

The Town of

GRAFTON VERMONT



163rd Annual Report
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

TOWN OF GRAFTON

P.O. Box 180 - 117 Main Street
Grafton, VT 05146

Website: www.graftonvt.org

POPULATION, 2020 CENSUS – 645

REGISTERED VOTERS - 591

Town Clerk & Treasurer

Kim Record
Tel. (802) 843-2419
Fax (802) 843-6100
krecord@graftonvt.org
Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.
9 AM – 12 PM & 1 PM - 4 PM

Town Listers

Nancy Merrill
Hardy Merrill
GailAnn Fisher
Tel. (802) 843-6486
listeners@graftonvt.org

Tues. & Wed.
10 AM – 1 PM
Or by Appointment

Administrator

Morgan Wilbur
Tel. (802) 843-2552
Fax (802) 843-6100
townadmin@graftonvt.org
Mon. – Thurs.
8 AM – 12 PM & 1 PM-4 PM

Grafton Public Library

Tel. (802) 843-2404
librarian@graftonpubliclibrary.org
Open Hours
Monday: 10 AM – 1 PM, 2 PM – 5 PM
Tuesday: 5 PM – 8 PM
Wednesday: 10 AM – 1 PM
Thursday: 2 PM – 5 PM
Friday: 2 PM – 5 PM
Saturday: 9 AM – 12 PM
Curbside only on
Tuesday: 10 AM – 1 PM, 2 PM – 5 PM
Wednesday: 10 AM – 1 PM

EMERGENCY – Police, Fire, Ambulance
Vermont State Police & Game Warden
Forest Fire Warden, Eric Stevens
Asst. Forest Fire Warden, Rob Sprague
Grafton Town Garage
Health Officer, Matt Siano

911
(802) 722-4600
(802) 843-2568
(802) 384-2288
(802) 843-2456
(802) 843-2318 or 802-591-0496

SELECT BOARD MEETINGS

First & Third Monday of each month,
6 PM @ The Grafton Town Hall
and via Zoom

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Meetings are ordinarily held on the
Second and (optionally) the Fourth
Thursdays of each month at the Grafton
Elementary School at 6 PM. Additional
Meetings and times are posted on the
WNESU website. We anticipate continuing
to invite the community to participate
in-person or via ZOOM. See the WNESU
website for login details.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

Second Tuesday of each month,
7:00 PM @ The Grafton Town Hall
and via Zoom

Property taxes are due August 15th, 2025 * November 17th, 2025 * February 17th, 2026 * May 15th, 2026

Taxes become delinquent after the May 15th Payment

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GRAFTON, VERMONT
WARNING
For the Town of Grafton

The legal voters of the Town of Grafton, Vermont are hereby warned and notified that on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at 10:00 AM EST the polls are open to take action on the following articles:

- ART. 1 To choose all Town Officers and to vote on each and every article proposed at this Town Meeting, Voting shall be by Australian ballot on Tuesday, March 4, 2025; polls open from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM.
- ART. 2 Shall the Town of Grafton receive and accept the Auditor's Report?
- ART. 3 Shall the Town of Grafton authorize the Selectboard to borrow money, respectively, if necessary, for current expenses in anticipation of collection of taxes?
- ART. 4 Shall the Town of Grafton raise seven hundred thirty-three thousand three hundred forty-seven dollars (\$733,347.00) for the maintenance of highways and bridges?
- ART. 5 Shall the Town of Grafton raise three hundred seventy-five thousand sixty dollars (\$375,060.00) for the Selectboard's Budget?
- ART. 6 Shall the Town of Grafton raise four thousand six hundred twenty-five dollars (\$4,625.00) for Grafton Rescue Squad operating expenses?
- ART. 7 Shall the Town of Grafton raise nine thousand dollars (\$9,000.00) for ambulance service?
- ART. 8 Shall the Town of Grafton raise twenty-nine thousand nine hundred fifty dollars (\$29,950.00) for the Grafton Firefighters Association operating expenses?
- ART. 9 Shall the Town of Grafton raise seventeen thousand dollars (\$17,000) for the Grafton Fire Truck Fund?
- ART. 10 Shall the Town of Grafton approve expenditures of any grant monies awarded for purposes named in such grant or grants for fiscal year 2025/2026?
- ART. 11 Shall the Town of Grafton raise twelve thousand eighty-one dollars (\$12,231.00) for Humanitarian expenses? (Bellows Falls Senior Center - \$674; Grafton Cares - \$1,000; Grafton Church (Food Pantry) - \$1,000; HCRS - \$600; Parks Place - \$150; VT Rural Fire Protection - \$100; Senior Solutions - \$650; SEVCA - \$650; The Current - \$250; Valley Cares - \$1,052; Visiting Nurse Association - \$2,300; VCIL - \$105; Women's Freedom Center - \$600; Youth Services - \$100; The Gathering Place - \$500; Grace Cottage Foundation - \$2,500)
- ART. 12 Shall the Town of Grafton raise two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) for the Capital Budget? (\$26,000 for Highway Structures Program and \$174,000 for Highway Equipment)
- ART. 13 Shall the Town of Grafton pay its property taxes to the Treasurer in Quarterly installments, with the due dates being August 15, November 17, February 17, and May 15, with no postmarks accepted?
- ART. 14 Shall the Town of Grafton levy an interest charge on all delinquent taxes on real and personal property of one (1) percent per month or fraction thereof from the due date of each installment for the first three months, and one and one-half (1½) percent per month or fraction thereof for every month thereafter, as provided for in 32 VSA 5136?

ART. 15 To transact any other non-binding business that may legally come before the Town and Town School District meeting.



**GRAFTON TOWN AND SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICERS
SELECT BOARD APPOINTEES AND ELECTED OFFICIALS
JUNE 30, 2024**

APPOINTED BY SELECT BOARD

GRAFTON PLANNING COMMISSION

2027 Warren Fisher
2026 Ron Pilette
2026 Lester Schwalb
2028 Matt Siano
2025 Eric Stevens

RETIRING TOWN OFFICERS

Select Board Joe Pollio
Auditor: Heather Gregory
Town Agent: Kimberly Record

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

2027 Steve Fisher
2027 Ron Pilette (alt.)
2026 Joe Pollio (alt.)
2025 Danny Roberts
2025 Eric Stevens
2026 Matt Siano
2025 Christopher Wallace

Library: Galen Johnson
Library: John Saroff
Lister: GailAnn Fisher
Moderator: David Culver
Trustee Public Funds: GailAnn Fisher

CAPITAL BUDGET COMMITTEE

2025 Cynthia Gibbs
2025 John Gregory
2025 Hardy Merrill, Chair
2025 Maureen Parker
2025 Joe Pollio
2025 Colby Record
2025 Kim Record

Campbell & Woolson Fund: GailAnn Fisher
School Rep. Rachel Plummer
School Rep. Cathy Siano-Goodwin

TOWN APPOINTED

Emer. Mgmt. Director:	Morgan Wilbur	Forest Fire Warden:	Eric Stevens
Emer. Mgmt. Dep. Director:	Eric Stevens	Asst. Forest Fire Warden:	Rob Sprague
Emer. Mgmt. Dep. Director:	Bill Kearns	Town Health Officer:	Matt Siano
Emer. Mgmt. Coordinator:	Amber Stevens		

**TOWN OF GRAFTON
TOWN AND TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
OFFICERS**

2026 Treasurer: Kimberly Record (2023 – 3 yr. term)
 2026 Town Clerk: Kimberly Record (2023 – 3 yr. term)
 2026 Collector of Delinquent Taxes: Michelle Dolloph
 (2023 - 3 yr. term)

SELECT BOARD

2026 Anna Keegan (2024 – Rem. 2 of 3 yr. term)
 2027 Cathy Siano-Goodwin (2024 -3 yr. term)
 2026 John Gregory (2024 - 2 yr. term)
 2026 Steve Sargent (2024 - 2 yr. term)
 2025 Joe Pollio (2023 – 2 yr. term)

AUDITORS

2027 Arlene Carey (2024 – 3 yr. term)
 2025 Heather Gregory (2022 – 3 yr. term)
 2026 Debe Plummer (2023 3- yr. term)

LISTERS

2027 Nancy Merrill (2024 – 3 yr. term)
 2025 GailAnn Fisher (2022 – 3 yr. term)
 2026 Hardy Merrill (2023 – 3 yr. term)

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS

2027 Kimberly Record, Treasurer (2024 – 3 yr. term)
 2025 GailAnn Fisher (2022 – 3 yr. term)
 2026 Wendy Martin (2023 - 3 yr. term)

**TRUSTEES OF CAMPBELL & WOOLSON
FUNDS**

2027 Kimberly Record (2024 – 3 yr. term)
 2025 GailAnn Fisher (2022 – 3 yr. term)
 2026 Wendy Martin (2023 – 3 yr. term)

TRUSTEES OF THE LIBRARY

2026 Mary Beth Culver (2023– rem. 3 yr. term)
 2025 Galen Johnson (replaced K. Pajcic rem. of term)
 2025 John Saroff (2022 – 3 yr. term)
 2026 Lucia Corwin (2023 – 3 yr. term)
 2026 Jay Maciejowski (2023 – 3 yr. term)

SCHOOL DIRECTORS

2026 Hardy Merrill (2024 – 2 yr. term)
 2025 Rachel Plummer (2023 – 2 yr. term)
 2025 Cathy Siano-Goodwin (2023 – 2 yr. term)

**SELECT BOARD APPOINTEES
ELECTED OFFICIALS
As of June 30, 2024**

ELECTED FOR ONE-YEAR TERM

Town Agent: Kimberly Record
 Moderator: David Culver

GENERAL ELECTIONS as of Nov 8th, 2022

Senators, Windham County:
 Becca Balint Jeanette White

WINDHAM/WINDSOR REPRESENTATIVE

Heather Chase

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE as of Nov 8th, 2022

Sam Battaglino, Mary Feder, Wendy Martin,
 Christopher Wallace, and David Whittall

APPOINTED BY SELECT BOARD

Cemetery Agent: Austin Powers
 Constable: Mike Waysville
 Council on Aging Rep: Michelle Dufort
 Dog Census: Michelle Dolloph &
 Kimberly Record
 Emergency Mgr. Director: Morgan Wilbur
 Emer. Mgmt. Dep. Director: Eric Stevens
 Emer. Mgmt. Dep. Director: Bill Kearns
 Emer. Mgmt. Coordinator: Amber Stevens
 Energy Coordinator: Eric Stevens
 Fence Viewers: Listers
 Administrative Officer: Bill Kearns
 Inspector of Lumber: Select Board
 Planning Commission Chair: Matt Siano
 Pound: Windham County
 Humane Society
 Road Commissioner: Select Board
 Road Foreman : Colby Record
 Select Board Chair: Joe Pollio
 Select Board Vice. Chair: Cathy Siano-Goodwin
 Select Board Clerk: Steve Sargent
 Solid Waste District Rep.: Cynthia Gibbs
 Town Administrator: Morgan Wilbur
 Tree Warden: Cynthia Gibbs
 Windham Reg. Comm. Rep.: Eric Stevens &
 Cheryl Kaufman

Sullivan, Powers & Co., P.C.

Certified Public Accountants

77 Barre Street
P.O. Box 947
Montpelier, VT 05601
802/223-2352
www.sullivanpowers.com

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

December 13, 2024

Selectboard
Town of Grafton
P.O. Box 180
Grafton, Vermont 05146

We are in the process of auditing the financial statements of the Town of Grafton, Vermont as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024.

The financial statements and our report thereon will be available for public inspection at the Town Office.

Sullivan, Powers & Co.



TOWN OF GRAFTON AUDITORS REPORT

For The Year Ended June 30, 2024

For the year ending June 30, 2024 and in accordance with 24 VSA 1681, we have examined and adjusted the accounts of all Town Officials and other Grafton organizations authorized to draw funds from the Town of Grafton.

The accounting for the Town is done on a modified accrual basis. As far as we can determine, the financial statements in the Town Report represent a fairly accurate position of the Town for the year ended June 30, 2024.

In addition, the Professional Auditing Firm of Sullivan, Powers and Co. audits the town's book on an annual basis.

We would like to extend many thanks to the numerous members of Grafton's organizations who volunteer their time so freely. It is a serious responsibility and not always easy. We appreciate your hard work and countless hours. Thank you for holding up to the standards of strict accounting procedures. This makes our job easier. Your commitment to our community makes Grafton the special place it is.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and we look forward to serving you again in 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Plummer, Heather Gregory and Arlene Carey

Report of the Grafton Selectboard

This year, the voters elected John Gregory and Stephen Sargent to the Selectboard. I would like to thank Rich Thompson for his 2 years of service on the Selectboard. Seth Pajcic had to resign soon after the Town Meeting last year due to family business issues. The Town then petitioned to hold a special election to fill Mr. Pajcic's position. Anna Keegan was the elected candidate to serve the remaining 3-year term.

The Walker Bridge project was mostly complete as of November 11th, at which point traffic was able to return to using both lanes. In the spring, we expect the contractor to return to do the final landscaping and paving.

The state has discontinued the Village Wastewater project. The grant of \$3,968,331 has been withdrawn. In place, the Town was given a grant of \$200,000 and we hope to use the funds to study and improve the existing Septic Pumping Ordinance.

In October, the Town was gifted land on Route 35 by Fred Barton. Mr. Barton did not want to sell the land, so he generously gifted it to the Town. The Town plans to utilize any sand or gravel that is on the parcel and ultimately, if feasible, turn the property into a cemetery. Preparations are currently underway to determine how best the land can be used.

At the Houghtonville Cemetery, the Selectboard has been working with two abutting property owners to add some additional land to the cemetery. We believe a final decision will be made soon.

This year the Town replaced a 7-year-old truck with a new 2025 Western Star 10-wheel dump truck. The Capital Budget Committee has changed truck replacements from every 7-years to 5-years. This will help increase the trade-in value of the vehicles. The Town also replaced the 2013 Caterpillar Loader with a 2024 Volvo loader. Both the truck and loader were purchased in accordance with the Capital Budget plan.

This coming year, we hope to install a new emergency staircase on the backside of the Town Hall, paint the exterior of the building, and repair the concrete step in the front of the building.

The Learning Center project at the Village Park is fully complete! The Village Park volunteers worked extensively to build the structure and prepare for the reshaping of the trail leading to it. It is a great asset to the community. We encourage everyone to utilize the park.

The Selectboard is grateful for all of the support we receive from the residents and other local organizations. We always welcome residents and guests to attend our regular meetings, either in person or via Zoom on the first and third Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. We thank the voters of Grafton for the privilege to serve the Town.

It's encouraged to attend the Pre-Town Meeting, in person or via Zoom on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Grafton Elementary School (GES). Pre-Town Meeting is a great opportunity to discuss and learn more about the topics to be voted on for both the Town and the Athens-Grafton School District. This meeting is a joint meeting including the Selectboard and the Schoolboard. Also, please remember to attend the in-person Town Meeting on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at GES.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Pollio, Chair

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

JUNE 30, 2024

Kimberly Record, Town Clerk

DOG LICENSES

178 Dogs were registered in fiscal year 2024. A total of \$2,096.00 was collected and of that \$890.00 was sent to the state and \$1,206.00 was for the town.

There still seems to be unregistered dogs in Grafton and we will be working closely with our Animal Control Officer which we are contracted with the Windham County Sheriff's Dept. So please remember all dogs need to register by April 1st.

Please note that there is a **\$2.00** increase for the state of Vermont for dog registrations. **Spayed and neutered will now be \$11.00 and unspayed will be \$15.00.**

We will have another rabies clinic held here at the Town Hall on Saturday February 15th from 10-12 and one on March 15th from 10-12. Once again rabies shots will be paid in full thanks to the Grafton Improvement Association!!

ELECTIONS

Keep in mind this year for elections:

Town Meeting 3/4/25, Grafton Elementary School

9am -7pm

The Secretary of State's Office of Elections website is filled with information on voting access and process. Voters are encouraged to log in to www.sec.state.vt.us for more information.

VITALS

BIRTHS – 1

DEATHS – 7

MARRIAGES - 38

Due to privacy and identity theft, names and dates are omitted from the vital records report.

TOWN HALL NEWS

Changes and upgrades are still happening to the Town Hall. So far, projects that are being researched is to install a fire escape that is up to code, install a transfer switch for the generator, repair front walk and possibly repaint the exterior of the building.

