year being in contract with Hinesburg. It was a transition and bit of a learning curve for everyone but I believe it was successful. I hope the residents of Richmond have been happy with the coverage our team has provided.

Although we have mostly received our police coverage through the contract with Hinesburg, we did hire one full time officer and a Chief. In June we hired Corporal Matt Cohen and his K9 Duke as a full time police officer. I was also hired as the new Richmond Police Chief, with an official starting date of February 18th. We also have a couple of officers that are in the process of going through the hiring process. It has been quite some time since we have had a full police department, but I am confident that we will be fully staffed within the next few months. We don't want to fill the department with just any officer, our goal is to find the right fit for Richmond, an officer that holds all of our standards and will hopefully stay with the department for the foreseeable future. We have also continued to keep all of the police vehicles marked, serviced, and on the road.

While I will now be the actual Richmond Police Chief, instead of a contracted police chief, I will continue to take care of the department as I have been. I can confidently speak for every officer of the Hinesburg Police Department, including myself, when I say that we have felt welcomed and appreciated by many of the residents and it has meant a lot to us. Also being a Richmond resident myself, I've been proud to call Richmond my home and now I'm proud to be the official chief of the Richmond Police Department.

Respectfully,

Chief Anthony Cambridge



*MMCTV Interviews Corporal Matt Cohen & K9 Officer Duke*

## RICHMOND STATE REPRESENTATIVE REPRESENTATIVE JANA BROWN



As we start the 2025-2026 legislative biennium, the legislature continues to focus on the issues that matter most to Vermonters: flood recovery and climate resiliency, housing, supporting and modernizing our public education system, reforming education funding, healthcare, public safety, 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 action and climate resiliency 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. The challenges before us are clear, and I look forward to working with all of my legislative colleagues to find solutions that work for Vermonters across our state.



To provide our community with the most updated information on this 2025 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](http://www.janabrownforvt.com). Please reach out to me at [jbrown@leg.state.vt.us](mailto: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. I welcome your outreach, please reach out anytime about your priorities and concerns. It is an honor to represent our community in the State House.



## RICHMOND WATER RESOURCES



The Water and Wastewater Departments fall under the management of the Town Manager and is governed by the Water and Sewer Commission. The commission works closely with the Water & Wastewater Department team providing feedback on challenges and hardships that are encountered throughout the year, approving expenses and approve the annual budgets. The water and wastewater operational cost are covered by customer/user fees for the services provided and does not use tax revenue to function.

The Water & Wastewater Department team had another busy year. The department initiated the Vermont state mandated 20-year study in 2021 and continues to make headway with

the engineering contractor, Hoyle & Tanner, to finalize the study. We stay in regular contact with the lead engineer, Kirsten, for finalizing design, replacing or upgrading pumps, structural integrity of tanks and plant optimization. We anticipate finalizing the design for upgrades in the next 12 to 18 months.

The July 2024 flood caused catastrophic damage to our sewer pump station near the Round Church. The pump station was basically a complete loss. We got Phil Laramie Water Resources and his crew out multiple times throughout the rest of the summer to get it fully operational. Our superintendent Stephen Cote played a huge part in getting this back into working order. We had P&P Septic pumping out of the pump station manhole day and night when the pump station was not operational.

We are upgrading customer water meters, replacing the old analog units with digital telemetry units that are more accurate and time saving. We have contracted with a company called Zenner to supply us with the new meters, software and hardware. The Department team is doing the installations instead of hiring out this work to another company to save the customers money. The process has been moving along a little slower than originally anticipated, but we are gradually gaining on the project. We are over halfway done and anticipate 95%, if not 100%, completion of installations by July 1, 2025. The new units will allow customers to monitor daily use and spot leaks.

The wastewater facility required a number of equipment upgrades and ongoing maintenance throughout the year, which is typical for an older plant. We continue to take septage at a good rate, press solid waste and produce great biosolids. We also contract with SOS (Simon Operation Services) to provide a grade 5 Wastewater operator for the facility. We continue to succeed in our greatest endeavor, producing and discharging quality effluent to the Winooski River that meets or exceeds the State and Federal requirements.

Finally, several of our employees and the facility operations were recognized for exemplary services in 2024 by Green Mountain Water Environment Association. Brad Snow was recognized with a Bob Wood Young Professionals Award, given for achievements of young professional operators, engineers, or students, who have achieved notable contributions to the water environment, water, wastewater, or stormwater operations; Steve Cote received the Michael J. Garofano Water Operator of the Year Award for outstanding performance in system maintenance, protecting public health, and achievement beyond normal responsibilities. and Richmond Water Resources received the Facility Excellence Award – Water, presented to facilities for exceeding system operation requirements. Recognition is for the entire facility and staff.

If you haven't had your meter changed out yet, please contact Steve Cote at 802-598-4593. For those of you that have, thank you so much for your cooperation. We really appreciate it.

# WATER RESOURCES FINANCIALS

## FY25 Water Budget

PLEASE SEE "BUDGET NOTES" LOCATED IN THIS REPORT JUST BEFORE THE TOWN GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR MORE DETAILS ON THE WATER AND WASTEWATER BUDGETS

Account #	Description	Budgeted FY23	Actual FY23	Budgeted FY24	Budgeted FY25	+INCREASE (DECREASE)
<b>WATER REVENUE</b>						
20-6-00-3-00.00	Water User Receipts	317,547	344,018	320,384	334,410	4.38%
20-6-00-3-01.00	Sale of Water from Hydrant	1,500	2,665	1,500	2,000	33.33%
20-6-00-4-10.02	Hook On Fees – Water	500	-	500	500	0.00%
20-6-10-4-10.04	Fire Service Fees	51,148	51,148	49,899	50,681	1.57%
20-6-03-5-40.05	Net Interest on Checking Account	500	6,260	6,000	11,100	85.00%
20-0-00-0-00.00	Fund Balance Usage	27,339	-	-	-	0.00%
<b>Water Revenue Sub Totals</b>		<b>398,534</b>	<b>404,091</b>	<b>378,283</b>	<b>398,691</b>	<b>5.39%</b>
<b>WATER RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES (30% of total)</b>						
20-7-80-0-10.00	Salaries	77,277	61,707	83,002	81,281	-2.07%
20-7-80-0-10.30	Insurance Opt Out	1,500	462	-	-	0.00%
20-7-80-0-10.99	Overtime	2,400	5,431	2,400	4,733	97.21%
20-7-80-0-11.00	Social Security/Medicare	6,181	5,225	6,576	6,627	0.78%
20-7-80-0-12.00	Municipal Retirement	5,318	9,311	5,765	6,021	4.44%
20-7-80-0-15.00	Health Insurance	15,023	12,276	19,310	25,557	32.35%
20-7-80-0-15.01	Health Savings Account	458	450	313	135	-56.87%
20-7-80-0-15.03	Long Term Disability	407	355	570	506	-11.23%
20-7-80-1-16.00	Uniforms	400	952	400	500	25.00%
20-7-80-1-27.00	Training, Education, License, Certifications	800	925	1,300	1,300	0.00%
20-7-80-1-27.01	Training - Safety	100	53	100	100	0.00%
20-7-80-1-42.00	Association Dues	200	300	200	300	50.00%
20-7-80-1-26.01	Administrative Expense	9,000	9,000	12,450	13,018	4.56%
20-7-80-1-20.00	Office Supplies/Postage	300	491	670	600	-10.45%
20-7-80-1-22.00	Office Equipment	200	-	200	200	0.00%
20-7-80-1-22.01	Computer	-	648	450	450	0.00%
20-7-80-1-22.02	Computer Support	1,777	1,814	1,800	2,400	33.33%
20-7-80-1-24.00	Advertising	200	329	200	200	0.00%
20-7-80-1-26.03	Audit Expenses	1,305	2,240	1,450	1,450	0.00%
20-7-80-1-29.00	Travel	300	22	300	300	0.00%
20-7-80-1-30.00	Telephone	2,500	1,636	2,500	2,500	0.00%
20-7-80-1-43.00	Legal	-	2,206	500	2,000	300.00%
20-7-80-1-48.00	W & S General Insurance	5,782	5,373	6,300	7,300	15.87%
<b>Water Administration Expense Totals</b>		<b>131,428</b>	<b>121,206</b>	<b>146,756</b>	<b>157,478</b>	<b>7.31%</b>
<b>WATER OPERATIONS EXPENSES</b>						
20-7-83-4-16.00	Personal Protective Equip	500	-	500	500	0.00%
20-7-83-4-31.00	Heat	600	619	600	600	0.00%
20-7-83-4-32.00	Electricity - Water House	8,500	10,370	10,100	10,500	3.96%
20-7-83-4-34.00	Rubbish Removal	800	1,963	1,500	2,000	33.33%
20-7-83-4-50.00	Gas, Oil & Diesel Fuel	500	489	500	500	0.00%
20-7-83-4-41.00	System Permits/Fees/Licenses	1,900	1,512	1,900	1,900	0.00%
20-7-83-4-62.06	Supplies Consumables	1,000	2,737	1,000	2,000	100.00%
20-7-83-4-45.00	Water Testing	5,000	3,374	4,000	4,000	0.00%
20-7-83-4-65.00	Water Treatment Chemicals	1,000	1,633	2,600	2,000	-23.08%
20-7-83-4-46.00	Engineering	2,000	-	1,000	1,000	0.00%
20-7-83-4-52.00	Fleet Maintenance	1,000	313	1,000	1,000	100.00%
20-7-83-4-62.08	Grounds Maintenance	-	-	-	700	100.00%
20-7-83-4-62.09	Building Repairs	-	-	-	1,000	100.00%
20-7-83-4-62.02	Water Line Repairs	20,000	10,088	15,000	15,000	0.00%
20-7-83-4-62.04	Asphalt Repair	5,000	-	5,000	5,000	0.00%
20-7-83-4-62.03	Pumps/Tanks	5,000	434	5,000	5,000	0.00%
20-7-83-4-62.07	Meter Replacements	3,000	1,833	3,000	-	-100.00%
20-7-83-4-62.10	Water Meter Annual Fee	-	-	-	1,910	100.00%
20-7-83-4-45.02	Equipment Rental	500	66	500	-	-100.00%
20-7-83-4-62.05	Equipment and Tool Purchase - Small	500	146	500	300	-40.00%
<b>Water Operating Expense Totals</b>		<b>56,800</b>	<b>35,577</b>	<b>53,700</b>	<b>54,910</b>	<b>2.25%</b>
<b>WATER CAPITAL EXPENSES</b>						
20-7-90-5-93.01	Water Capital Reserve	36,000	36,000	-	10,000	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	20,000	20,000	0.00%
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	1,482	1,482	990	493	-50.20%
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	10,549	10,549	9,562	8,535	-10.74%
20-7-90-5-90.13	RF3-365 Bridge Upper & Crossing Principal (2047)	9,865	9,865	9,865	9,865	0.00%
20-7-90-5-90.13	RF3-444 Bridge Street Middle (2062)	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	0.00%
20-7-90-1-00.00	Unbudgeted Capital Expense	-	-	-	-	0.00%
<b>Water Capital Expense Totals</b>		<b>210,306</b>	<b>210,306</b>	<b>177,827</b>	<b>186,303</b>	<b>4.77%</b>
<b>TOTAL WATER REVENUE</b>		<b>398,534</b>	<b>404,091</b>	<b>378,283</b>	<b>398,691</b>	<b>5.39%</b>
<b>TOTAL WATER EXPENSES</b>		<b>398,534</b>	<b>367,089</b>	<b>378,283</b>	<b>398,691</b>	<b>5.39%</b>
<b>BALANCE</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>37,002</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	

