

Pictured on front cover:

The new Veterans plaque in Barnet Village honoring those who served since the Vietnam War, which will be dedicated at our 2024 Memorial Day Ceremony on Sunday, May 26. Thank you to all those who donated to aid in funding this memorial plaque.



Original dedication of the Barnet Village memorial in 1915.

"On Memorial Day, May 30, 1915, a granite monument, the gift of Hon. James Walter Brock of Montpelier, a native of Barnet, inscribed with the names of Barnet men and others in the Civil War, was unveiled in Barnet village."

- Frederic Palmer Wells. History of Barnet, Vermont, 1923, p. 260

Contact Information, Etc.

Contact Information & Hours of Operation

Town Clerk's Office

Town Clerk: Benjamin Heisholt Asst. Clerk: Catherine Roy Telephone: 802-633-2256 Fax: 802-633-4315

Email: townclerk@barnetvt.org

Hours: Mon.-Fri.: 9 a.m. – 12:00 noon & 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Town Website: www.barnetvt.org

Zoning Administrative Officer

Shirley Warden

Telephone: 802-633-4993

Town Garage

Road Foreman: Mark Chase Telephone: 802-633-4477

Animal Control Officer

Vacant

Contact Caledonia County Sheriff

or local Constables

Barnet Public Library

Librarian: Dylan Ford Telephone: 802-633-4436

Email: barnetlibrary1@gmail.com Hours: Tuesday: 10:00 a.m.— 5:30 p.m.

> Wednesday: 10:00 a.m.- 5:30 p.m. Thursday: 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 noon Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Board of Listers

John Fairchild & Nancy Bishop Telephone: 802-633-2256 Email: listers@barnetvt.org

Meetings: Wednesday from 9 a.m. – 12:00 noon at the Town

Clerk's Office. Please call for an appointment.

Transfer Station & Recycling Center

Supervisor: Bruce Marston

Hours: Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

During summer from the first Wednesday after Memorial Day until the last Wednesday before Labor Day open 3-7 p.m. on

Wednesdays.

Barnet School

Principal Luisa Millington Telephone: 802-633-4978 https://barnet.ccsuvt.net

Vermont State Game Warden

Will Seegers Cell: 802-498-5351 Dispatcher: 802-748-3111

Caledonia Central Supervisory Union

Telephone: 802-684-3801

Meetings

Selectboard

Second and fourth Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Barnet Fire Station on Bimson Drive

Caledonia Cooperative School District Board of Directors

Visit website for times and locations: https://www.ccsuvt.net/

Planning Commission/Zoning Board

Second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Barnet Fire & Rescue Station on Bimson Drive

Municipal Calendar

March 5, 2024 - Town Meeting/Pres. Primary (Office* closed)

April 1, 2024 - Dog Licenses due

April 2, 2024 - School District Election (Office closed)

May 26, 2024 – Memorial Day Services
May 27, 2024 – Memorial Day (Office closed)

May 29, 2024 – Transfer Station summer hours begin July 4, 2024 – Independence Day (Office closed)

August 2024 – Property Tax bills mailed out

August 13, 2024 – Statewide Primary Election (Office closed)

August 28, 2024 – Transfer Station summer hours end

September 2, 2024 - Labor Day (Office closed)

Mid-October 2024 - Property Taxes due (see bill for date)

October 31, 2024 – Library Trunk or Treat Event November 5, 2024 – General Election (Office closed) November 28, 2024 – Thanksgiving (Office closed)

November 29, 2024 - Office closed

December 24, 2024 – Christmas Eve (Office closing at noon)

December 25, 2024 – Christmas Day (Office closed)

December 31, 2024 – New Year's Eve (Office closing at noon)

January 1, 2025 – New Year's Day (Office closed)

*Office = Town Clerk's Office

Other

Dog Licenses

All dogs six months of age or older must be licensed annually between January 1 through April 1. Licenses may be obtained in person at the Town Clerk's Office or through the mail. A current certificate of rabies vaccination must be on file, or presented. Fees for license on or before April 1:

• \$9.00 for neutered/\$13.00 for unneutered

Fees for license after April 1:

\$11.00 for neutered/\$17.00 for unneutered

NEK Broadband

Representative: Neil Glassman

Alternate Representative: Kathleen Monroe

Telephone: 802-633-3052

Cell: 802-384- 5600 email: speakvt@sover.net

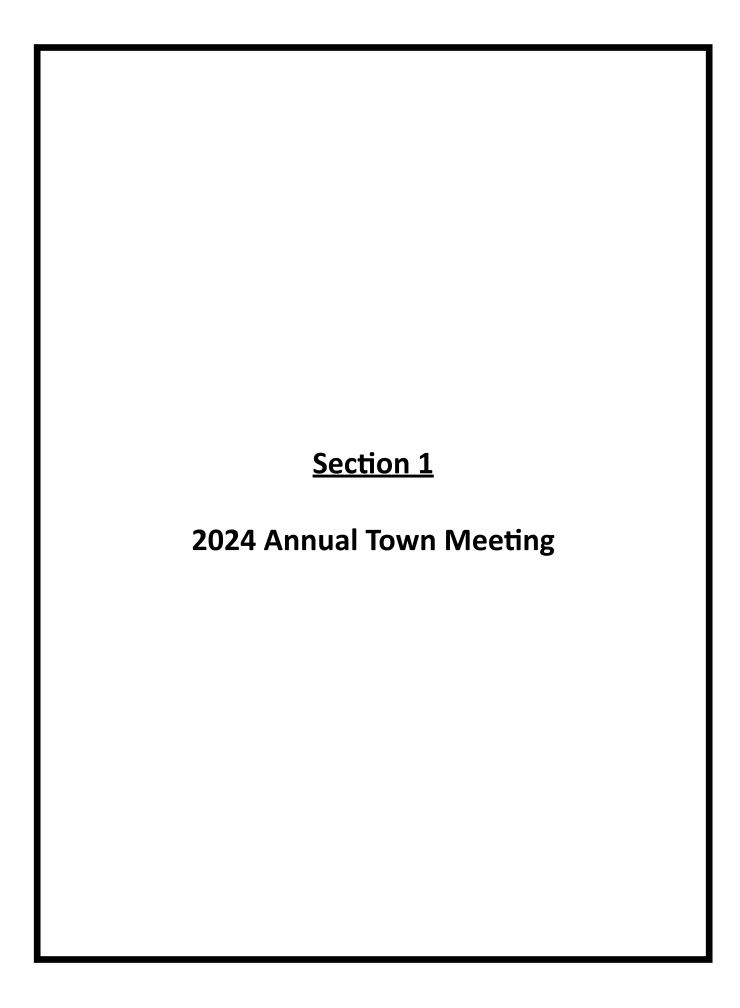
Town of Barnet, Vermont Annual Report

Year Ending December 31, 2023

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WARNING ANNUAL TOWN MEETING TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024

The legal voters of the Town of Barnet, Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Barnet School (163 Kid Row) in said Town on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. to transact the following business from the floor:

ARTICLE 1.	To elect a Moderator.
ARTICLE 2.	To elect all other Town Officers as required by law and additional Town Officers as approved by the voters.
ARTICLE 3.	To consider and act upon the report of the Town Auditors.
ARTICLE 4.	Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) to the American Red Cross of New Hampshire and Vermont?
ARTICLE 5.	Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to the Barnet Historical Society to be used for maintaining the Goodwillie House?
ARTICLE 6.	Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to the Barnet Historical Society to be used for conservation and preservation of collections of historical materials associated with the township of Barnet?
ARTICLE 7.	Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$2,300.00) to Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice?
ARTICLE 8.	Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to Catamount Arts?
ARTICLE 9.	Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to The Community Restorative Justice Center?
ARTICLE 10.	Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of One Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$1,700.00) to Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium?
ARTICLE 11.	Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to Kingdom Animal Shelter?
ARTICLE 12.	Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) to Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging?
ARTICLE 13.	Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of One Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy-Five Dollars (\$1,775.00) to Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.?
ARTICLE 14.	Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) to Northeast Kingdom Learning Services, Inc.?
ARTICLE 15.	Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) to Northeast Kingdom Youth Services?

