

Annual Town Report
for
Hancock, Vermont



Town Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024

**Town Meeting at the Hancock Town Hall
Tuesday, March 4, 2025, from 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM**

PLEASE BRING THIS REPORT TO TOWN MEETING

Town of Hancock

Informational Sheet

Town Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am – 3pm

Selectboard Meetings

6 PM 1st and 3rd Tuesday at the Town Office

Contact Information

Town Clerk & Town Treasurer 802-767-3660

Email: townclerk@hancockvt.org

Recycling

Company: North Star Rubbish Removal, 802-672-3372

Location of Dropoff: Rochester Town Office

Time/Date of Dropoff: Every Saturday 8 AM-11AM

Dog Licenses

2025 Dog Licenses are available at the Town Clerk's Office.

All dogs over 6 months in age must be licensed.

Please provide a current rabies vaccination certificate signed by your vet.

Cost before April 1, 2025: \$11 for spayed/neutered; \$15 for un-spayed/neutered

Cost after April 1, 2025: \$13 for spayed/neutered; \$19 for un-spayed/neutered

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Town Website

www.hancockvt.org

Please visit our Town Website to keep up to date with agendas, meeting minutes, contact information, and forms.

AUDITORS' STATEMENT

We have examined and prepared the reports of the Town Officers for the 2023-24 Fiscal Year as presented to us and verify them to be correct to the best of our knowledge. Many thanks to Becky Klein and Roger Comes for their valuable knowledge and assistance.

Geraldine Twitchell, Chair, and Rose Juliano

The contents of this town report were requested and approved by the Hancock Select Board.

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A Note about This Year's Meeting

This year's town meeting will be held in person on Tuesday, March 4th at 10:00AM in the Hancock Town Hall. All are welcomed to attend, however, only registered voters of Hancock may vote in the meeting.

FLAP Grant for Texas Falls Rd. Bridge No.1

In 2023 the Town was awarded \$1,210,000 grant funding by the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) to replace Bridge No.1 (at VT RT125) on Texas Falls Rd. Unfortunately, in September of 2024, the funding of the grant was reduced by \$710,000, leaving the project with a significant budgetary shortfall. Since engineering on the project had already begun, the Selectboard opted to amend the Memorandum of Agreement with the federal government to reduce the scope of the project to the engineering portion of the work, which fell within the remaining funds of the grant. Leaving the town still fully covered for the existing expenses of the project.

No satisfactory explanation of why the grant was reduced by the federal government after work had begun on the project has been provided.

Public Safety Budget

Last year the selectboard unanimously decided to end the Town's cocontract with the Addison County Sheriff's Department (ACSD). The town contracted with ACSD for traffic control and police presence at a rate of \$39/hr, plus \$0.655 per mile of travel. The budget for ACSD was \$15,000 for the current fiscal year. In years past, the cost of this line item was mostly covered by the Town's share of traffic fines. That was no longer the case.

Last year the selectboard set the budget for law enforcement at \$1, with the instruction to the voters that they could raise the budget to a figure of their choosing in a floor vote at town meeting. The voters chose to restore the budget to its previous figure of \$15,000 with instructions to the selectboard to identify an alternate law enforcement agency to contract with. The selectboard reached out to other counties' sheriff's departments to request discussions regarding a contract. We were rebuffed by all.

This year the selectboard has again set the law enforcement budget to \$1. The voters may set that budget to another figure in a floor vote. The selectboard advises that it is unlikely we will be able to contract with any agency other than the Addison County Sheriff. The selectboard does not feel that contracting with ACSD would be taxpayer money well spent.

MERP Grant

The town applied for and was awarded by the state of Vermont a Municipal Energy Resiliency Program (MERP) grant in the amount of \$342,155.20 to improve the weatherization and replace the heating systems in the town hall and town office with modern, energy efficient equipment. The work

is fully funded by the grant and comes at no cost on your property taxes. Unlike the FLAP grant, this grant will be paid to the town prior to construction, so we proceed without risk.

The projection by the MERP staff is that the project will pay for itself over the life of the new equipment.

Further, the project significantly reduces the Town's carbon footprint in keeping with the demands of Act 174.

CDBG Planning Grant

The Town applied for and has been awarded a \$60,000 grant to conduct a feasibility study to assess whether affordable workforce housing can be developed on the Town owned Taylor Meadow parcel in the village. The intention is to partner with a developer to bring much needed affordable housing to the valley and, with it, employees for area businesses.

Texas Falls Road- Discontinuation

For the past two years, the Select Board has been discussing options for the upper portion of Texas Falls Road. Specifically, the portion of Texas Falls Road that lies within the Green Mountain National Forest. This section of road is costly to maintain and has significant pending repairs to a bridge and to deteriorating asphalt pavement. Maintenance costs include plowing, sanding, road sweeping, and roadside mowing. This upper portion of Texas Falls Road does not service any residences or commercial buildings.

The Select Board has initiated a process to discontinue ownership of this upper portion of the Texas Falls Road. If discontinued, this portion of the road will become the property of Green Mountain National Forest. Green Mountain National Forest will automatically assume responsibility and ownership of this portion of the road.

Status of Flood Loan

In the Fall of 2014, the Town of Hancock requested a loan to refinance the existing "Flood Repair Loan" held at a different financial institution. Below is a summary of the current status of this loan maintained by Mascoma Bank.

Open Date: 3/19/2015	Maturity: 4/30/2028
Original Balance: \$278,439.11	Current Balance: \$60,051.49
Next Payment: 3/30/2025	Rate: 2.75%

Payment: \$25,000 principal and interest payment annually due on 3/30

Town Clerk/Town Treasurer

The selectboard wishes to thank Jody Jesso for her years of service to the Town and the huge effort behind getting the town's books back in order after a period of disarray. We also thank Renée Veilleux for stepping into the position on short notice, though she realized the position was not a good fit for her. A very large thanks to Janet Jesso for stepping in as interim Town Clerk/Town Treasurer and for training the new TC/TT.

We welcome Wendy Stender as the new interim Town Clerk/Town Treasurer and believe she will be a great boon to the municipal government.

There are five articles in the warning for town meeting related to this position we ask the voters to consider.

Our experience of the last several years of municipal government had led us to the realization that compliance with state and federal mandates, as well as application for and management of the grants that fund many municipal projects requires a level of professionalism that a largely volunteer selectboard with neither the training, nor the available time outside our daytime responsibilities, to perform efficiently and competently. The selectboard feels that the daily affairs of the municipal government would be best served by a professional town manager. As such, we have proposed Article 7, which asks the voters to approve moving to the town manager form of government.

As a means of getting to this form of government, we propose that the Town Clerk/Town Treasurer become an appointed position, and the Town Clerk/Town Treasurer receive training to become a professional municipal manager, eventually transitioning into the position of Town Manager. Appointing the TC/TT removes the electoral pressures from the position and provides continuity while the TC/TT trains to become Town Manager.

The goal of articles 3 through 7 is to set a course for attracting a candidate to transition into the role of Town Manager and to be able to attract and retain that candidate.

Budget and Appropriations

PLEASE NOTE that the Appropriation requests in **Article 3** are **NOT** included in the final budget amount in **Article 10**.

2023 Flooding & FEMA Updates

In early July and again in early August of 2023, the Town of Hancock was subject to flooding due to extreme rain events. These events caused extensive damage to town roads. The damages were so extensive throughout central Vermont that both events were designated as FEMA eligible events for municipalities. This designation allowed Hancock to be reimbursed for damage repair costs as well as for mitigation projects to lessen the likelihood of future damage to town roads.

FEMA reimbursements to municipalities are capped at 75% of total repairs costs. The State of Vermont reimburses another 12.5%, and the town covers the remaining 12.5% of repair costs.

The July flooding was relatively mild in comparison to the August event. In July there were minor damages to town roads; however, serious flooding along Tunnel Brook damaged private property and threatened other properties as well as the adjacent town road. FEMA reimbursements for the July event included approximately \$20,000 to dredge Tunnel Brook and another \$2,582 for road repairs. The total of \$22,582 was 100% of what the town could receive.

The August flood was widespread and resulted in much more damage to town roads. Extensive damage to Tucker Brook Road and Fassett Hill Road resulted in temporary road closures. Additional damage to Shampeny Hill Road, Blair Hill Road, Churchville Road, and Buttles Road brought total repair costs to more than \$1,241,988. Hancock has been reimbursed for 75% of this amount, including additional funding for mitigation projects totaling more than \$68,000.

Hancock has received all of the FEMA reimbursements requested and no proposed repairs or completed emergency repairs were rejected. The biggest project funded by FEMA is for the replacement of the culvert at the intersection of Shampeny Hill Road and Tucker Brook Road. This culvert has sustained damage from multiple flood events through the years. The August flood created damages that could not simply be repaired. FEMA is providing \$536,668 toward the replacement of this culvert. Construction is scheduled to start in the spring of 2025.

In conclusion, the Town of Hancock successfully worked with FEMA to secure all eligible funding for repairs and mitigation projects. The total amount received from FEMA was \$911,858. An additional approximate \$151,545 will be reimbursed by the State of Vermont. The town's share of repair costs was approximately \$151,545. This amount was available in the Highway Capital Fund so no long-term debt was required. Borrowing costs to cover repair costs while waiting for FEMA reimbursements were lower than anticipated as the reimbursement process moved faster than expected.

The Town of Hancock extends deep gratitude to the local contractors who stepped forward to get our roads open and repaired before winter set in. Special thanks to Charles Smith (ECS Excavation), Ken Beattie (Beattie Excavation), Richard Veilleux (TRK Trucking), Champlain Construction, and the others who assisted.

Hancock Select Board Clerk

Who's Who in Local Government
A Publication of the Office of the Secretary of State ~ 2018

Serving in local office is a great way to give something back to our community. So why don't you take a turn? Here are the offices you can choose from:

Officials Elected at Town Meeting

Moderator ~ Runs the Annual and Special Town/School Meetings. Should have a good sense of humor, be good at group process, and have experience following Roberts Rules of Order.

Selectboard Member ~ General supervision and control over town; enacts ordinances, regulations, and policies for town; oversees town property and personnel; prepares, presents, and manages budget; oversees roads, including laying out, discontinuing and reclassifying roads. Sits as local board of health, liquor control commission and sewer commission. Should know the town well, be able to understand all sides of complex issues, and have very thick skin.

Town Clerk ~ Records, preserves, and certifies the public records of the town. Issues dog, marriage, civil union licenses and motor vehicle, snowmobile, and motorboat renewals. Runs the local elections, serves as clerk of the Board of Civil Authority, and hears tax abatement requests and tax appeals. Should have the patience of a saint and be a good ambassador for the town.

Town Treasurer ~ Keeps the town and school accounts (unless a separate school treasurer is elected), invests money (with the approval of the legislative body), keeps a record of the taxes voted, and pays orders drawn on him or her. Should be very precise, detail oriented and good at math.

Lister ~ Appraise property within the town for the purpose of property tax assessment. Should be able to be polite, yet firm, and not oversensitive to criticism.

Collector of Delinquent Taxes ~ Collects delinquent taxes for the town and conducts tax sales. Should be good with numbers and able to work with people who are in difficult circumstances.

Trustee of Public Funds ~ Manages, invests, and reports on real and personal property held in trust by the town. This includes cemetery trust funds. Should like investing money.

Cemetery Commissioner ~ Responsible for the care and management of the town's cemeteries. Terms are for five years.

Justices of the Peace ~ Elected every two years. Duties of the Justices of the Peace fall into five categories of responsibilities: elections, tax abatement & appeals, marriages, oaths & Notary and Magistrate.

Board of Civil Authority ~ Members of Selectboard, Town Clerk, Justices of Peace

Local Officials Appointed by the Legislative Body

Health Officer ~ Appointed by the Commissioner of Health to a 3-year term upon recommendation of the Selectboard. Enforces rules and regulations for the prevention and abatement of public health hazards.

Constable (First & Second) ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Operating under Vermont Statutes, in some towns the constable is the town's local law enforcement officer, with all powers of search, seizure and arrest within the town. In other towns the constable only has the power to serve civil process, assist the health officer in the discharge of his or her duties, destroy unlicensed dogs, kill injured deer, remove disorderly people from town meetings, and, if the First Constable, to collect taxes, if no tax collector is elected. Should be good at de-escalating and resolving conflicts.

Planning Commissioners ~ Appointed unless town votes to elect. Duties include preparing a municipal plan, making recommendations on matters of land development, conservation, and preservation, and to participate in a regional planning program. Makes site plan and subdivision permit decisions unless there is a Development Review Board in town. Should have a good working knowledge of all aspects of the town and be able to listen to many sides of an issue.