**FY25 Wastewater Budget**

Account #	Description	Budgeted FY23	Actual FY23	Budgeted FY24	Budgeted FY25	+INCREASE (DECREASE)
<b>WASTEWATER REVENUE</b>						
21-6-00-3-00.01	Sewer User Receipts	361,326	366,357	292,874	355,500	21%
21-6-01-4-11.10	Septage Receipts	460,000	495,018	550,000	500,000	-9%
21-6-00-4-10.03	Hook On Fees – Sewer	1,000	-	1,000	1,000	0%
21-6-03-5-40.05	Net Interest on Checking Account	1,500	25,066	14,000	25,900	85%
21-0-00-0-00.00	Fund Balance Usage	48,394	16,406	-	-	0%
<b>Waste Water Revenue Subtotal</b>		<b>872,220</b>	<b>902,847</b>	<b>857,874</b>	<b>882,400</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>WASTEWATER RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES (70% of total)</b>						
21-7-80-0-10.00	Salaries	180,312	149,664	199,270	189,655	-5%
21-7-80-0-10.30	Insurance Opt Out	3,500	1,077	-	-	0%
21-7-80-0-10.99	Overtime	5,600	12,673	5,600	11,045	97%
21-7-80-0-11.00	Social Security/Medicare	14,423	12,193	15,344	15,462	1%
21-7-80-0-12.00	Municipal Retirement	12,408	21,727	13,451	14,049	4%
21-7-80-0-15.00	Health Insurance	35,053	26,124	45,056	59,632	32%
21-7-80-0-15.01	Health Savings Account	1,070	1,050	731	316	-57%
21-7-80-0-15.03	Long Term Disability	949	768	1,330	1,180	-11%
21-7-80-1-16.00	Uniforms	900	148	900	1,000	11%
21-7-80-1-27.00	Training, Education, License, Certifications	1,800	1,847	2,770	2,770	0%
21-7-80-1-27.01	Training - Safety	300	240	300	300	0%
21-7-80-1-42.00	Association Dues	400	810	400	800	100%
21-7-82-3-45.04	Contracted Operators	-	10,290	-	41,340	100%
21-7-80-1-26.01	Administrative Expense	21,000	21,000	29,050	30,376	5%
21-7-80-1-20.00	Office Supplies/Postage	500	278	500	500	0%
21-7-80-1-22.00	Office Equipment	400	-	400	400	0%
21-7-80-1-22.01	Computer	-	1,715	1,050	1,050	0%
21-7-80-1-22.02	Computer Support	4,145	3,576	4,200	5,200	24%
21-7-80-1-24.00	Advertising	400	769	400	400	0%
21-7-80-1-26.03	Audit Expenses	3,045	5,227	3,383	3,383	0%
21-7-80-1-29.00	Travel	700	-	700	700	0%
21-7-80-1-30.00	Telephone	3,800	3,723	3,800	3,800	0%
21-7-80-1-43.00	Legal	3,000	4,645	3,000	4,000	33%
21-7-80-1-48.00	W & S General Insurance	11,341	11,234	13,000	15,000	15%
<b>Wastewater Administration Expense Subtotal</b>		<b>305,046</b>	<b>290,778</b>	<b>344,635</b>	<b>402,358</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>WASTEWATER OPERATIONS EXPENSES</b>						
21-7-82-3-16.00	Personal Protective Gear	500	175	500	500	0%
21-7-82-3-31.00	Heat	10,000	10,111	10,000	10,000	0%
21-7-82-2-32.01	Pump Station Electricity	1,000	1,022	1,000	1,100	10%
21-7-82-3-32.00	Plant Electricity	40,000	44,463	45,000	45,000	0%
21-7-82-3-32.02	WWTF water bill	32,000	49,844	32,000	32,000	0%
21-7-82-3-34.00	Rubbish Removal	1,500	5,156	4,300	5,500	28%
21-7-82-3-50.00	Gas, Oil & Diesel Fuel	1,800	1,294	1,800	1,800	0%
21-7-82-3-41.00	System Permits/Certs/Licenses	800	666	800	800	0%
21-7-82-3-66.00	Supplies - Consumables	5,000	3,585	4,000	4,000	0%
21-7-82-3-45.01	Biosolids Testing	4,500	3,123	4,500	4,500	0%
21-7-82-3-65.01	Biosolids Chemicals	90,000	69,841	98,100	70,000	-29%
21-7-82-3-45.03	Biosolids Disposal/CSWD	130,000	106,315	160,000	150,000	-6%
21-7-83-4-62.10	Water Meter Annual Fee	-	-	-	1,910	100%
21-7-82-3-45.00	Wastewater Testing	7,500	13,393	7,500	7,500	0%
21-7-82-3-65.00	Wastewater Chemicals	10,000	13,758	17,000	17,000	0%
21-7-82-3-46.00	Engineering	500	150	500	500	0%
21-7-82-3-52.00	Fleet Maintenance	2,500	1,886	2,500	2,500	0%
21-7-83-4-62.08	Grounds Maintenance	-	-	-	300	100%
21-7-82-2-62.03	Pump Station Maintenance	1,800	19,730	1,800	1,800	0%
21-7-83-4-62.09	Building Repairs	-	-	-	1,000	100%
21-7-82-3-62.00	Wastewater Treatment Facility Repair (WWTF)	8,000	43,165	12,000	12,000	0%
21-7-82-3-62.01	Biosolids Facility Repair	8,000	10,970	9,000	10,000	11%
21-7-82-3-62.02	Collection System Repair	4,000	5,995	4,000	4,000	0%
21-7-82-3-45.02	Equipment Rental	500	153	500	-	-100%
21-7-83-4-62.05	Equipment Purchase - Small	-	-	-	700	100%
<b>Wastewater Operating Expense Subtotal</b>		<b>359,900</b>	<b>404,795</b>	<b>416,800</b>	<b>384,410</b>	<b>-8%</b>
<b>WASTEWATER CAPITAL EXPENSES</b>						
21-7-90-5-93.00	Wastewater Capital Reserve	70,000	70,000	10,000	10,000	0%
21-7-90-5-93.04	Short-term (10 yr) capital fund	50,000	50,000	10,000	10,000	0%
21-7-90-5-93.11	Collection System Capital Fund	10,000	10,000	-	-	0%
21-7-90-2-90.01	RFL-101 planning-ww (2027)	12,081	12,081	12,021	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	8,288	8,288	7,513	6,706	-11%
21-7-82-1-00.00	Unbudgeted Capital Expense	-	-	-	-	0%
<b>Wastewater Capital Subtotal</b>		<b>207,274</b>	<b>207,274</b>	<b>96,439</b>	<b>95,632</b>	<b>-1%</b>
<b>TOTAL WASTEWATER REVENUE</b>		<b>872,220</b>	<b>902,847</b>	<b>857,874</b>	<b>882,400</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>TOTAL WASTEWATER EXPENSES</b>		<b>872,220</b>	<b>902,847</b>	<b>857,874</b>	<b>882,400</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>BALANCE</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

## TOWN OF RICHMOND, VERMONT

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - PROPRIETARY FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2024

	Enterprise Funds		Total
	Water	Sewer	
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Current assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,246,510	\$ -	\$ 1,246,510
Accounts receivable (net of allowance for uncollectibles)	183,821	152,771	336,592
Prepaid items	39,275	3,663	42,938
Due from other funds	-	852,137	852,137
Total current assets	<u>1,469,606</u>	<u>1,008,571</u>	<u>2,478,177</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	2,158,028	7,249,914
Phosphorus upgrade	-	3,939,064	3,939,064
Vehicles and equipment	45,523	100,550	146,073
Total capital assets	<u>5,350,389</u>	<u>6,709,941</u>	<u>12,060,330</u>
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(1,096,457)</u>	<u>(2,847,206)</u>	<u>(3,943,663)</u>
Net capital assets	<u>4,253,932</u>	<u>3,862,735</u>	<u>8,116,667</u>
Total noncurrent assets	<u>4,253,932</u>	<u>3,862,735</u>	<u>8,116,667</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>5,723,538</u>	<u>4,871,306</u>	<u>10,594,844</u>
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>			
Deferred outflows related to pensions	<u>21,940</u>	<u>51,340</u>	<u>73,280</u>
<b>TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<u>21,940</u>	<u>51,340</u>	<u>73,280</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<u>\$ 5,745,478</u>	<u>\$ 4,922,646</u>	<u>\$ 10,668,124</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$ 51,219	\$ 100,200	\$ 151,419
Accrued expenses	96,828	1,857	98,685
Due to other funds	839,788	-	839,788
Current portion of long-term obligations	126,873	72,276	199,149
Total current liabilities	<u>1,114,708</u>	<u>174,333</u>	<u>1,289,041</u>
Noncurrent liabilities:			
Noncurrent portion of long-term obligations:			
Bonds payable	2,032,874	325,637	2,358,511
Accrued compensated absences	1,019	2,378	3,397
Net pension liability	70,867	165,829	236,696
Total noncurrent liabilities	<u>2,104,760</u>	<u>493,844</u>	<u>2,598,604</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<u>3,219,468</u>	<u>668,177</u>	<u>3,887,645</u>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>			
Deferred inflows related to pensions	<u>1,324</u>	<u>3,099</u>	<u>4,423</u>
<b>TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<u>1,324</u>	<u>3,099</u>	<u>4,423</u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>			
Net investment in capital assets	2,094,298	3,465,086	5,559,384
Restricted	273,994	474,603	748,597
Unrestricted	156,394	311,681	468,075
<b>TOTAL NET POSITION</b>	<u>2,524,686</u>	<u>4,251,370</u>	<u>6,776,056</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND NET POSITION</b>	<u>\$ 5,745,478</u>	<u>\$ 4,922,646</u>	<u>\$ 10,668,124</u>

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



## STATEMENT H

## TOWN OF RICHMOND, VERMONT

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION  
 PROPRIETARY FUNDS  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Enterprise Fund		Total
	Water	Sewer	
OPERATING REVENUES			
Charges for services	\$ 383,983	\$ 762,301	\$ 1,146,284
Other	303	40,078	40,381
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	<u>384,286</u>	<u>802,379</u>	<u>1,186,665</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Payroll, taxes and benefits	101,030	235,483	336,513
Supplies	31,900	119,208	151,108
Utilities	17,736	113,663	131,399
Contracted services	-	141,897	141,897
Equipment	302	70	372
Repairs and maintenance	41,506	102,224	143,730
Insurance	5,342	10,943	16,285
Other	11,307	201,673	212,980
Depreciation	107,462	140,304	247,766
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>316,585</u>	<u>1,065,465</u>	<u>1,382,050</u>
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	<u>67,701</u>	<u>(263,086)</u>	<u>(195,385)</u>
NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)			
Interest income	13,418	31,307	44,725
Interest expense	(53,883)	(8,794)	(62,677)
TOTAL NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)	<u>(40,465)</u>	<u>22,513</u>	<u>(17,952)</u>
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	<u>27,236</u>	<u>(240,573)</u>	<u>(213,337)</u>
NET POSITION - JULY 1, AS PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED	2,571,758	4,529,821	7,101,579
CAPITAL ASSET CORRECTION	<u>(74,308)</u>	<u>(37,878)</u>	<u>(112,186)</u>
NET POSITION - JULY 1, AS RESTATED	<u>2,497,450</u>	<u>4,491,943</u>	<u>6,989,393</u>
NET POSITION - JUNE 30	<u>\$ 2,524,686</u>	<u>\$ 4,251,370</u>	<u>\$ 6,776,056</u>

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

## 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 or from any Cemetery Commissioner. 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 be in 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 does not take place in the cemetery. Skiing, sledding, 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.

Daughters of the American Revolution & the VT Old Cemetery Association had chosen the Village Cemetery as a restoration project this year. In September we gathered to learn how to properly clean the stones. Cleaning the very ancient stones takes time and patience. Some of the stones cleaned were almost unreadable before the work began. It took a lot of elbow grease, but in four hours we accomplished a great deal. Now many of the stones can be read and respect given to those interned there. While working in the cemetery a tombstone was discovered that was for a child who died in 1853 at the age of 2 years and 2 months. The stone had toppled and was overgrown by grass. On May 24, 2025, work is planned to straighten & upright tombstones. We will need at least 15 folks that will guarantee their presence on the workday. We will be righting & repairing old tombstones. It is said to be a very fulfilling workday. We would like to thank those who came to clean stones: Dianne Leary and members of the VT Old Cemetery Association; Abby Miller, Daughters of the American Revolution; Mary Jo Brace, Hinesburg Cemetery Association. Boy Scout Troop #23 members: Ethan Metayer, Malachi Urbanik, Augustine Joyce and their leaders Jake Metayer and Rebecca Joyce. Richmond residents: Don and Karen Yaggy, Linda Langer, Stephanie Colburn, Marilyn Johnson, Heidi Bormann, George Gifford and Linda Parent.

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 Richmond Conservation Commission (RCC) assists residents and Town officials in recognizing and supporting natural resources, by preserving water quality, providing outdoor recreational opportunities, protecting wildlife, and conserving important agricultural, archaeological and historic resources. The Conservation Commission continues to meet the second Tuesday of the month, 7:30 at the Town Center. Its activities can be found at: <http://www.richmondvt.gov/boards-minutes/conservation-commission/>.

Issues surrounding the recent flooding in Richmond took much of RCC's time. We worked on general issues surrounding our flood-prone town and looked in-depth at specific problem areas including Donahue Brook and The Old Jericho Road trail. We worked with Richmond's Trail Committee and met with Town officials to coordinate supplemental activities in the context of FEMA awards. Kudos to the Town for the flood resiliency projects they have taken on, including the recent Stone Environmental initiative. RCC continues in touch with the State and Friends of the Winooski to draw up project lists and is joining a regional group, Recovery After Floods Team, RAFT, to examine regional solutions. Together with our Climate Action Committee, RCC also has been working with UVM Professor and State Climatologist Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux and her UVM students to undertake a climate change study for Richmond, as well as working with the Planning Commission to update the Natural Resources, Future Land Use and other relevant sections of the Town Plan. It is anticipated that significant funding will be needed for mitigation, and we're expecting the Richmond Conservation Fund (CRF) to be a key source ([https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Conservation\\_Commission/General/2024/02/2024\\_CRF\\_Info\\_Sheet.pdf](https://www.richmondvt.gov/fileadmin/files/Conservation_Commission/General/2024/02/2024_CRF_Info_Sheet.pdf)). Please note that the CRF is open to all Richmond residents as a resource.

BioFinder, an important tool for understanding Richmond's natural environment, recently has come online (<https://anr.vermont.gov/maps-and-mapping/biofinder>). This allows the interested reader to look at landscape- to species-level features that characterize our Town. One use has been to appreciate the natural resources found in the Andrews Community Forest and how to use them wisely. RCC held a workshop in January, led by Jens Hilke, Conservation Planner with Vermont Fish and Wildlife, who illustrated the marvels of BioFinder's use. Readers are urged to take a look.