ARTICLE 16.	Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of One Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$1,100.00) to Rural Community Transportation?
ARTICLE 17.	Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of One Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$1,200.00) to Umbrella Inc.?
ARTICLE 18.	Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to Upper Valley Habitat for Humanity in the Northeast Kingdom?
ARTICLE 19.	Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$280.00) to the Vermont Center for Independent Living?
ARTICLE 20.	Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) to the West Barnet Senior Meal Site?
ARTICLE 21.	Shall the Town vote to exempt from taxation the property owned by Lakeview Grange #359 located in West Barnet Village, for a period not to exceed 5 years, pursuant to 32 VSA § 3840?
ARTICLE 22.	To see what arrangements the Town will vote for the collection of its taxes, and its portion of taxes for Caledonia Cooperative School District, and by what lawful official for the ensuing year.
ARTICLE 23.	To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise to defray the expenses and liabilities of the Town for the current year.
ARTICLE 24.	To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Dated this 22nd day of January 2024.

By the Selectboard members of the Town of Barnet:

Dylan Ford, Co-Chair

Benjamin Lates, Co-Chair

Mark Jefferson Member

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NOTICE TO VOTERS For Local Floor Annual or Special Meeting

BEFORE MEETING DAY:

CHECKLIST POSTED at Clerks Office by February 4, 2024. If your name is not on the checklist, then you must register to vote.

HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE: There is no deadline to register to vote. You will be able to register to vote on the day of the election. You can register prior by visiting the town clerk's office or going online to **olvr.sec.state.vt.us.**

ON MEETING DAY:

If your name was dropped from the checklist in error, or has not been added even though you submitted a timely application for addition to the checklist, you can fill out a new registration form.

! If the clerk or Board of Civil Authority does not add your name, you can appeal the decision to a superior court judge, who will settle the matter. Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-VOTE (439-8683) for more information.

If you are a first time voter who submitted your application to the checklist individually by mail and did not submit the required document, you must provide a current and valid photo identification, or a bank statement, utility bill, or government document that contains your name/current address.

If you have physical disabilities, are visually impaired or can't read, you may have assistance from any person of your choice. If any voters you know have disabilities let them know they can have assistance from any person of their choice.

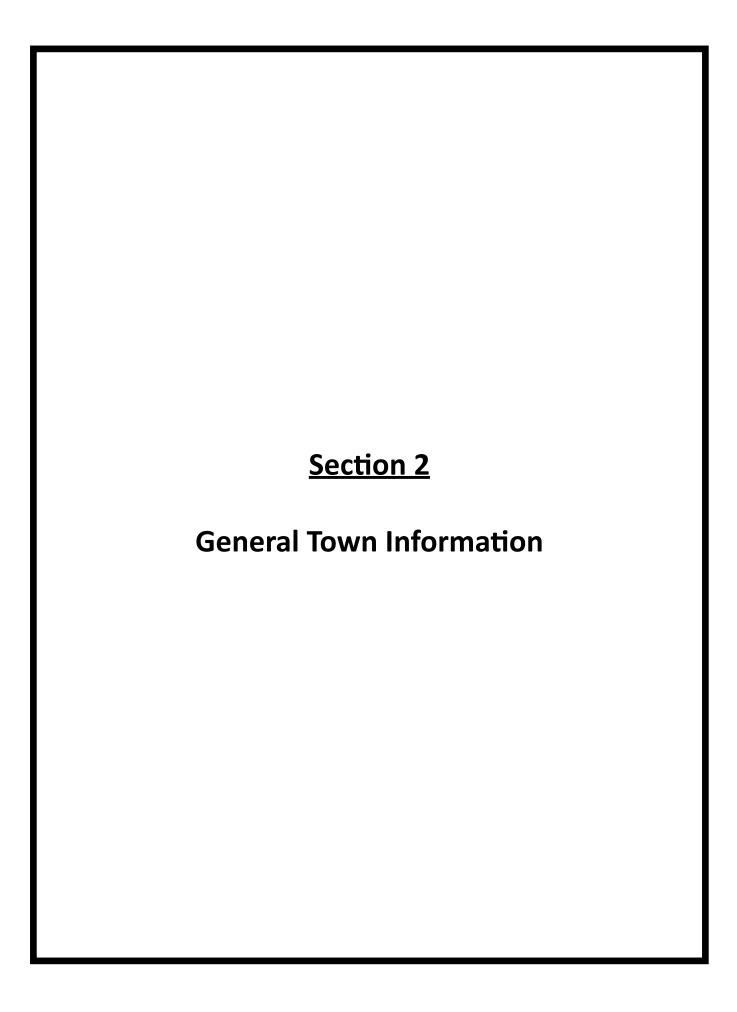
If you know voters who cannot get from the car into the polling place let them know that ballot(s) may be brought to their car by two election officials.