Zoning Administrator ~ Appointed by the Planning Commission with the approval of the Selectboard. Approves or denies applications for zoning permits. Administers the municipal bylaws literally. Enforces regulations pertaining to the Zoning Ordinance.

Fire Warden ~ Appointed by the State Fire Commissioner with approval of the Selectboard. Prevents forest fires in the town by enforcing the laws designed to prevent forest fires. Issues permits for open burning within the Town. Term is for five years.

Road Commissioner ~ Appointed by the Selectboard, the Road Commissioner has no independent authority, but assists the Selectboard in overseeing town highways. Should have experience with town highways and be a good communicator.

Regional Planning Commission Representative ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Helps develop the regional plan and assess municipal land use plans but has no independent authority.

Animal Control Officer (Pound keeper) ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Enforces ordinances and cares for the animals that are impounded within the town.

Humane Officer ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Enforces State and Federal regulations surrounding the humane and proper treatment of all animals. Works closely with Animal Control Officer & Constables.

Emergency Management Coordinator ~ Responsible for the organization, administration and operation of the Town's committee that is formed for emergency management. The coordinator is under the direct control of the Selectboard but may coordinate his or her emergency management efforts with neighboring towns and cities and with the state emergency management division, and with the federal government.

Tree Warden ~ Appointed by the Selectboard. Plans and implements a shade tree preservation program for the purpose of shading and beautifying public places. Recommends the removal of diseased, dying, or dead trees which create a hazard to public safety or threaten the effectiveness of disease or insect control programs.

**TOWN OFFICERS OF HANCOCK, VT
2024-2025**

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Auditors (3 year)

First, expires 2025
Second, expires 2026
Third, expires 2027

Budget Committee (3year)

First, expires 2025
Second, expires 2026
Third, expires 2027

Cemetery Commission (3 year)

First, expires 2025
Second, expires 2026
Third, expires 2027

Constable (1 year)

Delinquent Tax Collector (1 year)

Justices of the Peace

VACANT
Geraldine K. Twitchell
Rose Juliano

Marjorie Ross
Eva M. Jesso
Maurice Eaton

Geraldine K. Twitchell
Maurice Eaton
Larry Bettis
Derek Dzhugashvili
Jaime Morin

Roger Comes
Maurice Eaton
Jack Ross
Marjorie Ross
Monica Collins

Library Trustees (5 year)

First, expires 2025
Second, expires 2026
Third, expires 2027
Fourth, expires 2028
Fifth, expires 2029

Listers

Moderator (1 Year)

Road Commissioner (1 year)

GHUD School Board (3 year)

First, expires 2025
Second, expires 2026
Third, expires 2027

Select Board (3 year)

First, expires 2025
Second, expires 2026
Third, expires 2027

Town Clerk (3 year) expires 2025
Town Treasurer (3 year) expires 2025

APPOINTED OFFICIALS:

WRVA Board Member

E-911 Coordinator

Asst. Town Treasurer

Asst. Town Clerks

Civil Defense

Emergency Management

Energy Coordinator

Fence Viewers

Fire Warden

Health Officer

Deputy Health Officers

Inspector of Wood, Shingles &

Lumber

Animal Control Officer

Septic/Sewage Officer

Solid Waste/Recycle Coordinator

Tri-Valley Transit Board

Member

Town Service Member

Tree Warden

Weigher of Coal

Planning Commission (6 years)

Valley Rescue Board Member

TRORC

EC Fiber

Representatives

Wendy Stender
Wendy Stender

Jeannette Bair
Scott Gillette
Becky Klein
Roger Comes
James Leno
Renée Veilleux
Eduardo Angulo Alvarez
Garrett Troumbley
Daniel Perera
John Ross
Jonathan Deering
Jammie Dzhugashvili
Scott Gillette
Dan Perera
James Leno

Thomas Patterson
Kolleen Scaff
James Leno
Select Board Members
Wendell Thurston
VACANT
Garrett Troumbley
John Ross
Stacey Peters
VACANT (4 positions)

Wendell Thurston
Monica Collins
Stacey Peters
Dan Perera

Rose Juliano
Eva M. Jesso
Jody Jesso
Margi Rogal
Gretchen Perera
OFFICE ELIMINATED TM 2022
James Leno
James Leno
ELECTED AT GHUD MEETING
Sara Deering
Samantha Sheehan
Stacey Peters, Chair
James Leno
Scott Gillette (Chair)
Dan Perera (Clerk)

**WARNING OF
TOWN OF HANCOCK, VERMONT ANNUAL MEETING
MARCH 4, 2025, 10:00AM**

The legal voters of the Town of Hancock, VT, are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Hancock Town Hall in said town to transact the following business by floor vote:

Article 1: To elect a Town Moderator for the next year ensuing.

Article 2: To elect all Town Officers as required by law:

- Selectboard Member – three year term
- Auditor- three year term
- Constable - one year term
- Collector of Delinquent Taxes – one year term
- Cemetery Commissioner - three year term
- Road Commissioner – one year term
- Library Trustee – five year term
- Advisory Budget Committee – three year term

Article 3: Pursuant to 17 VSA § 2646a, shall the voters allow the election of non-residents to the position of town clerk, effective on passage of this article?

Article 4: Pursuant to 17 VSA §2646a, shall the voters allow the election of non-residents to the position of town treasurer, effective on passage of this article?

Article 5: Pursuant to 17 VSA §2651e, shall the voters authorize the selectboard to appoint the town clerk, removing this as an elected position, until such time as the voters retract such authorization?

Article 6: Pursuant to 17 VSA §2651f, shall the voters authorize the selectboard to appoint the town treasurer, removing this as an elected position, until such time as the voters retract such authorization?

Article 7: Shall the Town of Hancock adopt the town manager form of governance in accordance with the provisions of chapter 37 of Title 24 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated?

Article 8: Shall the voters appropriate a total of \$7,019.00 to the following social service agencies pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 2691:

Green-Up Vermont – supports Green Up Day \$50.00

WomenSafe – Provides assistance related to sexual and domestic violence for people of all genders \$500.00

Tri Valley Transit (Stagecoach) – provides regional mass transit \$558.00

Central Vermont Council on Aging – provides services to seniors	\$800.00
Park House – Senior housing non-profit	\$600.00
Clara Martin Center - provides behavioral health care and substance abuse services	\$595.00
Quin-Town Senior Center – non-profit providing Meals on Wheels services to valley seniors.	\$2,716.00
Hancock Town Pride – fosters community spirit, beauty, & involvement, and offers events & activities.	\$1,200.00
TOTAL	\$7,019.00

Article 9: Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to apply the remaining balance in the General Fund of FY24/25 to reducing the next fiscal year's amount to be raised by taxes?

Article 10: Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to transfer the balance from the Road Commissioner Fund FY24/25 to the Highway Capital Fund?

Article 11: Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to transfer the balance from the Fire Department budget into the Fire Department Equipment Fund?

Article 12: Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to collect current taxes pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 4791, and if so, to set the payment dates. The dates being of four equal installments dated August 15, 2025; November 15, 2025; February 15, 2026; and May 15, 2026?

Article 13: Shall the Town of Hancock appropriate the sum of \$427,244.00 to pay the current expenses for the general and highway funds for the ensuing twelve months, with 2025 – 2026 taxes becoming delinquent after May 15th, 2026, and with the County and State taxes to be paid from the general fund.

Article 14: To transact any non-binding business.

Dated this 7th day of January, 2025

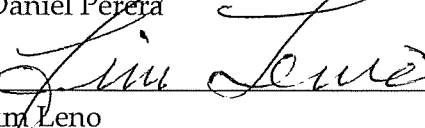
By the Selectboard of the Town of Hancock



 Scott Gillette, Chair



 Daniel Perera



 Jim Leno

FY2025 Town of Hancock General Fund -- Selectboard Budget

Account	Budget FY-2024	Actual FY-2024	Budget FY-2025	Budget FY-2026
10-4-00 TAX REVENUE				
10-4-00-011.00 Current Property Taxes	\$ 227,191.00	\$ 251,464.05	\$ -	\$ 251,464.05
10-4-00-011.01 Current Tax Interest	\$ 1,140.00	\$ 962.78	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
10-4-00-012.00 Delinquent Property Taxes	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 69,353.12	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
10-4-00-012.01 Delinquent Tax Interest	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 15,001.93	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
10-4-00-014.00 Delinquent Tax Penalty	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 170.28	\$ 240.00	\$ 240.00
10-4-00-031.00 PILOT	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 66,579.00	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 67,000.00
10-4-00-032.00 Current Use	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 11,216.00	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 11,000.00
Total TAX REVENUE	\$ 302,831.00	\$ 414,747.16	\$ 60,640.00	\$ 334,104.05
10-4-01 INTEREST INCOME				
10-4-01-041.00 Gen. Fund Bank Interest	\$ 100.00	\$ 2,566.34	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
10-4-01-051.00 Money Market Interest	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
10-4-01-061.00 Town Savings Interest	\$ -	\$ 0.01	\$ -	\$ -
Total INTEREST REVENUE	\$ 150.00	\$ 2,566.35	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,500.00
10-4-11 TOWN CLERK REVENUE				
10-4-11-021.00 Dog Licenses	\$ 200.00	\$ 165.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
10-4-11-022.00 Liquor Licenses	\$ 370.00	\$ 255.00	\$ 450.00	\$ 400.00
10-4-11-023.00 Marriage Licenses	\$ 60.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
10-4-11-041.00 Town Clerk Fees	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 3,890.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,000.00
Total TOWN CLERK REVENUE	\$ 5,130.00	\$ 4,310.00	\$ 5,150.00	\$ 4,600.00
10-4-19 OTHER REVENUE				
10-4-19-070.01 Cemetery Lot	\$ -	\$ 30.00	\$ -	\$ -
10-4-19-080.02 State Equalization Paymen	\$ 250.00	\$ 263.00	\$ 260.00	\$ 260.00
10-4-19-090.00 Quin Town Rent	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00
10-4-19-090.01 Town Hall & Town Green Re	\$ 100.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 600.00
10-4-19-090.02 Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 55.00	\$ -	\$ -
10-4-19-345.00 LHMP Grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total OTHER REVENUE	\$ 3,350.00	\$ 4,448.00	\$ 4,060.00	\$ 4,460.00
10-4-22 PUBLIC SAFETY				
10-4-22-031.00 Police Patrol Income	\$ 500.00	\$ 3,417.06	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
Total PUBLIC SAFETY REVENUE	\$ 500.00	\$ 3,417.06	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
Total REVENUES	\$ 311,961.00	\$ 429,488.57	\$ 72,350.00	\$ 344,664.05
10-5-00-101 WAGES TOWN EMPLOYEES				
10-5-00-101.00 Select Board	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00
10-5-00-101.01 Select Board Clerk Wages	\$ 300.00	\$ 637.50	\$ 300.00	\$ 400.00
10-5-00-101.02 Auditors	\$ 100.00	\$ 135.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
10-5-00-101.03 Laborers	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,785.00	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 2,600.00

Account	Budget FY-2024	Actual FY-2024	Budget FY-2025	Budget FY-2026
10-5-00-101.04 Listers	\$ 5,140.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
10-5-00-101.05 Animal Control	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
10-5-00-101.06 Flood Plain Administrator	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
10-5-00-101.07 Emergency Mgmt Coodinator	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
10-5-00-101.08 Health Officer	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
10-5-00-101.09 Delinquent Tax Collector	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 104.99	\$ 240.00	\$ 240.00
10-5-00-101.10 Land & Vital Rec Organiza	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
10-5-00-101.11 Road Comm Stipend	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Total TOWN WAGES TOWN EMPLOYEES	\$ 15,340.00	\$ 7,262.49	\$ 8,890.00	\$ 8,990.00