Special effort was made this past year for our Save The Salamanders project. Wet nights were spent moving herps (reptiles and amphibians) across local roads, including Route 2 and Cochran Road, and included efforts to map key crossover locations. About 15 volunteers rescued some 1000. Great interest in this project was expressed at the RCC table at the Richmond Farmers' Market which also offered the opportunity for education/outreach experiences about local introduced plant species, another recurring RCC issue. Let us know if you're interested in joining us with these projects this spring.

RCC continues its involvement in the management of highly successful Green-Up day and coordinating conservation efforts locally and regionally. Hearty thanks go to all Richmond residents who gather trash along our roadsides and riverbanks. Plans are afoot to, once again, bring together the several Richmond committees that oversee Town-wide efforts related to conservation, recreation and trails.

## **RICHMOND CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE (RCAC) TOWN ENERGY COORDINATOR**

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. ([https:// richmondclimateaction.net/](https://richmondclimateaction.net/) )

This has been another year when we've experienced climate disruption: extreme and unseasonable weather, including devastating floods, as well as prolonged periods of dry weather.

RCAC has co-hosted book discussions in collaboration with Richmond Free Library. We met to discuss three books this year: *Playing God in the Meadow: How I learned to admire my weeds*, by Vermont author Martha LeB Molnar; *The Quickening* by Elizabeth Rush; and *The Heat Will Kill You First: Life and death on a scorched planet*, by Jeff Goodell. These discussions gave us the opportunity to think about – among other things – how the problem of invasive weeds intersects with climate change, and how the most vulnerable might be protected from extreme heat. From Rush's extraordinary trip to Antarctica with the National Science Foundation, we learned about the "doomsday" glacier and were able to observe how climate science actually works.

With the election of a president who denies climate change is real, who has chosen an energy secretary who claims "there is no energy transition," our work at the local level will become all the more important. Our committee is currently developing suggestions for inclusion in the 2026 Town Plan on the many ways we can reduce our contribution to climate change as well as to build resiliency to future climate shocks. We are also planning a program that will provide one- on-one guidance to homeowners who wish to save money by reducing their energy use and dependence on fossil fuels. We continue to work with the Planning Commission toward the goal of increasing density in the village and to develop pedestrian and bicycle friendly streets.

We welcome new members. Please join us in this important work. 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](mailto:forward@gmavt.net) 802-735-3026.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeff Forward and RCAC

## 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 investigating 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.

In 2024 the Housing Committee developed a flyer to illustrate the challenges resulting from a lack of more affordable housing in our community. This highlights that those individuals and families Richmond relies on to support critical services, educate our children, and build a diverse community are priced out of the market. This was printed and handed out during the 2024 Town Meeting Day to educate our community and encourage participation in this important discussion.

The Housing Committee supported the changes resulting from the Housing Opportunities Made for Everyone (HOME) Act, which aims to reduce restrictive zoning regulations across the state.

Last year, the committee added 3 new members to the previously understaffed committee, adding richness to the committee discussions and additional resources to help fulfill its goals. The committee heard from the Hinesburg Affordable Housing Committee chairperson and a developer who partnered with Hinesburg to bring more affordable housing into the community.

In the year's second half, the Housing Committee started working on a Strategic Housing Plan, which will outline recommendations to the Planning Commission and Selectboard on ways to intentionally encourage more affordable housing for our community while preserving the character we all enjoy.

Looking forward, the Committee will be working on the following goals:

- Present the Strategic Housing Plan to the Planning Commission
- Participate in the Town Plan updates related to housing
- Refresh the housing inventory data
- Grow/maintain committee membership

The Housing Committee meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 5:30 pm. All are welcome to attend and provide feedback.

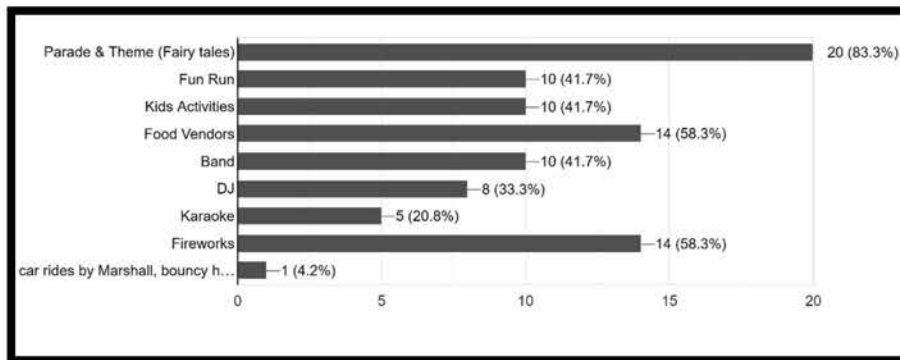
Respectfully submitted by: Mark Hall, Chair; Connie vanEeghen, Clerk; Nick Blanchet, Member; Andrew Manix, Member; Virginia Clarke, Planning Commission Representative

## 4<sup>th</sup> of JULY PARADE and FIREWORKS COMMITTEE

2024 was another successful July 4th celebration. The Fairy Tale theme was a hit; we had over 30 floats participated, motorized, non-motorized, and horses. The Green Mountain flyover was a delightful surprise during the parade. Fifteen vendors, mostly food, were there for the day, evening, or both. This year's Fun Run had about 250 participants and is always a good time with all ages participating. The free kids' offerings expanded in 2024 with thanks to local business donations and wonderful support from the volunteers at Richmond Halloween on the Green! The kid's area is a well-oiled machine with games, prizes, and the famous misting tent to cool off attendees. Karaoke continues to be a popular addition and had a good mix of adults and kids. The DJ and the Richmond Community Band were well received. Fireworks were a big draw, but the committee heard feedback that they were too long this year with the Grand Finale lasting 3x as long.



### WHAT DID YOU LIKE ABOUT THE FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION: 2024 SURVEY RESULTS:



The 2025 Celebration is shaping up to be a lot of fun. We asked all of you what would be a great theme and what you would like to see for the 4th of July Celebration in 2025 and here is what you said:

1. **The Parade Theme is Heros** - Whatever "Hero" means to you! Firefighter, nurse, road crew, superhero, pizza chef...
2. More food vendors at night, many sold out
3. The Fun Run needs flaggers at the main intersection and radios
4. Garbage Support - Harlan Stockwell needs an apprentice, he's the only one to empty during the day

Thank you to the Town of Richmond for their support to continue to make this celebration a success. This amazing celebration that has been a hallmark of our community for more than 40 years is able to continue due to the support and collaboration of and the dedicated volunteers who created the event, the Town of Richmond, the Hinesburg and Richmond Police Department, generous donations from business and individuals and all of the volunteers, participants, floaters, singers, runners, business sponsors, vendors, and most importantly, the children who made this summer celebration of our community a great success. We look forward to a great 2025 Celebration with all of you!

We are always welcoming volunteers and ideas. Please email us at [paradeandfireworks@gmail.com](mailto:paradeandfireworks@gmail.com) or visit the **Town of Richmond website** and look for us under "Boards and Meetings!" Applications for Vendors are open now!





## ***2024-25 Annual Report to our Towns***

### **You're Why We're Here – As More Seniors Discover Each Year.**

#### **Participation continues to grow. That's because it's fun and rewarding.**

More than 500 seniors take advantage of our activities and programs, and do so as many as 1300 times in a month! We consistently offer 30 activities every week, with different things that are appropriate for each season.

#### **Our range of activities grows with requests from seniors.**

The formula for expanding on what we do is pretty simple: Ask seniors what they'd like to do or learn about, give someone an opportunity to coordinate it, and provide what they need to do it.

One new idea in 2024 was making the Sock Hop a monthly event to brighten up the fall and winter days. Death Café was another addition. We weren't sure about this one at first, but it was so popular there's a waiting list.

Some of the other diverse entries on our weekly calendar include:

- Play reading, with members taking up roles in the cast.
- Needle arts, where participants learn and share ideas.
- Pickle Ball outdoors in Huntington when weather permits, and indoors in three towns.
- Socializing at Coffee Time in all three towns.
- Planting, tending and harvesting our Friendship Garden.
- Indoor ice skating, bowling, corn hohistorians and area seniors who share travelogues.
- 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 throughout the area.
- Bone Builders in all three towns, Tai Chi, and on-line weight-loss support.
- Learning and playing the ukulele with Ukes 'R Us.
- Seasonal swimming at Alison's Aquatics.

#### **New learning programs focus on interesting people, places and times.**

During the spring, fall and winter months we host as many as four programs each month, presented by speakers either in person or online. Some are co-hosted with the Richmond



Historical Society. Past events included presentations by Don Stevens, Chief of Vermont's Nulhegan Abenaki, and author Jack Kelly who gave us interesting revelations from his book, *God Save Benedict Arnold*. Fascinating nature programs included *Owls of Vermont*, and travelogues on Namibia and on pre-historic architectural sites were among those presented by area seniors who visited these destinations.

### **Part of the fabric of our towns.**

By hosting programs and activities at venues throughout our towns, the Community Senior Center has become woven into our towns' fabric. This also puts us in contact with many residents of all ages who may encourage their senior family members to explore what all those other seniors are enjoying!

You'll also find us engaged with our towns in different ways. For example, thanks to the great support of Richmond Family Medicine and volunteer registered nurses, we coordinate a foot clinic. It has become so popular that there's usually a waiting list. You might also see us at the Richmond Farmers' Market, at the July 4<sup>th</sup> festivities with our bake sale, and handing out treats at Hallowe'en. Our Ukes 'R Us ukulele band performs at senior residences and at town events and also mentors high school students, and our sing-a-long group entertains residents at Richmond Terrace.

### **How to we get the word out?**

Our weekly newsletter now goes to over 1000 email addresses. It covers activities, programs and community events, and has articles and photos from senior contributors. The CSC website also tells people about us. It includes our weekly newsletters, videos of past programs, and our community initiatives. There's also a CSC ad on the back cover of every issue of *The Times Ink* to let those we don't reach on-line know what's available.

### **Over 50 volunteers make it all happen!**

Over 50 volunteers lead and coordinate activities and programs! They arrange schedules, facilities and equipment, and communicate with participants to let them know where and when things are happening. Some new-comers also volunteer to lead activities they recommend. Each leader ensures that first-timers get enough instruction to "learn the ropes."

Our cadre of volunteers also includes professionals who donate their time and expertise at no cost in such areas as accounting, communications, development and financial planning.

### **How do we fund it all?**

Our sincere thanks go to the many generous residents whose donations fund the \$30,000 budget needed provide a healthier, more enriching lifestyle for our seniors. And we do it all without tapping into town tax revenues, or charging membership fees. We also appreciate the significant support our towns and local churches give us by providing the spaces we need.

Most activities and programs are covered by our annual budget with no charge to participants. Where there are costs for an activity, as with rentals for bowling for example, the fees are reasonable -- and optional if circumstances at the moment prevent a senior from participating.

What still surprises some is that there is no physical "senior center," and that's by design. Everything takes place in spaces made available either free or for reasonable rental fees in our town facilities, libraries, schools and churches. This lets us host activities and programs in spaces that are best suited to each one. It also lets us dedicate most of our budget to enriching seniors' lifestyles, rather than to costs related to owning and maintaining a physical building.

### **What else is new?**

We welcomed Gina Haddock to our board in 2024. The Richmond resident adds her her development expertise to the CSC, and we're fortunate to have her join our talented and energetic board members who help build on what we do.

### **Thanks to so many who make it all possible!**

Once again, it's our volunteers, donors, towns and local organizations who provide the support and commitment necessary 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 878-1527.

## **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. In 2024 the group heard from speakers from Greensea, VT Land Trust, Audubon Center, Hey June, Purinton Farm and East Street Weather Blog. Pete Gosselin, Town Road Forman explained the 2024 summer flooding and how it affected the roads in Richmond. Fran & Dave Thomas shared their experience with the VT 251 Club. Jeanne & Ray Desilets showed slides from their vacation trip to Iceland. We have had musical performances from the Community Senior Ukes R Us group & a lovely woodwind quartet.

Each year the club normally sponsors at least one trip to an area of interest, in 2024 many seniors enjoyed the Green Mountain Dinner Train excursion from Burlington to Vergennes and back.

The Richmond – Williston Knights of Columbus treated the group to a June Picnic and holiday dinner.

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.

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

Current officers are:

John Hamerslough, President

Connie Carpenter, Vice President

Tess Storrs, Secretary

David Thomas, Treasurer



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

**Success on  
Green Up Day  
May 4, 2024**

 <b>TOGETHER</b> we successfully achieved a Guinness World Records Title.	<b>15,813 TIRES!</b> Collected on GUD 1.5% +10,000 collected at other tire collection events.
 <b>30,176 VOLUNTEERS!</b> ↑ 30% from 2023.	 <b>*20 ADDITIONAL EVENTS</b> Classrooms presentations clean ups, awareness, & flood recovery.
 <b>404 TONS!</b> (1,329,697 lbs.) Litter collected in 2024.	<b>Thank You!</b> TOGETHER WE MAKE VERMONT BEAUTIFUL

**Green Up Day**, saw a 30% growth in volunteers over 2023, picked up over four tons of litter and 15,813 tires. In flood clean-up projects we took care of an additional 10,000 tires. We also attempted a Guinness World Records® title and succeeded! The record is: “The Most Pledges Received to Pick Up Trash in 24 Hours.” Vermont is the only State in the nation that can boast this achievement and the only State that offers a program like Green Up Day. As one of Vermont’s favorite traditions, it is imperative for today and for future generations to keep building pride, awareness, and stewardship for a clean Vermont, and keep residents civically engaged.