TOWN OF GRAFTON					
GENERAL FUND					
TOWN GOVERNMENT AND HIGHWAYS					
Statement of Revenue					
			Variance		Proposed
GENERAL FUND	2023-2024	2023-2024	Favorable	Budget	Budget
	Voted	Actual	(Unfavorable)	2024-2025	2025-2026
TAX REVENUE / TOWN GOVERNMENT					
Property Tax	\$ 895,142.00	\$ 782,462.00	\$ (112,680.00)	\$ 1,015,161.00	\$ 1,181,213.00
Del Tax Revenue	\$ -	\$ 109,028.00	\$ 109,028.00	\$ -	\$ -
Municipal Property Tax Adjustment Pmt	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 30,429.00	\$ (5,571.00)	\$ 33,000.00	\$ -
State of VT - Current Use Funds	\$ 115,000.00	\$ 124,155.00	\$ 9,155.00	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 121,000.00
TOTAL TAX REVENUE	\$ 1,046,142.00	\$ 1,046,074.00	\$ (68.00)	\$ 1,168,161.00	\$ 1,302,213.00
INTEREST AND PENALTIES					
Interest on Overdue Taxes	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 11,425.00	\$ (6,425.00)	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 7,000.00
8% Penalty on Delinquent Taxes	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 8,560.00	\$ (3,560.00)	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
TOTAL INTEREST AND PENALTIES	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 19,985.00	\$ (9,985.00)	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
LICENSES					
Liquor Licenses	\$ 400.00	\$ 485.00	\$ 85.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 450.00
Dog Licenses	\$ 850.00	\$ 1,146.00	\$ (296.00)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
TOTAL LICENSES	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,631.00	\$ (211.00)	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,450.00
INTERGOVERNMENT REVENUE					
State of VT - Highways	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 134,104.00	\$ 4,104.00	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 130,000.00
State of VT - In lieu of taxes	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 5,886.00	\$ 3,886.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,500.00
State of VT - Civil Fines	\$ 800.00	\$ 1,584.00	\$ 784.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 1,300.00
State of VT - Reappraisal	\$ -	\$ 5,312.00	\$ 5,312.00	\$ -	\$ -
State of VT - Land Use Release		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
State of VT - Fed Aid Highways		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
U.S. Government / FEMA		\$ 313,257.00	\$ 313,257.00	\$ -	\$ -
VT. Dept of Agr.		\$ 21,940.00	\$ 21,940.00	\$ -	\$ -
State of Vt - other		\$ 52,700.00	\$ 52,700.00	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL INTERGOVT. REVENUE	\$ 132,800.00	\$ 534,783.00	\$ 401,983.00	\$ 134,800.00	\$ 135,800.00
CHARGES FOR SERVICES					
Town Clerk's Fees	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 9,346.00	\$ (1,346.00)	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 8,500.00
Preservation of Records	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 5,076.00	\$ 1,576.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 4,500.00
Copying Fees	\$ 100.00	\$ 108.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 110.00
Bank Fees Paid	\$ 80.00	\$ -	\$ (80.00)	\$ 90.00	\$ -
Cott Research Fees Collected	\$ 400.00	\$ 677.00	\$ 277.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 500.00
TOTAL CHARGES FOR SERVICES	\$ 12,080.00	\$ 15,207.00	\$ 435.00	\$ 11,590.00	\$ 13,610.00
INTEREST EARNED - MONEY MKT.					
	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,617.00	\$ (383.00)	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,500.00

	2023-2024	2023-2024	Variance	Budget	Proposed
GENERAL FUND	2023-2024	2023-2024	Favorable	Budget	Budget
	Voted	Actual	(Unfavorable)	2024-2025	2025-2026
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES					
Town Hall Rent	\$ 10,200.00	\$ 10,235.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 10,200.00	\$ 10,300.00
Sales - VLCT Insurance checks			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grants		\$ 2,532.00	\$ (2,532.00)	\$ -	\$ -
Permits	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,273.00	\$ 773.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Incident Reimbursement		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Village Park / donations/timber	\$ -	\$ 2,922.00	\$ 2,922.00	\$ -	\$ -
Town Hall Handicap Access	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other Revenue		\$ 1,598.00	\$ 1,598.00	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL MISC. REVENUES	\$ 10,700.00	\$ 19,560.00	\$ 3,796.00	\$ 11,200.00	\$ 11,300.00
INTERFUND REVENUES					
Cemetery Trust Funds	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Wilson Park	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	
Village Park	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sherwin Cambridge Fund	\$ -	\$ 226.66	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL INTERFUND REVENUES	\$ -	\$ 226.66	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL ALL REVENUE	\$ 1,215,972.00	\$ 1,640,083.66	\$ 395,567.00	\$ 1,340,151.00	\$ 1,481,873.00

TOWN OF GRAFTON					
GENERAL FUND					
TOWN GOVERNMENT AND HIGHWAYS					
Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance					
			Variance		Proposed
	Voted	Actual	Favorable	Budget	Budget
	2023-2024	2023-2024	(Unfavorable)	2024-2025	2025-2026
GENERAL FUND / TOWN GOVT. EXPENDITURES					
SALARIES OR COMPENSATION					
Select Board Compensation	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Select Board Town Administrator	\$ 43,750.00	\$ 39,290.00	\$ 4,460.00	\$ 48,700.00	\$ 56,200.00
Administrative Officer	\$ 600.00	\$ 630.00	\$ (30.00)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Town Treasurer	\$ 27,500.00	\$ 28,530.00	\$ (1,030.00)	\$ 28,500.00	\$ 29,386.00
Town Clerk	\$ 34,600.00	\$ 33,635.00	\$ 965.00	\$ 33,600.00	\$ 34,645.00
Assist. Treasurer / Clerk	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 9,504.00	\$ 5,496.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Listers	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 9,518.00	\$ 5,482.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 11,000.00
Auditors	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 725.00	\$ 775.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 900.00
Trustee of Public Funds	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Constables & Insurance	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 8,560.00	\$ (7,060.00)	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 8,000.00
Health Officer	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
Forest Fire Warden	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00		\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Temp Town Office Help			\$ -	\$ -	
TOTAL SALARIES / COMPENSATION	\$ 147,450.00	\$ 138,692.00	\$ 9,358.00	\$ 152,800.00	\$ 164,131.00
BENEFITS					
Social Security (FICA)	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 17,443.00	\$ (7,443.00)	\$ 13,500.00	\$ 12,000.00
Medicare	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 4,060.00	\$ (1,760.00)	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Employee Health Insurance	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 23,441.00	\$ (3,441.00)	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 49,000.00
Employee Dental Insurance	\$ 900.00	\$ 848.00	\$ 52.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 910.00
Retirement	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 7,797.00	\$ (597.00)	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 8,750.00
Workers Compensation	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,070.00	\$ (570.00)	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,500.00
Unemployment Insurance	\$ 200.00	\$ 223.00	\$ (23.00)	\$ 220.00	\$ 230.00
Experience Modification			\$ -	\$ -	
Child Care Contribution			\$ -	\$ -	\$ 800.00
TOTAL BENEFITS	\$ 41,100.00	\$ 54,882.00	\$ (13,782.00)	\$ 51,020.00	\$ 77,190.00
TOTAL SALARIES AND BENEFITS	\$ 188,550.00	\$ 193,574.00	\$ (4,424.00)	\$ 203,820.00	\$ 241,321.00
TOWN MEETING AND ELECTIONS					
Ballot Clerk Compensation	\$ 900.00	\$ 273.00	\$ 627.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 500.00
Town Reports	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,084.00	\$ 116.00	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,300.00
Other Town Meeting / Election Expense	\$ 300.00	\$ 256.00	\$ 44.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 325.00
TOTAL TOWN MEETING / ELECTIONS	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 1,613.00	\$ 787.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,125.00
OPERATING EXPENSES					
Office Supplies	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,661.00	\$ 839.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Postage	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,937.00	\$ (237.00)	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 2,000.00
Telephone	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 2,818.00	\$ 582.00	\$ 3,700.00	\$ 3,000.00
Copier Expense	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,598.00	\$ 102.00	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00
Computer Programs	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 8,498.00	\$ 9,502.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
Travel - Town Officials	\$ 300.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 260.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Dues - Town Officials	\$ 300.00	\$ 140.00	\$ 160.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Conferences	\$ 300.00	\$ 271.00	\$ 29.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00

	Voted	Actual	Variance	Budget	Proposed
	2023-2024	2023-2024	Favorable (Unfavorable)	2024-2025	Budget 2025-2026
Dog Expense	\$ 600.00	\$ 531.00	\$ 69.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
Preservation of Records		\$ 544.00	\$ (544.00)	\$ -	\$ -
Fire Alarm Systems Town Hall	\$ 250.00	\$ 794.00	\$ (544.00)	\$ 350.00	\$ 500.00
Cott Systems - Land Records	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,738.00	\$ 262.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Animal Control Officer	\$ 3,450.00	\$ 3,466.00	\$ (16.00)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Listers Consultants	\$ -	\$ 2,200.00	\$ (2,200.00)	\$ 3,250.00	\$ 11,700.00
Computer IT Service	\$ -	\$ 11,876.00	\$ (11,876.00)	\$ 10,700.00	\$ 10,700.00
Liability Insurance	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,704.00	\$ (204.00)	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 1,800.00
Public Official Insurance	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,543.00	\$ 457.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,600.00
Officers' Bond	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Kidder Bridge Insurance	\$ 90.00	\$ 33.00	\$ 57.00	\$ -	\$ -
Advertising	\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ 750.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 700.00
Other Professional Services	\$ 800.00	\$ 923.00	\$ (123.00)	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,000.00
Cell Phones	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
Legal Expense	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,045.00	\$ 955.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Professional Auditor	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 17,500.00	\$ (500.00)	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Other Operating Expenses	\$ -	\$ 577.00	\$ (577.00)	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 61,740.00	\$ 64,537.00	\$ (2,797.00)	\$ 67,350.00	\$ 83,300.00
TOWN HALL EXPENSES					
Supplies	\$ 500.00	\$ 691.00	\$ (191.00)	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,000.00
Insurance	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,865.00	\$ (865.00)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,900.00
Heat	\$ 7,000.00	\$ -	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Electricity	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 3,124.00	\$ (824.00)	\$ 2,850.00	\$ 3,200.00
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,372.00	\$ 628.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Town Hall Handicap/ARPA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Security Cameras	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 60.00
Snow Removal	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,763.00	\$ (263.00)	\$ -	\$ -
Janitor	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,530.00	\$ 170.00	\$ 2,080.00	\$ 2,080.00
TOWN HALL EXPENSES	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 14,345.00	\$ 5,655.00	\$ 15,130.00	\$ 15,240.00
RECREATION AND PARKS					
Swimming Pool	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ (900.00)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,300.00
Town Greens	\$ 300.00	\$ 400.00	\$ (100.00)	\$ 300.00	\$ 400.00
Village Park	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ (600.00)	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,700.00
Wilson Park	\$ 500.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Winnie Park	\$ 500.00	\$ 675.00	\$ (175.00)	\$ 500.00	\$ 700.00
Village Park Structures	\$ -	\$ 1,095.00	\$ (1,095.00)	\$ -	\$ -
Village Park Maintenance	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00
TOTAL RECREATION AND PARKS	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 5,770.00	\$ (1,270.00)	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 5,100.00
CEMETERIES					
Labor	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Benefits - FICA and Workers Comp.		\$ 53.00	\$ (53.00)	\$ -	\$ -
Supplies	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
Sexton	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00		\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Equipment	\$ 500.00			\$ 500.00	\$ -
Other Expenses-Spec. Exp./Contractor Services	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 16,928.00		\$ 14,000.00	\$ 16,000.00
TOTAL CEMETERIES	\$ 26,000.00	\$ 18,481.00	\$ (53.00)	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 19,000.00
OTHER TOWN EXPENSES					
VT League of Cities and Towns Dues	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,946.00	\$ 54.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,000.00

	Voted	Actual	Variance	Budget	Proposed
	2023-2024	2023-2024	Favorable (Unfavorable)	2024-2025	Budget 2025-2026
County Tax	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 15,671.00	\$ (3,671.00)	\$ 16,500.00	\$ 16,000.00
Bank Service Fee	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Street Lights	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 2,149.00	\$ (749.00)	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 2,100.00
Grafton Public Library	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ -	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 9,500.00
Planning Commission	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 41.00	\$ 3,159.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 500.00
Development Review Brd	\$ 600.00	\$ 950.00	\$ (350.00)	\$ 700.00	\$ 900.00
Windham Regional Commission	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,649.00	\$ 51.00	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00
Emergency Management	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 16,301.00	\$ (15,301.00)	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Hydrant Snow Removal	\$ 400.00	\$ 900.00	\$ (500.00)	\$ -	\$ -
Reappraisal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Mutual Aid	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,605.00	\$ (605.00)	\$ 16,500.00	\$ 16,800.00
Sheriff's Department	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 5,936.00	\$ 64.00	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 12,600.00
Cornet band	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Misc Expenses	\$ -	\$ 80.00	\$ (80.00)	\$ -	\$ -
Tax Maps	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,381.00	\$ (281.00)	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,400.00
Professional Appraisers		\$ 1,800.00	\$ (1,800.00)		\$ 2,000.00
TOTAL OTHER TOWN EXPENSES	\$ 53,200.00	\$ 73,209.00	\$ (20,009.00)	\$ 65,200.00	\$ 67,300.00
SANITATION					
Wastewater Project	\$ -	\$ 52,700.00	\$ (52,700.00)	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL SANITATION EXPENSES		\$ 52,700.00	\$ (52,700.00)		
OTHER VOTED ARTICLES					
Ambulance Service	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 8,760.00	\$ 240.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
Firemen's Operating Budget	\$ 29,950.00	\$ 29,950.00	\$ -	\$ 29,950.00	\$ 29,950.00
Rescue Squad	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ -	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,625.00
Humanitarian Articles	\$ 12,181.00	\$ 12,181.00	\$ -	\$ 12,181.00	\$ 12,231.00
Fire Truck Fund					\$ 17,000.00
TOTAL OTHER VOTED ARTICLES	\$ 55,631.00	\$ 55,391.00	\$ 240.00	\$ 55,631.00	\$ 72,806.00
DEPT SERVICE					
Payment on Principal	\$ 53,334.00	\$ 53,333.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 53,334.00	\$ 53,334.00
Interest Expense	\$ 11,500.00	\$ 9,402.00	\$ 2,098.00	\$ 10,300.00	\$ 9,000.00
Walker Bridge - Principle	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00
TOTAL DEBT SERVICES	\$ 64,834.00	\$ 62,735.00	\$ 2,099.00	\$ 63,634.00	\$ 112,334.00
TOTAL TOWN GOVT. EXPENDITURES	\$ 476,855.00	\$ 42,355.00	\$ (19,772.00)	\$ 493,065.00	\$ 618,526.00

	Voted	Actual	Variance	Budget	Proposed
	2023-2024	2023-2024	Favorable (Unfavorable)	2024-2025	Budget 2025-2026
GENERAL FUND HIGHWAY DEPT.					
Statement of Expenses					
LABOR					
Labor - Regular Hours	\$ 177,000.00	\$ 202,344.00	\$ (25,344.00)	\$ 234,000.00	\$ 245,000.00
Labor - Overtime	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 23,851.00	\$ (8,851.00)	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Temporary Labor	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 1,131.00	\$ 3,369.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00
TOTAL LABOR	\$ 196,500.00	\$ 227,326.00	\$ (30,826.00)	\$ 244,000.00	\$ 255,500.00
HIGHWAY BENEFITS					
FICA (Social Security)	\$ 11,400.00	\$ 6,895.00	\$ 4,505.00	\$ 15,200.00	\$ 17,000.00
Medicare	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 1,612.00	\$ 1,088.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Health Insurance	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 46,029.00	\$ 3,971.00	\$ 60,036.00	\$ 85,227.00
Dental Insurance	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,175.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 2,000.00
Retirement-Highway	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 15,248.00	\$ (1,248.00)	\$ 16,100.00	\$ 18,600.00
Workers Compensation	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 11,407.00	\$ 1,093.00	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Unemployment Insurance	\$ 350.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 450.00	\$ 400.00
Uniforms	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 8,393.00	\$ (1,893.00)	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
Child Care Contribution	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,200.00
TOTAL HIGHWAY BENEFITS	\$ 98,750.00	\$ 91,034.00	\$ 7,716.00	\$ 120,086.00	\$ 145,927.00
FUEL					
Truck 1 - 2025 Western Star	\$ 8,760.00	\$ 8,272.00	\$ 488.00	\$ 10,300.00	
Truck 2 - 2023 Western Star	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 8,019.00	\$ 981.00	\$ 11,300.00	
Truck 3 - 2019 Chevy	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 3,696.00	\$ (296.00)	\$ 4,200.00	
Truck 4 - 2021 Freightliner	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,811.00	\$ (811.00)	\$ 6,800.00	
Loader - 2024 Volvo Loader	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 2,317.00	\$ (617.00)	\$ 2,400.00	
Grader - 2010 Caterpillar	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 6,252.00	\$ (2,252.00)	\$ 6,800.00	
Backhoe - 2012 John Deere	\$ 700.00	\$ 4,404.00	\$ (3,704.00)	\$ 2,500.00	
Chipper	\$ 120.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 100.00	
DEF For Equipment	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	
Mower / Blower	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,392.00	\$ (192.00)	\$ 3,000.00	
Excavator	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 4,197.00	\$ (2,997.00)	\$ 600.00	
Other Equipment	\$ 500.00	\$ 186.00	\$ 314.00	\$ 1,000.00	
TOTAL FUEL	\$ 35,580.00	\$ 43,591.00	\$ (8,011.00)	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 55,900.00
REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE					
Truck 1 - 2025 Western Star	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 9,822.00	\$ (2,322.00)	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 2,500.00
Truck 2 - 2023 Western Star	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 579.00	\$ 1,421.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Truck 3 - 2019 Chevy	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,989.00	\$ (789.00)	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,700.00
Truck 4 - 2021 Freightliner	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,385.00	\$ 615.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
Loader - 2024 Volvo	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 6,274.00	\$ (3,774.00)	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Grader - 2010 Caterpillar	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 3,250.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
Plows and Sanders	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 10,268.00	\$ 3,732.00	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 14,000.00
Backhoe-2012 John Deere	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 313.00	\$ 687.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Chipper	\$ 200.00	\$ 470.00	\$ (270.00)	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Mower / Blower	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 2,157.00	\$ (957.00)	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 2,200.00
Eager Beaver Trailer 1996	\$ 500.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 475.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Excavator	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 477.00	\$ 523.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Unforeseen Damages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Small Equipment Repairs	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 239.00	\$ 761.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
TOTAL REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	\$ 37,600.00	\$ 34,248.00	\$ 3,352.00	\$ 38,600.00	\$ 39,600.00