10-5-10 TOWN EXPENSES

10-5-10-220.00 Payroll Taxes - FICA	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 5,318.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,500.00
10-5-10-220.01 Unemployment tax	\$ 200.00	\$ 97.41	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
10-5-10-220.03 Childcare Cont. Tax	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 190.00
10-5-10-313.00 Short Term Interest	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
10-5-10-331.00 Legal Fees	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 9,511.20	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
10-5-10-332.01 Professional Audit	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,015.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 9,000.00
10-5-10-333.00 Accessor Contract	\$ -	\$ 4,005.00	\$ 5,608.00	\$ 6,000.00
10-5-10-340.00 Service Contracts/Tech	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 5,363.13	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
10-5-10-342.00 Tax Mapping	\$ -	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 1,800.00
10-5-10-345.00 Local Hazard Mitigation P	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
10-5-10-350.00 Training	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 500.00
10-5-10-400.00 Town Winter Roads	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 49,570.00	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
10-5-10-431.00 Summer Mowing Contract	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 4,800.00
10-5-10-432.00 Sand Pit Rental	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 5,400.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00
10-5-10-540.00 Postage	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,130.28	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,400.00
10-5-10-550.00 Printing	\$ 600.00	\$ 540.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
10-5-10-583.00 Mileage Reimbursement	\$ 100.00	\$ 68.12	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
10-5-10-610.00 Office Supplies	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 971.59	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,250.00
10-5-10-731.00 Office Equipment	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
10-5-10-750.00 Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
10-5-10-999.00 One Time - Prior Year Exp	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total TOWN EXPENSES	\$ 112,900.00	\$ 95,739.73	\$ 106,558.00	\$ 117,390.00

10-5-11 TOWN CLERK

10-5-11-101.00 Town Clerk/Treasurer Wage	\$ 30,750.00	\$ 30,750.00	\$ 32,288.00	\$ 38,400.00
10-5-11-101.01 Asst. TC/TR Wages	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,267.50	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 2,000.00
10-5-11-101.02 Ballot Clerks	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 300.00
Total TOWN CLERK	\$ 33,050.00	\$ 32,317.50	\$ 34,988.00	\$ 40,700.00

10-5-18 GENERAL OFFICE

10-5-18-410.00 Trash	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ -
10-5-18-410.01 Recycling	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,600.00
10-5-18-442.00 Copier Lease	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,192.94	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,068.00
10-5-18-540.00 Advertising	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 926.25	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00

Account	Budget FY-2024	Actual FY-2024	Budget FY-2025	Budget FY-2026
10-5-18-650.00 Computer	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Total GENERAL OFFICE	\$ 9,800.00	\$ 8,719.19	\$ 10,100.00	\$ 8,668.00
10-5-19-8 DUES/ASSESSMENTS				
10-5-19-810.00 Royalton Transfer Station	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 4,465.53	\$ 4,466.00	\$ 4,466.00
10-5-19-811.00 County Taxes	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 2,080.00	\$ 2,184.00	\$ 2,976.00
10-5-19-812.00 VLCT Dues	\$ 1,569.00	\$ 1,569.00	\$ 2,748.00	\$ 1,654.00
10-5-19-812.01 VMCTA	\$ 100.00	\$ 140.00	\$ 140.00	\$ 140.00
10-5-19-812.02 Two Rivers Ottaquechee	\$ 585.00	\$ 585.00	\$ 603.00	\$ 621.00
10-5-19-812.03 Homeward Bound	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Total DUES/ASSESSMENTS	\$ 8,654.00	\$ 8,839.53	\$ 10,641.00	\$ 10,357.00
10-5-22 PUBLIC SAFETY				
10-5-22-360.00 Sheriff Patrol	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 9,133.35	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 1.00
10-5-22-360.01 White River Valley Ambula	\$ 25,848.00	\$ 25,602.19	\$ 31,670.00	\$ 31,233.00
10-5-22-360.02 Valley Rescue Squad	\$ 2,204.00	\$ 2,204.00	\$ 3,311.00	\$ 3,281.00
Total PUBLIC SAFETY	\$ 43,052.00	\$ 36,939.54	\$ 49,981.00	\$ 34,515.00
10-5-61 MUNICIPAL BUILDING				
10-5-61-431.00 Maint/Repairs/Wtr Testing	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 10,138.17	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 10,000.00
10-5-61-530.00 Telephone	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,456.27	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
10-5-61-530.01 Internet	\$ 864.00	\$ 864.00	\$ 864.00	\$ 864.00
10-5-61-622.00 Electricity	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 6,080.69	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,250.00
10-5-61-622.01 Street Lights	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 4,775.80	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 4,900.00
10-5-61-624.00 Fuel Oil	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 13,582.50	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 14,000.00
Total MUNICIPAL BUILDING	\$ 39,564.00	\$ 36,897.43	\$ 38,064.00	\$ 37,514.00
10-5-65 INSURANCE				
10-5-65-521.00 Insurance	\$ 14,500.00	\$ 13,351.32	\$ 14,500.00	\$ 15,036.86
10-5-65-521.01 Health Care Contribution	\$ 7,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
10-5-65-521.02 Retirement Contribution	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -
10-5-65-526.00 Workers Comp Insurance	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,987.68	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 3,375.00
Total INSURANCE	\$ 24,900.00	\$ 15,339.00	\$ 19,200.00	\$ 18,411.86
10-5-70 LONG TERM DEBT PAYMENTS				
10-5-70-313.00 Flood Loan - Princ	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 22,103.31	\$ 23,349.00	\$ 24,044.00
10-5-70-313.01 Flood Loan - Interest	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,896.69	\$ 1,651.00	\$ 956.00
10-5-70-313.02 Fire Station - Princ	\$ 16,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
10-5-70-313.03 Fire Station - Interest	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
10-5-70-313.04 2023 Flood LOC Interest	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,100.00	\$ -
10-5-70-313.05 Shampeny Culvert LOC Inte	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,300.00	\$ 1,000.00
10-5-70-313.06 Texas Falls Bridge LOC In	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 56,870.00	\$ -
Tucker Brook Road Improvement LOC Interest	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00
Total LONG TERM DEBT PAYMENTS	\$ 44,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 91,270.00	\$ 30,000.00

Account	Budget FY-2024	Actual FY-2024	Budget FY-2025	Budget FY-2026
10-5-95 Appropriations				
Total Appropriations	\$ 6,789.54	\$ 6,787.54	\$ 8,509.00	\$ 7,019.00
10-5-96 TRANSFERS OUT				
10-5-96-815.00 Cemetery Commission	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 14,000.00
10-5-96-815.01 Fire Department	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
10-5-96-815.03 Library Fund	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 20,500.00
10-5-96-815.04 Building Maint Capital Fu	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
10-5-96-815.06 Reappraisal Fund	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
10-5-96-815.07 Highway Capial Project	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
10-5-96-815.08 Tax Mapping	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	\$ -	\$ -
10-5-96-815.09 Road Comm PILOT	\$ -	\$ 66,579.00	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 67,000.00
Total TRANSFERS OUT	\$ 45,900.00	\$ 112,479.00	\$ 94,200.00	\$ 120,700.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 383,949.54	\$ 386,320.95	\$ 472,401.00	\$ 434,264.86

TO BE VOTED ON AND ADDED TO THE BUDGET AFTER ARTICLE IS APPROVED

10-5-95 Appropriations


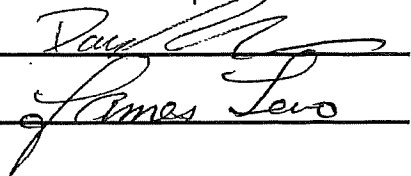
10-5-95-950.00 Green Up Vermont	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
10-5-95-950.01 Vermont Adult Learning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 115.00	\$ -
10-5-95-950.02 Atria (WomenSafe)	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
10-5-95-950.03 John Graham Shelter	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
10-5-95-950.05 Tri-Valley Transit, INC	\$ 558.00	\$ 558.00	\$ 558.00	\$ 558.00
10-5-95-950.07 Central Vermont Council A	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
10-5-95-950.08 Park House	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 600.00
10-5-95-950.09 Clara Martin Center	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 595.00	\$ 595.00
10-5-95-950.10 VNA of VT/NH, Inc	\$ 1,475.00	\$ 1,475.00	\$ 1,475.00	\$ -
10-5-95-950.11 Quin-Town Senior Center	\$ 2,716.00	\$ 2,716.00	\$ 2,716.00	\$ 2,716.00
10-5-95-950.12 White River Valley Ambula	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
10-5-95-950.13 Granville Volunteer FD	\$ -	\$ (2.00)	\$ -	\$ -
10-5-95-950.14 VT Rural Fire Protection	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
10-5-95-950.15 Addison Restorative Justi	\$ 90.54	\$ 90.54	\$ -	\$ -
10-5-95-950.16 Vermont Family Center	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
10-5-95-950.17 Hancock Town Pride	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,200.00
Total Appropriations	\$ 6,789.54	\$ 6,787.54	\$ 8,509.00	\$ 7,019.00

APPROVAL OF TAX RATE FOR HANCOCK FY25

Grand List: Tax Rate: Total:

Municipal	\$367,601.00			0.9843		\$361,829.00
Local Agree. Vets Exemption	\$367,601.00			0.0020		\$735.00
Total Municipal Tax Rate				0.9863		
School Homestead	\$134,993.00			1.8054		\$243,716.00
School- Non Homestead	\$214,858.00			2.0980		\$450,772.00
Total Taxes to be Raised						\$1,057,052.00

Total 24-25 Tax Rate:	\$2.7917	Homestead
Total 24-25 Tax Rate:	\$3.0843	Non-Homestead

Select Board, Dated July 2, 2024

GOVERNMENT BONDS REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR JULY 2023-JUNE 2024

Series HH Bonds:

D3963456HH	\$	500.00
D3963457HH	\$	500.00
Currency:	\$	7.50

Hancock's U. S. GOVERNMENT BONDS: a short history

Up until 1965 the following paragraph was included with the bonds report giving a short explanation of how they came into being -

"Because all, or parts, of various lease lots have been sold to the federal government to be incorporated in the Green Mt. National Forest, the selectmen have seen fit to set up the following trust fund. The revenue received from this fund is expected to reimburse the town for the loss of the annual lease money."

The funds began around 1940. The cash balance shown above also comes from the sale of the lease lots.

SURETY BONDS FOR FISCAL YEAR JULY 2022-JUNE 2023

Through the Town's insurance policy with the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, all town officials and town employees are covered under a blanket policy for up to \$500,000.00 for the fiscal year of July 2023 through June 2024.

FUND REPORTS JULY 1, 2023 - JUNE 30, 2024

LIBRARY REPORT

Beginning Balance	\$ 2,151.91
Income:	
Town of Hancock Budgeted	17,500.00
Total Income:	17,500.00
Total Expenses:	19,576.52
Ending Balance	\$ 75.39

RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Beginning Balance	\$ 1,246.57
Income:	55.00
Ending Balance	\$ 1,301.57

CEMETERY COMMISSION REPORT

Beginning Balance	\$ -
Income:	
Town of Hancock Budgeted	8,500.00
Transfer in from Savings Acct	3,993.23
Total Income:	12,493.23
Expenses:	
Grave opening	200.00
Labor	8,047.50
Maintenance	170.00
Equipment rental	4,020.00
Miscellaneous	55.73
Total Expenses:	12,493.23
Ending Balance	\$ -

TOWN MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance	\$ 1,003.45
Transfer to General Fund	1,003.45
Endng Balance:	\$ -

ROAD COMMISSIONER FUND

Beginning Balance	\$ 63,060.46
Income:	
Forestry Receipts	66,579.00
State of VT Trans. Aid	14,034.43
Interest	486.74
Total Income:	81,100.17

Expenses:

Labor	975.00
Equipment Rentals	375.00
Equipment and Supplies	(68.01)
Road Maintenance	43,179.90
Road Improvements	1,000.00
Gravel & Materials	1,550.00
Miscellaneous	342.11
Transfer to Highway Capital Project	30,227.63
Total Expenses	77,581.63
Ending Balance	\$ 66,579.00

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Beginning Balance	\$ -
Income:	
Town of Hancock Budgeted	12,000.00
Total Income:	12,000.00
Expenses:	
911 Phone Charges	504.54
Gas/Repairs	912.48
Equipment/Supplies	7,580.50
Radio/Repairs	574.16
Attendance	944.00
Training	450.00
Miscellaneous	112.50
Subtotal	11,078.18
Fire Dept. Bldg/Equip. Fund Trnsfr Out	921.82
Total Expenses:	12,000.00
Ending Balance	\$ -

RESTRICTED ASSETS FY JULY 1, 2023 - JUNE 30, 2024

HIGHWAY CAPITAL FUND

Beginning Balance	\$ 310,074.57
Income:	
Grants in Aid	11,500.00
Interest Accumulated	1,189.21
Miscellaneous Revenue	3,900.00
Grant - Shampeny	7,262.55
FEMA 2023 Floods	22,139.70
Transfer In	2,000.00
Transfer In RC Fund	30,227.63
Total Income	78,219.09

Expenses:

Road improvements	723.51
Capital Project - Shampeny	7,255.98
Capital Paving	74,581.18
July flood	29,594.00
August Flood Tucker/Shampeny	195,691.12
August flood Fassett	225,739.21
Total Expenses	533,585.00
Ending Balance	\$ (145,291.34)