Green Up initiatives are year-round and further our environmental impact with waste reduction programs, additional clean-up efforts, and educational initiatives. We received a special flood recovery donation from Subaru of New England and have been able to rally volunteers and pay for many flood clean-up projects across the State.

Support from your municipality is essential to our program. Funds help pay for Green Up Day supplies, promotional outreach, and educational resources, contests for kids, and a \$1,000 scholarship. CSWD has a combined payment for all Cities and Towns in the district.

**Thank you for supporting this crucial program that takes care of where we all get to live, work and play.**

Be an Environmental Hero – Donate on **Line 23 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form** or at [www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org).

**2025 Green Up Day is May 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

**Green Up Vermont is a 501c3 nonprofit.**



Chittenden Solid Waste District

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE  
1021 Redmond Road  
Williston, VT 05495

EMAIL [info@cswd.net](mailto:info@cswd.net)  
TEL (802) 872-8100

[www.cswd.net](http://www.cswd.net)

## Chittenden Solid Waste District (CSWD) Fiscal Year 2024 Summary

The Chittenden Solid Waste District is a municipality created to implement solid waste management mandates legislated by the State of Vermont. The District is governed by a Board of Commissioners representing the communities of Chittenden County, Vermont.

### Our Mission

The Chittenden Solid Waste District's mission is to reduce and manage the solid waste generated within Chittenden County in an environmentally sound, efficient, effective, and economical manner.

### Financials

The big financial news for FY24 is that we again ended the year in a positive position. This is in part due to strong sales of recyclables at our Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) in the third and fourth quarters and a healthy year for our Organics Recycling Facility (ORF). We generated \$15,962,722 in income, with expenses of 16,083,295. We conservatively budgeted both expenses and revenue, resulting in only needing to access \$287,837 in reserves.

### Waste Diversion

The residents, businesses, and institutions of our 18 member towns and cities generated an estimated 306,814 tons of solid waste to be managed in calendar year 2023, compared with 309,212 tons in 2022. Chittenden County continues to be among the national leaders in landfill diversion, with an estimated 59.7% of 2023's waste kept out of the landfill via composting (food scraps, leaves, and yard trimmings), anaerobic digestion, and recycling of Blue-Bin materials, Special Recycling, and Construction and Demolition materials. The County's diversion rate has remained steady over the last nine years with some variability in specific waste streams due to economic conditions, construction activity, or new mandates for collecting materials.

### Materials Recycling Facility (MRF)

We've had a temporary setback with our new MRF construction project. The plan was to build it on a parcel of land owned by CSWD on Redmond Road in Williston. In 2020, a wetlands delineation showed an area where the new facility could be located without disturbing the Class II wetlands present on the property.

Since then, there have been several major changes that have impacted the site. A new road was constructed on the north side of the property, which changed the landscape and added an impermeable surface near where we had hoped to build the new MRF. Plus, as many Vermonters know, we experienced record rainfall over the last couple of years, which severely impacted the quality of the land. This spring, state officials and our consultant toured the site and discovered that it now qualifies as "primarily a wetland community." Our consultant also found that the northern part of the property, where we planned to build the MRF, is now over 80% wet meadow. We made the decision to leave that parcel undisturbed and move forward with finding an alternative location in Chittenden County to site the facility. We remain hopeful that we will be able to open our new facility sometime in 2026. Our next steps include identifying a new site for the MRF, reviewing, and revising the design plans and obtaining new permits. Our hope is this will all be completed by early 2025 so we can begin construction in the Summer of 2025.

### Drop-Off Center Changes

At our Drop-Off Centers we focused on customer convenience. We increased our hours of operation in Essex, Milton, and South Burlington, to be open Tuesday through Saturday, 8:00 am to 3:30 pm. These changes not only ensure consistent

hours of operation for our customers but also brings much-needed stability for our Drop-Off Center team, providing them with two consecutive days off. This will help us continue to attract and retain talent.

We also made a slight increase in our bagged trash fees to help cover the rising costs of trash disposal and operating expenses at our six Drop-Off Centers. However, there was no increase in fees for recycling or food scraps.

**Organics Recycling Facility (ORF)**

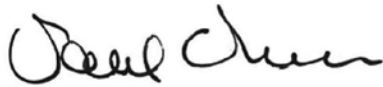
FY24 was a big year for the Organics Recycling Facility. We significantly improved the residential customer drop-off experience by relocating the facility entrance, creating a dedicated food waste drop-off area, and expanding the types of materials customers can mix in, like natural wood with leaves and garden trimmings. For commercial customers, we added a new scale and office, and extended our drop-off hours to help streamline the process. We added staff to enhance the quality of incoming materials and reduce contamination.

**Solar Glasses Reuse Program**

In anticipation of this year's Solar Eclipse in Vermont on April 8th, CSWD partnered with Astronomers Without Borders to ensure solar eclipse glasses were diverted from Vermont's only landfill, and instead collected for reuse at future solar eclipse events around the world. Our team worked with towns, businesses, event organizers, and libraries to establish collection sites for solar glasses, successfully diverting over 115,000 solar glasses from the landfill.

This creative partnership not only generated a buzz in the community, but it also sparked a lot of media interest. We were interviewed by the Boston Globe, Vermont Public Radio, WCAX, WPTZ, Seven Days and the Burlington Free Press. It was extremely exciting to see so many people join forces to ensure the solar glasses find a new life beyond the April 8<sup>th</sup> eclipse.

The complete CSWD Annual Report will be available in February 2025 at [CSWD.net](https://www.cswd.net).



**Paul Ruess**

*Chair, Board of Commissioners*



**Sarah Reeves**

*Executive Director*

## CHITTENDEN UNIT FOR SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS (CUSI)

The Chittenden Unit for Special Investigations (CUSI) is a multi-agency task force dedicated to providing criminal response to reports of sexual assaults, serious child abuse and child fatalities. For 30 years, the primary focus has been to protect and support all children, adults, and families. CUSI defined what is now known as a multidisciplinary team (MDT) approach to investigating crimes of this nature. The multidisciplinary team is the heart of CUSI and is composed of six police detectives, a unit director, a victim advocate, an in-house investigator with the Department for Children and Families (DCF), and a dedicated prosecutor from the Chittenden County State’s Attorney’s Office. We work jointly with mental health and medical providers, as well as with the Department of Corrections.

Our mission is to protect and support all children, families, and adults by strengthening our community’s response to abuse through investigation, prosecution and intervention while fostering professional collaboration to promote education and advocacy regarding the prevention of abuse.

<b>HOWARD CENTER COMMUNITY OUTREACH REPORT RICHMOND-FY24 (7/1/23-6/30/24)</b>	
Total Number of Contacts	2513
Number of Contacts: <b>RICHMOND</b>	31
Total Number of Contacts with Police Involvement	0
Total Number of Contacts Initiated by Police	0
Total Number of Proactive Community Outreach Supports	4
Total Number of Contacts to the Emergency Department	0
Concerns related to mental health	7
Concerns related to substance use	1
Concerns related to housing	1
Concerns related to suicide or non-suicidal self-injury	0
Concerns related to domestic situation	20
Concerns related to accessing services	2

Total number of contacts: This is the total number of contacts the Outreach team had in Colchester, Esses/Essex Junction, Hinesburg, Milton, Richmond, South Burlington, Shelburne, Williston, and Winooski.

Number of contacts: This is the number of contacts the Outreach team had in the identified town.

Number of contacts with police involvement: This is the number of contacts that involved a police officer at the scene, regardless of who initiated the call.

Number of contacts initiated by police: This is the number of contacts that police initiated through dispatch, police officer calling from or enroute to an active call, or an after-hours referral from a police officer.

Number of contacts initiated by outreach staff: This is the number of contacts that outreach staff initiated due to observation, proactive outreach to a known individual, or follow-up from ED discharge.

Number of contacts to the ED: This is the number of contacts that resulted in the individual going to the ED.

## LAKE IROQUOIS RECREATION DISTRICT

The Lake Iroquois Recreation District beach area, along with its 150 acres of open land, continues to serve the district towns (Williston, Richmond, Hinesburg and St. George) as well as non-residents. The district lands provide access to swimming, picnicking, playground equipment, and walking trails. The beach area also continues to host birthday parties and other individual and group functions. Costs for septic maintenance and summer staff continue to represent the bulk of our annual expenses. Water quality sampling continues on a weekly basis and results are within State limits for beach facilities. LIRD continues to work on implementing the design for Beebe Lane improvements. We have received a grant to implement the improvements and are in the process of doing the final documents to hopefully get the project out to bid before the 2025 season. The treatment done to help eradicate Milfoil continues to make a cleaner swimming area but will be watched to see if future treatment may be needed and if so work with the LIA toward possible retreatment.

The beach continues to be a beautiful and affordable local recreation area. We will open for the 2025 summer season on Memorial Day weekend and close on Labor Day weekend. Feel free to enjoy the Nature Trail, even during the off season. Please come and enjoy this wonderful facility.

Jack Linn – Richmond, Treasurer

Jeff Davis, – Hinesburg, Chair

Kim Conant – Williston

Chris Scott- St George

## MOUNT MANSFIELD COMMUNITY TELEVISION (MMCTV)



Serving Jericho, Underhill and Richmond since 1997

From helping our towns stream municipal meetings and MMU events, to supporting all your favorite local non-profit organizations and holding popular TV camps and workshops for middle schoolers, Mt. Mansfield Community Television is a vital community resource.

We are a 501c3 nonprofit organization, one of a network of 24 in Vermont! In 2024, we produced 467 videos; including 302 municipal videos and 41 MMU sports games. Our most-viewed video on Youtube in 2024 was a short video showing the April Eclipse through the eyes of dozens of local residents. MMCTV TV camp expanded this summer, producing two snowy scenes in July (!) for “Crowdsourced Cinema VT: Home Alone.”

Want to become a member and make your own content? Jericho/Underhill/Richmond residents need only book a time to come to MMCTV and receive one-on-one training to use our equipment. We also have a new nonprofit organization membership program, offering special audiovisual support for local groups.

We’re branching out into radio too! In 2024, MMCTV applied for and received a license from the FCC to launch a Low Power FM Community Radio Station. We’ve had a huge response from people interested in helping to get WRUJ off the ground. Reach out at [mmctv@mtmansfieldctv.org](mailto:mmctv@mtmansfieldctv.org) to get involved!

You can watch us 24/7 on Comcast Cable channels 1076 (public/educational) and 1086 (government). Find our content online here: Youtube ([mmctv@youtube](https://www.youtube.com/mmctv)) & Internet Archive (<http://bit.ly/MmctvVideos>)

Please consider making a donation today at [www.MtMansfieldCtv.org/donations](http://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](http://MtMansfieldCtv.org), e-mail [mmctv@mtmansfieldctv.org](mailto:mmctv@mtmansfieldctv.org)



## OUR COMMUNITY CARES CAMP

The success of Our Community Cares Camp reflects the hard work of our staff, volunteers, and supporters in creating an inclusive environment for children from diverse backgrounds. We are grateful for community support that positively impacts their lives.

In collaboration with various organizations, our camp addressed food insecurity and the opportunity gap for economically disadvantaged families, offering activities such as music, art, and sports.

This summer, despite challenges like holidays and floods, we held two regular and two shortened weeks of activities, thanks to crucial support from the MMUUSD Transportation Department. We continue to confront rising trauma and mental health issues as we recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The cost per camper increased to \$1,276.35 due to rising wages, inflation, and new childcare taxes, but we secured funding from new grants. We had 79 registered campers, with 33% new and 67% returning, and served 2,334 meals during our program.

Campers enjoyed kickball, water games, and activities in art, cooking, and science. Healthy meals were provided, and we concluded the summer with a talent show and ice cream celebration.

We thank the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District, Camels Hump Middle School, and the Transportation Department for their crucial support in making this camp a success for our community's children and teens.

OCCC actively engages with the community through events like handing out candy at Richmond Town Center on Halloween and hosting a raffle during our Open House. On the last day of camp, we provided a ziti dinner at Sterling House.

We logged 575 volunteer hours, showcasing our commitment to community service. Thanks to local towns, churches, lodges, funders, and community members for their support, which enhances the camp's impact.

The Community Cares Camp is vital to the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District, relying on community organizations and volunteers to make a difference. OCCC seeks your passion and dedication to strengthen community involvement and secure this essential resource's future.

Respectfully submitted,

Susanne Parent

Executive Director

## RICHMOND COMMUNITY BAND

Richmond Community Band is an all-volunteer non-profit organization comprised of Richmond residents and members from nearby towns. We welcome musicians of all ages and abilities. Members in 2024 range in age from 18 to 89, and we are seeking younger school age players to join us.