	Voted	Actual	Variance	Budget	Proposed
	2023-2024	2023-2024	Favorable (Unfavorable)	2024-2025	Budget 2025-2026
CONTRACTED SERVICES					
Plowing Contractors	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Tree Removal Contractors	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00
Retreatment Contractors	\$ 118,000.00	\$ 204,737.00	\$ (86,737.00)	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
Bridge Maintenance	\$ -	\$ 17.00	\$ (17.00)	\$ -	\$ -
Street Sweeping Contractors	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ (300.00)	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Beaver Maintenance	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -
Equipment Rental	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Generator Contract	\$ 500.00	\$ 717.00	\$ (217.00)	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
Other Professional Services	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ -
TOTAL CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$ 127,000.00	\$ 208,221.00	\$ (81,221.00)	\$ 131,100.00	\$ 126,100.00
MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES					
Culvert Expenses	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 6,838.00	\$ 162.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
Cold Patch	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,163.00	\$ (663.00)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Guard Rails	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Gravel	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 52,371.00	\$ (17,371.00)	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
Road Repair Material	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 11,849.00	\$ 13,151.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Salt	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 52,915.00	\$ 7,085.00	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
Sand	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 59,870.00	\$ 130.00	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
Storm Water Grants / Better Back Roads Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Chloride	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 3,657.00	\$ 5,843.00	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 4,000.00
Road Signs	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,838.00	\$ (1,338.00)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Clean Water Act / Grants	\$ -	\$ 143.00	\$ (143.00)	\$ -	\$ -
Beaver Supplies					\$ 2,000.00
Miscellaneous Supplies	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 704.00	\$ 796.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
TOTAL MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES	\$ 201,000.00	\$ 193,348.00	\$ 7,652.00	\$ 222,000.00	\$ 198,500.00
STORM REPAIRS - JULY 2023					
2023 Flood - Administration	\$ -	\$ 37,780.00	\$ (37,780.00)	\$ -	\$ -
2023 Flood - Overtime	\$ -	\$ 1,887.00	\$ (1,887.00)	\$ -	\$ -
2023 Flood - Contractors	\$ -	\$ 747,177.00	\$ (747,177.00)	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL STORM REPAIRS		\$ 786,844.00	\$ (786,844.00)		
TOWN GARAGE					
Supplies and Tools / Inventory	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,654.00	\$ 346.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Radio	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 115.00	\$ 885.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 500.00
Telephone	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,872.00	\$ (272.00)	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 2,000.00
Insurance	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,067.00	\$ 433.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00
Heat	\$ 8,400.00	\$ 7,705.00	\$ 695.00	\$ 8,400.00	\$ 8,400.00
Electricity	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,685.00	\$ (85.00)	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,800.00
Repairs and Maintenance - Town Shed	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,836.00	\$ 164.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Pagers for Highway Workers	\$ 600.00	\$ 980.00	\$ (380.00)	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
Security Cameras					\$ 120.00
Cell Phones					\$ 500.00
Fire Alarm Systems	\$ 600.00	\$ 480.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 500.00
TOTAL TOWN GARAGE	\$ 27,300.00	\$ 25,394.00	\$ 1,906.00	\$ 27,950.00	\$ 28,070.00
OTHER EXPENSES					
Training	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Advertising	\$ 500.00	\$ 609.00	\$ (109.00)	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00

	Voted	Actual	Variance	Budget	Proposed
	2023-2024	2023-2024	Favorable (Unfavorable)	2024-2025	Budget 2025-2026
Liability Insurance-Highway	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 3,189.00	\$ (589.00)	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,300.00
Equipment Insurance	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 5,023.00	\$ 977.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Individual Repairs		\$ 25.00	\$ (25.00)		
Safety Equipment	\$ 800.00	\$ 2,994.00	\$ (2,194.00)	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
Commercial Licences	\$ 200.00	\$ 308.00	\$ (108.00)	\$ 300.00	\$ 400.00
General Road Permit	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Transfer to ARPA Fund	\$ -	\$ 220,179.00	\$ (220,179.00)	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous Highway Expenses					
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES	\$ 13,350.00	\$ 233,677.00	\$ (220,327.00)	\$ 13,350.00	\$ 13,750.00
TOTAL BUDGETED HIGHWAY EXPENSES	\$ 737,080.00	\$ 1,843,683.00	\$ (1,106,603.00)	\$ 847,086.00	\$ 863,347.00
July 2021 Rain Storm *****	\$ -	\$ 28,600.00	\$ (28,600.00)	\$ -	
TOTAL HIGHWAY EXPENSES	\$ 737,080.00	\$ 1,872,283.00	\$ (1,135,203.00)	\$ 847,086.00	\$ 863,347.00
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$ 476,855.00	\$ 542,355.00	\$ (65,500.00)	\$ 493,065.00	\$ 618,526.00
TOTAL TOWN AND HIGHWAY EXPENSES	\$ 1,213,935.00	\$ 2,414,638.00	\$ (1,200,703.00)	\$ 1,340,151.00	\$ 1,481,873.00
CAPITAL BUDGET				\$ 250,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
TOTAL TOWN EXPENSES				\$ 1,590,151.00	\$ 1,681,873.00
Anticipated Revenue				\$ 194,990.00	\$ 170,660.00
Anticipated State Grant for Highways				\$ 130,000.00	\$ 130,000.00
TOTAL TAXES NEEDED FOR TOWN				\$ 1,265,161.00	\$ 1,381,213.00

TOWN OF GRAFTON
TOWN BUDGET

SELECTBOARD'S ITEMIZED BUDGET	2025-2026 Proposed	HUMANITARIAN ARTICLES	2025-2026 Proposed
Salaries/Compensation	\$ 164,131	Bellows Falls Senior Center	\$ 674
Benefits	\$ 77,190	Grace Cottage Foundation	\$ 2,500
Town Meeting and Elections	\$ 2,125	Grafton Cares	\$ 1,000
Operating Expenses	\$ 83,300	HCRS	\$ 600
Recreation and Parks	\$ 5,100	The Gathering Place	\$ 500
Cemeteries	\$ 19,000	Grafton Church (Food Pantry)	\$ 1,000
Other Town Expenses	\$ 67,300	VT Rural Fire Protection	\$ 100
Town Hall	\$ 15,240	Senior Solutions	\$ 650
Town Garage Interest	\$ 9,000	SEVCA	\$ 650
Town Garage Principal	\$ 53,334	Southeast Vermont Transit Inc. - The Current	\$ 250
Walker Bridge - Principal	\$ 50,000	Valley Cares, Inc.	\$ 1,052
TOTAL SELECTBOARDS ITEMIZED BUDGET	\$ 545,720	Visiting Nurses	\$ 2,300
		VT Center for Independent Living (VCIL)	\$ 105
LESS OTHER REVENUE:		Women's Freedom Center	\$ 600
		Youth Services	\$ 100
Interest on Overdue Taxes	\$ 7,000	Parks Place	\$ 150
8% Penalty	\$ 8,000	TOTAL HUMANITARIAN ARTICLES	\$ 12,231
Liquor Licenses	\$ 450		
			2025-2026 Proposed
Dog Licenses	\$ 1,000	OTHER SPECIAL ARTICLES	
State-Current Use Payment	\$ 121,000	Ambulance Service	\$ 9,000
State Land Tax Payment	\$ 4,500	Firemen's Assn.	\$ 29,950
Town Clerk's Fees	\$ 8,500	Grafton Rescue	\$ 4,625
Permits	\$ 1,000	Fire Truck Fund	\$ 17,000
Copying Service	\$ 110		
Civil Fines	\$ 1,300	TOTAL OTHER SPECIAL ARTICLES	\$ 60,575
Interest Earned	\$ 2,500		
Town Hall Rent	\$ 10,300	CAPITAL BUDGET	\$ 200,000
Cott Research Fees	\$ 500	SELECTBOARDS ITEMIZED BUDGET	\$ 545,720
Bank Fees Paid		HUMANTARIAN ARTICLES	\$ 12,231
Preservation of Records	\$ 4,500	OTHER SPECIAL ARTICLES	\$ 60,575
TOTAL OTHER REVENUE	\$ 170,660	TOTAL OF GOVERNMENT BUDGET	\$ 818,526
		LESS REVENUE	\$ 170,660
		TAX REVENUE NEEDED FOR SELECTMEN	\$ 647,866
TOWN OF GRAFTON HIGHWAY BUDGET	2025-2026 Proposed		
All Highway Expenditures	\$ 863,347	TAXES NEEDED FOR TOWN GOVT.	\$ 647,866
Less State Grant For Highways	\$ 130,000	TAXES NEEDED FOR HIGHWAYS	\$ 733,347
TAXES NEEDED FOR HIGHWAYS	\$ 733,347	TOTAL TAXES NEEDED FOR TOWN	\$ 1,381,213

**TOWN OF GRAFTON
COMPARISON OF TAXES**

FISCAL YEAR	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	PROPOSED 2025-2026
TOWN OF GRAFTON SCHOOL TAXES				
Total to State Education Fund	\$ 482,312	\$ 596,893	\$ 565,792	
Total School Taxes	\$ 1,468,358	\$ 1,390,684	\$ 1,400,772	
TOWN GOVERNMENT				
Selectboard's Budget	\$ 171,015	\$ 169,059	\$ 178,810	\$ 262,726
Loan Town Garage	\$ 65,233	\$ 64,834	\$ 63,634	\$ 62,334
Walker Bridge Bond				\$ 50,000
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	\$ 236,248	\$ 233,893	\$ 242,444	\$ 375,060
Special Articles	\$ 56,168	\$ 57,668	\$ 55,681	\$ 72,806
HIGHWAYS	\$ 617,950	\$ 607,080	\$ 717,086	\$ 733,347
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 200,000
TOTAL TOWN, HWYS, CAP. BUD.	\$ 1,110,366	\$ 1,098,641	\$ 1,265,211	\$ 1,381,213
TOTAL TAXES NEEDED:				
TOWN, HIGHWAY, CAP.BUD. ONLY	\$ 1,110,366	\$ 1,098,641	\$ 1,265,211	\$ 1,381,213
GRAND LIST- Estimated				
Municipal	\$ 1,523,005	\$ 1,554,097	\$ 1,577,331	
Education - Homestead	\$ 548,625	\$ 577,286	\$ 590,013	
Education-non- resident	\$ 985,742	\$ 975,434	\$ 985,680	
TAX RATES:				
Town	\$ 0.74	0.72	0.8230	
School (non-resident)	\$ 1.44	\$ 1.42	1.5445	
School (homestead)	\$ 1.47	\$ 1.37	1.3498	

**TOWN OF GRAFTON
STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED**

GRAND LIST - General Property			7/1/2023 - 6/30/2024
Municipal Grand List			\$ 1,554,097
Education Grand List - Homestead			\$ 577,286
Education Grand List - Non Resident			\$ 975,434
TAXES ASSESSED AND BILLED			
Municipal	\$ 1,554,097	0.7290	\$ 1,132,937
Education-Homestead	\$ 577,286	1.3639	\$ 787,360
Education-Non Resident	\$ 975,434	1.4201	\$ 1,385,214
Local Agreement	\$ 1,554,097	0.0138	\$ 21,447
TOTAL			\$ 3,326,957
TAXES ACCOUNTED FOR:			
Taxes Collected			\$ 3,260,379
Prebates from State of Vt			\$ 30,429
Plus unpaid Current Taxes			\$ 31,136
TOTAL TAXES ACCOUNTED FOR			\$ 3,321,944

**TOWN OF GRAFTON
GENERAL FUND
BALANCE SHEET**

	6/30/2024	
ASSETS		
Checking Account	\$ 328,965	
Money Market Account	6	
Hydrant Fund	24,610	
Repurchase Reserve	89	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 353,670	
LIABILITIES		
Due to others	10,745	
Prepaid Property Taxes	-	
Due to Capital Projects Fund	368,374	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	379,119	
FUND BALANCES		
Highway monies (Statue)	\$ -	
Preservation of Records	23,904	
Reappraisal Funds		18,474.00
Solid Waste		5,372.00
Retreatment		58,311.00
Walker Bridge Project	44,820	
Hydrant Fund	24,610	
Town Hall Restoration	1,483	
Village Park Maintenance	9,343	
Town Hall Handicap Access	6,689	
Unassigned -		
TOTAL RESTRICTED AND COMMITTED	\$ 110,849	82,157.00
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	\$ (25,449)	

BELLOWS FALLS AREA SENIOR CENTER: Provides recreational opportunities, meals, flu shots, and services to area residents. (802) 463-3907

GRAFTON CARES: A local organization that provides home-delivered meals, transportation to medical facilities, Strong Living classes, and other services for residents. Contact Kate or Bob Bova at (802) 869-1527

HEALTH CARE AND REHABILITATION: (Division of Health Care and Rehabilitative Services of Southeastern Vermont) Provides children and adult outpatient, substance abuse, mental health, vocational, and emergency services. (800) 622-4235 or hcrs.org

PARKS PLACE RESOURCE CENTER: (Bellows Falls) Provides a place for residents of the Windham Northeast Supervisory Union communities to receive a variety of educational services. (802) 463-9927 or parksplacevermont.com

VERMONT RURAL FIRE PROTECTION: Supports project dry hydrant repair, replacement, relocation, upgrades of existing systems, and drafting site development. (802) 828-4582

SENIOR SOLUTIONS FOR SOUTHEASTERN VERMONT: Provides a wide range of services to seniors. (802) 885-2655

SEVCA: (Southeastern Vermont Community Action) Provides weatherization, fuel and/or utility assistance, and family services for the Windham County area. (802) 722-4575 or sevca.org

MOOver!: (Southeast Vermont Transit) Provides rides to medical appointments for elderly, disabled, and/or residents who receive Medicaid. (802) 460-7433 or MOOver.com

VALLEY CARES: Provides affordable housing and options for supportive services to elders in the West River Valley area. (802) 365-4115 or valleycares.org

VISITING NURSE AND HOSPICE FOR VT AND NH: Dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities. (888) 300-8853 or vnhcare.org

VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING: Dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities. (802) 229-0501 or vcil.org

WOMEN'S FREEDOM CENTER: (Brattleboro) Provides services and safe housing available for women and children who are victims of domestic violence. (802) 254-6954 or womensfreedomcenter.net

INTERACTION: YOUTH SERVICES & RESTORITIVE JUSTICE: (Brattleboro) Provides counseling advocacy and mentoring programs and works with other providers in drug prevention and treatment. (802)257-0361 or youthservicesinc.com

GATHERING PLACE: Serves elders and adults with disabilities who reside in the Windham County region. Services include nursing oversight, access to transportation, , daily exercise programs, recreation and social activities, and much more. (802) 254-6559 or info@gatheringplacevt.org

GRACE COTTAGE FOUNDATION: Provides healthcare services to the community, promotes wellness, relieves suffering, and restores health. (802) 365-7357 or gracecottage.org

Collector of Delinquent Taxes Grafton, VT

On May 17, 2024, I received the 2023-2024 Delinquent Tax Report from Town Treasurer, Kimberly Record.

Below I've included the amounts due as of 05/17/2024 (when I received the 2023-2024 Delinquent Tax List), as of 06/30/2024 (the end of the fiscal year) and as of 01/01/2025.

There were no tax sales scheduled as of January 1, 2025. If there are any to be scheduled in 2025 the information will be posted at the Town Hall, in The Grafton News as well as the local newspaper as required by law.

Michelle Dolloph

Delinquent Tax Due as of 05/17/2024

TAX YEAR	Principal	Interest	Penalty	TOTAL
2018-2019	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2019-2020	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2020-2021	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2021-2022	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2022-2023	\$2,382.35	\$589.78	\$190.59	\$3,162.72
2023-2024	\$92,999.02	\$3,906.10	\$7,439.90	\$104,345.02
TOTAL	\$95,381.37	\$4,495.88	\$7,630.49	\$107,507.74

Delinquent Tax Due as of 06/30/2024

TAX YEAR	Principal	Interest	Penalty	TOTAL
2018-2019	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2019-2020	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2020-2021	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2021-2022	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2022-2023	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2023-2024	\$31,136.05	\$2,205.35	\$2,490.91	\$35,832.31
TOTAL	\$31,136.05	\$2,205.35	\$2,490.91	\$35,832.31

Delinquent Tax Due as of 01/01/2025

TAX YEAR	Principal	Interest	Penalty	TOTAL
2018-2019	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2019-2020	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2020-2021	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2021-2022	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2022-2023	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2023-2024	\$15,278.93	\$2,575.23	\$1,222.33	\$19,076.49
TOTAL	\$15,278.93	\$2,575.23	\$1,222.33	\$19,076.49

TOWN OF GRAFTON		
FIXED ASSETS		
Real Estate and Equipment		
As of June 30, 2024		
DATE		
ACQUIRED	DESCRIPTION	COST
	LAND:	
1960	Town Pond - 2.7 acres	18,000
1952	Wilson Park - 0.50 acres Total (add'l .25 acres acquired by FEMA / Town Dec. 2015)	23,250
1951	Village Park - 55.9 acres	63,900
1928	Town Forest - Stebbins Land - 72 acres	72,300
2008	Pearo / Tuttle Lots	13,200
2016	Winnie Park - 0.50 acres	9,000
2017	Trayhan Property - 2.7 acres	9,400
	*BUILDINGS:	
1990	Village School	1,076,898
1988	Town Hall Addition and Vault	135,303
2015	Town Garage	993,856
2015	Salt Shed	22,875
1953	Grafton Public Library	5,000
1857	Town Hall	450
	OTHER ASSETS:	
1975	Hydrant System	230,900
1975	Street Lighting	23,700
	HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT:	
2025	Western Star w/plow and sander	277,000
2023	Western Star w/plow and sander	237,369
2019	Chevy 2500	44,180
2021	Freightliner w / plow & sander (Trk 4)	154,230
2024	Volvo Loader	287,900
2012	John Deere Backhoe	93,650
2010	Caterpillar Grader	173,900
1995	York Rake x 2	3,444
2003	Power washer x 2	4,495
2005	Chipper	7,500
2017	Case tractor w/mower & blower	130,548
1996	Eagerbeaver Trailer	3,000
2019	Caterpillar Excavator	107,300
	OFFICE EQUIPMENT:	
2015	Lenovo ThinkCentre M58	730
2015	Lenovo ThinkCentre M58	730
2015	Lenovo ThinkCentre M58e	1,006
2013	Lenovo ThinkCentre M58	730
1997	File Cabinets and Chairs	589
2020	Lenovo Laptop - clerk	1,000
2020	Lenovo Laptop - administrator	1,800
2021	Apple Ipad	800
* Note: Improvements to buildings are not included in cost.		

TOWN OF GRAFTON CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND

CAPITAL BUDGET COMMITTEE FUNDING RECCOMENDATIONS:

- No additional capital requirements for 2025/26 have been identified for the following Town programs:
 - Computer Upgrade Program
 - Guardrails Program
 - Bridge Construction Program
 - Town Hall Program

Consequently, we recommend no additional funds be allocated to these programs in the 2025/26 budget.

- After reviewing information from our outside audit firm, we have been advised that since the Fire Department is not part of Grafton's Town Government but a separate entity, we should not include funds for them in the Town's Capital Budget. Consequently, no more funds will be allocated to the Fire Department in Grafton's Capital Budget.
- In the next 2 years, beginning with 2025/26, the town needs to replace Truck #3, Truck #4, and the Grader. The total cash required is estimated at \$529,733 minus expected equipment funds available as of 6/30/25 of \$169,101. This means the net cash need for the town over the next 2 years is \$360,632. We recommend funding \$174,000 in the 2025/26 Budget and \$186,632 in 2026/27 Budget to meet these needs.
- The town has received a grant of \$284,000 which will be used to replace culvert # 10 on Fisher Hill Road. Total Project cost is estimated at \$350,000 leaving, a balance of \$66,000 to be raised by the town. Projected funds available on 6/30/25 are \$40,032. This leaves a balance of \$26,000. We recommend funding this amount in the 2025/26 Budget.
- Total Funds recommended to be funded by taxes for the 2025/26 Capital Budget \$200,000.