FIRE DEPT. BUILDING & EQUIPMENT

Beginning Balance	\$ 30,071.34
Income:	
Interest	472.67
Transfer In	921.82
Total Income	1,394.49
Total Expenses:	298.02
Ending Balance	\$ 31,167.81

HONOR ROLL FUND

Beginning Balance	\$ 2,152.22
Income:	
Interest	33.88
Donations	55.00
Total Income	88.88
Expenses:	-
Ending Balance	\$ 2,241.10

REAPPRAISAL FUND

Beginning Balance	\$ 27,855.94
Interest	447.71
State of VT	2,235.50
Transfer In	200.00
Total Income	2,883.21
Expenses:	-
Ending Balance	\$ 30,739.15

ARPA FUND

Beginning Balance	\$ 65,322.77
Income:	96.05
Transfer Out	65,418.82
Ending Balance	\$ -

BUILDING MAINTENANCE FUND

Beginning Balance	\$ 40,032.81
Income:	
Interest	621.26
MERP Grant	4,000.00
Transfer In	5,000.00
Total Income	9,621.26
Expenses:	6,377.57
Ending Balance	\$ 43,276.50

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Beginning Balance	\$ 669.12
Income:	
Interest	10.48
Expenses:	-
Ending Balance	\$ 679.60

SANCTUARY FUND

Beginning Balance	\$ 2,643.37
Income:	
Interest	41.47
Expenses:	-
Ending Balance	\$ 2,684.84

SALE OF LAND

Beginning Balance	\$ -
Income:	
Sale of Land	76,450.00
Interest	187.64
Ending Balance	\$ 76,637.64

CEMETERY TRUST FUND

Beginning Balance	\$ 9,545.46
Income:	
Interest	109.64
Expenses:	-
Ending Balance	\$ 9,655.10

CEMETERY SAVINGS ACCOUT

Beginning Balance	\$ 4,778.08
Income:	
Interest	12.03
Perpetual Care	50.00
Total Income:	62.03
Transfer Out	3,993.23
Ending Balance	\$ 846.88

RECORDS RESTORATION

Beginning Balance	\$ 3,937.96
Income:	986.00
Expense:	-
Ending Balance	\$ 4,923.96

Parcel	Name	Tax Year	Payment 1	Payment 2	Payment 3	Payment 4	Interest	Penalty	Other	Total
01-1120-	BUKER JERRY	23-24	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.69
01-1410-	LAPLANTE SHELLIE	23-24	0.00	4.98	350.61	350.61	67.34	56.50	0.00	830.04
01-1780-	BYRNE MARY KATHLEE	23-24	1667.09	1667.09	1667.09	1667.09	491.98	0.00	0.00	7160.34
01-1860-	HALL ROBERT	23-24	273.94	273.94	273.94	273.94	137.00	87.68	0.00	1320.44
01-1870-	REED MAYNARD	23-24	72.99	384.40	384.40	384.40	12.25	0.00	0.00	1238.44
01-2000-	SHAW NANCY	23-24	0.00	149.87	342.74	342.74	8.36	0.00	0.00	843.71
01-2080-	SHAWN BRANDON	22-23	0.00	0.00	0.00	82.36	2.46	0.00	0.00	84.82
		23-24	390.71	390.71	390.71	390.71	195.50	125.04	0.00	1883.38
			390.71	390.71	390.71	473.07	197.96	125.04	0.00	1968.20

Tax Year	Payment 1	Payment 2	Payment 3	Payment 4	Interest	Penalty	Other	Total
22-23	0.00	0.00	0.00	82.36	2.46	0.00	0.00	84.82
23-24	2404.73	2870.99	3409.49	3413.18	912.43	269.22	0.00	13,280.04
TOTALS	2404.73	2870.99	3409.49	3495.54	914.89	269.22	0.00	13,364.86

Pace & Hawley, LLC
Certified Public Accountants

VT License #022-0000709

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REVIEW REPORT

The Select Board
Town of Hancock, Vermont

We have reviewed the accompanying modified cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Hancock, Vermont, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1; this includes determining that the modified cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Accountant's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to conduct the review engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance as a basis for reporting whether we are aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements for them to be in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our conclusion.

We are required to be independent of the Town of Hancock, Vermont and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements to our review.

Accountant's Conclusion

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting.

Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our conclusion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Robert Pace, CPA, - Nathan Hawley, CPA
D.C. Rev. 602 - Montpelier, VT 05601

The Select Board
Town of Hancock, Vermont

Supplementary Information

The combining schedules of nonmajor governmental funds are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from, and relates directly to, the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the review procedures applied in our review of the basic financial statements. We are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to such information in order for it to be in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1. We have not audited such information and do not express an opinion on it.

The schedule of budgetary comparison information is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management. We have not audited or reviewed such information and do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any assurance on it.

Pace & Hawley, LLC

Berlin, Vermont
January 7, 2025

TOWN OF HANCOCK, VERMONT
Statement of Net Position - Modified Cash Basis
June 30, 2024

Assets		Governmental
Current assets:		Activities
Cash	\$ 416,037	
Other assets	1,284	
Total assets	<u>417,321</u>	
Liabilities		
Current liabilities:		
Line of credit	195,911	
Other liabilities	<u>313</u>	
Total liabilities	<u>196,224</u>	
Deferred inflows of resources		
Property taxes received in advance	5,696	
Net position		
Restricted	85,165	
Unrestricted	<u>130,236</u>	
Total net position	<u>\$ 215,401</u>	

TOWN OF HANCOCK, VERMONT
Balance Sheet - Modified Cash Basis - Governmental Funds
June 30, 2024

TOWN OF HANCOCK, VERMONT
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Modified Cash Basis - Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	General Fund	Building Maintenance Fund	Highway Capital Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets					
Cash	\$ 158,059	\$ 43,276	\$ 125,426	\$ 89,276	\$ 416,037
Other assets	1,284	-	-	-	1,284
Due from other funds	75,990	-	-	-	75,990
Total assets	\$ 235,333	\$ 43,276	\$ 125,426	\$ 89,276	\$ 493,311
Liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balances					
Liabilities:					
Line of credit	-	-	-	-	-
Other liabilities	313	-	-	-	313
Due to other funds	-	-	74,806	1,184	75,990
Total liabilities	313	-	74,806	1,184	75,990
Deferred inflows of resources:					
Property taxes received in advance	5,696	-	-	-	5,696
Fund balances (deficit):					
Restricted	27,828	-	-	57,337	85,165
Committed	-	43,276	-	31,543	74,819
Unassigned	201,496	-	(145,291)	(788)	55,417
Total fund balances (deficit)	229,324	43,276	(145,291)	88,092	215,401
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balances	\$ 235,333	\$ 43,276	\$ 125,426	\$ 89,276	\$ 493,311
Revenues					
Property taxes	\$ 320,817	-	-	-	\$ 320,817
Penalties and interest on delinquent taxes	16,135	-	-	-	16,135
Intergovernmental	92,092	4,000	40,902	2,235	139,229
Licenses, permits and fines	3,837	-	-	-	3,837
Charges for services	8,020	-	-	1,236	9,256
Interest on cash deposit	3,053	621	1,189	1,297	6,160
Donations	-	-	-	110	110
Miscellaneous	9,650	-	3,900	-	13,550
Total revenues	453,604	4,621	45,991	4,878	509,094
Expenditures					
Current:					
General government	171,745	6,378	-	-	178,123
Highways, streets and bridges	106,324	-	533,564	65,419	705,327
Public safety	24,922	-	-	298	25,220
Culture and recreation	-	-	-	19,577	19,577
Cemetery	-	-	-	12,494	12,494
Appropriations	6,788	-	-	-	6,788
Debt service - principal	22,103	-	-	-	22,103
Debt service - interest	2,897	-	-	-	2,897
Total expenditures	334,779	6,378	533,564	97,788	972,529
Excess of revenues or (expenditures)	118,825	(1,757)	(487,593)	(92,910)	(463,435)
Other financing sources (uses)					
Sale of capital assets	76,528	-	-	-	76,528
Transfers in (out)	(60,356)	5,000	32,227	23,129	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	16,172	5,000	32,227	23,129	76,528
Net change in fund balances	134,997	3,243	(455,366)	(69,781)	(386,907)
Fund balances, beginning of year	94,327	40,033	310,075	157,873	602,308
Fund balances (deficit), end of year	\$ 229,324	\$ 43,276	\$ (145,291)	\$ 88,092	\$ 215,401

See Independent Accountant's Review Report

See Independent Accountant's Review Report

DOG LICENSING & THE VT SPAY NEUTER INCENTIVE PROGRAM aka "VSNIP"!

Pursuant to: 20 V.S.A. §3581 of the Vermont Statutes Title 20: Internal Security and Public Safety, Chapter 193: Domestic Pet or Wolf-hybrid Control. Sub-chapter 002: Licenses: A dog must be licensed (registered) by six months of age at your town office to be legal. Proof of a rabies vaccination within the last year is required. Dogs not licensed can be seized and euthanized per state statute.

Registering identifies your dog. It's proof of protection against rabies in case an animal or person is bitten. Immediate medical attention is needed. Animals not vaccinated and registered could be quarantined or possibly seized and euthanized, enabling the brain to be tested. Rabies is deadly. PLEASE LICENSE NOW!

Vermont Statutes Title 20 - Internal Security and Public Safety Chapter 193 - Domestic Pet or Wolf-Hybrid Control. §3621. Issuance of warrant to impound; complaint.

(a)(1) The legislative body of a municipality may at any time issue a warrant to one or more police officers, constables, pound keepers, or appointed animal control officers, directing them to promptly impound all dogs or wolf-hybrids within the town or city not licensed according to the provisions of this subchapter, except as exempted by section 3587 of this title, and to enter a complaint against the owners or keepers of the impounded dogs and wolf-hybrids.

A puppy (or kitten) can have their first rabies vaccination after 12 weeks of age. Community Animal Aid hosts a Wellness Clinic, including rabies vaccinations, for those unhouseed or those receiving state benefits usually on the 2nd Saturday of the month: East Barre Fire Station. Check for updates: AnimalAidVT@gmail.com or 802-734-0259. Tractor Supply Stores host a monthly rabies clinic, and some VT Humane Societies and veterinarians offer a rabies clinic in March.

THE VT SPAY NEUTER INCENTIVE PROGRAM aka "VSNIP"

VSNIP helps income eligible Vermonters have dogs and cats spayed/neutered and vaccinated at a very reduced cost to them. Veterinary offices are throughout the state and we invite other veterinarians to join this altruistic effort to help continue eliminating routine euthanasia of mostly, an over population of cats and kittens. For an application, call 802-672-5302. Push #2 for instructions, or visit: VSNIPVERMONT.GOV Sue Skaskiw, Administrator

TOGETHER WE DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Town of Hancock
P.O. Box 100
Hancock, VT 05748

To Hancock residents:

Pursuant to: 20 V.S.A. §3581 of the Vermont Statutes Title 20: Internal Security and Public Safety, Chapter 193: Domestic Pet or Wolf-hybrid Control. Sub-chapter 002: Licenses: A dog must be licensed (registered) by six months of age at your town office to be legal. Proof of a rabies vaccination within the last year is required. Dogs not licensed can be seized and euthanized per state statute.

VT State Statute reads: V.S.A. 3621 Issuance of warrant to impound; complaint

(a)(1) The legislative body of a municipality may at any time issue a warrant to one or more police officers, constables, pound keepers, or appointed animal control officers, directing them to proceed forthwith to impound all dogs or wolf-hybrids within the town or city not licensed according to the provisions of this subchapter.

if you have a dog that is not currently licensed/registered, there are more than one way to register them; go our Town Clerk's office or mail in the proof of the rabies vaccination to our Clerk's office with the payment. Please call our office for the correct amount.

Dogs over six months of age must be registered by April 1st. Failure to register your dogs(s) or failure to notify the Town Clerk may mean the Animal Control Officer or Town Clerk making a more formal contact with those who have not replied.

In an attempt to locate the unlicensed dogs, the Town will accept an anonymous report of an unlicensed dog or cat and will generate a letter from the City/Town to the reported pet owner.

Respectfully,

Town of Hancock

Town Clerk's Report

As the newly appointed Hancock Town Clerk and Treasurer, I want to thank the Select Board, committee members, trustees, and the members of our community for your support and encouragement during this ongoing transition. I am thrilled to be representing our beautiful town, fulfilling a role that is vital for the maintenance and management of all aspects of town business and finances.