As a non-profit, proceeds comprise a discretionary donation from the town of Richmond, and optional member dues or audience contributions.

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. Our first performance in 2024, as usual, was in the 4th of July parade. We gratefully thank and acknowledge the Farr family for providing the hay wagon and tractor for the float, and Joe Linn and family for driving. After the parade, we performed our traditional Independence Day concert in the Volunteers Green band shell.

The band usually play several subsequent concerts in the band shell, but like in 2023, Volunteers Green was again flooded out for several weeks. We played our next concert in August in front of OLHR Church, before finally performing back in the band shell at the end of the month. We hope to be able to schedule more concerts in 2025!

Besides instrumentalists, RCB requires a conductor. The band and audiences appreciate the direction of Barb Heath, who also plays an instrument when possible. Besides playing during sections where we don't need musical direction, she gets to play when guest conductor Matt Felis directs marches. We encourage additional music directors to join and share conducting and playing. As always, more instrumentalists are invited.

Audiences and band members also enjoy narration by clarinetist Paul Garrett. Even when we don't like the notes we just played, we appreciate Paul's edifying program notes. Thanks to him, we will learn more next year.

Although the band only played a few concerts, several members convened at the Richmond Holiday Market on December 7th to play carols and holiday music at Richmond Congregational Church. We enjoyed playing for the vendors and patrons at the courtesy of Katelyn Macrae and Sue Pochop.

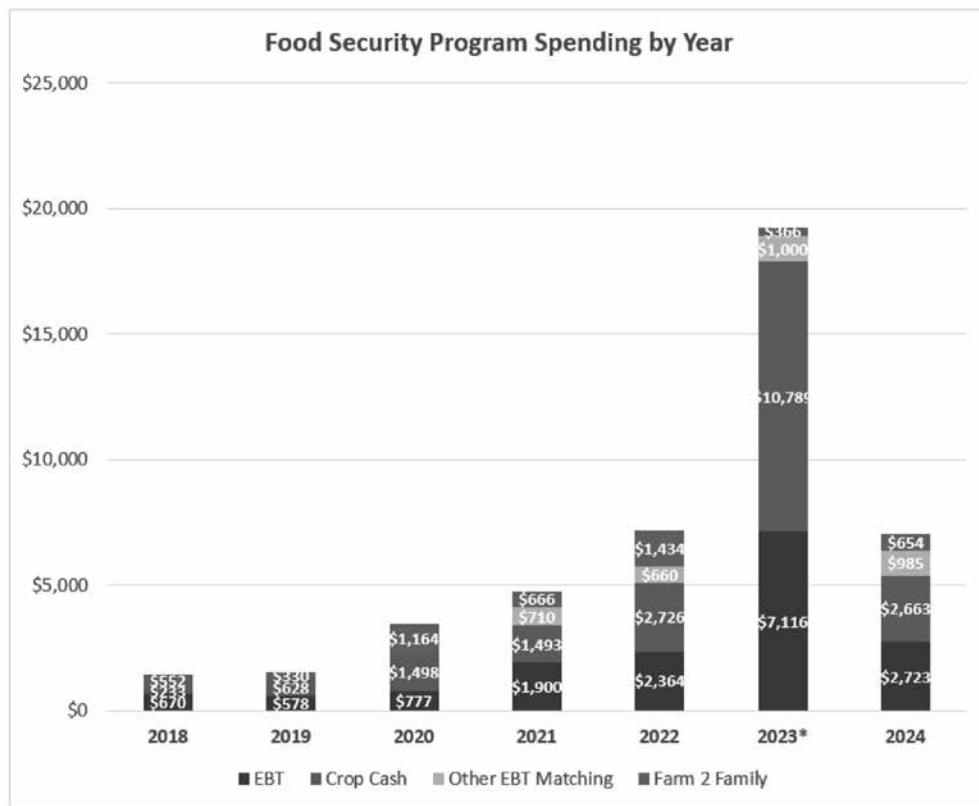
Richmond Community Band thanks the town for its support, and the residents of the greater Richmond community for supporting us and attending our performances. We look forward to continuing the New England town band tradition with you in 2025.



## RICHMOND FARMERS MARKET

The Richmond Farmers Market (RFM) 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 visitors, 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 increase spending power through the state-funded Crop Cash program administered by the Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA-VT). Since 2021, the RFM has committed to improving food security via a self-funded EBT matching program, as a supplement to the Crop Cash incentive. In 2024, the RFM implemented an additional incentive via a sponsored “Farm Bucks” program to improve food security while supporting our agricultural vendors. Eligible Vermonters can also use Farm to Family coupons at the market, using the USDA-funded program that aims to get local produce into the hands of families who need it. As a result, food security program spending at the Richmond Farmers Market has risen substantially over the past 5 years.



\*2023 spending was substantially higher due to NOFA's temporary Crop Cash Plus program

The RFM 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 2024, we welcomed a total of 68 local businesses. Of these businesses, we provided space for 19 start-up businesses and 17 Richmond-based businesses, including 4 Richmond-based farmers. The RFM 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 12 youth booths this year.

This year, the state slashed funding for its EBT matching program by more than half. This has made the RFM's own EBT matching program more critical than ever to maintain stability for vulnerable Vermonters who have come to rely on using their EBT benefits to get fresh, local food and be a part of the community the market provides. We

also introduced a new market-funded program called Farm Bucks, which incentivizes shoppers to spend more at our farmers' booths. Flooding and cuts to the state's program have disproportionately affected our farmers, and the market is working hard to support them and make sure they can continue.

We provide a safe, inclusive social space for residents. Many families attend the market as a family outing, and others catch up with friends and neighbors while there. We also provide free entertainment for all ages, bringing local bands to perform every week. Many of these performers are Richmond residents. In addition, we held our First Annual Kids' Day in 2024 to celebrate our youngest community members with free children's music and activities. Kids' Day provided local families not only with entertainment, but also a place to meet and connect with other parents in town.

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 2024, we hosted the Richmond Conservation Commission, the Green Mountain Club, +More Perfect Union, the Community Senior Center, Our Community Cares Camp, 054 Syndicate Inc. (a local youth mountain biking club), Radiate Art, All Together Now, Mercy Connections, WIC's Farm to Family program, FEMA, 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 mobile vaccine clinic during the pandemic, Richmond's ARPA fund representatives, PTOs and school boards, Halloween on the Green, and voter awareness groups.



## **Richmond Historical Society**

### **2024 Annual Report**

Submitted by Fran Thomas, RHS President

#### **A Note from the President:**

The Richmond Historical Society continues to serve the community of Richmond with our ongoing efforts to preserve the history of Richmond and make that history available to the public via research in our archives and public programs. We also oversee the maintenance and management 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.

Many of the members of the Richmond Historical Society Board have served on the Board for many years. We are in need of some new Board members to help us with our mission. Our vice-president spot has been vacant for the past year and Fran Thomas has been president for more than 15 years. We need individuals to help with publicity and programming, with archival research upon request, with cataloging our collection, and with recruiting/scheduling Round Church guides. **Please consider joining our Board or volunteering for a specific activity.**

#### **News from the Office:**

##### ***Financial Position***

Financially we remain in a very strong cash position. We were open to the public for guide services, several weddings, concerts and other events, including the annual carol sing. In addition, we received a generous bequest from the Heath and Harriet Riggs estate to be invested and the income used for historical society purposes. We also continue to see positive engagement through our website which helps drive donations. As a result, we are able to fund our ongoing operating expenses as well as church maintenance and improvement projects, including the replacement of the south door and the upcoming planned restoration of aging components of the church belfry.

##### ***Archives and Information Management***

RHS Information Technology continues to keep its digital copies of historical data secure with both onsite and cloud storage; we also take advantage of Microsoft core capabilities to manage data security from external threats. Our website uses the latest web protection technology to prevent damage from malicious actors. The number of visitors to the website continues to grow with approximately 80 unique visitors every month. In addition, our website provides 1.25K web impressions every month of the town of Richmond and its national landmark. We remain in good standing with Microsoft Grant, which provides free Microsoft 365 licenses to the historical society.

The Harriet Riggs Archives, which are housed in the Town Center, received some exciting donations this year. Among them are photos and documents for two dairy farms, fourteen albums of Richmond-related news clippings, letters from Jonesville's Gillett family, items related to the Jonesville Academy, and Round Church artwork.

Requests for help with genealogy research have come in from across the country as people discover ancestors who lived in Richmond. In thanks for our assistance, they are sharing with the RHS their family trees so that the trees can be added to our files.

We are working to catalog and digitize the new materials. A volunteer has written an article on the Owl Drug Store, and others are starting new projects. We always welcome help with the archives and creating ways to share our collection with the public.

Checkout our website [Richmondvthistory.org](http://Richmondvthistory.org) to see the latest photos and articles.

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: Roger Bombardier, Wright Preston, Richmond Free Library, Maria Brown, David Smith, Eliot Lathrop, Molly Hall, Lynn Reed, Susan and Ed Wells, Launee Salamin, Eric Thomas, Martha Nye, Shem Roose, Family of Rosalie and Vincent Palermo, Carol Adams, Frank Russ, Reap Family, Kristy Lyon, Linda Parent.

We would also like to thank the owner of the newly rebuilt Richmond Mobile gas station "Barn North" for displaying on the interior upper walls enlarged, historic photos of Richmond from the Historical Society's archives. Next time you go by, stop in and enjoy them.

## **News from the Round Church**

### ***Building and Grounds:***

The Round Church grass parking lot was flooded again in July. We decided not to reseed the area and to let nature take its course. The area dried out and sufficient vegetation grew allowing us to use the area for parking when needed. We are researching the possibility of putting in some sort of drain infrastructure to help us deal with future flood events. Kevin Jenness fabricated a beautiful new door to replace the exterior south door that was destroyed during a December 2022 storm. Blacksmith Judson Yaggy fabricated the hardware for the door. The door replaced one built by Dan Martin many years earlier in order to comply with a State Fire Marshall requirement that the door to the handicap ramp have an outswing door. Rather than change the historic inswing door we added a second door on the south side under an agreement with the Fire Marshall to retain the inner door but have it open during events. Work planned for 2024 to replace the wood carriage that supports the bell has now been scheduled for 2025. Another task on our 2025 list is to remove the loose paint from the inner door and apply new coats of paint. This would seem like a simple task but complying with lead paint regulations adds complexity as to who can do the work and how it is done. Several Board members have been tasked with doing a complete inspection of the church and creating a list of any future maintenance items that will need to be addressed.

### ***Visitor Season and Guide Service:***

Once again, a July 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. We had visitors from 47 states and 23 countries this season. Meg Fugate and Martha Turner teamed up once again to share the season's overall planning and outreach duties using "SignUpGenius" as a tool. Meg has moved from Richmond and has given up her job as a volunteer guide coordinator. We are looking for a new volunteer to takeover Meg's responsibility. Might you be that person?

### ***Round Church Concert Series***

The RHS hosted two family entertainment events at the Round Church in 2024. Stay tuned in 2025 for some more great music on the Lawn or in the Round Church. Thanks to Northfield Savings Bank for their support of the concerts.

Several other groups also performed in the Round Church as you will see below. The Historical Society receives a modest fee for hosting these events.

Check our website [Richmondvthistory.org](http://Richmondvthistory.org) for more information about concerts and other upcoming RHS events.

**Weddings and other Reserved-Venue Events**

This season we hosted eight weddings, several vow renewals and a memorial service, as well as making the space available for four *a capella* vocal concerts. We have changed our rental fee schedule to make it more equitable and flexible. We welcome inquiries about holding your ceremony in the Old Round Church; you can contact us at [weddings@RichmondVTHistory.org](mailto:weddings@RichmondVTHistory.org). We would also love to hear from you if you have any interest in serving as a volunteer host.

**The Year in Review:**

Highlights from a busy 2024 include:

**March 10** – Annual Meeting and Winter Program in the Richmond Free Library: *Richmond’s East Monitor Barn: Its History and Restoration* - by Eliot Lothrop of Building Heritage

**May 25-27** – The Round Church opens to visitors on Memorial Day weekend

**June 1** – Round Church Concert Series – Forest Station Bluegrass band

**August 17** – *Ampersand* concert in the Round Church - Tim Parsons

**August 24** – *Social Band* concert in the Round Church

**September 8** – *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 21** – Round Church Concert Series – *Mama Tried*

**October 5** – *Ampersand* concert in the Round Church

**November 9** – Annual Potluck Supper: *Curtains Without Borders* - Christine Hadsel

**December 8** – Community Carol Sing in the Round Church:

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

**December 21** – *Ampersand* Winter Solstice Concert in the Round Church

**In Closing:**

**We need your help to accomplish 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](http://www.richmondvthistory.org) or email [RHS@richmondvthistory.org](mailto:RHS@richmondvthistory.org)

**2024 Richmond Historical Society Board of Directors**

***Elected Officers***

- President – Fran Thomas
- Vice President - **vacant**
- 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 and Laura Brennan Moltz

## RICHMOND LAND TRUST

### Gillett Pond Dam completed



One of Richmond Land Trust’s most ambitious projects came to a close in 2024 – the rescue of Gillett Pond, marked by completion of the new dam. It took 10 years and donations exceeding \$1.1 million – big and small; public and private; local, state and federal. Plus, neighboring landowners donated 15 acres to RLT, increasing the Preserve’s size to 103 acres, making it an even better-protected destination for skaters, skiers, snowshoers, anglers, birders, canoers, kayakers and others.