TOWN OF GRAFTON				
CAPITAL BUDGET CASH FLOW ANALYSIS				
	Actual			Actual
	Program	Actual	Actual	Program
	Balance	Additions	Expenditures	Balance
	6/30/2023	2023-2024	2023-2024	6/30/2024
PROGRAM ANALYSIS				
Highway Structures & Roadway Program	56,045	52,934	(113,947)	\$ (4,968)
Highway Equipment	214,243	130,066	(23,197)	321,112
Guardrails	14,795	0	(13,575)	1,220
Fire Truck	0	17,000	(17,000)	0
Town Hall	38,239	0	-	38,239
Computer Replacements	9,942	0	(1,635)	8,307
Bridge Construction Program	23,585	0	(23,585)	0
TOTAL	\$ 356,849	\$ 200,000	\$ (192,939)	\$ 363,910
	Actual			Projected
	Program	Voted	Projected	Program
	Balance	Additions	Expenditures	Balance
	6/30/2024	2024-2025	2024-2025	6/30/2025
PROGRAM ANALYSIS				
Highway Structures & Roadway Program	(4,968)	45,000	-	\$ 40,032
Highway Equipment	321,112	170,696	(322,707)	\$ 169,101
Guardrails	1,220	10,000	-	\$ 11,220
Fire Truck	-	17,000	(17,000)	0
Town Hall	38,239	7,304	(40,000)	\$ 5,543
Computer Replacements	8,307	0	(1,635)	\$ 6,672
Bridge Construction Program	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	\$ 363,910	\$ 250,000	\$ (381,342)	\$ 232,568
	Projected			Projected
	Program	Proposed	Projected	Program
	Balance	Additions	Expenditures	Balance
	6/30/2025	2025-2026	2025-2026	6/30/2026
PROGRAM ANALYSIS				
Highway Structures & Roadway Program	40,032	26,000	(66,000)	\$ 32
Highway Equipment	169,101	174,000	(103,609)	\$ 239,492
Guardrails	11,220	0	0	\$ 11,220
Fire Truck	0	0	0	0
Town Hall	5,543	0	0	\$ 5,543
Computer Replacements	6,672	0	0	\$ 6,672
Bridge Construction Program	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	\$ 232,568	\$ 200,000	\$ (169,609)	\$ 262,959

TOWN OF GRAFTON				
CAPITAL BUDGET TAX REVENUE				
	Voted	Voted	Voted	Proposed
	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
TAX REVENUE				
Highway Road & Structures Program	\$ 36,608	\$ 52,934	\$ 45,000	\$ 26,000
Highway Equipment	147,392	130,066	170,696	174,000
Guardrails	0	0	10,000	0
Fire Truck	16,000	17,000	17,000	0
Town Hall	0	0	7,304	0
Computer Replacements	0	0	0	0
Bridge Construction Program (Walker Bridge)	0	0	0	0
Total Tax Revenue	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 200,000
TOWN OF GRAFTON				
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND				
COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET				
			Projected	Projected
ASSETS	6/30/2023	6/30/2024	6/30/2024	6/30/2026
Due from General Account	\$ 356,849	\$ 363,910	\$ 232,568	\$ 262,959
Accounts Receivable-State of VT				
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 356,849	\$ 363,910	\$ 232,568	\$ 262,959
FUND BALANCE	\$ 356,849	\$ 363,910	\$ 232,568	\$ 262,959
EXPECTED USE OF CAPITAL FUNDS ASSETS				
Highway Roadway & Structures Program	\$ 56,045	\$ (4,968)	\$ 40,032	\$ 32
Highway Equipment	214,243	321,112	169,101	239,492
Guardrails	14,795	1,220	11,220	11,220
Fire Truck	-	-	-	-
Town Hall	38,239	38,239	5,543	5,543
Computer Replacements	9,942	8,307	6,672	6,672
Bridge Construction Program	23,585	-	-	-
FUND BALANCE	\$ 356,849	\$ 363,910	\$ 232,568	\$ 262,959

Cemetery Agent Report 2024

There was a total of 7 burials in the township of Grafton, Vermont in 2024.

We had a full burial with caskets and vaults and five cremated burials were laid to rest at the Houghtonville Cemetery. There was one cremated burial laid to rest at the Burgess Cemetery.

Cemetery lots are still available in the Houghtonville Cemetery only.

As usual, Town cemeteries remain closed from November 1st until April 1st.

Respectfully Submitted,

Austin Powers
Cemetery Agent
Cell: 1(802)289-2334



TOWN OF GRAFTON
TOWN CONSTABLE REPORT FOR 2024

This year:

- 1 call about a dog hanging around Hall Ranch Rd.
- Call about a dead fox on the side of the road.
- 1 call about a dog in town without being on a leash.
- Picked up a fawn on Route 35
- Call about sheep being in the road on Eastman Rd.

Please remember to register and keep tags on your four-legged canine friends by April 1st. After that date, any dog is considered unlicensed and will be dealt with per the Town Ordinance. I will be traveling the roads in search of unlicensed dogs. Please, if possible, write a phone number on your dog's collar in case the tags fall off; this makes locating the owners much easier.

Beware of strange acting animals. If you suspect an unhealthy critter, please contact me as soon as possible.

We are contracted with the Windham County Sheriff's Office for an Animal Control Officer. They will help with services and calls that include: response to vicious animals, monitoring/enforcement of animals required to quarantine, animal registration and/or vaccination required under Vermont law, and at-large animals. If you need these services, please contact Ashley at (802) 490-9236.

Respectfully,
Mike Waysville, Town Constable
Emergency Phone Number:
Home (802) 875-2240

Town Health Officer Report

The Board of Health in Vermont towns consist of the Town Health Officer and Town Selectboard. Duties and responsibilities are established by State statute.

There were no reported dog bites during this past year.

All dog owners residing in Grafton are reminded they are required to license their pet and have updated full vaccination records available for potential situations. Residents and visitors are to be aware of and follow local ordinances that pertain to pets in public areas.

This past season Grafton was spared from excessive rainfall with no flooding or adverse wet conditions creating any health risks.

There were calls regarding algae blooms in the low water pockets of the Saxtons River that are normal natural conditions. Streams were abnormally low through most of the season due to minimal rainfall. This can allow for a more active bacteria level in waterways. Swimming and wading should be minimized during these conditions.

Should Homeowners feel their water well at any time may have been contaminated they can obtain free water test kits from the state. Call the Vermont Department of Health 800-660-9997.

State law has removed health officers from “direct rental housing inspections” and are now under the authority of the Department of Public Safety’s Division of Fire and Safety (DPS)

DPS is now the government entity with the primary authority to enforce State laws governing rental housing, health and safety.

Town health officers must notify DPS of any rental housing or short-term rental complaints or requests for inspection and are to follow DPS guidelines.

Please contact the Town Health Officer for assistance regarding any health-related issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Siano

Town Health Officer

**Town of Grafton
Listers' Report
For the year ending June 2024**

The 2024 Grand List was filed on July 2, 2024 with a Municipal Value of \$1,576,229 and a Total Education Value of \$1,592,683.

Changes of appraisal related to real estate were mailed to 38 property owners on May 29, 2024. 5 Grievances were filed by property owners, reviewed by the listers, and adjustments were made where appropriate.

After receipt of the decisions by the Listers there were no appeals to the BCA.

Currently there are 101 parcels in Current Use totaling 14,891 acres which is about 64.5% of the town's total acreage. Total acreage is about 23,222 acres. 6 parcels changed value in 2024.

218 property owners filed for Homestead. Of those people that filed, 138 received Homestead state payments.

Grafton's Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) is determined by the state of VT each year by averaging the last three years' valid property sales. 2024's CLA for Grafton is 71.92% which compares to 2023's 90.06%. A number over 100% indicates that property is generally listed for more than its fair market value; a number less than 100% indicates that property is generally listed for less than its fair market value. The CLA is used in the determination of our homestead and non-homestead tax rates.

We performed our yearly update of the town's property maps. These can be found on-line at VCGI (Vermont Center for Geographic Information) or in the Town Office. We encourage property owners to submit to the Town Clerk any surveys not already recorded. This will help us be more accurate in our property information.

The Board of Listers is charged with maintaining the relative fairness of property values. To accomplish this, we try to review all parcels each year and update assessments according to changes made that have an impact on the value of the parcel. All property owners planning to construct a building or structure or planning to make any improvements to an existing building with a cost greater than \$500 are requested to obtain a **Building Notification Form** at the Town Hall, complete this form, and return it to the Listers.

We welcome questions or concerns owners might have about their property. The speediest method of contact is via email listers@graftonvt.org or phone (leave us a message) at 802-843-6486 and we will get back to you ASAP.

We would like to thank Grafton property owners for their ongoing cooperation and patience as we fulfill the obligations of our job as Listers.

Respectfully yours,

Grafton Board of Listers
Hardy Merrill, Chair
Nancy Merrill
GailAnn Fisher

(Taxable properties only - State and Non-tax status properties are not listed below)

REAL ESTATE Category/Code	Parcel Count	Municipal Listed Value	Homestead Ed Listed Value	Nonhmstd Ed. Listed Value	Total Education Listed Value
Residential I R1	206	54,951,100	24,427,126	30,523,974	54,951,100
Residential II R2	198	87,795,500	36,341,650	51,453,850	87,795,500
Mobile Homes-U MHU	9	128,600	40,500	88,100	128,600
Mobile Homes-L MHL	17	1,319,200	483,600	835,600	1,319,200
Seasonal I S1	14	866,300	148,845	717,455	866,300
Seasonal II S2	30	3,522,700	295,100	3,227,600	3,522,700
Commercial C	27	11,439,300	0	11,439,300	11,439,300
Commercial Apts CA	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial I	0	0	0	0	0
Utilities-E UE	3	5,942,000	0	5,942,000	5,942,000
Utilities-O UO	0	0	0	0	0
Farm F	2	1,364,100	0	1,364,100	1,364,100
Other O	0	0	0	0	0
Woodland W	10	291,400	0	291,400	291,400
Miscellaneous M	89	9,330,500	199,800	9,130,700	9,330,500
TOTAL LISTED REAL	605	176,950,700	61,936,621	115,014,079	176,950,700
P.P. Cable	1	130,361		130,361	130,361
P.P. Equipment	0	0			
P.P. Inventory	0	0			
TOTAL LISTED P.P.	1	130,361		130,361	130,361
TOTAL LISTED VALUE		177,081,061	61,936,621	115,144,440	177,081,061
EXEMPTIONS					
Veterans 10K	4/4	40,000	40,000	0	40,000
Veterans >10K		120,000			
Total Veterans		160,000	40,000	0	40,000
P.P. Contracts	1	130,361			
Contract Apprv VEPC	0/0	0	0	0	0
Grandfathered	1/1	248,600	0	248,600	248,600
Non-Apprv(voted)	4/4	1,659,400			
Owner Pays Ed Tax	0/0	0			
Total Contracts	6/5	2,038,361	0	248,600	248,600
FarmStab Apprv VEPC	0/0	0	0	0	0
Farm Grandfathered	0/0	0	0	0	0
Non-Apprv(voted)	0/0	0			
Owner Pays Ed Tax	0/0	0			
Total FarmStabContr	0/0	0	0	0	0
Current Use	101/101	17,149,600	2,745,600	14,404,000	17,149,600
Special Exemptions	1		0	264,400	264,400
Partial Statutory	0/0	0	0	0	0
Sub-total Exemptions		19,347,961	2,785,600	14,917,000	17,702,600
Total Exemptions		19,347,961	2,785,600	14,917,000	17,702,600
TOTAL MUNICIPAL GRAND LIST		1,577,331.00			
TOTAL EDUCATION GRAND LIST			591,510.21	1,002,274.40	1,593,784.61
NON-TAX	24	NON-TAX PARCELS ARE NOT INCLUDED ON THE 411			

**TOWN OF GRAFTON
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD
ANNUAL REPORT 2024**

During the Town fiscal year July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024, the Development Review Board (DRB) of the Town of Grafton heard and approved three requests for Minor Subdivision within the Town of Grafton of parcels located at 1077 Fisher Hill Road (009005), 588 Cambridgeport Road (009048.2), and 412 Hall Ranch Road (002005), respectively.

The DRB heard no requests for Major Subdivision during the reporting period.

The DRB heard no requests for Boundary Lot Adjustment during the reporting period.

The DBR heard no requests for Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) development during the reporting period.

All DRB warnings, agendas, minutes, and decisions are posted to the Town website; hard copies and Mylar plats are available for public review at the Town Offices, as are copies of the Town Subdivision Regulations and Town Flood Damage Prevention Regulations.

Respectfully submitted,
Christopher R. Wallace
Chair, Development Review Board

**Fire Warden Report
2024**

Brush fires in the calendar year 2024 were almost non-existent. We had a small fire with no extension in the Mollie Bettie State Forest that would appear to have started with lightning. Otherwise, we did not have any uncontrolled fires started by people. A total of 63 burning permits were issued.

The most significant news of the year was the unanticipated retirement by death of our long-time Fire Warden, Bill Brown, or BB as he was most usually known. If my memory is correct, Bill became Warden after the retirement of Frank Jones. Bill always was scrupulously careful about wildfire investigation and issuance of burn permits. He is truly missed.

Please remember the basic rules of a permitted burn. When surrounded by snow cover and away from structures or easily ignited natural fuel, a permit is not required. Materials for any burning must be natural untreated wood.

For a burn permit, please call me at (802) 289-2280 or (802) 843-2568 or KEY Person designate, Robbie Sprague at (802) 384-2288

Respectfully submitted, Eric Stevens
Grafton Forest Fire Warden

Planning Commission Report 2024

The Grafton Planning Commission has begun reviewing the existing Town Plan chapters which include Land Use, Historical and Natural Resources, Economy, Transportation, Energy, Education, Housing, Recreation, Town Government, Flood Resiliency, Grafton and It's Neighbors, and VT Planning Goals.

We are now halfway through the current 2020 – 2028 town plan edition. By 2028, a new plan including revisions must be in place after discussions with the community and hearings for approval on its content.

With ever changing State legislation and regulatory laws from agencies governing much of what goes into a town plan, we are encouraging our community to engage with this plan for new ideas and goals on how Grafton will exist in the future.

The Planning Commission is inviting businesses and community groups to act with what ideas and ventures they would like to include for Grafton's future.

It is your Town, and your participation for it to continue with prosperity has become more prevalent now as to how Grafton will exist in the future with new evolving regulations and the impact they may create.

The current Grafton Town Plan can be viewed on the town website.

Comments and suggestions with ideas can be sent directly to the Planning Commission via the website town administrator email links or join in on future monthly meetings.

The Planning Commission has in this past year continued researching new ideas for solutions to our water and wastewater situation which imperatively impacts the future of Grafton. New ideas and solutions that could assist Grafton are currently either restrictive by State regulations and or prohibited by cost.

The Planning Commission continues working with Windham Regional Commission for guidance and assistance at meetings in understanding new or changing regulations through training and educational workshops provided.

Community participation at meetings is encouraged and recommended for all to be involved with the daunting question of how Grafton will exist in the future.

We also ask that the community be observant of new legislation in Montpelier and within the agencies that impact and regulate Grafton and Vermont life.

Meetings are scheduled for the 2nd Tuesday each month at 7PM in the Town Hall

Respectfully Submitted,

Grafton Planning Commission

Matt Siano, Chair

Ron Pilette

Warren Fisher

Eric Stevens

Lester Schwalb

TOWN OF GRAFTON		
FUNDS IN TRUSTEESHIP		
July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024		
Kim A. Record, Treasurer		
TOTAL FUNDS IN TRUSTEESHIP 6/30/24	\$ 119,787.76	
DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME, to June 30, 2024		
Dividends and Interest Received		
AMOUNT DESIGNATED FOR:		
Interest on Cemetery Maintenance Funds		\$ 14.87
Interest on Cemetery Lots and Graves Funds		29.64
Village Park		1.80
Wilson Memorial Park		8,729.64
Grafton Village Library		0.31
So. Congregational Church Society		0.32
Grafton Fund		2.00
Town School District		1.28
		\$ 8,779.86
INVESTMENTS		
	Capital	Income
FOR CEMETERY MAINTENANCE		
Community Bank NA	\$ 16,405.26	\$ 14.87
FOR CEMETERY LOTS AND GRAVES		
Community Bank NA	33,352.15	29.64
FOR VILLAGE PARK		
People's United C/D #4606	6,000.00	1.80
FOR WILSON MEMORIAL PARK		
Community Bank NA	23,199.65	20.98
G.E.Corp., Common Stock-180 shares @ \$158.97	28,614.60	8,841.60
American International Group - 17 share @ \$74.24	1,262.08	283.90
FOR LIBRARY AND CHURCH		
S. B. Jones Fund-Community Bank	702.39	0.63
FOR GRAFTON INDIVIDUALS		
Grafton Fund People's United C/D 29421	5,000.00	1.38
Grafton Fund People's United Savings Acct. 30630	3,114.10	0.62
FOR TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT		
Edward Walker Fund -Community Bank	1,037.53	0.95
Dean & Baker Fund-Chittenden Bank C/D 4596	1,100.00	0.33
TOTAL	\$ 119,787.76	\$ 9,196.70