Hancock vital statistics for 2024 include 0 marriages, 2 births, and 5 deaths. We recorded 11 property transfer returns in 2024. We held our annual Town Meeting, the Granville Hancock Unified School District annual meeting, and the 2024 General Election. We recorded 177 pages of town records and 159 pages of land records.

The office is open during regular business hours: Monday through Wednesday 9AM–3PM. Much work takes place behind the scenes here at the office, and appointments continue to be available outside normal business hours for residents needing to conduct business in person. Please call (802) 767-3660 to make arrangements for this service.

Please remember you can use our secure drop box for items that need to be left after hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Stender

Town Clerk/Treasurer

Hancock Vital Statistics Calendar Year 2024

Births

Laurel Spencer McCarthy – 10/3/2024

Wyatt Richard Santamore – 8/22/2024

Hancock Dog License Report 2024

Fees Collected: \$368

Number of Dogs Licensed: 33

Fees Sent to the State: \$116

Assessor Report

We have seen an increase in building activity during the past year. New homes are under construction on Route 125, Tunnell Brook, Tucker Brook, and Windigo Roads.

Property values in the past year continue to sell above their grand list values.

A single-family residence located at 42 Comes Road sold for \$349,000, a 56 percent increase over its grand list value.

Forty-Five plus acres on Tunnel Brook Road sold for \$85,000, an increase of 139% over its grand list value.

Twenty-six acres of land on Churchville Road sold for \$85,000, an increase of 316 percent over its grand list value.

The town will receive a mandatory town-wide reappraisal order from the state sometime in July. It has been 9 years since the last reappraisal. Beginning in 2025, the state requires all towns to conduct a town-wide reappraisal every six years.

Richard Favor

Town Assessor

802-770-4774

Hancock Free Public Library

Town Report 2023-2024

Hancock Free Public Library continues to serve the needs of our patrons. WIFI is available 24/7 from our parking lot. Access is free and does not require a password. We are opened for browsing our collection and Inter Library Loan is also available.

The Green Mountain Consortium (better known as Listen Up Vermont) provided Hancock patrons, both readers and listeners, with 611 books for their enjoyment.

Inter Library Loan (ILL) provides books that are not in our collection for our patrons.

Our Adopt an Author Program continues to provide the latest book releases from authors Chris Bohjalian, Janet Evanovich, John Grisham and David Rosenfelt. If you have a favorite author and would like to donate their newest release to the library, please call the library to make arrangements for the Adopt an Author Program.

Summer Family Packets contained information from four libraries: Belcher, Hancock, Rochester and Roger Clark. Packets were distributed to Pre K-6th grade students in the two community schools, Hancock home schooled students and students attended other schools. These packet promoted events in the four communities. They also included a list of museum passes offered and the sharing system by each library. Local summer camps and programs were highlighted along with Vermont Reads programs.

The Seed Library, donate by a patron, was a wonderful spring addition to the library. This enabled vegetable, herb and flower seeds packets to be available for our patrons.

Museum passes are available year-round. Through cooperation with the Belcher, Rochester and the Roger Clark Libraries all our patrons can access a greater number of passes. Depending on the venue, passes are either free and at a discounted rate. Call the library for more information.

Halloween Trunk or Treat Event – The library participated in this event. Free books, stickers and bookmarks were give out to all children that attended. This was a very well attended program.

Valley Readers Book Group met in person for discussions. Their monthly meeting is the 3rd Thursday of the month. Discussion books are provided by the Friends of the Hancock Free Public Library and Inter Library Loan. Call the library to reserve your copy.

Contact information for the Hancock Free Public Library:

Phone: 802-767-4651 **Email:** Hancockvtlibrary@gmail.com

Librarian:

Caroline Meagher

Library Trustees:

Eva Jesso, Chair
Gretchen Perera, Secretary
Margi Rogal, Treasurer
Rose Juliano
Garvi Jesso-White

Friends of the Hancock Free Public Library - 2024 Report

The Friends of the Hancock Free Public Library formed in 2012 to support the Hancock Free Public Library (HFPL). During this time, we've shown that support in a variety of ways including holding programs and events and buying books and materials.

The Friends held their first workshops in 2024, since the pandemic. Two card-making classes held in the spring and fall were very successful.

Our book discussion group, Valley Readers, has continued and now meets live (no virtual option). The group meets at 6:30pm the second Thursday of these months - January-June & September-November.

If you'd like to help support the Friends, there are many ways to do so:

- There is a book discussion group, Valley Readers, which has been going strong for 12 years. The group meets the second Thursday of the month at 6:30pm and anyone is welcome to join. If you'd like more information, please reach out to Jill.
- Our Adopt an Author program is in its eighth year and is a fun way to expand the collection. Ask at the HFPL how you can take part.
- A nice way to remember a loved one, or honor a friend or family member, is to donate to the Friends. The money is used for books and programs to support the HFPL. Friends is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
- Friends of the Hancock Free Public Library has a Facebook so please "like" the page to keep up with the latest happenings.
- Consider joining the Friends group. Donation levels start as low as \$10/year.

If you'd like more information on the Friends, please contact Jill Jesso-White, President, at 767-4128.

HANCOCK FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

7/1/23-6/30/24

Motor Vehicle ~ 6	Lift assist ~ 0	Alarms ~ 0
Brush fires ~ 0	Mutual aid - structure fire ~2	Structure fire ~ 1
CO detectors ~ 1	Flooding evacuation ~ 1	Car fire ~ 1
Flooding rd closed ~ 1	Lost hiker rescue ~ 1	Fire alarm ~ 1
DART landing ~ 1	Transformer fire ~ 1	Chimney fire ~ 1
Power line fire ~ 1	Call for old explosives ~ 1	Garbage fire ~ 1

TOTAL CALLS: 21

This year we lost a member due to retirement. Richard (Ricky) Andrews. Ricky retired after years of service to the Hancock volunteer fire department. We, the fire department, would like to thank Ricky for his service and all he has done for the department. THANK YOU!!!

We are still doing our fundraisers. In May, we had a Mayday open house to recruit new members. We got some interested people signed on but need more. We will have another Mayday open house sometime within the month of May 2025. All Hancock residents are welcome to join us and see what we do, check out the trucks and the fire house. We will be happy to answer any questions. We will be serving Hot dogs and drinks as well.

Thank you for your support

Jacques Veilleux

Chief

Cemetery Commission Report

Cemetery Regulations for Meadowbrook Cemetery, Hancock, VT:

1. The right to plant permanent herbage, flowers, shrubs, or trees shall be the authority of the Commission and any planting done without permission will give the Commission the right to remove.
2. No earth fill, grading, sodding, or seeding is permitted without the consent of the Commission and then only in accordance with their recommendations.
3. All grave decorations will be removed when they become unsightly. All flowers, real or artificial, should be in moveable containers.
4. The American Flag may be displayed on graves of persons who have served honorably in the military service of the United States of America and out of respect it should be removed when it becomes faded or tattered.
5. The base for the monument and cornerstones shall not be more than one-half inch above ground. Base around monument should be four inches larger on all four sides than the monument. Cornerstones should be set at the time of purchase.
6. All burials except cremations shall be in cement liners or vaults.
7. No burials after December 1, unless conditions permit.
8. All graves will be permanently marked.

Resident	Total Amount	Lot	Perpetual Care		Non-Resident	Total Amount	Lot	Perpetual Care
Full Lot	\$250.00	\$50.00	\$200.00		Full Lot	\$300.00	\$100.00	\$200.00
1/2 Lot	\$130.00	\$50.00	\$80.00		1/2 Lot	\$155.00	\$75.00	\$80.00
1/4 Lot	\$80.00	\$40.00	\$40.00		1/4 Lot	\$90.00	\$30.00	\$25.00
1/8 Lot	\$40.00	\$20.00	\$20.00		1/8 Lot	\$55.00	\$30.00	\$25.00

Costs for Grave Openings with the Cemeteries of the Town of Hancock

The fee for a grave opening will be set by the Cemetery Commissioner. The fee for the grave opening will be paid to the Cemetery Commission ONLY.

The Cemetery Commissioners will pay the sexton following the grave opening on their next bi-monthly pay order with their signatures.

The fees for the grave opening have been reviewed and revised as follows, set 5/20/2024 hereafter until revised and signed by the Cemetery Commission

Cremation Opening	\$250
Full Casket Opening	\$600 (with the exception of a difficult opening by permission of the Cemetery Commission only)

Respectfully Submitted,
 Geraldine "Jakey" Twitchell
 Maurice "June" Eaton
 Larry Bettis

Hancock Town Pride – A Reflection on 2024

Hancock Town Pride has been working consistently since 2012 on these three goals: beautifying the town, holding events and activities and fostering community spirit. These past several years have made it challenging to hold events and activities, but we were still able to do things to meet our goals.

We continued our annual tradition of distributing sunflower seeds to anyone interested on Memorial Day. Thanks to Ross Parker and Denise Chapin for the donation of seeds. We also handed out sunflower seedlings planted and donated by Meg Brown, so a big thanks to her as well. Volunteers planted the wooden barrels with flowers at various locations around town. Planters were sponsored by the following people: Corner of the Town Green: Tracy Beers, around the Town Green sign: Gail Tidd, Hancock Town Office: Jack & Marge Ross, Killooleet sign: Gretchen & Tom Perera, Junction of Routes 100/125: Sue & Vic Ribaud, and the Hancock Historical Society: Dorothy & Dick Robson. All the flowers around town looked great.

Our summer concert series on the Hancock Town Green was very successful, with all six concerts held outdoors on the bandstand. One concert was interrupted by rain, but the Celtic band stayed right there and played for a group of children who joined them onstage, dancing to their lively music!

The musicians who played for the series were: The Three Sues and The Peavine Boys (July 11), The Radiance (July 18), Atlantic Crossing (July 25), Camp Killooleet and valley musicians in the Pete Seeger Memorial Concert (August 1), The Panhandlers (August 8), and The John Lackard Blues Band (August 15.) Concerts were free to the public, with an opportunity for voluntary donations. We are grateful to the Hancock Volunteer Fire Department for having hot dogs, hamburgers and water available, and to the Hancock Recreation Committee for offering salads and desserts.

On Friday, October 11 the Town Pride Committee presented the music of The Peavine Boys and other local musicians at the Hancock Town Hall. Refreshments were provided by committee members and all donations received for food and at the door will go to next summer's concert series. Watch for other musical events during the winter and spring as part of the Friday Night Music series, with performances at Heart of Hancock and Hancock Town Hall. This concert and the summer series offer opportunities to get together as a community of friends and neighbors to enjoy a night out and listen to some great music. By offering these events we hope to make our town and valley an even better place to live. Please join us!

In early December we purchased wreaths to hang on our municipal building and the bandstand. They looked very festive through the holiday season. We thank the Hancock Recreation Committee for putting lights on the bandstand and organizing the Memory Tree.

We always welcome new members to join us! We have a Facebook page where we post announcements. Please "like" our page! We would love to hear your ideas and feedback as we work toward adding to the beauty and community spirit of our town.

Respectfully Submitted,
Hancock Town Pride, Jill Jesso-White, President

Hancock Recreation Committee Report

The Hancock Recreation Committee has been rebooted and is back into full swing! Meetings are held bi-monthly at the Hancock Town Hall and all are welcome to attend. Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, March 9th at 9:00AM.

In 2024, the Rec Committee coordinated several events to support our mission and create fun and festive community gatherings. We provided salads and baked goods by donation at the Hancock Town Pride Summer Concerts in July and August. We hosted a very successful Trunk or Treat and Halloween party in the Town Hall on October 26th, as well as an inspiring Jack O' Lantern display on The Green along Route 100 the night before.

To brighten up the town for the holiday season, the Rec Committee initiated and funded lights on the gazebo, new lights on the tree, as well as a new star topper. On November 29th, in coordination with the annual Tree Lighting, we sponsored a cookie decorating and a hot cocoa bar in the Hancock Fire Station.

This coming year, the Recreation Committee is planning a variety of events, including a family game night, STEM days at the library, line dancing classes, pick up soccer, and more!

We are grateful for the efforts of the community members and organizations who have contributed time, money, resources, and commitment to the success of the Recreation Committee. Please feel free to email hancockreccommittee@gmail.com if you would like to learn more about the committee, future events, how you can get involved, or just to offer feedback/ideas to help us thrive in our wonderful town!