We couldn’t have saved the Pond without the strong, broad and often repeated support of our local community and beyond. That includes all the individual donors as well as very significant funding from the Towns of Richmond and Huntington. Senator Leahy and his team, through the federal Natural Resources Conservation Service, secured Congressional dollars to put us within hitting distance of our target. Late in 2024, with construction wrapped up, many again stepped up to put fundraising over the top – including for the Pond’s new parking lot and the new dam’s long-term maintenance. We also salute project engineers Weston & Sampson, prime contractor J.A. MacDonald, Fritz Martin and his RLT project team, and everyone else who worked through droughts and deluges to give Gillett Pond decades of new life and service.

### Willis Hill Wait-and-See

You’ll recall how 2023’s flooding caused the brook running through our Willis Hill Preserve’s wetland to move, inundating the bottom of the sledding hill and the farm field across Rt. 2. Exactly a year later another huge storm caused most of the stream to cut back to the west. Then it shifted back. The saturated ground kept us from mowing the sledding hill and run-out this past fall. We’re hoping for plenty of snow to knock down the goldenrod and allow sledding to resume. Meanwhile, we’re working with State agencies to find ecologically responsible solutions to the stream’s wandering ways in response to our changing weather patterns.

### New Parking at the Beeken Preserve

Flood damage led us to move parking at the Beeken Preserve to higher ground just a few hundred feet west of the old lot, which we’ve closed and will be restoring to a natural state. For now, the new lot will consist of a patch of mown meadow but we’re planning to top it off with gravel and grading.



### **A Big, Beautiful Addition to Richmond's Conserved Lands**

We were extremely fortunate in 2024 to receive a donation of an easement conserving 73 acres of spectacular land off Dugway Road. It protects important wildlife habitat, agricultural land, productive forest land and scenic meadows in one of the largest undeveloped areas within Richmond. Adding to our good luck, another far-sighted RLT supporter wrote to us into their will to ensure the eventual transfer of 250 forested acres and a residence to Richmond Land Trust.

In closing, we want to thank everyone for supporting the Richmond Land Trust and our town's strong ethic of land conservation. This includes the Richmond Trails Committee for helping keep our preserves' trails open and safe. Special appreciation goes to voters for their continuing support of our Town's Conservation Reserve Fund.

Finally, we invite anyone interested in helping to conserve our town's natural, agricultural and historic resources to take a direct hand in our work. Check out [RichmondLandTrust.org](http://RichmondLandTrust.org) and please let us know if you're interested in further advancing our very important community mission.

Respectfully submitted,

RLT Board of Trustees: Jeremy Hoff (Chair), Lou Borie, Gary Bressor, Brad Elliott, Bryce Gilmer, Ted Lyman, Fritz Martin, Dan Martin, Jonathan Smith, Jon Stebbins, Wright Preston, Jess Robinson, Ethan Tapper

### **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](http://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.

## RICHMOND RESCUE INC

This last year was the busiest in our history. We received 1,441 calls and transported 854 patients between January 1, 2024, and December 31, 2024. 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.

Richmond Rescue was recognized at the Vermont Statehouse as the recipient of The Safe Systems Emergency Medical Services Award. This award recognizes an individual or group who demonstrates dedication to and advocacy for highway safety, to improve statewide Emergency Medical Services that foster and advance Vermont's highway safety priorities.

We took delivery of our new ambulance in February 2024. We saved nearly \$100,000 by remounting the patient care compartment from our previous truck onto a new Ford F550 chassis. Our two ambulances are now nearly identical for the first time in our history.

Statistics from 2024:

Calls for service in Richmond: 378

Calls for service on I-89 in Richmond: 28

Average ambulance response time in Richmond: 8 minutes

Number of active volunteers in 2024: 46

Total volunteer hours: 21,554

Address signs made in 2024: 75

Total address signs made since the start of the program: 1,187

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 trainings 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



# Local Health Office Annual Report: 2024

Burlington Local Health Office | 128 Lakeside Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401  
802-863-7323 | [AHS.VDHBurlington@Vermont.gov](mailto:AHS.VDHBurlington@Vermont.gov)

Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the Vermont Department of Health. The Burlington Local Office provides essential services and resources to towns in Chittenden County. Some highlights of our work in 2024 are below. For more information, visit [HealthVermont.gov/local/Burlington](https://HealthVermont.gov/local/Burlington)



## Improve Family and Child Health

The Burlington Local Health Office served 2,900 pregnant people, new parents, and young children participating in the WIC program. Through the Farm to Family Program, WIC staff helped participants access over \$17,000 in fruits and vegetables. WIC provides families with healthy foods, nutrition education, breast/chest feeding support, and referrals to health care providers and community resources. We are actively working to improve access to WIC services with telephone and video appointments. Learn more at [www.healthvermont.gov/wic](https://www.healthvermont.gov/wic).



## Protect Community Health and Safety

The Burlington Local Health Office remains committed to advancing equity, protecting against disease and injury, and preparing for health emergencies. We hosted 35 vaccination clinics and 1 pop-up dental clinic, delivering essential oral healthcare and education to 68 community members. Our office also supported residents affected by summer flooding by distributing 90 drinking water testing kits, 53 warm weather kits, and by sharing information on staying safe before, during, and after extreme weather events.



## Create Resilient Communities

Health is affected by more than just healthcare. Transportation, housing, education, food access, social connections, and economic opportunity all play critical roles in shaping health outcomes. Throughout the year, our office has collaborated with municipalities, schools, worksites, healthcare providers, and other community organizations to evaluate the health and equity needs of our community. Together, we help craft local solutions that build healthier, more resilient, and thriving communities for everyone.





The Williston Community Justice Center (WCJC) is committed to promoting and advancing the safety and wellbeing of our communities (Williston, Richmond, Hinesburg, Huntington, Bolton and St. George) by providing resources for positive change, striving to dismantle patterns of racial and economic disparity, and seeking to repair damaged relationships through restorative practices tailored to meet the unique needs of impacted and responsible parties.

The WCJC adopted 5 core values, which all services and interactions are rooted in:

**EQUALITY** Fairness, Justice, Equity, & Inclusion We warmly welcome all people in our communities, inclusive of their race, sex, gender/ expression, relationships, age, abilities, mental and physical health, religion, national origin, body type/appearance, income, education, personal history, generational history, employment status, parental status, social status, and any other factor that makes a person who they are. We reject systemic and overt racism, and we reject discrimination based on sex or sexual preference, or gender identity or expression. When inequitable systems and structures in our communities are contributing factors to harm caused, we address them through acknowledgement, resource finding, relationship building, and creative repair in order to improve the equity for affected parties.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** Accountability We hold ourselves and others accountable for our actions, attitudes, choices, and words. We strive to put the needs of affected parties and communities first. We consistently train and inquire to ensure we uphold our values and our mission and to advance restorative practices

**Trustworthiness:** We trust the restorative process both in our communication and our conduct. We work to build trust between everyone involved in the process. We trust the truth in each person's story and feelings. We trust in the potential of the individual. We trust in the strength of our communities. We hold ourselves to the highest standard in our words and actions. We expect this of ourselves and each other.

**Caring Empathy & Respect:** We demonstrate kindness, empathy, compassion and generosity through community and civic service. We acknowledge our shared humanity, and we honor it.

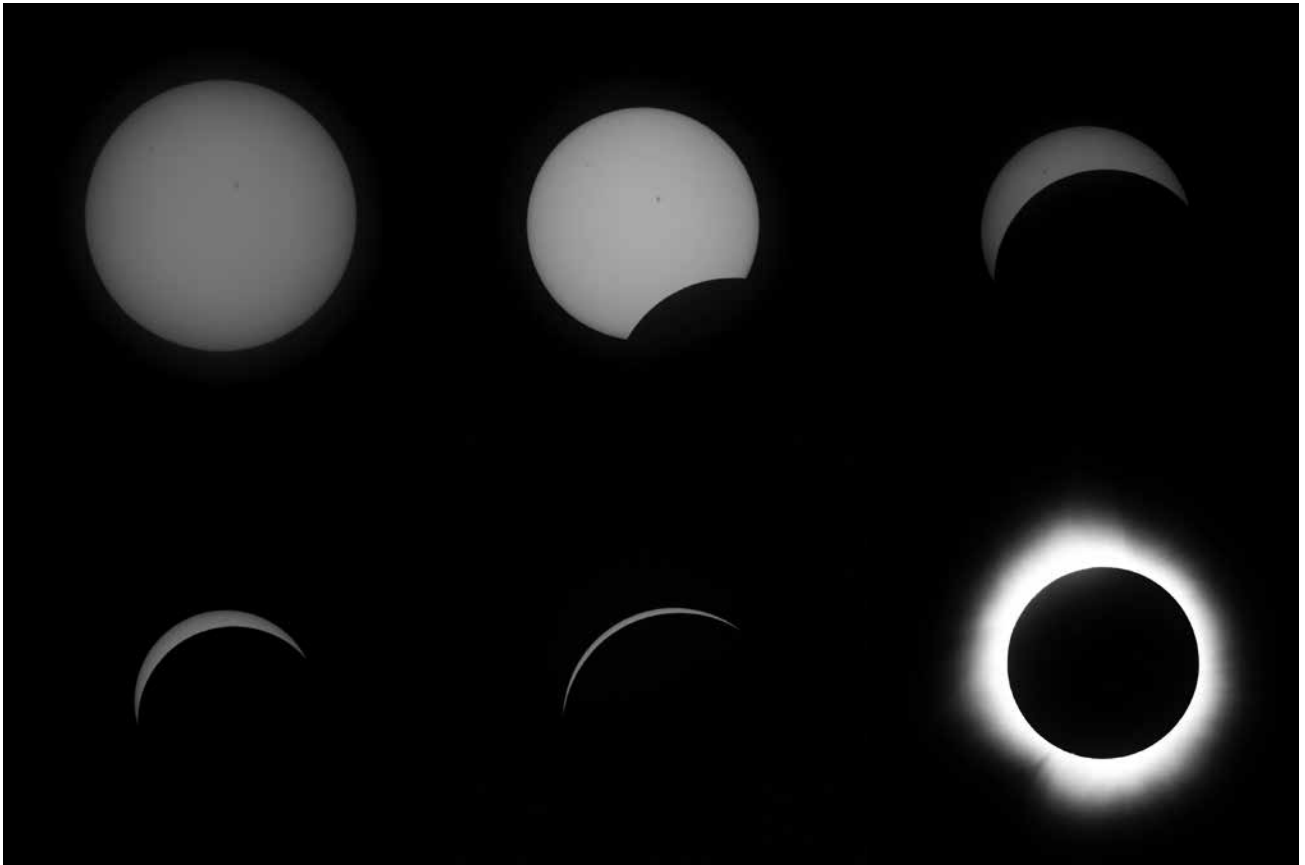
**Relationships:** We acknowledge the importance of building and maintaining relationships within our communities through restorative processes and practices. We meet people where they are and accompany them through the restorative process to bring about change and accountability. Our work ripples outward to enhance the safety and wellbeing of all within our shared communities.

The WCJC operates under the direction of an Executive Director and is supported by a full-time Restorative Justice Specialist and 35 committed community volunteers. Over the past year our volunteers supported the WCJC with an impressive 1281 volunteer hours, where they worked hard to resolve 228 criminal cases. Additionally, the CJC received 173 referrals for community-based services such as resource navigation, mediation and conflict resolution, and crime victim support.



Many participants receive ongoing support and access to community connections and social service referrals.

The WCJC staff and its volunteers are fully committed to providing services of excellence that are evidence based thus to include best practice in the field. Our staff engages in continued education and higher-level academia in restorative justice as well as in the study and implementation sustainable leadership, life skill development, diversity, equity, inclusion, and anti-racism work.



*Photos by Jared Katz*



## **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

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January 7, 2025

### **Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District Annual Report**

The Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District (MMUUSD) Annual Report will be available February 14, 2025. The report will include a proposed 2025-26 school district budget, tax rate information and a review of operations, activities and assessment for Mount Mansfield Unified Union's nine schools:

- Simile 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 802-434-2128.

If you have questions, please contact the Central Office at 802-434-2128 or by email at [mmuUSD.office@mmuUSD.org](mailto:mmuUSD.office@mmuUSD.org).

## MMUUSD School Reports 2024-25

**BREWSTER-PIERCE MEMORIAL SCHOOL***Michelle Patnode, Principal***An Exciting Year of Growth and Connection at Brewster-Pierce**

This year, Brewster Pierce Elementary is buzzing with energy and excitement as we continue to grow and thrive. From expanding capacity in our preschool program to embracing outdoor learning and continuing beloved traditions like Spirit Week, our school community is stronger than ever. Our classrooms are filled with creative, engaged students, and our dedicated staff is committed to fostering an environment where every child can flourish. Each day brings new opportunities for learning, connection, and joy, and we are thrilled to share the incredible experiences that are making this year so special for our students, families, and staff.