TOWN OF GRAFTON							
FUNDS IN TRUSTEESHIP-KIM A. RECORD, TREASURER							
STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES							
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024							
	Cemetery	Sales-Lots	Wilson	Village	S.B.Jones	Grafton	Totals
	Care	and Graves	Park	Park	Library and Church	Fund	(Memo Only)
ASSETS							
Cash in Savings or Ck.Acct.	\$ 16,405.26	\$ 33,352.15	\$ 23,199.65		\$ 702.39	\$ 3,114.10	\$ 76,773.55
Certificates of Deposit				6,000.00		5,000.00	11,000.00
Common Stock			29,876.68				29,876.68
Interest Receivable							
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 16,405.26	\$ 33,352.15	\$ 53,076.33	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 702.39	\$ 8,114.10	\$ 117,650.23
LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE							
Liabilities: Due to General Fund							
Fund Balances:							
Reserved for Endowment	\$ 16,405.26		\$ 29,876.68	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 702.39	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 57,984.33
Designated for Future Use		33,352.15	23,199.65			3,114.10	59,665.90
Total Fund Balances	\$ 16,405.26	\$ 33,352.15	\$ 53,076.33	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 702.39	\$ 8,114.10	\$ 117,650.23
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES							
TOWN OF GRAFTON							
FUNDS IN TRUSTEESHIP-KIM A. RECORD, TREASURER							
STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (Cash Basis)							
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024							
	Cemetery	Sales-Lots	Wilson	Village	S. B. Jones	Grafton	Totals
	Care	and Graves	Park	Park	Library and Church	Fund	
REVENUE:							
Interest on Investments	\$ 14.87	\$ 29.64	\$ 20.98	\$ 1.80	\$ 0.63	\$ 0.62	\$ 68.54
Unrealized Gain(Loss) on Investments			9,125.50				9,125.50
Common Stock Dividends			138.90				138.90
From Sales or Other Sources		850.00				1.38	851.38
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 14.87	\$ 879.64	\$ 9,285.38	\$ 1.80	\$ 0.63	\$ 2.00	\$ 10,184.32
EXPENDITURES:							
Transfers to General Fund		\$ 2,480.00					2480.00
Transfers to Other Organizations				1.8			\$ 1.80
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$ 2,480.00		\$ 1.80			\$ 2,481.80
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES							
FUND BALANCES, 6/30/23	\$ 16,390.39	\$ 34,952.51	\$ 43,790.95	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 701.76	\$ 8,112.10	\$ 109,947.71
FUND BALANCES, 6/30/24	\$ 16,405.26	\$ 33,352.15	\$ 53,076.33	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 702.39	\$ 8,114.10	\$ 117,650.23

TOWN OF GRAFTON			
TRUST FUNDS FOR THE BENEFITS OF INDIVIDUALS			
STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES			
KIMBERLY RECORD TREASURER			
For the year ended June 30, 2024			
	Campbell Fund	Woolson Fund	Totals (Memo Only)
ASSETS			
Cash-Business Money Market	\$ 5,720.79	\$ 3,933.84	\$ 9,654.63
Certificate of Deposit-People's United	2,557.44		2,557.44
Money Market-Community BANK	9,090.07	6,054.10	15,144.17
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 17,368.30	\$ 9,987.94	\$ 27,356.24
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES			
Liabilities			
Fund Balances:			
Reserved for Endowment	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 7,000.00
Unrestricted			
Total Fund Balances	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 7,000.00
	\$ 12,368.30	\$7,987.94	\$20,356.24
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	\$ 17,368.30	\$ 9,987.94	\$ 27,356.24
STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES			
KIMBERLY RECORD, TREASURER			
For the year ended June 30, 2024			
REVENUE:			
Interest on TD Bank Money Market	\$ 4.61	\$ 3.18	\$ 7.79
Interest on Comm Money Market	9.10	6.06	15.16
Interest on Peoples Certificate of Deposit	1.55		1.55
Previous Year			
Payment of Loan			
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 15.26	\$ 9.24	\$ 24.50
EXPENDITURES:			
Grants to Beneficiaries			
Grant			
TOTAL EXPENDITURES			
EXCESS(DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES			
FUND BALANCES, 6/30/23	\$ 17,353.04	\$ 9,978.70	\$ 27,331.74
FUND BALANCES, 6/30/24	\$ 17,368.30	\$ 9,987.94	\$ 27,356.24
David R.Campbell left \$5000 to the town in 1876 f/b/o individuals in need			
Amas Woolson left \$2000 to the town in 1924 f/b/o individuals in need			

Report From Grafton Cares 2024

Grafton Cares was established in 1993 by a group of townspeople concerned with providing help and support to their neighbors.

Meals Program

The Wednesday Lunch Program is twice a month on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 12 noon at the Grafton Chapel. There are two Community Suppers: the first and third Friday of each month held at the Grafton Chapel. All are welcome.

Financial Assistance Committee

This committee, often working in collaboration with other organizations, offers a helping hand to those with a variety of temporary or long-term needs, ranging from transportation to medical appointments, to financial assistance for families or individuals with urgent needs. Grafton Cares also offers, for temporary or long-term use, a variety of medical equipment for special health needs. The Fuel Assistance Program has filled an important niche by providing emergency fuel aid for those with a temporary need or who are awaiting more long-term support from other agencies.

Gas Card Program

The gas card program began many years ago with the generous contribution of gas cards from Old Tavern guests, via the Windham Foundation. Grafton Cares now funds this program. We distribute these cards to community members to meet emergency needs involving medical transportation issues or financial hardship.

Meals On Wheels

Meals On Wheels are delivered by Grafton Cares' volunteer drivers. Meals On Wheels, is available through Senior Solutions (formerly the Council on Aging). Call Bill Toomey at 802-843-2397 for more information.

Sunshine Baskets

Sunshine Baskets, filled with fresh fruit, are given to our older neighbors and to those who have had surgery just to give a boost to all. Board members enjoy visiting with these people as much as delivering the baskets.

Strong Living

Strong Living is a popular program where participants ages 40 and up attend two, one-hour sessions per week. Led by trained folks through a series of stretching and weightlifting exercises, this program has become a fixed date on many participants' calendars and a great way to catch up on the local news. A donation is suggested to cover the cost of equipment and facilities.

Welcome Bags

The Welcome Bag Program has been greatly appreciated by recipients who are new to

Grafton and Athens It contains a variety of “goodies” and all kinds of information to welcome new folks to town.

Grafton Cares Knitters

A group of local knitters keeps busy with various projects such as beautiful shawls for those in need of comfort and baby blankets, which are combined with board books and a book bag from the Grafton Library, to welcome little ones born to area families.

Rides Coordinator

To facilitate the coordination of transportation needs, a rides coordinator can help with rides for medical appointments. If you or a family member requires transportation to medical appointments, you can give this program a try.

For more information about Grafton Cares or any of its programs, contact Kate Bova, President of Grafton Cares at 869-1527.



GRAFTON CARES

2023-2024

<u>INCOME:</u>	7/1/2023-ACTUAL	2024-2025-BUDGET
ATHENS ORGANIZATIONS	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
DONATIONS COMMUNITY SUPPER – CHARITABLE DONATIONS	\$3,126.00	\$3,000.00
DONATIONS WED LUNCH- CHARITABLE DONATIONS	\$2,745.00	\$3,000.00
GENERAL INCOME – GC	\$9,916.43	\$5,000.00
LIVING STRONG DONATIONS	\$1,200.00	\$1,800.00
MEMORIALS	\$4,359.00	\$5,000.00
OTHER FUNDRAISERS	\$0	\$500.00
SENIOR SOLUTIONS MEALS	\$5,086.11	\$4,000.00
TOWN OF GRAFTON	<u>\$1,000.00</u>	<u>\$1,000.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$28,432.54	\$24,300.00
<u>EXPENSE:</u>		
ADMINISTRATION		
ATHENIAN OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$0	\$100.00
INSURANCE	\$789.35	\$1,000.00
OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$76.91	\$250.00
POSTAGE	<u>\$84.00</u>	<u>\$100.00</u>
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	\$950.26	\$1,450.00
COMMUNITY SUPPERS		
FOOD – ATHENS	\$620.05	\$800.00
FOOD – GRAFTON	\$686.56	\$500.00
PAPER PRODUCTS	<u>\$376.96</u>	<u>\$400.00</u>
TOTAL COMMUNITY SUPPERS	\$1683.57	\$1,700.00
LIVING STRONG		
INSTRUCTORS FEE	<u>\$975.00</u>	<u>\$1,300.00</u>
TOTAL LIVING STRONG	\$975.00	\$1,300.00

GRAFTON CARES

2023-2024

EXPENSES	7/1/2023-ACTUAL	2024-2025-BUDGET
<u>OTHER GRAFTON CARES EXPENSES</u>		
CHAPEL RENT AND UTILITIES	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
CHILDREN, COMMUNITY OUTREACH	\$2,400.00	\$4,000.00
COMMUNITY SPECIALS EVENTS	\$616.86	\$500.00
FIRE VICTIM	\$0	\$500.00
FOOD SHELF	\$0	\$1,500.00
GAS CARDS, COMMUNITY OUTREACH	\$2,256.27	\$2,500.00
KNITTERS	\$42.96	\$50.00
MEMORIAL BEREAVEMENT FUND	\$85.13	\$300.00
PERSONAL ASSISTANCE	\$2,184.25	\$3,000.00
SUNSHINE BASKETS	\$0	\$300.00
WELCOME BASKETS	\$73.35	\$200.00
TOTAL OTHER GRAFTON CARES EXPENSES	\$12,158.82	\$17,350.00
<u>WEDNESDAY LUNCHESES</u>		
EQUIPMENT	\$312.00	\$400.00
FOOD	<u>\$1,427.44</u>	<u>\$3,000.00</u>
TOTAL WEDNESDAY LUNCHESES	\$1,739.44	\$3,400.00
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$17,507.09	\$25,200.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$28,432.54	\$24,300.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$17,507.09</u>	<u>\$25,200.00</u>
	\$10,925.45	(\$900.00)

Grafton Public Library – Report of the Trustees
Fiscal Year 2023-2024

It's been a busy and productive year at your library! One of our priorities this past year has been the maintenance of the historic library building, which is on the National Historic Register. The front porch, which had become unsafe, was completely replaced, with careful attention to the historic nature of the building. We also completed insulation work, that includes access areas in the attics and replacement of an emergency door. These investments will allow safer access, as well as a cozier, more energy efficient library building well into the future. The beautiful library building invites many visits from out-of-town guests and is a source of pride for Grafton residents. These improvements, supported by our involved and generous donors, are the direct result of the Capital Campaign that was begun in 2022 by a contribution and donor challenge from Elizabeth (Liz) Bankowski, via the Windham Foundation. Thanks to support from Liz and the Windham Foundation, the Grafton Improvement Association, the Bodman Foundation and many individual donors, these important infrastructure needs were completed.

However, your library is not just about "bricks and mortar." A well-maintained building would be nothing without a vibrant collection, robust and changing programming, engaged volunteers, staff and trustees, technological offerings, and space for community meetings and outreach.

This year we initiated the immensely popular Neighbor-to-Neighbor Lecture Series, facilitating community connection as people in our area shared their talents and expertise in-person with attendees. We continue to collaborate with our local elementary school by bringing programs and performers directly to the school and hosting visits at the library. Numerous community groups use the library building to meet on a regular basis and we installed an air conditioner for comfort during the summer months.

One of the most frequent comments we hear from visitors, along with mention of the beautiful building, is what fabulous books we have on the shelves! We work hard to make sure we have the books you want to read. But we also increase our offerings via inter-library loan and downloadable audio and e-books. Our reach extends beyond the building, and that includes the use of technology. This past year we increased our network security. We also upgraded printers, modem and routers, and staff computers to better serve our public.

The Grafton Public Library is one of the crown jewels of our town: vibrant, welcoming, stimulating, and always looking for new ways to serve our community. We thank you and the Town of Grafton for your support.

Respectfully submitted by,
The Grafton Public Board of Trustees

Mary Beth Culver, Chair, Lucia Corwin, Jay Maciejowski, Galen Johnson and John Saroff

GRAFTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Treasurer's Report
For Year Ended June 30, 2024

Operating Account

OPENING BALANCES July 1, 2023

Checking Acct		\$65,469.07
Petty Cash Acct		\$138.30
		\$65,607.37

RECEIPTS

Transfer from TIAA-CREF Trust	\$46,632.00	
Transfer from TIAA-CREF JLS Memorial Fund	\$8,090.00	
Transfer from TIAA-CREF Bond Fund	\$0.00	
Directed Donations and Grants	\$1,136.48	
Capital Campaign Appeal	\$8,722.53	
Annual Appeal	\$20,390.00	
Book Sale (Ongoing)	\$1,089.00	
Gingerbread House Fundraiser	\$12,131.00	
Copier, Overdue books, Coffee, Postcard Fees	\$237.50	
Town of Grafton Tax Support	\$7,500.00	
Town of Grafton Trust Funds	\$226.67	
Miscellaneous Income	\$573.90	
Petty Cash Adjustment	\$14.06	
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$106,743.14

		TOTAL: Beginning Balance Plus Receipts
		\$172,350.51

DISBURSEMENTS

Gross Salaries	\$42,572.94	
Health Insurance	\$11,821.94	
Payroll Taxes, Unemployment Insur. & Workers Comp	\$3,525.07	
Total Payroll, Taxes and Benefits Expense		\$57,919.95

Collection Expenses

Books	\$4,723.94	
Periodicals	\$414.72	
Audio-Visual (includes downloadable audio & ebooks)	\$414.81	
	Total Collection Expense	\$5,553.47

Library Services Expenses		
Adult Programs	\$948.29	
Children's Programs	\$1,464.33	
Office Supplies	\$172.95	
Inter-Library Loan Expense	\$1,846.42	
Misc. & Gifts	\$110.00	
Copier/ Printers, Supplies & Maint.	\$244.21	
Computer Software, Hardware and Subscriptions	\$2,627.37	
Automation Service and Supplies	\$495.00	
	Total Library Services Expense	\$7,908.57

Building Expenses		
Cleaning Services & Supplies	\$174.63	
Health related equipment and supplies	\$42.07	
Grounds	\$485.50	
Services and Supplies	\$367.09	
Snow Removal	\$630.00	
Repairs/ Improvements	\$1,187.50	
Electricity	\$982.28	
Heat (Fuel) & Service Contract	\$6,523.49	
Telephone	\$573.90	
Furniture and Fixtures	\$399.99	
Building Insurance (VLCT)	\$1,565.25	
	Total Building Expenses	\$12,931.70

Other Expenses		
Appeal Expenses	\$840.80	
Accounting Expenses	\$95.06	
Grafton Promotional Association Dues	\$200.00	
	Total Other Expenses	\$1,135.86

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS \$85,449.55

EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) \$86,900.96
DISBURSEMENTS AND TRANSFER

Checking Account Balance 6/30/24 \$86,796.21
Petty Cash Balance 6/30/24 \$104.75
TOTAL OPERATING ACCOUNT BALANCE 6/30/24 \$86,900.96

LIBRARY ASSETS

	<u>6/30/2023</u>	<u>6/30/2024</u>
TIAA-CREF TRUST MAIN FUND	\$950,909.39	\$1,016,894.14
TIAA-CREF TRUST JLS MEMORIAL FUND	\$163,857.86	\$174,821.99
TIAA-CREF MUTUAL FUNDS (Bond Fund)	\$13,306.63	\$14,013.36
Total Library Investments	<u>\$1,128,073.88</u>	<u>\$1,205,729.49</u>
End of Year Operating Account Balance	<u>\$65,007.37</u>	<u>\$86,900.96</u>
End of Year Total Library Assets	<u>\$1,193,081.25</u>	<u>\$1,292,630.45</u>

TIAA-CREF TRUST MAIN FUND

Beginning Market Value 7/1/23	\$950,909.39
Change in Market Value	\$91,393.71
Income	\$27,100.65
Transfer to Operating Account	-\$46,632.00
Financial Management Fees	-\$5,877.61
TIAA-CREF Trust Market Value 6/30/24	<u>\$1,016,894.14</u>

TIAA-CREF TRUST JLS MEMORIAL FUND

Beginning Market Value 7/1/23	\$163,857.86
Change in Market Value	\$15,984.07
Income	\$4,086.23
Transfer to Operating Account	-\$8,090.00
Financial Management Fees	-\$1,016.17
JLS Memorial Fund Market Value 6/30/24	<u>\$174,821.99</u>

TIAA-CREF MUTUAL FUNDS (Bond Fund)

Beginning Market Value 7/1/23	\$13,306.63
Change in Market Value	\$205.83
Transfer to Operating Account	\$0.00
Income	\$500.90
TIAA-CREF Bond Fund Market Value 6/30/24	<u>\$14,013.36</u>

**Grafton Fire Department
Annual Report
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024**

For the Fiscal Year 2023-2024, the Grafton Fire Department responded to a total of 49 - 911 emergency calls. There were 34 in the Town of Grafton, 10 in the Town of Athens and 5 Mutual Aid calls in neighboring towns, along with many other non-emergency events in town. We continue to be prepared with our own monthly training and monthly training with our Mutual Aid partners. As always, we are always maintaining the Firehouse and equipment. Through a grant, we were able to purchase a brush insert for the UTV to enhance our capabilities by fighting wildland fires. We were also able to upgrade one of our portable pumps and purchase a new pump for more capabilities with natural disasters such as flooding.

2024 was a big year for the Department as we hit the milestone of 100 years of service to the Town of Grafton. We celebrated that milestone with a community square dance which was the first fundraiser for the Department 100 years ago.

We would like to thank everyone in the community for their continued support of the Fire Department. We couldn't do what we do without all of your support. It is a pleasure to serve such a great community.