Linda Anderson, Chair
Wendy Stender, Secretary
Jamie Stone, Treasurer
Annie Johnson
Carmen Angulo

The following paragraphs contain excerpts from the Green Mountain National Forest Town Meeting Report that pertain directly to Hancock. The full report can be read via this link: <https://usfs-public.app.box.com/s/vf9j4k90bhnrxcg2f63gm36s5n3iz0hb>

The employees of the Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) depend heavily on support from many municipalities, volunteers, partners, and contractors. The Forest would like to take this time to thank you and your community for the support and interest that you have shown in helping with the management of the approximately 400,000-acre GMNF. The GMNF is proud to be a part of Vermont and your town. It is truly one of Vermont's treasures and the largest contiguous public land area in the state.

Forest staff work hard to achieve quality public land management under a sustainable multiple-use management concept to meet the diverse needs of all people – people in your town as well as all of the visitors who come to Vermont every year. This has been another exciting year for us, and we have worked hard to support new opportunities on the National Forest that benefit the people and communities that we serve.

Forest Road Cooperative Aid to Towns

The GMNF continued to work in cooperation with the Towns of Hancock and Stratton on their Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) projects funded by grants from FHWA Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division. These grants will complete the design of a bridge in the Town of Hancock that accesses the Texas Falls recreation area....Both projects are important to improve access to the GMNF.

Forest Road Improvement & Maintenance Projects

The GMNF improved or maintained over 30 miles of National Forest System roads in the towns of Chittenden, Goshen, Bristol, Hancock, Mount Tabor, Readsboro, Ripton, Somerset, Stratton, and Woodford. Improvement work included the replacement of culverts and gates, stabilization of embankments, repairing storm damage, and the resurfacing of roads.

Hancock: At Texas Falls, Forest Service staff installed new picnic grills and installed a new picnic bench. Working with VYCC, Forest Service completed trail tread maintenance on the Texas Falls Nature Trail. The contract to reconstruct the Texas Falls Observation Area was awarded. Construction of the new observation area is expected in the summer of 2025.

A project aimed at treating large-scale non-native invasive plant (NNIP) infestations was achieved in the Robinson IRP timber sale area with partners including the 2 crews from Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC) and one crew from CorpsTHAT, an organization whose mission is to connect the Deaf Community and the outdoors through education, recreation and careers. In Hancock (30.7 acres) of wild chervil was manually removed.

Accomplishments for 2024 include:

- Awarded timber sale contracts in Hancock, Stratton, Mt. Holly, and Weston, totaling approximately 8.8 million board feet of sawtimber and pulpwood.
- Prepared timber sales in Arlington, Hancock, Readsboro, Rochester, Shaftsbury, and Somerset, to be offered in 2025. These sales are associated with the South of Route 9 Integrated Resource Project, the Robinson Integrated Resource Project, and the Somerset Integrated Resource Project.

- Awarded one timber sale contract and prepared two additional sales as part of the Robinson Integrated Resource Project. This project includes restoration activities and timber harvest on nearly 10,000 acres in Rochester, Hancock, Goshen, Pittsfield and Chittenden.

Wildlife Habitat Improvement & Monitoring

Wildlife habitat was improved and maintained through maintenance of openings on the Forest, both permanent and temporary. Approximately 250 acres of upland openings were maintained by mowing, or mastication in the towns of East Dorset, Granville, Goshen, Hancock, Hartford, Manchester, Mount Holly, Mount Tabor, Pomfret, Rochester, Stockbridge, Barnard, Salisbury, Readsboro, Weston, Stratton, Woodford, and Winhall.

Research and inventory conducted on the GMNF during 2024:

The Green Mountain National Forest wildlife team continues to collaborate with Vermont Center for EcoStudies on the Second Vermont Butterfly Atlas (VBA2), a five year survey of Vermont's butterfly communities. GMNF conducts butterfly surveys throughout the season in Hancock, Rochester, Stratton, and Sunderland.

Again, thank you for your support of your National Forest. Together, we will continue to maintain and improve this valuable treasure for generations to come. Please reach out to any of our offices to make an appointment for in-person services. You can also visit us and learn more about the GMNF at our website online: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/gmfl>.

Vermont League of Cities and Towns
Serving and Strengthening Vermont Local Government

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

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

- **Legal and technical assistance**, including prompt responses to member questions that often involve how to comply with state and federal requirements. During the past year, staff responded to thousands of member questions and published guidance, templates, research reports, and FAQs. In 2022, VLCT began offering additional government finance training and consulting services and launched the new Federal Funding Assistance Program (FFAP). FFAP offers communities advice on complying with federal rules surrounding pandemic funding, provides direction and insight on accessing billions of dollars in federal infrastructure funding, and provides input to state leaders on designing and implementing grant programs for municipalities.
- **Trainings and timely communications on topics of specific concern to officials** who carry out their duties required by state law. The League provided training via webinars, onsite classes, and during the hallmark annual event, Town Fair, the largest gathering of municipal officials in the state. VLCT's Equity Committee also published an online equity toolkit that assists municipalities in centering the work of justice, diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging in their decision making, policies, practices, and programs.
- **Representation before the state legislature, state agencies, and the federal government**, ensuring that municipal voices are heard collectively and as a single, united voice. VLCT's recent legislative efforts have helped provide cities and towns additional resources to respond to the pandemic, address road and bridge repair, tackle cybersecurity, improve housing and economic growth, promote renewable energy, provide emergency medical services, address equity and inclusion, and ensure the quality of our drinking water. Specific success in 2022 includes securing \$45 million in funding to help municipalities make energy improvements in their buildings, securing \$250,000 for VLCT's Federal Funding Assistance Program, increasing Municipal Planning Grants to \$870,000, securing \$250,000 for the Vermont Office of Racial Equity to launch the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Action, Leadership Program, and increasing municipal authorities in statute. Members are also represented at the federal level to Vermont's Congressional delegation and through our partner, the National League of Cities.

- **Access to insurance programs.** The Property and Casualty Intermunicipal Fund (PACIF) provides comprehensive and cost-effective property, liability, and workers' compensation insurance coverage, programs, and services that protect the assets of your community. The VLCT Unemployment Insurance Trust provides unemployment insurance at stable pricing. VLCT also provides members with the option to purchase life, disability, dental, and vision insurance products at a competitive price. All the programs offer coverage and products that members need and ask for, help Vermont municipalities stretch their budgets, and are only available to VLCT members.

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

The Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission is your regional, planning commission, governed by a Board of Representatives appointed by each of our 30 member towns. We work to make the area better today, and to articulate a vision for a thriving regional economy that enhances the Region's outstanding quality of life. The following are highlights from our work in 2024.

Technical Assistance on Planning Issues

With more than 104 years of combined experience, our staff support your local officials in many areas. We provide advice on zoning, budgeting and capital planning, and reducing flood damage. We are engaged with state and federal initiatives, ensuring as a local government, you can take advantage of these. The Municipal Technical Assistance Program has supported eligible towns in identifying project opportunities and funding sources to undertake those projects. Additionally, TRORC staff have assisted numerous towns with revisions to municipal plans, bylaws, and studies.

Economic Development

TRORC is part of the East Central Vermont Economic Development District, working to provide resources and opportunities for individuals, businesses, and communities. TRORC supports workforce needs and business growth by providing trainings, financial assistance research, and support for promotion and expansion planning. TRORC works with partners to maintain a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy that identifies and proposes strategies to address economic challenges in the area, allowing the partners to seek EDA funding. Additionally, we work on initiatives to increase availability and access to health care services and preventative practices for all populations. This year, we worked on food security efforts, and helped towns with health planning and policy development.

Energy/Climate Change

TRORC worked with towns on Enhanced Energy Plans, aiming to save money and further the State energy goal of meeting 90% of energy needs from renewable sources by 2050. TRORC worked with member towns in assessing town buildings and identifying funding sources for energy conservation upgrades. We also work on state-level climate policy and local adaptation measures.

Transportation

TRORC worked with towns to identify needs and obtain funding for road improvement projects. We assist partners with managing transportation-related projects and ensuring compliance measures are maintained with the State. We also support our transit agencies, build park and ride lots, and help towns with traffic counts and speed studies.

TRORC helped the Town of Hancock update their Local Emergency Management Plan. We provided guidance for managing federal grant funds, as well as helped with an energy audit and in securing funding to upgrade the energy efficiency of the town hall and town office/library. We managed a ditching project at Windigo Road and began working with Hancock on a three-year project to plan for and secure funding for transportation projects in Hancock.

We are committed to serving you, and welcome opportunities to assist you in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter G. Gregory, AICP, Executive Director
William B. Emmons III, Chairperson, Pomfret



“What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.”

~ Dr. Jane Goodall

GREEN UP VERMONT
www.greenupvermont.org

Success on
Green Up Day
May 4, 2024

TOGETHER WE CAN SAVE THE WORLD
30,176 VOLUNTEERS!
1,326 hours from 2023

404 TONS!
(1,329,697 lbs.)
litter collected in 2024

15,813 TIRES!
Collected on GUD. 1.5%
+ 10,000 collected at other
litter collection events.

20 ADDITIONAL EVENTS
Classroom presentations
clean up awareness
& flood recovery.

Thank You!
TOGETHER WE CAN 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. We are requesting level funding for 2025.

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.

2025 Green Up Day is May 3rd.

Green Up Vermont is a 501c3 nonprofit.

Town of Hancock
PO Box 100
Hancock, VT 05748

Thank You Hancock
for helping keep Vermont a
beautiful place to live, work & play!
Your contribution makes a difference
#togetherwecan #greenupVT

Green Up Vermont

P.O. Box 1191
Montpelier, VT 05601-1191

www.greenupvermont.org

CHAIR

Parker-Riehle

CHAIR EMERITUS

F. Sheldon Prentice

VICE CHAIR

Erin Desautels

TREASURER

Corinna Costello

BOARD MEMBERS

Meg LaFreniere Horrocks

Lucas Herring

Nick Wiele

Bryn Oakleaf

Denise Palmer

Gene Richards

\$ Request

- 0- 1,000 \$50
- 1001 - 2000 \$100
- 2001 - 3000 \$150
- 3001 - 4,000 \$200
- 4,001 up \$300

This past Green Up Day we attempted and achieved a GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS® title. That's right little old Vermont holds a world title for "The most pledges received to pick up trash in 24 hours."

Mark your calendar for **Green Up Day 2025, May 3rd** - its Green Up Day's 55th Anniversary! I am honored to serve your community and look forward to working with you again. Thank you so very much!

Kate Alberghini

Kate Alberghini, Executive Director
802-522-7245 • greenup@greenupvermont.org

Appropriation Request Letter

Oct. 15, 2024

Dear Residents of Hancock

Thank you for your past appropriation to Green Up Vermont in support of Green Up Day. We had an amazing turnout with a 30% increase in volunteers (30,176) who picked up 404 TONS of trash and 15,813 tires from our roads and waterways. This amazing community service and sense of pride keeps our towns not only looking good, but also safe, healthy, and economically vibrant places to live.

Your help is crucial in sustaining this mission of clean environments and teaching our youth to care about and get involved in their communities. Your annual contribution is so appreciated and makes a real impact.

As Green Up rolls into our 55th year, we are again requesting your support for the usual \$50.00 appropriation.

The amount requested is based on town population and funds go directly back into your town in the way of supplies, educational tools for your schools, and local promotion for Green Up Day.

Green Up's mission is to promote the stewardship of our state's natural landscape and waterways and the livability of our communities by involving people in Green Up Day and raising public awareness about the benefits of a litter-free environment.

Green Up Vermont is a 501(c)(3) private nonprofit corporation.

HANCOCK TOWN PRIDE

Quin-Town Center for Senior Citizens
PO Box 113
1097 Route 100
Hancock, VT 05748

802-767-3763
quintownsc@gmail.com

December 1, 2024

Town of Hancock
PO Box 100
Hancock, VT 05748

Dear Hancock Selectboard:

Hancock Town Pride formed in 2012 with three primary goals. These include holding events and activities, beautifying the town and fostering a sense of pride in the town. Since our start we have done fundraising and grant writing. However, with the pandemic and its aftermath we haven't been able to do very much fundraising. This means that after filling the flower barrels, buying Christmas wreaths and holding our summer concert series our funds are greatly diminished. Unless something changes, we won't have the funds to hold a 2025 summer concert series.

We are requesting that funding of \$1,200 be added to the list of appropriations for the 2025 Annual Town Meeting. A petition with the required number of signatures is being submitted.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Jill Jesso-White

Jill Jesso-White
President, Hancock Town Pride
802-770-0142

October 2024

To the Town of Hancock Select Board/Budget Committee and Community Members:

Quin-Town Center for Senior Citizens is based in Hancock and since 1972 has given senior citizens in the area a place to go for on-site meals each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at noon. We also provide nutritionally balanced meals delivered to homebound members through our Meals on Wheels Program.