**Outdoor Learning and Community Engagement**

Our commitment to outdoor learning continues to grow. Each Friday, classrooms have the opportunity to step outside and explore the natural beauty of the Huntington Town Forest, which surrounds our school. This weekly outdoor experience allows students to connect with nature, develop a deeper sense of environmental stewardship, and engage in hands-on learning activities.



We believe in the importance of making local connections and helping students understand and appreciate the community in which they live. This year, we continued to take students on field trips to explore the history and resources of Huntington, giving them opportunities to connect classroom learning with real-world experiences. One of the highlights of the year was our annual hike day at Sleepy Hollow Inn. This event brought together students, staff, and families for a day of exploration, teamwork, and appreciation for the outdoors.

**Building Independence and Community Through Centers**

Our 3rd and 4th-grade classrooms introduced a centers-based approach this year, focused on building independence and providing targeted support for all students. This shift has empowered students to take ownership of their learning while allowing teachers to offer more individualized guidance. The centers have fostered an environment where students can work both collaboratively and independently to achieve success.

**Hands-On Science: Exploring Animals and Nature**

This year, our kindergartners have had exciting opportunities to extend their learning through hands-on, authentic science experiences. By focusing on a variety of animals in the classroom, students have been able to observe and learn about different species up close, deepening their understanding of animals and their habitats. Additionally, a field trip to a local tree farm gave students a chance to explore nature firsthand, observing how trees grow, the importance of different types of trees, and how they contribute to our environment. These real-world experiences have sparked curiosity, fostered a deeper connection to science, and made learning come alive for our young learners.

### From Farm to Table: 1st and 2nd Graders Learn the Journey of Pizza

Our 1st and 2nd graders recently had an exciting, hands-on learning experience that connected them to the origins of food through a Farm to You field trip at Shelburne Farms. During this fall adventure, students discovered that pizza doesn't just come from a box—it comes from the farm! They learned how all the ingredients, from the wheat for the crust to the tomatoes for the sauce, come from nature and are carefully cultivated. The children participated in making pizza from scratch, dividing into groups to create the dough, sauce, cheese, and toppings. This activity reinforced the important lesson that food comes from both plants and animals and that humans play a key role in growing and raising what we eat. After learning and working together to prepare each part of the pizza, the students enjoyed a delicious pizza party to celebrate their hard work and newfound understanding of where their food truly comes from!

### Bringing Back Spirit Week: A Celebration of School Community

This year, we were thrilled to bring back Spirit Week at Brewster Pierce Elementary, and it was an unforgettable success! Spirit Week allowed our students, staff, and families to come together in a fun and exciting way, fostering school pride and unity. Each day featured a different theme—like Pajama Day, Brewster-Pierce Day, and Favorite Color Day—with everyone eagerly participating and embracing the creativity of the week. Spirit Week helped strengthen our sense of community, creating connections across grade levels and between staff and students. The energy was contagious, and the week provided a much-needed boost to school morale, reminding us all of the power of coming together and celebrating who we are. We look forward to continuing this wonderful tradition in the years to come!

### Food Drive and Community Support

This year, our entire school community came together for a food drive to support local families in need. Through the generosity of our students, staff, and families, we were able to collect a wide range of non-perishable food items to contribute to Edward Heyman's Soups On program, which provides nourishing meals to local residents. This effort exemplified the spirit of giving, compassion, and community that we strive to foster at our school. We hope this food drive becomes an annual tradition, strengthening our ties with the community and making a meaningful impact for many.



### K-4 Ski and Snowboard Program

In January and February, our K-4 students are excited to participate in a special learning experience at Cochran's Ski Area. This program offers students the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of skiing and snowboarding in a safe and fun environment. Our young learners will gain valuable skills while enjoying the outdoors and embracing the spirit of winter sports. This initiative is not only a chance for physical activity but also helps build teamwork, confidence, and resilience.

### A Thriving and Seasoned Staff

This year, we were fortunate to have a staff that continues to thrive and grow together. Our team is made up of dedicated, passionate educators who are committed to the success and well-being of each student. We also welcomed back many returning staff members, which has helped to maintain continuity and a sense of stability within our school.

As we look ahead to the next school year, we are excited to continue to build on these successes, strengthen our community, and provide an excellent education for all of our students.

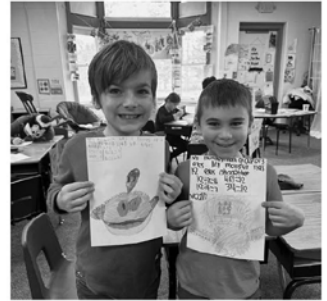
Thank you to all of our students, families, staff, and community partners for your continued support. We look forward to another wonderful year at Brewster Pierce Elementary! Prek-4 Enrollment: 115



## JERICO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*Todd Rohlen, Principal*

Jericho Elementary School's mission states "In the JES community, we make learning meaningful as we celebrate, challenge, and care for each other." JES is a warm and inviting place to learn and grow. This is so much because of our caring and talented staff here. This year, we welcomed some new faces. Meg Davidow is a new Spanish Immersion teacher. Sarah Kelley has joined our intervention team. Charlotte Murphy is our new art teacher, and Amy Topping is helping out with music, teaching on Fridays. Pei Mei Wu has joined the Health Office to help meet the needs of our community. We have a couple of long term substitutes, Andrea Clark has come back to teach World Language for the year, Mark Gedmin is teaching multi-age 1st and 2nd, and Harrison Leombruno-Nicholson in PE. We also have some new support staff this year, Paula Bechky-Kowarsky, Shannon Noyes, Chelsea Wells, Alexis Wheel, and Reid Rando. They are all doing a great job so far this year and making nice contributions to the school. I hope you all can make it in the school to see the amazing art all over the hallways!



Speaking of the building, we have done some work this past year. We have upgraded electrical infrastructure in the '57 wing, with more planned. We also redid the drainage off the east side of the same wing, helping with stormwater runoff. The state did a lot of work on drainage in the west side parking lot. We also added two new spaces, for small group work, in the '57 wing, where the main entrance was years ago. These kinds of small group spaces were not part of school designs years ago, but they really help with how education happens today.



Our professional development as a staff has a few recurrent themes. The District has recommitted to Responsive Classroom, a social-emotional and academic program that has a research basis for helping students succeed. We have also been learning about trauma-informed practices, incorporating play and connectivity into learning, and of course, continuing to improve our literacy instruction. We really value a strong sense of community at JES, and we have been working to strengthen it. We brought back our regular All School Meetings, where we are getting the whole school together every other Friday for a theme, some mindfulness, and a song. We also have a new program this year called Community Connections. It's a school-wide enrichment project that hopes to increase our positive school culture and build stronger relationships within our

community. There are themes throughout the year. The last one was a focus on farms and appreciation, which culminated in a lunch for folks who help support the school. Last spring, we also established a Student Council! This helps give leadership roles to students as well as increase student voice. Some of the areas they have helped with so far are recycling and composting education, lunch menu, and they were the servers during the Community Connections Appreciation Luncheon. The Student Council is off to a great start!



We have been trying to get out of the school and into the community, as well. We love outdoor learning, with outdoor classrooms here at school, visits to local woods, including our own "Camp Swampy." Students have gone to Little River State Park, Mills Riverside Park, Shelburne Museum and Cochran's Ski Area. Students have visited the Statehouse, the Lake Champlain Sailing Center and the Maritime Museum. One of the favorites was probably last year when 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders all got to go to a UVM Women's Basketball game! There is such good learning that can happen when we get out into the community.

PIE continues to be an active part of the school community. They brought back our Artist-in-Residence last year, with a week of Jeh Kulu at the school. They hosted a fall Festival, clean-up days, and helped so much with the Spring Fun Run. They are also instrumental in getting our ice rink up and running. PIE is such a valuable part of our JES Community.

K-4 Enrollment: 298

## **RICHMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

*Jeremy Rector, Principal*

I am excited to share the annual report for the 2024-2025 school year on behalf of the Richmond Elementary School. Building upon the strong Mission and Vision work established over the previous two years, we continue to make significant strides in creating a vibrant learning community that values equity, curiosity, and growth. This year, we have placed a special emphasis on the social and emotional wellbeing of our students, recognizing its crucial role in academic success and overall development.



At RES, we understand the importance of emotional regulation and pro-social skills in successful learning. We have adopted the CASEL (Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning) framework to guide our social-emotional learning (SEL) work. This framework is allowing us to systematically address five core competencies:

**Self-Awareness:** Students are learning to recognize their emotions and understand how these affect their behavior.

**Self-Management:** We are teaching strategies for regulating emotions, thoughts, and behaviors to achieve goals.

**Responsible Decision-Making:** Our curriculum now includes activities that help students make good choices and evaluate consequences.

**Relationship Skills:** We are focusing on developing positive relationships and resolving conflicts constructively.

**Social Awareness:** Students are learning to empathize with others and understand diverse perspectives.



Instruction in these critical SEL competencies is being provided by both our classroom teachers and our school counselor, ensuring a comprehensive and integrated approach to social-emotional learning. We have increased small group learning opportunities through the addition of "lunch bunches," where students have the opportunity to eat lunch, play games, and practice SEL skills with the support of our school counselor. To further strengthen our community and reinforce these skills, we continue to hold daily morning meetings, have added monthly all-school assemblies, and are continually expanding our regular community-building events.

These initiatives provide students with multiple opportunities to practice their social-emotional skills in a supportive, structured environment. When developing student SEL skills, we consider the physical environment as an integral component. Our new inclusive playground has proven to be a valuable asset in promoting social skills, collaboration, and emotional regulation through play. We continue to invest and develop our play spaces, and with the support of our Parent Teacher Organization, we have been able to purchase two new soccer goals. Engaging in team sports helps children develop cooperation, communication, and



problem-solving abilities while fostering a sense of belonging and community. Additionally, soccer encourages physical fitness and motor skill development, contributing to overall growth and enhancing their ability to focus in academic settings.

At RES, we have also redesigned all learning spaces to include a "regulation station" where students can practice self-regulation techniques, helping to teach and promote emotional awareness, impulse control, and coping strategies. This dedicated space allows students to take proactive steps in managing their emotions and behaviors, fostering a supportive environment that enhances their overall well-being and academic success. By integrating these practices into our daily routines, we empower students to develop essential life skills that will benefit them both in and out of the classroom.

As we move forward, Richmond Elementary School remains committed to nurturing the whole child. Our focus on social and emotional wellbeing, guided by the CASEL framework, will continue to be a cornerstone of our educational approach. We believe that by equipping our students with strong SEL skills, we are not only

improving their academic outcomes, but also preparing them to be compassionate, resilient, and successful individuals in an ever-changing world. We are grateful for the continued support of our staff, families, and community partners in this important work. Together, we are creating an environment where every child can thrive emotionally, socially, and academically.

Prek-4 Enrollment: 325

## **SMILIE MEMORIAL SCHOOL**

*Derek Howard, Principal*

Smilie felt different this August.

During the summer of 2024, Bolton and Smilie Memorial School was significantly impacted by flooding, particularly in our wooded recess area. The floodwaters washed away the fence that aligns with Joiner Brook and caused serious erosion to the riverbank. Repairs have been made, with the bank being rebuilt and reinforced to prevent future damage. Unfortunately, the flooding also affected many Bolton families. As part of our Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS), these students are receiving support and are being monitored for any effects of the event. MTSS supports students both socially and academically, meeting their student needs when they need them most. The review of data in team meetings ensures that no student is missed, this might be academic data, attendance, nurse visits or behavior reports. The implementation of STAR assessments has allowed us to track individual academic growth more effectively, helping us identify students who may need targeted interventions. This tool is invaluable in tracking and monitoring longitudinal academic growth.



After 42 incredible years at Smilie Memorial School, Sherry Mahoney announced her retirement. Despite our best efforts, Sherry could not be convinced to stay for another year. Even after retirement, Sherry will stay involved, continuing to work as a substitute at Smilie. Personally, I will always be grateful for her unwavering support and guidance during my first two years as Smilie's principal. Sherry's replacement is Savanna Phillips, a Bolton resident and Smilie alumna.

### Community Connections and Events

Our community connections continue to grow with more events scheduled for this year. In October, we had the privilege of hosting Abenaki artists for a week-long residency. This collaboration culminated in the creation of a beautiful mural, now proudly displayed on our gym wall, celebrating the rich culture and history of the Abenaki community. This project aimed to fill in the historical gaps in our previous murals and ensure that the Abenaki people's contributions to our community are properly represented.



The Harvest Dinner in November was a celebration of community, bringing together local residents, students, and their families for a lunch full of good food and laughter. The meal, expertly prepared by the Smilie Memorial School catering staff, featured seasonal dishes that highlighted the feel of the season. It was a truly remarkable event, fostering connections across generations and backgrounds, as neighbors, students, and their families gathered around the table to share stories, laughter, and a deep sense of gratitude. The lunch was a testament to the strength and spirit of the community.

During the first two weeks of May, Smilie Memorial joined other MMUUSD schools in raising money for the Ronald McDonald House through our love of reading. Students participated in "Drop Everything and Read" (DEAR) every day for two weeks, and their efforts raised an impressive \$636, all donated to the Ronald McDonald House. Every Smilie student who read was sponsored by a generous donor, making this a true community effort. This initiative not only supported the Ronald McDonald House but also taught our students the importance of giving back at a young age.