Respectfully submitted,
Robbie Sprague, Fire Chief

Active Member Roster as of June 30, 2024

Robbie Sprague, Chief/FF1	Mike Field, Ext FF	Sam Rushton, Ext FF
Nathaniel Noyes, Asst. Chief/FF1	Warren Fisher, Ext FF	Delano Schmidt, FF2
Ivor Stevens, Captain/FF1	Austin Powers, Ext FF	Calli Sprague, Jr FF
Rob Hallock, Lieutenant/FF1	Jim Roberts, Ext FF	Tyler Sprague, FF2
Matt Haseltine, Lieutenant/FF1	David Rogers, Ext FF	Lain Stevens, Ext FF
Randy Chaleff, Ext FF	Keltsey Rushton, Ext FF	Bill Watson, Ext FF

Grafton Firefighters Association as of June 30, 2024

Bill Watson, President	Sam Battaglino, Trustee
Mike Field, Vice President	Jim Milbauer, Trustee
Chappy Matt, Treasurer	Noralee Hall, Trustee
Maureen Fletcher, Secretary	Amber Stevens, Auxiliary President

GRAFTON FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION
OPERATING STATEMENT, as of FY 2023 ended June 30, 2024

Albert C Matt, Treasurer

	2023-2024	2023-2024		2024-2025	2025-2026	
	Budget	Actual	Variance	Budget	Budget	Budgets passed by the GFA
RECEIPTS:						
Town of Grafton-Operating Budget	\$29,950	\$29,950	\$0	\$29,950	\$29,950	General Fund
Town of Athens-Operating Budget	\$0	\$4,500	(\$4,500)	\$6,000	\$6,000	General Fund
Town of Grafton-Truck Fund	\$17,000	\$17,000	\$0	\$17,000	\$17,000	Specific to Truck Replacement
Town of Athens-Truck Fund	\$0	\$2,550	(\$2,550)	\$3,400	\$3,400	Specific to Truck Replacement
Annual Fundraising	\$20,000	\$29,565	\$9,565	\$22,000	\$22,000	
Auxiliary Donation	\$6,500	\$20,000	\$13,500	\$6,500	\$6,500	
Donations	\$4,650	\$35,903	\$31,253			
Grafton Rescue Squad, Inc	\$3,500	\$686	(\$2,814)	\$4,250	\$4,250	Rent and Mobility phone service
Sales and Other Income	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	
Grants	\$0	\$58,402		\$0	\$0	Windham Foundation for PPE Last year
Interest	\$1,300	\$8,962	\$0	\$10,000	\$9,000	Increase due US Treasuries Purchased
TOTAL RECEIPTS:	\$82,900	\$208,518	\$45,454	\$99,100	\$98,100	
DISBURSEMENTS:						
Vehicle Fuel, Service & Maint.	\$10,000	\$6,863	\$3,137	\$12,000	\$12,000	Expences Rising Due to Aging Trucks
Equipment Maintenance- Reserve	\$1,000	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	
Heat for Building	\$1,000	\$2,449	(\$1,449)	\$3,050	\$4,000	
Electricity	\$3,500	\$1,682	\$1,818	\$1,875	\$1,800	
Telephone / Internet	\$1,700	\$2,266	(\$566)	\$2,250	\$2,400	
Communications, Radio	\$1,000	\$400	\$600	\$1,200	\$500	
Repeater Site Maintenance	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$500	\$250	
Repeater Battery - Reserve	\$1,000	\$500	\$500	\$600	\$600	
PPE Equipment	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$6,250	\$5,000	Various Grants in FY 23 offset costs
Building, Grounds	\$3,000	\$2,238	\$762	\$3,750	\$2,000	
Building - Reserve	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	
Truck - Reserve	\$5,000	\$50,400	(\$45,400)	\$20,400	\$50,000	Increasing Funding Due to Aging Trucks
Staff Training	\$500	\$92	\$408	\$620	\$620	
Fund Raising Expense	\$1,000	\$896	\$104	\$1,100	\$500	
Fire Extinguishers & Testing	\$900	\$118	\$782	\$240	\$240	
Dues & Donations	\$800	\$306	\$494	\$480	\$400	
Office Expenses	\$700	\$1,635	(\$935)	\$2,000	\$1,500	
Loose Equipment	\$1,000	\$2,687	(\$1,687)	\$550	\$4,000	
Volunteer Recognition	\$1,000	\$410	\$590	\$500	\$600	
Compensation	\$2,775	\$2,750	\$25	\$2,750	\$2,750	
Wireless Tech Support	\$1,500	\$2,362	(\$862)	\$2,400	\$2,500	
Insurance	\$4,400	\$5,085	(\$685)	\$4,600	\$5,000	
Grant Spending	\$0	\$7,707	(\$7,707)	\$0	\$0	GFA does not budget Grants
Other	\$0	\$1,346	(\$1,346)	\$0	\$0	
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$48,775	\$93,692	(\$44,917)	\$67,615	\$98,160	
NET	\$34,125	\$114,826	\$90,371	\$31,485	(\$60)	

GRAFTON FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION
BALANCES, as of FY 2023 ended 6/30/2024

Albert C Matt, Treasurer

	Operating	Truck Fund	Auxillary Account	Equipment Reserve	Repeater Batt. Reserve	PPE Reserve	Building Reserve	Totals
ASSETS BY ACCOUNT:								
Operating Fund Checking Account*	\$185,662.25							\$185,662.25
Money Market Bank Account		\$2,161.88	\$38,020.27	\$4,005.17	\$3003.87	\$15006.72	\$4,590.04	\$66,787.95
Fidelity Investments - US Treasuries		\$272,711.27						\$272,711.27
TOTAL ASSETS	\$185,662.25	\$274,873.15	\$38,020.27	\$4,005.17	\$3,003.87	\$15,006.72	\$4,590.04	\$525,161.47
ASSETS BY CLASS:								
Unrestricted-Operating Fund	\$185,662.25							\$185,662.25
Restricted-Reserves				\$4,005.17	\$3003.87	\$15006.72	\$4,590.04	\$26,605.80
Restricted-Truck Fund		\$274,873.15						\$274,873.15
Restricted Auxiliary Funds			\$38,020.27					\$38,020.27
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$185,662.25	\$274,873.15	\$38,020.27	\$4,005.17	\$3,003.87	\$15,006.72	\$4,590.04	\$525,161.47
RESTRICTED GRANTS/DONATIONS								
	Holt Grant	Holt Grant	Holt Grant	Mack Grant	Memory of Stan Mack	Pollio Grant	Evans Grant	
Purpose	WR TG*	PPE	Disaster Fund	Floor Grates	Building	PPE	PPE	
Balance during the year	\$9,029.38	\$13,344.00	\$11,058.11	\$2,500.00	\$11,729	\$13,000	\$14,000	
Spent during the year	-\$7,318.55	-\$13,344.00	\$0.00	-\$2,500.00	-\$388.00	-\$13,000.00	-\$388.00	
Balance at the end of the year	\$1,710.83	\$0.00	\$11,058.11	\$0.00	\$11,341.00	\$0.00	\$13,612.00	



Grafton Rescue Squad

Annual Report for the Year Ending June 2024

Your Grafton Rescue Squad responded to 112 emergency medical calls (911) for the year ended June 30, 2024. Of those calls, 30 were to Athens and 78 were to Grafton and 4 to Townshend*. On average, 6 squad members respond to every call. Additionally, we stood-by for several events and participated in 12 training sessions.

As always, the Squad appreciates the generous financial support and encouragement from the community.

Our long-time Treasurer, MaryAnn Kearns, decided not to run for that position for 2024. We thank her for many years of service. She continues to support us by handling the assembly of the mailer for our annual fundraiser. She is succeeded by Anna Keegan and we thank her for stepping up. We have contracted with Uhler Bookkeeping to handle our bookkeeping needs, removing that burden from the Treasurer's role. We were happy to add Renee VanKuren, an EMT from Athens, to our squad. We would welcome a few more providers from Athens to help improve our response time to that town. Also, Pamela Robinson joined us as an EMT. She is a retired nurse midwife, now living in Grafton, who brings a wealth of experience in obstetrical emergencies.

We note the passing of one of our founding members, Stan Mack, in December 2023. While the fire service was his true passion, he was always front and center for community members in need of medical assistance. Long time member Dave Ross moved away this summer. While he had stopped practicing as a medically licensed member years ago, he was constant contributor to the squad in many ways, on scene and off. We miss them both.

This is our first full year covering the Town of Athens as their primary emergency medical services (EMS) provider. We have taken it all in stride, I am pleased to report. Our two Athens-based members frequently arrive before the ambulance and perform assessments and necessary interventions. Costs have grown minimally and our request for support from the two towns is feels qualitatively correctly balanced. As a result, we are asking for a minimal increase of 3% from the towns while leaning on our donors for a similar percentage increase.

I close by thanking our volunteers for their selfless service. Emergency medical services is somewhat unique in that you volunteer to care for people in need neither knowing who you will be helping nor when you will be called. I think that requirement is extraordinary, and that makes our members extraordinary as well.

Respectfully,
Keith Hermiz
President

Members:

Lynn Field, EMR
Keith Hermiz, AEMT, President
Stephen Keegan, VEFR
Austin Powers, VEFR
Darcie Sprague, VEFR
Amber Stevens, EMR
Jessa Westclark, EMT, Secretary

Mike Field, EMR
Rachel Laliberté, AEMT
Maureen Parker, EMT
Pamela Robinson, EMT
Robbie Sprague, EMT, Vice President
Renee VanKuren, EMT
Bill Watson, EMR

Associate members:

Anna Keegan, Treasurer

Eric Stevens

* Under mutual agreement, Grafton Rescue covers the northern portion of Townshend along Grafton Road.

Grafton Rescue 2023-2024

	<u>23-24 Budget</u>	<u>23-24 Actual</u>	<u>24-25 Budget</u>	<u>25-26 Budget</u>
RECEIPTS:				
Town of Grafton	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,625
Town of Athens	\$ 2,650	\$ 2,650.00	\$ 2,650	\$ 2,725
Donations: Annual Appeal	\$ 17,500	\$ 30,275.00	\$ 17,500	\$ 18,000
Windham Foundation	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
Grants: Pollio Family Foundation	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500.00		
Repeater Site Income from Town	\$ 600	\$ -	\$ 600	\$ 600
Interest Income (Savings)		\$ 39.21		
Interest Income (CD)		\$ 5,123.51		
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$30,250	\$47,588	\$27,750	\$28,450
DISBURSEMENTS:				
Vehicle Operations/Maintenance	\$ 1,500	\$ 536.54	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
Occupancy	\$ 4,250		\$ 4,250	\$ 4,250
Communications	\$ 500		\$ 500	\$ 1,500
Medical Supplies & Equipment	\$ 7,000	\$ 8,577.25	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500
Grants	\$ 1,500	\$ 867.50		
Safety & Training	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,545.74	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,000
Community Awareness	\$ 750	\$ 337.36	\$ 750	\$ 500
<u>Insurance:</u>				
Town/PACIF	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,134.50	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Workman's Comp	\$ 250	\$ 267.50	\$ 250	\$ 500
Uniforms	\$ 750	\$ -	\$ 750	\$ 750
Grants	\$ 1,000			
Dues (EMS District 11)	\$ 100	\$ 100.00	\$ 100	\$ 100
Office Expenses				
Miscellaneous	\$ 750	\$ 1,415.62	\$ 750	\$ 750
Software support (joint with FD)				\$ 1,000
Annual Appeal Letter	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,395.92	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,500
Bookkeeper	\$ 1,000	\$ 962.09	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Volunteer Recognition	\$ 3,500	\$ 1,049.10	\$ 3,500	\$ 2,000
Repeater Site Expense	\$ 1,200	\$ -	\$ 600	\$ 600
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$30,050	\$ 19,189.12	\$ 27,950	\$ 28,450
Reserve		\$ -	-\$200	\$0
Analysis of Accounts				
	Bal 7/1/23	Added	Withdrawn	Bal 6/30/24
Checking Account	\$ 64,743.03	\$ 42,464.21	\$ 19,189.12	\$ 87,989.90
CD	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 5,123.51	\$ -	\$ 105,123.51
TOTALS	\$ 164,743.03	\$ 47,587.72	\$ 19,189.12	\$ 193,113.41

ATHENS-GRAFTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Formerly known as Windham Northeast Union Elementary School District

The Athens Grafton Elementary School started the 2024-25 school year with some long-awaited repairs. Students were welcomed by a newly painted school building, a resurfaced driveway and play area, and new playground equipment. These were made available through Esser Funds. Raised beds were later built for gardening for the spring, summer and fall projects. Many helping hands and volunteer time made this possible.

Unfortunately, Esser and Covid funds are no longer available and Vermont school districts like ours are facing some unknown territory as we move forward to year 2026 and 2027 with future school funding. It's unclear how the state of Vermont will govern these ever-changing formulas on how schools will be funded and the impact it will have on small schools. Vermont has a school funding crisis that the Commission on the Future of Public Education has the mission to solve. Sustainability of our schools and reducing the tax burden for Vermonters is the goal, but to achieve this, hard and difficult choices may be necessary if we are to meet the needs of all students.

We have been fortunate in using our surplus funding wisely to help bring down the budget for Athens-Grafton, but this too will be short lived. I implore community members, parents and family members voice your concerns as it relates to the future of our school's viability.

Grafton is unique in many ways and our school is the heart of our community; without this Grafton would be a very pretty dim place.

You may ask what can we do about this. Well, get involved, be informed as to what is happening in our school. Attend school board meetings and community forums. Your voice is important and it makes a difference when decisions are made that affect your child's future. We have dedicated teachers and staff who put their heart and soul to see that each child is learning and improving each day.

It is a happy place where kids smile and our staff works its hardest to see that every child's needs are met.

I thank our school board members and welcome new board member from Athens, Mark Berman and Grafton's Mary Howard Feder in representing BFUHS on the SU board. We are still in need of an Athens representative to this board. Remember that each board member has a vote when important decisions are made on these boards that impact the future of our school and student's success.

The Athens-Grafton board meets the second Thursday of each month at the school at 6pm. We hope to see you attending either in person or virtually.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Siano-Goodwin, Chair

Hardy Merrill

Rachel Plummer

Lynn Morgan

Mark Berman

Krista Gay





Grafton Elementary School

Angela Cartier, Principal

Sarah Noble, Administrative Assistant

<https://ges.wnesu.org/>

December 3, 2024

Dear Grafton and Athens Communities,

The staff and students at Grafton Elementary School have had an exciting and meaningful start to the year. Our team has remained steady and committed, with the addition of a new special education teacher who has brought fresh energy to our school and a new school counselor. Together, we strive to create a joyful, enriching, and engaging environment for all of our students.

Each day, we have the privilege of witnessing our students' growth—tackling challenges, building new skills, and developing resilience. This year, we continue to emphasize Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) and Responsive Classroom strategies, fostering strong connections between students and their teachers.

The Windham Northeast Supervisory Union has adopted a new English Language Arts curriculum, EL Education, which integrates Science and Social Studies topics. This approach allows students to explore these subjects through reading, writing, and engaging hands-on experiences. Additionally, WNESU has introduced Illustrative Math as our new math program. Alongside these academic enhancements, we remain dedicated to fostering student achievement and engagement while utilizing restorative practices to support positive behavior and skill development.

We are proud to continue as a PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) school by the Vermont Agency of Education and this year our school was recognized as a School of Recognition for our efforts and achievements with PBIS. As part of a nationwide network of 20,000 PBIS schools, we have embraced this research-based framework to encourage positive behavior and create a safe, supportive environment for all students. The benefits of PBIS are clear: fewer behavioral disruptions, more instructional time, and stronger student attendance, all contributing to academic success.

Our PBIS foundation is built on four core values:

- **Be Kind**
- **Be Safe**
- **Be a Community**

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

- **Persevere**

We continue to implement a Behavior Matrix outlining expectations in all school settings, paired with lessons to teach and reinforce these behaviors. An acknowledgment system recognizes students for meeting expectations, while observation and reflection tools help address unexpected behaviors and guide further teaching. This comprehensive approach helps us foster prosocial behaviors and maintain a positive school culture.

Beyond the classroom, our students continue to benefit from GES's beautiful outdoor spaces. These areas provide unique opportunities for hands-on learning, creativity, and exploration. Thanks to the generosity of the Windham Foundation, we can access the pond, fields, and stream for outdoor education. Our partnership with The Nature Museum further enhances this learning with exciting programs and experiences.

We continue to make meaningful improvements to our school's safety and facilities. A new camera monitoring system has been implemented to enhance the security of our indoor and outdoor learning spaces. Additionally, thanks to ESSER funds, we installed a new playground this spring, and our students have been thoroughly enjoying the upgraded equipment.

The Grafton Elementary PTO continues to be a vital partner in supporting our students. Their efforts, alongside the generosity of our community, allow us to provide enhanced learning experiences and resources. PTO meetings are held monthly, and we encourage families to participate and share their ideas.

At GES, our dedicated and talented staff focus on nurturing the whole student every day. Their tireless work ensures that every decision we make is student-centered. We are incredibly proud to serve the Grafton and Athens communities and deeply grateful for the unwavering support we receive from residents, businesses, and families.

Thank you for being an integral part of our school community and for supporting us in fostering an environment where our students can thrive while preserving the cherished traditions of GES. It's an honor to lead Grafton Elementary School, and look forward to continuing this journey together.

Go Panthers!

Warm regards,

Angela Cartier

Principal, Grafton Elementary School

KINDERGARTEN CLASS OF 2023-2024



Gracie Herzog, Brooklynn Moul, Clemencia Suriani,
Rowan Taylor and Marley Kelcey

GRADUATING SIXTH GRADE CLASS OF 2024



Fiona Clark

Charlotte Douglas

Teyah Vitale

Abby Mack-Dyer



WINDHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Mark R. Anderson
PO Box 8126, Brattleboro VT 05301
Tel: (802) 365-4942
Fax: (802) 365-4945



Town of Grafton Report

We continue our multi-year work on regionalized policing that can deliver services in an affordable way. We continue to develop stakeholders to work toward a finalized plan. As we enter our next phase of the project, we begin our public process where we will hold meetings around Windham County to ensure the broadest input possible. If this conversation interests you or your town, please look out for future advertising of these public meetings. Regionalizing services is not a new recommendation for Vermont. It is my intent that we continue to develop a proposal that provides improved policing services in a manner affordable to towns and taxpayers.

Call Type	Count
Animal - Vicious	2
Animal - Welfare	3
Assist - Agency	1
Directed Patrol	1
Found / Lost Property	1
SMART Cart	1
Traffic Stop	31
VIN Verification	1
Grand Total	41

I'm pleased to share my office was recently awarded a \$1.1 million dollar lead reduction capacity building grant. Research has shown the impact of lead on crime and incarceration rates as well as other public health issues. This grant will serve all of Windham County in building capacity of lead abatement professionals to reduce lead hazards in homes, which will present future opportunities for further grant funding, jobs, and improvements in Windham County housing.

The Windham County Sheriff's Office recently leased space in our building to the State of Vermont that adds bed capacity for the Department of Children and Families (DCF). While located in the same building as us, this program is operated entirely through DCF without any other affiliation to my office. The program establishes a safe location for children in DCF custody to stay, which is a statewide issue in dire need. In return, the revenue raised offsets the costs of operation of our building, reducing the county tax – a win for the taxpayer in a time of rising costs, youth in need of services, and public safety.

Our Regional Animal Control Officer (ACO) program, which Town of Grafton is a member of, continues to grow each year now representing ten towns. The initial work of the member towns has been a remarkable success, addressing animals that are vicious; at-large; neglected; unregistered; and in need of quarantine.