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted our senior center. To keep our clients safe, we have had to temporarily change our onsite dining, currently serving onsite meals on Wednesdays. However, we continue to provide nutritionally balanced meals to help meet the dietary requirements of our seniors by offering our To-Go Meals Program and continue delivering Meals on Wheels each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Our Meals on Wheels Program not only provides healthy meals to seniors, but also provides us with an opportunity to perform a wellness check for our senior neighbors.

The Quin-Town Center for Senior Citizens is requesting a donation from each of our surrounding towns. Our request from Hancock is \$2716.00 for the coming year. The donation is well spent. We have supplied nearly 5,000 meals this past year to seniors at the center including our To-Go Meals Program and our Meals on Wheels Program. The past year we have served 8 Hancock residents thru the Meals on Wheels program, 7 days a week, totaling 2,920 meals. The recent increased need for food in the community aggravated by this summer's catastrophic flooding, and present economy, builds on the economic devastation caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic, as a record inflation in 2024.

Your donation will cover a portion of our operating budget not reimbursed by our contract with the Central Vermont Council on Aging. Therefore, each contributing town and its citizens become participants in the successful operation of our program that provides quality meals and social enrichment for our aging neighbors and relatives.

We continue to supplement our funds with a very successful annual appeal each fall and have increased our search for grants and other fundraising events. We would be glad to meet with you if you have any questions. Thank you for your generous support in the past and for considering our current request.

Board of Directors

~ Natalie Clook, Acting President/Assistant Cook ~ Kent Butterfield, Vice President & Treasurer
~ Beverly Allen, Secretary ~
Members: Annette West

Staff

Phyllis Deering, Executive Director /Cook



Advocacy, education, & social change
to end gender-based violence.

Atria Collective, Inc, formerly WomenSafe
24-hour Hotline: 802-388-4205
Business: 802-388-9180
info@atriavt.org
www.atriavt.org

Town of Hancock Report
Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2024

Atria Collective is a nonprofit serving people across the gender spectrum who have experienced dating, domestic, sexual violence, and stalking. We are dedicated to empowering and safeguarding communities through our advocacy services, education and prevention work, and social change.

In the Town of Hancock, Atria Collective provided:

- Advocacy services to at least 10* residents, both adults and children affected by violence.

* For safety reasons, some people do not share their town of residence.

In Addison County:

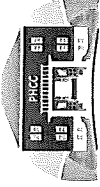
- 599 total adults and children were provided services through 8,957 total direct contacts.
- Worked with the parents/caregivers of a total of 281 children exposed to violence.
- Provided 775 presentations and outreach events as part of our Education & Prevention programming, reaching over 8,368 individual youth and adults.

Formerly

WomenSafe

We've launched our new brand, Atria Collective, to capture the diverse breadth of services our organization provides for Addison County & the Town of Rochester, VT.

PO Box 67 | Middlebury, VT 05753 | AtriaVT.org | 802 - 388 - 9180 | Hotline: 1-800-388-4205



PIERCE HALL Community Center
38 S. Main Street, Rochester, VT 05767
(802) 767-5021 | piercehall.org
piercehallcommunitycenter@gmail.com

2024 TOWN REPORT

Committed to preserving, promoting, and enhancing the historic, cultural, social, and wellness vitality of the White River Valley for residents, businesses, and visitors alike.

Twenty years ago we embarked on a journey to restore Pierce Hall—a gift to our White River Valley from Ellen and Julia Pierce. It was the vision and hope of the 9 founding board members (listed below), the 2 years of weekly negotiations under the watchful eyes of David Hunt and Dr. Val Levitan, and the willingness and collaboration of the Masons of Rural Lodge #29 F&AM that this all became possible. We honor and remember them this year.

It seems hard to believe that it's been 20 years since we started this process, but through the dedication of so many volunteer hours and efforts, we have arrived where we are today: an ADA accessible space where we can gather to celebrate and build community—through classes/meetings, music and theater, celebrations, blood drives, memorial receptions, library activities, PHCC events, and our ever-popular Fitness Center.

We are delighted to report that in 2024 the Rochester library is using the auditorium for tween activities monthly on Friday evenings. Green Mountain Suzuki camp held music classes and their contra dance, and that we could be the alternate performance space for the WRVP performing arts camp. Young people making use of our building makes us so happy. We also were the site for the Rochester Historical Society showing of Kate Youngdahl-Stauss's documentary film on Rochester farmer Riley Bostwick, a HS graduation party, a 90th birthday party (congrats to Marvin Harvey), the 45th anniversary of the White River Valley Players, Ridgeline Outdoor Collective's hosting of the Back Country forum, the Land Care Cooperative's 3-day conference plus two meetings led by Abe Collins, four Red Cross blood drives, and three funeral receptions. Busy, busy!

Pierce Hall's own hosted events once again included the summer Ice Cream Social and Historic Car Show; the 4th of July 5K walk/run (jointly with Ridgeline Outdoor Collective); the 4th of July Chicken BBQ; our community Halloween party; and sponsorship of the Rochester Farmer's Market and Exchange Winter Market. We also staged a very successful Memorial Day "yard sale" with many hall treasures finding new homes!

It's also been 5 years since we opened our Fitness Center's fully equipped gym and yoga/exercise/dance studio. The studio is currently offering 4 different yoga classes (Tues, Wed, Fri, and Sat) by Bernice Davis, Sara Martire, Charles Martley, and Caitlin Layne and aerobics on Mon and Thurs by Muffie Harvey. The studio also has a 70" smart TV where members are streaming other fitness options. Fitness Center members are choosing 1-month, 3-month, or 12-month memberships or our 10-day Daily Usage contract—all with key fob access 6 days a week. We give enormous thanks to our volunteer staff that keeps this popular center up and running and sparkling clean: Janet Brown, Denise Chapin, Becky Donnet, Bruce Flewelling, and Ross Parker.

Restoration work at the hall also continued. This year's focus has been finishing the windows of our auditorium and the balcony and important repair of our original slate roof.

We remain proud to provide a gathering space for the valley towns we serve—Rochester, Hancock, Granville, Stockbridge, and Pittsfield—where good health and fitness, creative arts and learning, good times and fellowship, and the joy of being in community can happen. We look forward to future times together in Pierce Hall in 2025!

2024 Board of Directors: President Jennie Levitan; VPs: Bruce Flewelling, Frank Rea, and Ross Parker;
Treasurer/Rental Manager Becky Donnet; Directors: Janet Brown, Sandy Pierce, Hannah Rice, and Nancy Sanz
2024 Support Team: Jeff Brown, Denise Chapin, Norm Christiansen, Bernice Davis, Mette Rea, and Lesley Straus.
PHCC Founding Board Members: Charles Biederman, Kenneth Landis, Dean Mendell, Ann Mills, Dick Robson, Nancy Esteban Sanz, Midge Scanlan, Kathryn Schenkman, and William Zucca

Please include this in your town report as space allows. Thank you!

**TRI-VALLEY TRANSIT (TVT) REPORT TO HANCOCK
October 2024**

Thank you for supporting TVT's vital public transportation programs in Hancock!

TVT's Dial-a-Ride and Shuttle Bus Systems provided a total of 203,645 rides last year – a 13% increase over 2023! TVT's transportation programs enable community members to maintain their independence, gain and keep employment and access critical healthcare and quality-of-life services.

Last year, your ongoing support helped us provide 468 free Dial-a-Ride trips for Hancock residents either by volunteer drivers or on wheelchair accessible vehicles.

Dial-a-Ride Programs meet specific needs of specialized populations including older adults, persons with disabilities and low-income families/individuals who can't access transportation on their own. These programs offer direct access from home to: medical treatments, nutrition programs, adult day services, pharmacies, food shopping, social services, vocational rehabilitation, and critical medical needs like radiation, dialysis, and substance abuse treatment.

Public Bus Routes are open to everyone and have been operating without fares since 2020. These commuter and local routes promote economic development, energy conservation, mobility independence and quality of life. In Hancock, residents can access:

- Randolph Shopper weekly service to Randolph from the Quintown Senior Center
- 89'er Commuter Routes to South Royalton, Sharon, and the Lebanon/Hanover/WRJ area from stops in nearby Rochester

State and Federal grants contribute 80% of our operating funds and require the remaining 20% to come from local sources. TVT strives to raise 5% of these local funds through municipal contributions based on each municipality's population and access to service using our "fair share" formula. Your continued support of these important programs is greatly appreciated and if you have any questions, would like to learn more about our services, or are interested in becoming a volunteer driver, please visit www.trivalleytransit.org or contact us by email at info@trivalleytransit.org or by phone at 802-728-3773.



CLARA MARTIN CENTER

Adult and Children Outpatient Services
1483 Lower Plain Rd., Bradford, VT 05033
(802) 222-4477

Chelsea Health Center
355 VT Route 110, Chelsea, VT 05038
(802) 728-4466

Community Support Services
24 South Main St., Randolph, VT 05060
(802) 728-5000

East Valley Academy
579 VT Rte. 14 S., East Randolph, VT 05041
(802) 728-3896

Adult Outpatient Services
11 N. Main Street, Randolph, VT 05060
(802) 728-4466

Wildier
PO Box 816, Wildier VT 05088
(802) 295-1311

Clara Martin Center is your local community mental health agency, providing behavioral health and substance use services to Orange County and the greater Upper Valley area for the last 58 years. Clara Martin Center provides a multitude of services throughout greater Orange County to best meet the needs of community members in a holistic approach. These include individual, couples, and group therapy and services for co-occurring mental health and substance use. We also offer psychiatric consultations and evaluations and medication management services. Services are confidential and include:

- > Outpatient Counseling
- > Psychiatric Services
- > Short-term crisis intervention
- > School and Home-based services
- > Education for families
- > Community resource assistance
- > Hospital Diversion
- > Walk-in Clinic
- > Vocational Services
- > Substance Use Services
- > Justice Involved Services
- > 24-hour emergency system

Clara Martin Center's broad range of programs serve children, families, couples, and individuals. Services are confidential and include counseling, psychiatric services, consultations, short term crisis intervention, school and home-based services, education for families related to emotional and behavioral challenges, community resource assistance, alternatives to hospital care, respite care, housing, vocational services, alcohol and other drug treatment, a walk-in clinic and 24-hour emergency services.

With 58 years of experience and leadership under our belt, Clara Martin Center remains positioned to rise to meet the needs and challenges of the communities we serve. Clara Martin Center remains committed to meeting both the short and long-term mental health and substance use care needs that the pandemic has impacted.

Clara Martin Center is proud to be in the process of becoming the first Certified Community Based Integrated Health Centers (CCBHC) in the State of Vermont, a federal model of care designed to ensure access to a comprehensive range of mental health and substance use services regardless of ability to pay, including crisis mental health services, screening, assessment and diagnosis, patient-centered treatment planning, outpatient mental health and substance use services, primary care screening and monitoring, targeted case management, psychiatric rehabilitation services, peer support and family support services, and services for members of the armed services and veterans.

FIY24 TOTAL SERVICES PROVIDED AT CMC	TOTAL SERVICES PROVIDED	Hancock
Children & Family Services	504	0
School Services	118	3
Vocational Services	70	0
Adult Services	747	2
CSP Services	145	0
Supportive & Transitional Housing	26	0
Substance Use Services	265	0
Corrections Services	99	0
Emergency Contacts/Walk-in Clinic	368	3
Access	598	2
Peer Services	55	0
Total Served - unduplicated individuals	1913	6
Total unique individuals seen:		



CVCOA Programs and Services Information:

A private nonprofit organization, Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA) has been dedicated to the mission of supporting older Vermonters to age with dignity and choice for more than 40 years. CVCOA's programs and services are available to those age 60 and up, caregivers and their families, and to adults with disabilities.

At CVCOA, we are the leading experts and advocates in healthy aging for Central Vermonters. We respect the wishes of aging people to age at home, remain healthy, stay active, and connected to the communities they know and love. CVCOA has many partners from healthcare, social services, and governmental organizations. However, as the area agency on aging for Central Vermont, CVCOA is the designated community-based provider delivering care coordination, case management, information and assistance, and innovative caregiver supports directly to older Vermonters in their homes, at our office, or by phone.

CVCOA also provides contracted services for transportation, legal, and mental health services. CVCOA provides funding and technical assistance for 13 Meals on Wheels sites under contracts for quality assurance but does not directly produce and deliver meals.