### Outdoor Learning

In collaboration with Bolton Valley, this fall, we completed our annual school hike to the top of Vista. Every student from Kindergarten through Fourth Grade reached the summit. The hike was done in mixed-age groups, where older students encouraged and supported the younger ones. This event demonstrated that when we set high expectations for our students, they rise to the challenge.

Our partnership with Cochran's and Bolton Valley to provide the Snow Motion and Ski and Ride Programs is a tremendous success. By the final session in March, every student from Kindergarten through Fourth Grade participated and developed the skills in either skiing or snowboarding to ride the lift up and make their way down independently and safely. This program continues to be a highlight of our students' Smilie experience.

### Spring Festival Success

In May last year, we hosted our annual Spring Festival, which was a fantastic community event. The festival featured our popular plant sale, a craft fair, a flea market, an ice cream stand, a bake sale, and delicious food for everyone to enjoy. Additionally, the local fire station supported us by hosting a car wash. The Spring Festival continues to be a wonderful opportunity for the Smilie community to come together and support our school.

### Elevate Program

The introduction of the Elevate program has highlighted the strength of our small school community within the wider district. Smilie Memorial School has proven to be a welcoming and supportive environment for students who need specialized education programming. With the introduction of this program, as well as more students attending Smilie, our

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

**March 4, 2025**

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 **March 4, 2025**, at 7:00 a.m. (Huntington at 6:30 a.m.) 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 school district approve the school board to expend **\$61,290,046** which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? The Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District estimates that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in per pupil education spending of \$14,365, which is 5.95% higher than per pupil education spending for the current 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 27, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. at the Mount Mansfield Union High School, in Jericho, VT shall serve as an informational meeting to discuss Article 2 and Article 3 which will be voted on by Australian ballot on March 4, 2025. A virtual option will be available at: Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/vif-oihj-gqb>  
 Or dial: (US) 1-631-606-4381 PIN: 636 298 526#


**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:

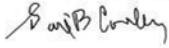
Bolton	*	Smilie Memorial School	*	7 am - 7 pm
Huntington	*	Brewster-Pierce Memorial School	*	6:30 am - 7 pm
Jericho	*	Mt. Mansfield Union High School	*	7 am - 7 pm
Richmond	*	Camels Hump Middle School	*	7 am - 7 pm
Underhill	*	Browns River Middle School	*	7 am - 7 pm


Dated this 13th day of January, 2025.


SCHOOL DIRECTORS


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin Campbell


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Lillich

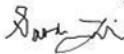
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gail Conley

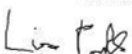
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stuart Morigeau

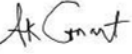
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James Granzow


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gabrielle O'Mally

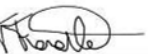
  
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Edye Graning

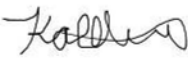
  
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Sandra Limoge

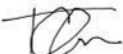
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Pawlik

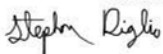
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alison Conant

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ethan Maurer

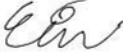
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas Ferstle

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Katie Nelson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tara Arneson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen Diglio

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Heather Chadwick

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Eli Wimette

Received for record this 13th day of Month, day, 2025, A.D.

Jon Milazzo, Clerk, Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District  
Jon Milazzo



**OFFICIAL BALLOT  
MOUNT MANSFIELD UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MARCH 4, 2025**

**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 <small>Vote for not more than one</small>	CLERK <small>Vote for not more than one</small>	TREASURER <small>Vote for not more than one</small>
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 \$61,290,046 which is the amount the School Board has determined necessary for the 2025-26 fiscal year? The Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District estimates that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in per pupil education spending of \$14,365, which is 5.95% higher than per pupil education spending for the current year.

YES   
NO

**OFFICIAL WARNING  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
MARCH 4, 2025  
RICHMOND, VERMONT**

The legal voters of the Town of Richmond, Vermont are hereby notified and warned to meet at Camels Hump Middle School, in said Town, on Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 10 AM to transact business on the following articles not involving voting by Australian ballot, being Articles 1 through 5.

The voters of the Town of Richmond, Vermont, and the legal voters of the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District residing in said Town of Richmond are further warned and notified to meet at Camels Hump Middle School, in said Town, on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at 7:00 in the forenoon (AM), at which time the polls will open, until 7:00 in the afternoon (PM) at which time the polls will close, to vote on the following articles by Australian ballot, being Articles 6 through 17:

**By Floor Vote**

- Article 1. To hear and accept reports of the Town Officers.
- Article 2. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond vote pursuant to 32 V.S.A. Section 3840 to exempt the real estate of Richmond Rescue, Inc. from taxation for a period of five (5) years beginning with fiscal year 2026?
- Article 3. Advisory - Shall the Selectboard consider changing the practice of presenting the Town Budget for approval by the voters in one Article to presenting a Town Budget with separate Articles for the budgets of each Town department? This article is advisory and a vote on it is non-binding.
- Article 4. Advisory – Shall the Selectboard warn a Special Town Meeting to see if the voters will agree to vote all public questions by Australian ballot?
- Article 5. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

**By Australian Ballot**

- Article 6. To elect School and Town Officers for terms posted on ballot.
- Article 7. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve a budget of \$4,870,565 to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town of Richmond in Fiscal Year 2026?



- Article 8. Shall the Town of Richmond vote to approve funding the Conservation Reserve Fund by adding one cent to the municipal tax rate in the 2025-2026 fiscal year?
- Article 9. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve appropriating \$500.00 to Vermont Family Network to be raised by taxes to provide support to Richmond families with children with special needs, such amount being reasonably necessary for the support thereof?
- Article 10. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve appropriating \$3,000.00 to Age Well to be raised by taxes to provide support and guidance to Town residents aged 60 years and older, such amount being reasonably necessary for the support thereof?
- Article 11. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve appropriating \$375.00 to VT Center for Independent Living to be raised by taxes for providing services to enhance the lives of Town residents with disabilities, such amount being reasonably necessary for the support thereof?
- Article 12. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve appropriating \$1,000.00 to The Committee on Temporary Shelter to be raised by taxes 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 13. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve appropriating \$6,000.00 to Our Community Cares Camp to be raised by taxes 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 14. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve appropriating \$1,500.00 to Steps to End Domestic Violence to be raised by taxes 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 15. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve appropriating \$5,000.00 to Turning Point Center of Chittenden County to be raised by taxes 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 16. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve appropriating \$1,000.00 to HOPE Works to be raised by taxes for their work to end all forms of sexual violence to Town residents, such amount being reasonably necessary for the support thereof?

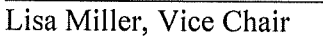
Article 17. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve appropriating \$1,000.00 to Lund to be raised by taxes for their work to help Town resident children thrive by empowering families to break cycles of poverty, addiction and abuse by offering hope and opportunity to families through education, treatment, family support and adoption, such amount being reasonably necessary for the support thereof?

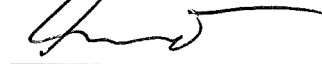
The legal voters of the Town of Richmond are further notified that voter qualification, registration, and absentee voting relative to said Annual Meeting shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

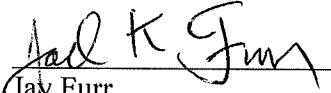
**Richmond Select Board**

  
David Sander, Chairperson

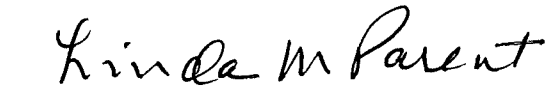
  
Bard Hill

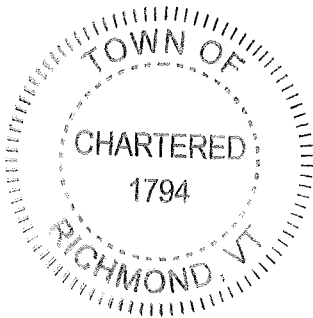
  
Lisa Miller, Vice Chair

  
Adam Wood

  
Jay Furr

Received for record this 22<sup>ND</sup> day of January 2025.

  
Linda M. Parent, CVC, Town Clerk



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SPECIAL NOTES

Requests for **early voter absentee ballots** will be accepted in the Town Clerk's Office until **NOON on February 28, 2025**

**Richmond Select Board:** The legal voters of the Town of Richmond are further warned and notified that two public informational meetings regarding will be held at Richmond Town Center in the Town of Richmond on Saturday, February 8, 2025 at 10 AM, and Monday, February 24, 2025 at 7 PM for the purpose of explaining the 2025-2026 proposed budget and Australian ballot items.

These meetings may also be attended online or by phone:

**Saturday, February 8, 2025 at 10 AM**

**Join Zoom Meeting Online:**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89928083835?pwd=ATlpOwhcnJxWLj379xaIfxmGiG8dja.1>**

**Join by Phone:** +1 929 205 6099

**Meeting ID:** 899 2808 3835

**Passcode:** 613512

**Monday, February 24, 2025 at 7 PM**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81031713006?pwd=vmiTBiPhSMbpT0jYKF1BXfPSfV5Z6E.1>**

**Join Zoom Meeting Online:**

**Join by Phone:** +1 929 205 6099

**Meeting ID:** 810 3171 3006

**Passcode:** 335990

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**OFFICIAL BALLOT  
ANNUAL TOWN AND TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING  
RICHMOND, VERMONT  
MARCH 4, 2025**

**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.**

<b>MODERATOR</b> One Year Term Vote for not more than ONE	<b>SELECTBOARD</b> Two Year Term Vote for not more than ONE	<b>LIBRARY TRUSTEE</b> Five Year Term Vote for not more than ONE
CLINT BUXTON <input type="radio"/>	CAITLIN FILKINS <input type="radio"/>	AMY KLINGER <input type="radio"/>
(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>
<b>TOWN CLERK</b> Three Year Term Vote for not more than ONE	<b>CEMETERY TRUSTEE</b> Five Year Term Vote for not more than ONE	<b>FIRST CONSTABLE</b> One Year Term Vote for not more than ONE
KATIE NELSON <input type="radio"/>	CLINT BUXTON <input type="radio"/>	ANDY SQUIRES <input type="radio"/>
SUSANNE PARENT <input type="radio"/>	(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>
(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	<b>CEMETERY TRUSTEE</b> Two Years of a Five Year Term Vote for not more than ONE	<b>MOUNTAINFIELD UNION SCHOOL DIRECTOR</b> Three Year Term Vote for not more than TWO
<b>TOWN TREASURER</b> Three Year Term Vote for not more than ONE	ANTHONY CAMERON <input type="radio"/>	HEATHER CHAMBERLAIN <input type="radio"/>
JIM FEINSON <input type="radio"/>	(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	ALISON CONANT <input type="radio"/>
(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	<b>SELECT BOARD</b> Three Year Term Vote for not more than ONE	(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>
BRAD HILL <input type="radio"/>	(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>
(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>		

**ARTICLES**

**Article 7.** Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve a budget of \$4,870,565 to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town of Richmond in Fiscal Year 2026?

YES

NO

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**Article 8.** Shall the Town of Richmond vote to approve funding the Conservation Reserve Fund by adding one cent to the municipal tax rate in the 2025-2026 fiscal year?

YES

NO

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**Article 9.** Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve appropriating \$500.00 to Vermont Family Network to be raised by taxes to provide support to Richmond families with children with special needs, such amount being reasonably necessary for the support thereof?

YES

NO

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**Article 10.** Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve appropriating \$3,000.00 to Age Well to be raised by taxes to provide support and guidance to Town residents aged 60 years and older, such amount being reasonably necessary for the support thereof?

YES

NO

**VOTE BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT**

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 11. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve appropriating \$375.00 to VT Center for Independent Living to be raised by taxes for providing services to enhance the lives of Town residents with disabilities, such amount being reasonably necessary for the support thereof?

YES

NO

Article 12. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve appropriating \$1,000.00 to The Committee on Temporary Shelter to be raised by taxes 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?

YES

NO

Article 13. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve appropriating \$6,000.00 to Our Community Cares Camp to be raised by taxes 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?

YES

NO

Article 14. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve appropriating \$1,500.00 to Steps to End Domestic Violence to be raised by taxes 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?

YES

NO

Article 15. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve appropriating \$5,000.00 to Turning Point Center of Chittenden County to be raised by taxes 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?

YES

NO

Article 16. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve appropriating \$1,000.00 to HOPE Works to be raised by taxes for their work to end all forms of sexual violence to Town residents, such amount being reasonably necessary for the support thereof?

YES

NO

Article 17. Shall the voters of the Town of Richmond approve appropriating \$1,000.00 to Lund to be raised by taxes for their work to help Town resident children thrive by empowering families to break cycles of poverty, addiction and abuse by offering hope and opportunity to families through education, treatment, family support and adoption, such amount being reasonably necessary for the support thereof?

YES

NO

VOTE BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT



## **STATE & FEDERAL ELECTED OFFICIALS**

### **Governor Honorable Phil Scott**

1-802-828-3322

Vermont State House ~ 115 State Street ~ Montpelier VT 05633

### **Lt. Governor John Rodgers**

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

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Richmond, VT 05477

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*"HOME OF THE ROUND CHURCH"*  
**TOWN OF RICHMOND**  
BRIDGE STREET, P.O. BOX 285  
RICHMOND, VT 05477



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