Our Regional Emergency Communications Center received upgrades this year as well, with improvements directed at our communications infrastructure and programmatic improvements providing opportunities to better align the public's access to emergency services with best practices. Our Center answers approximately 43,780 phone calls each year, which generates 12,008 responses the communities we serve.

The Windham County Sheriff's Office is pleased to serve the people of Town of Grafton and look forward to the upcoming year. If you have a need for our services, please don't hesitate to contact our office at 802-365-4942 for non-emergencies or 911 for emergencies.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheriff Mark R. Anderson

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

Pursuant to: 20 VS.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 unhoused 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: VSNIP.VERMONT.GOV Sue Skaskiw, Administrator

TOGETHER WE DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



The mission of the Windham Regional Commission (WRC) is to assist towns in Southeastern Vermont to provide effective local governance and to work collaboratively with them to address regional issues. The region is comprised of 27-member towns: the 23 towns of Windham County; Readsboro, Searsburg and Winhall in Bennington County; and Weston in Windsor County.

The Commission, a political subdivision of the state, is composed of and governed by town-appointed Commissioners. Towns choose their own representatives to serve on the Commission. After town meeting, each Selectboard appoints up to two representatives to serve on the Commission for a one-year term. Grafton is currently represented by Eric Stevens and Cheryl Kaufman. Each Commissioner represents their town's interests within a regional context before the Commission, brings information from the Commission back to their town, and serves on at least one of a number of WRC committees that address regional and municipal issues and concerns. All WRC meetings are open to the public and subject to Vermont open meeting law. Committees and meeting schedules can be found on our website www.windhamregional.org.

We assist towns with a wide variety of activities, including updating town plans and bylaws; community and economic development; local emergency and hazard mitigation planning, including flood hazard area bylaw assistance; serving as a liaison between towns and the State Emergency Operations Center to report damage caused by a disaster; natural resource planning, including assisting towns with watershed restoration and water quality projects; energy resilience and planning; addressing transportation issues, including traffic counts (automotive, bicycle, pedestrian), inventories (bridges, culverts, signs, road erosion), and road foremen training; redevelopment of Brownfields sites (sites that are or may be contaminated by hazardous substances); review of projects submitted through Act 250 (land use), Section 248 (energy generation and transmission, telecommunications), and federal permitting processes; grant applications and administration; training of municipal officials and volunteers across a range of topics; and mapping and geographic information system (GIS) analyses. The maps in your town office were likely produced by the WRC.

We help towns, both individually and collectively, make the most of the financial and human resources they have, by assisting with projects in, and among towns, building and augmenting the capacity of volunteer-based town boards and commissions, and providing professional services to towns that may want to take on a project that is beyond what they can comfortably manage with their own staff and volunteers. Our relationship with towns is inherently collaborative.

Work highlights for 2024 include assisting towns with project development and applications to the state Hazard Mitigation and Flood Resilient Communities programs, piloting a multi-town housing planning charrette process, supporting several towns with their town plan and zoning updates, assisting with the management of wastewater engineering and implementation projects, continued collaboration with Green Mountain Power on engaging with towns around grid resiliency, and helping towns access the Municipal Energy Resilience Program and the Municipal Technical Assistance Program. The WRC has also worked to bring more faculty and student engagement into the region, and this year brought in the University of Vermont, UMass-Amherst, and Norwich University on wastewater system mapping, housing and community connectedness, and river flood modeling, respectively. We are also updating the regional plan.

Funding for the WRC is provided through contracts with state agencies, federal and other grants, and town assessments. Town assessments made up approximately 5 percent of our total budget. Each town's individual assessment makes it possible for us to leverage the resources to serve all towns. The town's assessment for this year is \$1,774.57. To see our detailed Work Program and Budget for FY2025 and 2024 Annual Report, visit our website, www.windhamregional.org, and click on the heading "About Us."

SENIOR SOLUTIONS
Detailed Report to the Town of Grafton

Senior Solutions, Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont, Inc. has served the residents of Grafton and Southeastern Vermont since 1973. We have offices in Springfield (main office), Windsor and Brattleboro. Our mission is to promote the well-being and dignity of older adults. Our vision is that every person will age in the place of their choice, with the support they need and the opportunity for meaningful relationships and active engagement in their community.

This is a summary of services provided to Grafton residents in the time period of 7/1/2023-6/30/2024.

Information & Assistance: 29 Calls or Office Visits. Our HelpLine (802-885-2669 or 866-673-8376) offers information, referrals and assistance to older Vermonters, their families, and their caregivers to problem-solve, plan, and access resources. We assist with health insurance problems, long-term care applications, fuel assistance, applying for benefits, and many other needs. Extensive resources are also on our website:
www.SeniorSolutionsVT.org

Medicare Assistance: 6 Calls or Office Visits. Grafton residents received assistance with Medicare issues and enrollment through our State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). SHIP provides Medicare education and counseling, classes for new Medicare enrollees, and help enrolling in Part D and choosing a drug plan.

In-Home Care Coordination Services: We provided 8 residents with in-home case management or other home-based assistance (totaling 123 hours) to enable them to remain living safely at home. A Senior Solutions case manager meets clients at home to create and monitor a person-centered plan of care. Based on this plan, case managers work to secure services that support the client in the community. We also support clients with self-neglect behaviors, and help those who experience abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

Nutrition Services and Meal Programs: We partnered with Grafton Cares, Grafton Chapel, and TRIO Community Meals to provide 1,520 Home-Delivered Meals, plus community meal gatherings in our region.

Senior Solutions administers federal and state funds to local organizations to supplement their operating costs for these meal programs. The funds we provide do not cover the full cost, so local meal sites must seek additional funding to meet operating costs. Senior Solutions does not use town funding to support these meal programs and does not benefit from any funds that towns provide directly to local meal sites. Senior Solutions also offers the services of a registered dietician to older adults and to local meal sites.

Volunteer Visitors: Our volunteers provided home visits, telephone reassurance, and respite for family caregivers. Our Vet-to-Vet program matches Veteran volunteers with Veteran recipients. 1 resident received 15.5 hours of volunteer service.

Other Services: Residents may also have received one or more of the following services: caregiver respite, transportation, wellness and fall prevention programs, options counseling, legal assistance (through Vermont Legal Aid), assistance for adults with disabilities, pet care support, and home-based mental health services.

Senior Solutions is enormously grateful for the support of the people from the Town of Grafton.

Submitted by Mark Boutwell, Executive Director

Local Health Office Annual Report: 2024

Springfield Local Health Office | 100 Mineral St, Suite 104, Springfield, VT
802-289-0600 | AHS.VDHSpringfield@Vermont.gov

Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the Vermont Department of Health. The Springfield Local Health Office provides essential services and resources to towns in Southern Windsor and Northern Windham Counties.

Some highlights of our work in 2024 are below. For more information, visit

HealthVermont.gov/local/springfield



Responding to Health Emergencies

It is important that we respond quickly to public health emergencies. This helps reduce illness and injury in our community.

COVID-19

We continued to respond to COVID-19 through prevention and response efforts. We distributed hundreds of free COVID test kits, including through Veggie Van Go events in Springfield and Windsor. We also investigated and provided guidance on preventing and containing outbreaks, particularly in long-term care facilities, where vulnerable populations reside.

Measles and Pertussis

This year, Vermont saw a rise in the incidence of measles and pertussis. We responded with education and investigation services to slow and contain the spread. We also investigated hundreds of other reportable conditions to prevent further spread.



Women, Infant and Children (WIC) Services

Springfield WIC serves an average of 600 individuals monthly with 3 outlying clinic sites in Bellows Falls, Ludlow and Windsor.

- Our WIC staff helped families buy over \$94,121 of fruits and vegetables.
- Our Farm to Family coupons distributed an additional \$4,350 in our community.
- Our WIC program gave out 100 State Park passes, helping to reduce financial barriers to safe physical activity.

Springfield WIC continues to be a safe and supportive place for nursing families to access resources, information and support.



WHPA Town Meeting Letter 2025

Dear neighbors,

The Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association holds more than 2,800 acres of land and maintains 28 miles of trails that are free and open to the public in the towns of Westminster, Rockingham, Athens, Grafton, Brookline and Townshend. We are a nonprofit founded in 1992 to foster habitat conservation, watershed integrity, education, and the enduring connection of people to the natural world.

The land we protect includes the Pinnacle summit—a 1,683-foot overlook with sweeping views of the Green Mountain Range in southern Vermont—as well as Athens Dome, Bald Hill Reserve, and Lily Pond Highlands.

Here are a few highlights from the past year:

- Students from Westminster Center School made a school trip to the Pinnacle summit last spring, with Putney Central School kids making the hike in the fall. We have previously sponsored trips by students at Grafton Elementary School and Westminster Center School with a naturalist from The Nature Museum at Grafton.
- We partnered with the Vermont Land Trust to acquire and conserve 96 acres in Westminster West. The project widens a section of protected forest along the Windmill Hill ridgeline.
- We secured an Act 250 permit to build a hiking trail and a small parking area at Lily Pond Highlands, a 615-acre property in the towns of Athens, Brookline, and Townshend.
- We host free events throughout the year, including a spring wildflower walk, Accessibility Day, wildlife tracking walks, educational talks, fall foliage hikes, and more.

We are enrolled in the conservation current use program and pay property taxes in all six towns. Our Conservation Management Plan can be found on the “Conservation” page of our website.

WHPA board members are all volunteers. If you are interested in learning more, please visit our website, WindmillHillPinnacle.org, or email us at info@windmillhillpinnacle.org.

-The Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association



Caring For Our Communities in Sickness and in Health

“I’m ‘medical phobic’ and avoided health care for years, until I no longer could. Grace Cottage is so homey, with kind and very competent staff. I’ve been telling everyone I know that Grace Cottage is the best!” ~ *Lisa Place, Wilmington, VT*

“I am a true fan of Grace Cottage. I went from doctors and hospitals in Boston to Grace Cottage, and I am finding the care far superior.” ~ *Susan Holsapple, Londonderry, VT*

Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital has served the healthcare needs of our rural community with competence and compassion for more than 75 years. In 2024, Grace Cottage was again named “Best Hospital,” “Best Emergency Care,” “Best Physical Therapy,” “Best Pharmacy,” “Best Doctors,” “Best Pediatricians,” and “Best Place to Work” in the *Brattleboro Reformer* Readers’ Choice Best of Windham County Awards.

Grace Cottage Hospital is comprised of a 19-bed inpatient facility for acute and rehabilitative care, a 24-hour Emergency Department, a hospice care suite, and laboratory and diagnostic imaging departments. Grace Cottage is contracted with Dartmouth Health to offer TeleEmergency and TeleNeurology services. In 2023, Grace Cottage completed a 17’ x 42’ expansion of the Emergency Department in response to the substantial increase in the number of emergency visits in recent years.

Grace Cottage Family Health offers expanded hours for convenience and is accepting new patients. More than 8,000 area residents choose Grace Cottage for their **primary care**. We offer physicals and wellness visits, chronic disease management, pediatrics, geriatrics, and mental health services. Grace Cottage welcomes all members of the community and is one of three Vermont hospitals named a Top Performer in the national Human Rights Campaign Foundation’s LGBTQ+ Healthcare Equality Index. Patient volume in the clinic has grown exponentially, and in response to this burgeoning community need, Grace Cottage has embarked on a project to construct a new clinic building with increased capacity, comfort, and convenience.

Grace Cottage’s **Community Health Team** offers free services to area residents, including nutrition, lifestyle, and diabetes coaching; care coordination; and help with social services and financial assistance applications.

Grace Cottage’s **Rehabilitation Department** offers exceptional care for both inpatients and outpatients. The 16 physical and occupational therapists also offer lymphedema therapy, custom orthotics, women’s health, and pelvic health physical therapy. Because of the increase in demand for these services, the department has moved into the Heins Building, providing larger quarters for these important services.

Grace Cottage’s Messenger Valley Pharmacy continues to provide convenient prescription fulfillment for all members of the community, along with expert advice and friendly service. We fill orders from any provider, including veterinarians. Many over-the-counter medications, personal care items, gifts, and greeting cards are also available.

Grace Cottage is an independent, non-profit 501(c)3 organization. Town appropriations and other donations enable us to provide the best possible care for our region. On behalf of all of the patients that we serve, **thank you for your support.** You help to make Grace Cottage the special place that it is.

Fiscal Year 2024, by the numbers:

- 29,982:** Patient visits to Grace Cottage Family Health
- 3,674:** Patient days in hospital
- 4,195:** Emergency Dept. visits
- 11,354:** Outpatient Physical & Occupational Rehab visits
- 1,877:** Diagnostic Imaging visits (CT Scan, X-ray, ultrasound, bone density)
- 1,630:** Community Health Team visits
- 2,080:** Individual donations to Grace Cottage

November 29, 2024

Selectboard
Town of Grafton
PO Box 180
Grafton, VT 05146

Dear Selectboard Members,

The Gathering Place would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous appropriation this fiscal year and for consideration of our request for a contribution in Fiscal Year 2026.

Requested Appropriation for 2025-2026: \$500.00
Appropriation for 2024-2025: \$500.00

The Gathering Place (TGP) is a 501c3 not-for-profit organization that has proudly served the older adults and adults with disabilities residents of the Windham County region including bordering New Hampshire and Massachusetts communities since 1989. TGP is conveniently located on 30 Terrace Street in Brattleboro. Older adults and adult disabled individuals of a variety of ages, races, religions and socioeconomic status enjoy the benefits of the Center and its services. The Gathering Place is both a cost-effective way to minimize the stress of providing care at home and an affordable alternative to nursing facility placement. The center is open Monday through Friday from 7:45 AM to 4:45 PM. Participants receive 2-way transportation from door to door.

TGP's myriad of services and activities are designed to bring health, fun, laughter and companionship to the lives of our participants and peace of mind to their families. Our services include:

- **Nursing** oversight
- **Access to transportation and coordination of medical appointments**
- Access to on-site counseling, and occupational and physical therapies
- Daily exercise program
- Recreation and social activities **that help participants retain their sense of identity**
- Nutritious meals and snacks
- Personal care (showers, podiatry, etc)
- Outreach services
- Companionship
- Special events

There are many different ways that program participants may pay for their services.

- Private pay refers to those participants who pay The Gathering Place's stated fee.
- TGP offers scholarships **made possible through donations and town allocations** for those who exhibit financial need, to help cover the cost of attendance. For those program participants whose income falls within TGP's Sliding Fee Scale range, an adjusted fee is calculated according to the scale.
- Vermont Medicaid
- Dementia and Respite Grants
- American Parkinson's Disease Association Grants

We continue the long climb to regrow our program to pre-pandemic levels when we served over 100 families each year. The program is currently operating at just over 60% of pre-pandemic census.

In the last Fiscal Year TGP provided services to **42** families. The services included:

- 25,909** hours of service
- 20,160** hours of planned activities
- 8,476** breakfasts, lunches and snacks
- 10,080** hours of exercise per year

As part of our fundraising program, we ask local towns for financial support so that we can continue to provide an excellent program and stand ready to meet the future demand for our services, including the ability to fund our income sensitive sliding fee scale for those folks that need our support. The Gathering Place is asking for your help and is requesting funding in the amount of **\$500**.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to your response. If you have any questions or require additional information please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



Heather Robertson
Executive Director



The District was chartered in 1981 and currently serves fourteen Vermont towns. Each member municipality appoints a representative and an alternate to serve on the Board of Supervisors. Grafton’s representative is Cynthia Gibbs; Kim Record is the alternate.



Food scraps are banned from the landfill because they generate methane gas which degrades the ozone layer. The Rockingham Transfer Station accepts food scraps (including meat and bones) from people with an access permit. To facilitate backyard composting, the District sold composters and food scrap pails. Many composting resources are available on the District’s website.



The District’s household hazardous waste (HHW) depot in Springfield was popular with District residents. It was open, by appointment, for up to six hours a week for five months last summer. The Depot will re-open in May 2025. We accept a long list of products, which can be read on our website, vtsolidwastedistrict.org. When the Depot is closed, the Rutland County Solid Waste District will take HHW from non-residents; make an appointment at reswd.org.



This is the “reuse” symbol - that is what happens with glass bottles and jars that are brought to the Ludlow, Rockingham, Springfield, and Weathersfield transfer stations. Strategic Materials, Inc. picks up the glass, grinds it, and makes it into new products. SMI, however, has rejected truckloads of glass which is

contaminated with plastic, metal, caps, lids, and plant pots. The sending town then has to pay the cost of trucking and disposal. Otherwise, SMI recycles clean glass at no cost.



Two retailers in Springfield accept unwanted paint year-round. Bring paint to Bibens Ace Hardware or Sherwin-Williams during regular business hours and dispose of it for free (cans must be labeled, not leaky, not rusty – bring unlabeled, leaky, or rusty cans to the HHW Depot). Paint is also accepted in Ludlow at Aubuchon’s.



AA, AAA, C, D, 9v, hearing aid, coin cell, tool, and rechargeable batteries are accepted at the Rockingham Transfer Station. Batteries are “special recycling” and do NOT go in with other recycling (fire hazard). There is also a convenient collection bucket at the Town Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Kennedy
District Manager

Mary T. O’Brien
Recycling Coordinator

Ham Gillett
Outreach Coordinator

November 20, 2024

Kim Records, Town Clerk/Treas.
Town of Grafton
P.O. Box 180
Grafton, VT 05146

Dear Ms. Records and voters:

The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL), a statewide, non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities, respectfully requests funding from the Town of Grafton for our FY'25.

Annual support from over 140 cities and towns across the State helps VCIL assist Vermonters with disabilities achieve dignified and self-determined lives. VCIL works to serve individuals who can benefit from our direct services as well as to educate and inform members of the community about disability related issues and independent living. Direct services are available to residents of Grafton in a number of ways. Peer counselors work with residents in their homes or other locations; small grants for adaptive equipment; Meals on Wheels for people with disabilities under the age of 60; Home Access modifications; individual and systems advocacy and programs for youth. Information, Referral and Assistance is available to all residents by calling VCIL's I-Line, at 1-800-639-1522 (Voice and TTY).