Below is a list of programs and services that CVCOA offers to people age 60+ and caregivers in Central Vermont:

- Information & Assistance staff counsels older Vermonters and families on the many available benefit programs and services, such as 3SquaresVT, seasonal fuel assistance, housing, mental health, legal assistance, support groups, healthy aging resources, and more through our Helpline, 1-800-642-5119 (toll free) or (802) 477-1364 (local).
- Case Managers work with clients in their homes to assess needs and develop, implement, and coordinate individualized long-term care plans.
- Nutrition Program provides program management support, including menu development, training, and technical assistance for home-delivered, grab and go, and congregate meals at 12 nutrition sites. Free nutrition counseling services for people age 60+ to best support a healthy lifestyle.
- State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) provides personalized Medicare counseling, New to Medicare workshops (in-person and on Zoom), and enrollment assistance for Medicare Part D plans.
- Family Caregiver Program promotes the well-being of family members serving as caregivers to loved ones, including respite funding, training to help caregivers

manage stress, and social activities Memorabile Times Café / Memorabile Times Online.

- Volunteer Programs provide direct service to community members through companionship, wellness classes, meal delivery, errands and grocery shopping, yardwork and garden help, creative guidance, and more.
- Exercise / Wellness Programs provide free, evidence-based wellness classes offered throughout the region weekly. Classes include Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program, Falls Prevention Tai Chi, Bone Builders, and Walk with Ease.
- Community Programs help alleviate social isolation and loneliness, address the accessibility gap for homebound older adults and enhance social connection through arts and technology opportunities.

CVCOA served 4,531 unduplicated clients in FY24 (07/01/2023 - 06/30/2024). CVCOA services are free of charge. We do charge a modest stipend to private employers who request our New to Medicare workshop for their employees.

Each year, CVCOA mobilizes hundreds of volunteers to provide direct service, deliver Meals on Wheels, support nutrition sites, provide wellness classes, assist with Medicare information, provide companionship and creative encouragement, and more.

All of us at the Central Vermont Council on Aging extend our gratitude to communities throughout Central Vermont for their ongoing commitment to the health, well-being, independence, and dignity of older Vermonters.

WHITE RIVER VALLEY AMBULANCE

Thank you, neighbors, for your continued support of White River Valley Ambulance. In 2024 we celebrated our 50th year in service. We are a non-profit, professional emergency medical service and ambulance transport agency serving the towns of Barnard, Bethel, Braintree, Brookfield, Granville, Hancock, Pittsfield, Randolph, Rochester and Stockbridge, an area of over 500 square miles. We are designated as a Vermont Critical Care Paramedic service, the highest licensed skill level that the state recognizes. With our 14 full-time staff and several part-time staff we maintain two Paramedic level staffed ambulances 24/7, 365 days a year. From January 1, 2024, through November 15, 2024, White River Valley Ambulance responded to 1,650 emergency calls and transfers. This includes Advanced Life Support transfer between medical facilities.

Training in emergency medical response is also an important part of our mission. We are a regional American Heart Association Training Center, providing CPR and First Aid courses to community members across central Vermont. WRVA issued 442 AHA certifications so far in 2024. We also provide advanced practice training to emergency response professionals and volunteers throughout the state. WRVA held 4 Vermont First Responder (VFR) courses, certifying nearly 50 community members.

Funding for WRVA comes from billed insurance and budget allocations from the towns we serve. Every town pays the same amount per capita. In 2025, the per capita amount will increase from \$79.00- \$87.00.

Looking back on 2024 and ahead to 2025, we are ever grateful for the numerous first responders and fire departments with whom we work with and who volunteer their time to help a neighbor in need. Your dedication and commitment to serve makes a difference in the lives of those who call for help. For that, we can never thank you enough. **3190 Pleasant St., Bethel, VT 05032 802-234-6800 www.wvra.org**

**Matthew Parrish,
Executive Director**

White River Solid Waste Alliance Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

The Transfer Station just recently renewed our 10 year recertification. We had to replace our leachate tank (collects the liquids from the tipping floor). We upgraded from a 500 gallon tank to a 1,000 gallon tank. The Transfer Station is newly certified until March of 2034. The Leachate Tank needed to be replaced in order to obtain a new certification.

From July 1st, 2023, through June 30th, 2024, a total of 3,312.33 tons of solid waste and 267.97 tons of recycling were collected. The solid waste was collected at the Transfer Station "Tipping Floor". This material was loaded into trailers for shipment to an in-state lined landfill. Recycling was directed to various facilities for processing. Various special wastes are regularly collected in addition to the usual recyclables. These include paint, fluorescent bulbs, used motor oil, antifreeze, lead acid batteries and electronic waste. All fees vary depending on the material involved and the current expenses to the program for handling the materials.

Collection events for Household Hazardous Waste were held in April 2024 at the Royalton Transfer Station and in September 2024 at the Rochester Town Hall parking lot. A total of 225 families participated in the two events. These events provided a means for citizens of the member towns to safely dispose of materials, particularly those not normally taken at the facility such as pesticides, various cleaning compounds, acids, bases, contaminated fluids, etc. The events are open to all member towns at no cost for up to 10 pounds or 10 gallons of materials. Small quantities of materials generated by businesses are also acceptable at collection events, but a fee corresponding to program costs is assessed on business participants and an appointment must be made in advance. There will be 2 events in 2025. One at the Royalton Transfer Station in April and one in Rochester in the Town Hall parking lot in September. This will allow access for towns not located near the Transfer Station.

New Public Hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 7-1 and Saturday 7-2

Facility Staff are onsite on Thursday's (closed to the public) from 7-1 for operations and maintenance.

Information may be obtained during those hours by calling 802-763-2232

Web Address: whiteriveralliancesolidwaste.org

Submission by John Leighton, White River Alliance/Facility Manager

MINUTES OF
ANNUAL MEETING
TOWN OF HANCOCK, VERMONT

MARCH 5, 2024

James Leno calls the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m., states some rules, and introduces the Warning.

The legal voters of the Town of Hancock, VT, are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Hancock Town Hall in said town to transact the following business by floor vote:

Article 1: To elect a Town Moderator for the next year ensuing.
Geraldine Twitchell nominates James Leno. So voted.

Article 2: To elect all Town Officers as required by law:

- Selectboard Member – three-year term
Keith Jesso nominates Dan Perera. So voted.
- Auditor – three-year term
Geraldine Twitchell nominates Rose Juliano. So voted.
- Constable – one-year term
Dan Perera nominates Derek Dzhugashvili. So voted.
- Collector of Delinquent Taxes – one-year term
Geraldine Twitchell nominates Jamie Morin. So voted.
- Cemetery Commissioner – three-year term
Geraldine Twitchell nominates Larry Bettis. So voted.
- Road Commissioner – one-year term
Richard Andrews nominates James Leno. Jody Jesso nominates Derek Dzhugashvili. Paper ballot. 2 for Dan Perera (not nominated); 11 votes for Jim; 16 for Derek
- Library Trustee – five-year term
Janet Jesso nominates Gretchen Perera. So voted.
- Advisory Budget Committee – three-year term
Marge Ross nominates Maurice Eaton, Jr. So voted.

Article 3: Shall the voters appropriate a total of \$8,509.00 to the following social service agencies pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 2691?

Green-Up Vermont – Supports Green Up Day	\$50.00
Atria (WomenSafe) – Provides assistance related to sexual and domestic violence for people of all genders	\$500.00
Tri Valley Transit (Stagecoach) – Provides regional mass transit	\$558.00
Central Vermont Council on Aging – Provides services to seniors	\$800.00
Park House – Senior housing non-profit	\$700.00

Visiting Nurse Alliance of VT/NH, Inc. – Non-profit that provides home healthcare and hospice services	\$1,475.00
Quin-Town Senior Center – non-profit providing Meals on Wheels services to valley seniors.	\$2,716.00
Hancock Town Pride	\$1,000.00
Vermont Adult Learning	\$115.00
Clara Martin Center	\$595.00
TOTAL	\$8,509.00

Geraldine Twitchell moves to approve; Wendell Thurston seconds. Motion carries.

Article 4: Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to borrow \$1,210,000 for temporary funding in lieu of federal FLAP grant reimbursement upon project completion, for the replacement of Texas Falls Rd. bridge No. 1?

Geraldine Twitchell moves to approve; Cindy Leno seconds. Dan Perera provides information and fields questions. Discussion ensues, including concerns about how/when the second bridge can be repaired. Richard Andrews calls the question. Hand vote; motion carries.

Meeting paused at 10:54 so **Senator Ruth Hardy** can provide legislative updates—information accessibility and public safety, climate resiliency, and school funding. **Representative Kirk White** addresses House priorities—housing shortage, community resources, workforce development, economic development, flooding, predatory towing and storage, student loan forgiveness and workforce incentives, data privacy, and school funding.

Town meeting proper resumes at 11:33.

Article 5: Shall the voters adopt the following Declaration of Inclusion? "The Town of Hancock condemns racism and welcomes all persons, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age, disability, or socioeconomic status, and wants everyone to feel safe and welcome in our community. As a town, we formally condemn all discrimination in all of its forms, commit to fair and equal treatment of everyone in our community, and will strive to ensure all of our actions, policies, and operating procedures reflect this commitment. The Town of Hancock has and will continue to be a place where individuals can live freely and express their opinions."

Geraldine Twitchell moves to approve; Jeannette Bair seconds. Motion carries.

Article 6: Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to apply the remaining balance in the General Fund of FY 23-24 to reducing the next fiscal year's amount to be raised by taxes?

Geraldine Twitchell moves to approve; Tom Patterson seconds. Motion carries.

Article 7: Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to transfer the balance from the Road Commissioner Fund FY23/24 to the Highway Capital Fund?

Wendell Thurston moves to approve; Geraldine seconds. Motion carries.

Article 8: Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to transfer the balance from the Fire Department budget into the Fire Department Equipment Fund?

Wendell Thurston moves to approve; Geraldine seconds. Motion carries.

Article 9: Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to collect current taxes pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 4791, and if so, to set the payment dates. The dates being of four equal installments dated August 15, 2024; November 15, 2024; February 15, 2025; and May 15, 2025?

Geraldine Twitchell moves to approve; Wendell Thurston seconds. Motion carries.

Article 10: Shall the Town of Hancock appropriate the sum of \$483,915.00 to pay the current expenses for the general and highway funds for the ensuing twelve months, with 2024 – 2025 taxes becoming delinquent after May 15th, 2025, and with the County and State taxes to be paid from the general fund.

Geraldine Twitchell moves to approve; Keith Jesso seconds. Dan Perera and James Leno make clarifications regarding the Sheriff's contract and the Select Board's decision to forego renewing the contract as currently written. Discussion ensues. Jacques Veilleux makes a motion to amend the Sherriff's contract to \$15,000.00 from \$1.00 for the Public Safety line item; Wendell Thurston seconds. Motion carries.

Dan Perera gives an update on the Shampeny Hill culvert repair costs; there will be a 75% FEMA reimbursement along with 12% from the State. Revised interest will be approximately \$8,300.00, down from \$35,224.00. Geraldine Twitchell moves to amend the Shampeny Hill Culvert line item to \$8,300.00 from \$35,224.00; Cindy Leno seconds. Motion carries.

Wendell Thurston makes a motion to amend the Granville Volunteer FD (a.k.a. Valley Rescue) line item from \$2,310.00 to \$3,311. Geraldine Twitchell seconds. Valley Rescue representative Daniel Sargeant fields questions. Motion carries.

Dan Perera suggests amending the Flood Loan LOC Interest line item from \$10,199 to \$1,100 as a result of impending FEMA funding. Stacey Peters makes the motion to approve; Tom Patterson seconds. Motion carries.

Wendell Thurston makes a motion to amend the total budget from \$ 483,915.00 to \$472,401.00; Tom Patterson seconds. Motion carries.

Article 11: To transact any non-binding business.

Stacey Peters reminds voters that Vermont Green-Up Day is May 4th this year, and we are trying to beat a World Record! So please come out to join in greening up our town. She also reminds voters about the annual school meeting on May 14 at 6:00 p.m. in Granville.

Dan Perera encourages voters to come to Select Board meetings. Also, the selectboard has accepted an offer of \$85,000.00 for the sale of the Green Lot.

James Leno reports that the Forest Service may want to exchange a parcel of land so the town will have a taxable lot, perhaps for affordable housing. He also announces that this will be his last year as moderator.


Jacques Veilleux requests that people consider volunteering for the Fire Department as the department is dangerously short-staffed.

Monica Collins reminds people about Feeding the Valley Alliance food drops.

People express interest in future energy/efficiency audits.

Meeting adjourns at 12:49 p.m.

Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Peters", written in black ink.