We are requesting \$105.00 from the Town of Grafton to continue supporting people with disabilities in the coming year. Enclosed you will find a summary of VCIL's programs and services for the town and a copy of our FY'25 budget.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,



Sarah Launderville
Executive Director
slaunderville@vcil.org

Health Care & Rehabilitation Services Narrative Report from FY24 for Town of Grafton

Health Care and Rehabilitation Services (HCRS) is a comprehensive community mental health provider serving residents of Windsor and Windham counties. HCRS assists and advocates for individuals, families, and children who are living with mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance use disorders. HCRS provides these services through outpatient mental health services, alcohol and drug treatment program, community rehabilitation and treatment program, developmental disability services division, and 24/7 emergency services.

During FY24, HCRS provided 245 hours of services to 11 residents of the Town of Grafton. The services provided included all of HCRS' programs resulting in a wide array of supports for the residents of Grafton.

Anyone with questions about HCRS services should contact George Karabakakis, Chief Executive Officer, at (802) 886-4500.



Windham & Windsor Housing Trust (WWHT) is a non-profit organization founded in 1987, serving the residents of Windham and southern Windsor County. We provide housing for residents with low and moderate incomes, provide supportive services, preserve and revitalize neighborhoods, help residents acquire their own homes, and support homeowners with critical repairs to homes in Windham and southern Windsor County.

WWHT's mission is to strengthen the communities of Southeast Vermont through the development and stewardship of permanently affordable housing and through ongoing support and advocacy for its residents.

The organization applies mission to practice through three branches: Homeownership, Housing Development, and Property Management. The **Homeownership's** Home Repair Program assisted *17 homeowners* by providing low-cost loans to make critical repairs. *95 participants completed the Homebuyer Educational Workshop.* The one-to-one counseling assisted *19 new homeowners* in 2024 by navigating them through the purchase process to closing on their new home. The *Shared Equity program has 141 homes* currently and provides grants to income-eligible homebuyers to subsidize the purchase of single-family homes which lowers the cost to the homebuyer. The VHIP (Vermont Housing Improvement Program) works with private landowners to rehab and/or create new units. There are 91 units under construction spread across the whole of Windham and Windsor Counties this year with a healthy pipeline for 2025 with VHIP 2.0 funds.

Housing Development: WWHT develops affordable rental housing opportunities which meet the diverse housing needs within a community. This takes the form of both the rehabilitation of existing housing and the construction of new apartments. In 2022, *the Bellows Falls Garage opened creating 27 new, affordable apartments* to downtown Bellows Falls. The *Central & Main 25-apartment development in downtown Windsor* will be opening spring of 2025, leasing information will be available through Stewart Property Management. *Alice Holway Drive in Putney is slated to create 25 new homes* within the village and is planned to break ground in 2025. We are also in the funding phase for the innovative redevelopment plan of the Chalet property, a multi-phase development that will cumulate in a new neighborhood of rental townhomes, multifamily apartments for general occupancy, single family shared equity homeownership properties, and the restoration of the iconic original Chalet building. Information and updates on all these can be found under the FAQ tab on our website. www.homemattershere.org

Property Management: WWHT owns 83 residential properties housing 16 commercial spaces with 929 rental apartments and 3 mobile home parks, home to over 1,500 residents. We manage the rental properties in southern Windham County and contract with Stewart Property Management for the properties in northern Windham and Windsor Counties. WWHT takes pride in the appearance of our multi-family housing and is committed to providing the staff and financial resources necessary to ensure the long-term health and safety of our residents as well as the preservation of property values. For resident support, between Windsor's SASH program and Brattleboro-area's SASH For All, we had over *137 participants connected to health and wellness resources.*

Although WWHT is a non-profit, we pay local property taxes on our rental properties and our shared-equity homeowners pay property taxes to the Towns and Villages.

Grafton, Vermont
Results of Town Meeting
March 5, 2024

Pursuant to a warning duly posted and recorded, the legal voters of the Town met at the Grafton Elementary School in Grafton, Vermont on March 5, 2024 and took action on the following articles with these results (polls open from 9 am to 7 pm). Moderator David Ross called the 241st recorded Grafton Town Meeting to order at 10 am and invited the meeting to join GES students in the Pledge of Allegiance. He asked for a moment of silence to remember those no longer with us. He said that Stephen Nolan would be passing portable microphones to those who wished to speak. He announced that the Grafton PTG had food for sale in the lobby to benefit the “Girls on the Run” program.

There being no objection, he asked Grafton’s Legislative Representative Heather Chase to address voters and discuss what was happening in Montpelier. He recessed the meeting at 10:03 am. Chase discussed these topics: stabilizing school funding; universal school meals; workforce development; data privacy, and; offsets for flood costs (with regard to the July 2023 flooding). She said she would be at the Grafton Library on April 13 from 11 to noon to meet with voters.

The Moderator reconvened the meeting at 10:12 am.

The Moderator said that various town officials had been working for many weeks to prepare for this meeting and that various reports, including the Town Report, were located in the back of the room. He noted that Australian Ballot voting for town officials and school budgets were going on at the back of the room and until 7 pm that evening.

The Moderator said that he was privileged to serve as the meeting Moderator and that his role was to conduct a fair and orderly meeting and accomplish the business voters intended. He said that the meeting would be conducted in accordance with the laws of the State of Vermont and Robert’s Rules of Order. He noted that voters may vote to overrule Robert’s Rules and the Moderator, but not state law. The Moderator asked non-voters to stand and be recognized. He said that if anyone wished to speak, they should raise their hand, and be recognized, state their name for the record, and wait for Steve Nolan to pass the microphone. The Moderator said that with no objection, speakers would be limited to five minutes, a person could speak once on an article and a second time after all others have spoken. He said that reading of short quotes was allowed but any lengthy reading would require special action by the body.

There were no suggestions or questions. There being no objection, the Moderator dispensed with the reading of the entire Warning.

ART. 1 It was moved by Liisa Kissel, seconded by Andrea Turner, to choose all Town Officers and to vote on each and every Article proposed at this Town Meeting; voting shall be by Australian ballot on Tuesday, March 5, 2024; polls open from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Results of Australian Ballot:

David Culver, elected Moderator, one year

John Gregory, elected Selectboard member, two years

Cathy Siano-Goodwin, elected Selectboard member, three years
Stephen Sargent, elected Selectboard member, two years
Arlene Carey, elected Auditor, three years
Nancy Merrill, elected Lister, three years
Kimberly Record, elected Trustee of Campbell, Woolson Funds, three years
Kimberly Record, elected Trust of Public Funds, three years
Mary Howard Feder, elected Union High School District No. 27 Director, two years
Hardy Merrill, elected Grafton-WNUESD School Director, two years

ART. 2 It was moved by Chris Wallace, seconded by Cathy Siano-Goodwin, that the Town of Grafton receive and accept the Auditor's Report.

The Moderator offered the opportunity for discussion, and there was none. He reread the article and called for a vote. Motion passed by voice vote.

ART. 3 It was moved by Joe Pollio, seconded by Sam Battaglino, that the Town of Grafton authorize the Selectboard to borrow money, respectively, if necessary, for current expenses in anticipation of collection of taxes.

The Moderator offered the opportunity for discussion and there was none. He reread the article and called for a vote. Motion passed by voice vote.

ART. 4 It was moved by Mary Beth Culver, seconded by John Turner, that the Town of Grafton raise seven hundred seventeen thousand eighty-six dollars (\$717,086.00) for the maintenance of highways and bridges.

The Moderator offered the opportunity for discussion. Cynthia Gibbs asked in reference to the balance sheet, for the Selectboard to explain what it was going to do for retreatment of roads. Selectboard chair Joe Pollio said that there would be no repaving because there was only \$105,000 in the budget and the board needed to wait for that amount to be over \$200,000. Gibbs asked why it was in the fund balances as \$145,000. Town Treasurer Kim Record said that the amount was explained on page 13, where the proposed budget appeared; she said that on page 16, the highway department expenditures were broken out to add up to the \$717,086 or amount requested.

There was no further discussion. The Moderator reread the article and called for a vote. Motion passed by voice vote.

ART. 5 It was moved by Joe Pollio, seconded by Bill Kearns, the Town of Grafton raise two hundred forty-two thousand four hundred forty-four dollars (\$242,444.00) for the Selectboard's Budget.

The Moderator offered the opportunity for discussion and there was none. He reread the article and called for a vote. Motion passed by voice vote.

ART. 6 It was moved by Jean Lix, seconded by Bob Donald, that the Town of Grafton raise nine thousand dollars (\$9,000.00) for ambulance service.

The Moderator offered the opportunity for discussion and there was none. He reread the article and called for a vote. Motion passed by voice vote.

ART. 7 It was moved Pat Mack, seconded by Terry Pollio, that the Town of Grafton raise twenty-nine thousand nine hundred fifty dollars (\$29,950.00) for the Grafton Firefighters Association operating expenses.

The Moderator offered the opportunity for discussion. Fire chief Robbie Sprague thanked the town for its continuing support over the past 100 years and that the proposed budget represented an operating budget that was level funded for the third year in a row. He said that there would be more fundraising to raise funds for a ladder truck.

There was no further discussion. The Moderator reread the article and called for a vote. Motion passed by voice vote.

ART. 8 It was moved by Margo Matt, seconded by David Hall, that the Town of Grafton raise four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500.00) for Grafton Rescue Squad operating expenses.

The Moderator offered the opportunity for discussion. Rescue Squad president Keith Hermiz said that in terms of budget, the Rescue Squad had been able to level fund once again this year. He said that the squad had picked up coverage for Athens and had been able to absorb the town nicely, with a per capital allocation and breakdown of population. Hermiz said that the squad was hitting the 15-year anniversary mark for its emergency vehicle and would be embarking on fundraising for that; he said there would be a shortfall but hoped to obtain grants and not come back to the town with a request. Sally Warren thanked the Rescue Squad for its service to her family in the past year.

There was no further discussion. The Moderator reread the article and called for a vote. Motion passed by voice vote.

ART. 9 It was moved by Mary Beth Culver, seconded by Joe Pollio, that the the Town of Grafton approve expenditures of any grant monies awarded for purposes named in such grant or grants for fiscal year 2024/2025.

The Moderator offered the opportunity for discussion and there was none. He reread the article and called for a vote. Motion passed by voice vote.

ART. 10 It was moved by Jean Lix, seconded by Lucia Corwin, that the Town of Grafton raise twelve thousand eighty-one dollars (\$12,081.00) for Humanitarian expenses (Bellows Falls Senior Center - \$674; Grafton Cares - \$1,000; Grafton Church (Food Pantry) - \$1,000; HCRS - \$600; VT Rural Fire Protection - \$100; Senior Solutions - \$650; SEVCA - \$650; The Current - \$250; Valley Cares - \$1,052; Visiting Nurse Association - \$2,300; VCIL - \$105; Women's Freedom Center - \$600; Youth Services - \$100; The Gathering Place - \$500; Grace Cottage Foundation - \$2,500).

The Moderator offered the opportunity for discussion. Sam Battaglino queried SEVCA's request and wondered if there were Grafton residents who benefited from this organization directly. Barbara Carey Lake said that as a community wellness nurse, she knew many folks who had

benefited with tax prep services and the organization also does case management to allow people to stay in their homes. Thomas Toscano said that SEVCA insulated his cabin and provided a stove from the State of Vermont for free.

There was no further discussion. The Moderator reread the article and called for a vote. Motion passed by voice vote.

ART. 11 It was moved by Bill Kearns, seconded by Dottie Cannon, that the Town of Grafton raise two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00) for the Capital Budget? (\$45,000 for Highway Structures Program, \$170,696 for Highway Equipment, \$10,000 for the Guardrails Program, \$17,000 for Fire Truck Fund, and \$7,304 for Town Hall Requirements).

The Moderator offered the opportunity for discussion and there was none. He reread the article and called for a vote. Motion passed by voice vote.

ART. 12 It was moved by Cathy Siano-Goodwin, seconded by Lucia Corwin, that the Town of Grafton raise one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) for the support of Parks Place.

The Moderator offered the opportunity for discussion and there was none. He reread the article and called for a vote. Motion passed by voice vote.

ART. 13 It was moved by Maryann Donald, seconded by Thomas Toscano, that the Town of Grafton grant tax exemption to the Brick Meeting House Foundation for their property identified as Parcel Number 008141, located at 2 Main Street.

The Moderator offered the opportunity for discussion and there was none. He reread the article and called for a vote. Motion passed by voice vote.

ART. 14 It was moved by Margo Matt, seconded by David Hall, that the Town of Grafton grant tax exemption to the Grafton Improvement Association for their properties identified as Parcel Number 008144 and 009056, located at 50 Townshend Road and 877 Kidder Hill Road.

The Moderator offered the opportunity for discussion and there was none. He reread the article and called for a vote. Motion passed by voice vote.

ART. 15 It was moved by Kim Record, seconded by Bob Donald, that the Town of Grafton pay its property taxes to the Treasurer in Quarterly installments, with the due dates being August 15, November 15, February 17, and May 15, with no postmarks accepted.

The Moderator offered the opportunity for discussion and there was none. He reread the article and called for a vote. Motion passed by voice vote.

ART. 16 It was moved by Bill Kearns, seconded by Norm Robertson, that the Town of Grafton levy an interest charge on all delinquent taxes on real and personal property of one (1) percent per month or fraction thereof from the due date of each installment for the first three months, and one

and one-half (1½) percent per month or fraction thereof for every month thereafter, as provided for in 32 VSA 5136.

The Moderator offered the opportunity for discussion and there was none. He reread the article and called for a vote. Motion passed by voice vote.

With no objection, at 10:47 am the Moderator called for discussion of non-binding business.

- Pat Mack said that there had been over 30,000 primary care visits to Grace Cottage Hospital in the past year, and the hospital was having a large campaign with great need. She asked voters to speak with her or Terry Pollio about how they could help.
- Margo Matt told voters that the Village Park volunteers had received a \$30,000 grant to aid in accessibility to the park. She thanked the Grafton Improvement Association for providing porta-potties to that park and Winnie Park.
- Keith Hermiz thanked David Ross for his work as Town Moderator over the past nine years. Wendy Martin presented him and Judy Ross with flowers as thanks and good wishes for retirement. The Moderator said that he and Judy were leaving Grafton with a lot of sadness and that it had been his honor to serve as Town Moderator.
- Joe Pollio thanked Rich Thompson for his service on the Selectboard.
- Dottie Cannon thanked all of the boards and organizations that keep the town running smoothly.

At 10:56 am, a motion was made by Judy Ross, seconded by David Culver, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Martin, Assistant Town Clerk

David Ross, Town Moderator

Selectboard member

Welcome to the Grafton Village Park

A gift to the residents and visitors of Grafton by Charles and Gertrude Daniels in 1923. The family had originally intended to develop the hillside into a water supply for the Town taking advantage of the seeps and springs. The remains of several water-collecting devices are still present on the property as well as a network of underground piping. The land also contains several old features of interest such as a picnic area with an old stone fireplace, an old stone fort that includes some nice stonework and a large stone “roof” left from the glacier, an old gazebo (also a newer one), and of course old stone walls. The walls were created in the 1800s when Vermont went from 85% forested to 85% for agriculture primarily sheep and the family hill farms. After the Civil War, there was great abandonment of land, and the fields grew back to forests, and Vermont is now about 85% of forested again. If you look at the map here on the kiosk, you will see there are several different colored marked trails that will take you to the features just described.

The health and vigor of the trees on this property are affected by the species composition, age, spacing, ice storms, wind events, drought, and insect outbreaks. Without the removal of hazardous trees, the area would become unsafe for public use. In the winter of 2021 and 2022, under frozen conditions, a timber sale was conducted by a commercial contractor and administered by a State of Vermont Forester. The property was inventoried, a plan was developed, and the trees were marked to be harvested. The goal was to remove current and future hazard trees, provide spacing for healthy vigorous crowns of the trees and reduce the number of ash trees that will be killed by Emerald Ash Borer, which has already been detected in three neighboring towns. The revenue from the sale went into a fund for work in the park; the parking area is a direct benefit from the timber sale.



History behind the Village Park Learning Center Structure

Built for the enjoyment of Grafton residents and visitors by a small group of volunteers. Constructed of a few white pine and hemlock trees that once grew across the Village from here. The trees were cut in the winter, sawed on a woodmizer mill, and the lumber stuck up to dry. In the spring, the materials were brought to this site to be assembled.

The design was created by Jake Cady, son-in-law of two of the volunteers. After spending many nights in an Adirondack lean-to during spring canoe fishing trips, he wanted to create a structure in his backyard that improved on some of the shortcomings of a traditional lean-to. Such as the short roof in the front that drips rain between you and the fire which is outside in the rain. The same roof that collects smoke if the fire is going, depending on the wind direction. The limited sitting area. By raising the peak of the roof to the south and dropping it to the north, the structure “scoops” light and sun and blocks a north wind. With the ridgeline running north and south, the pitch of the roof turns water to the east and west away from the opening. “An interesting approach to life finding things that need to be improved and developing solutions.” It was decided not to include a fireplace in this lean-to due to safety concerns.

So please respectfully enjoy the structure as it was intended and carry out what you carried in. Thank you and enjoy!

The Volunteers!





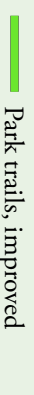

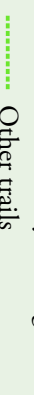
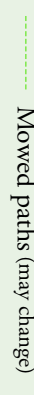
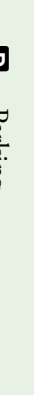

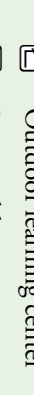
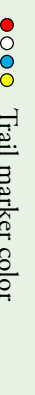




GRAFTON VILLAGE PARK TRAILS

A gift to the residents and visitors of Grafton by Charles and Gertrude Daniels in 1923.

125 Fire Pond Rd
Grafton, Vermont

0 500 Feet
distance from parking area to picnic area is slightly less than one-quarter mile

-  Park trails, improved surface for easy access
-  Park trails, natural surface, may be rough
-  Other trails
-  Mowed paths (may change)
-  Snowmobile trail
-  Parking
-  Kiosks, information
-  Outdoor learning center
-  Picnic table
-  Trail marker color

**Please pick up
after your pet!**

Volunteers and donations help maintain the Park. If you are considering either or both contact the Grafton Town Administrator, 802-843-2552, or Town Clerk, 802-843-2419.

Map by Windham Regional Commission, November 2024