If you have any questions or need assistance while voting, ask your town clerk or any election official for help.

NO PERSON SHALL:

- Vote more than once per election, either in the same town or in different towns.
- ! Mislead the board of civil authority about your own or another person's true residency or other eligibility to vote.
- Hinder or impede a voter going into or from the polling place.
- ! Socialize in a manner that could disturb other voters in the polling place.
- ! Offer bribe, threaten or exercise undue influence to dictate or control the vote of another person.

FOR HELP OR INFORMATION: Call the Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-VOTE (439-8683). (Accessible by TDD)



Town Elected Officers

Position Moderator	Name Dennis McLam	Term Expires March 2024
Town Clerk & Treasurer	Benjamin Heisholt	March 2024
Selectboard	Benjamin Gates Mark Jefferson Dylan Ford	March 2024 March 2025 March 2026
Listers	John Fairchild Nancy Bishop Vacant	March 2024 March 2025 March 2026
Caledonia Cooperative School District School Directors (representing Barnet on three- town, nine-member board)	Susan Roberts Jessica Lynn Roy Heather Mulligan	April 2024 April 2025 April 2026
Auditors	Dennis Kauppila Jeffery Riley Joseph Breidenstein	March 2024 March 2025 March 2026
Delinquent Tax Collector	Lisa Bowden	March 2024
1st Constable	Steve Mosher	March 2025
2nd Constable	David Stevenson	March 2025
Trustee of Public Funds	George Coppenrath William Graves Merle Fitzgerald	March 2024 March 2025 March 2026
Library Trustees	Linda Cochrane Laura Goldberg Jacquelyn Verley Susan Wood Rebecca Pedersen	March 2024 March 2025 March 2026 March 2027 March 2028
Justice of the Peace	Rebecca Boardman Caroline DeMaio William Graves Susan Jensen Dennis Kauppila Dennis McLam Shellie Samuels	February 2025 February 2025 February 2025 February 2025 February 2025 February 2025

Town Appointed Officers

Position Beach Committee Dam Committee	Name Christen Emerson Jennifer Kierstead Susan Persson Christopher Yancey George Coppenrath Robert Dufresne Donald Easter Dylan Ford Joseph Mangiapane	Term Expires
Emergency Management Coordinator	Ronald Morse	
Fire Chief	Ronald Morse	December 2024
Fire Warden	Christopher Bunnell	June 2024
Health Officer	Dylan Ford	March 2026
Health Officer, Deputy	Emil Pollak	October 2026
Library Director	Dylan Ford	
Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District Representative	William Douglas	
Road Foreman	Mark Chase	
Town Attorney	Steven Adler	March 2024
Town Clerk & Treasurer, Assistant	Catherine Roy	March 2024
Transportation Advisory Committee Representative	Benjamin Gates	
Tree Warden	Stanley Robinson	March 2024
Zoning Administrative Officer Zoning Secretary	Shirley Warden Susan Sinclair	March 2025 July 2024
Zoning Board/ Planning Commission	Jacob Stevenson Zachary Mangione Susan Sinclair Eric Skovsted Dennis McLam Dawn Holtz Benjamin Adams Trent Roy Bruce Denio	July 2024 July 2024 July 2025 July 2025 July 2026 July 2026 July 2027 July 2027 July 2027

MINUTES ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. at the Barnet Elementary School gymnasium by Moderator Dennis McLam.

ARTICLE 1. To elect a Moderator.

- Moderator stated that one-year term of Dennis McLam is expiring.
- Dennis McLam nominated by Mark Bowen.
- Hearing no further nominations, Moderator announced that nominations would cease.
- Moderator instructed Town Clerk to cast one ballot for Dennis McLam.

ARTICLE 2. To elect all other Town Officers as required by law and additional Town Officers as approved by the voters.

Selectboard

- Moderator stated that the three-year term of Dylan Ford is expiring.
- Dylan Ford nominated by William Biddle.
- Hearing no further nominations, Moderator announced that nominations would cease.
- Moderator instructed Town Clerk to cast one ballot for Dylan Ford.

<u>Lister</u>

- Moderator stated that the three-year term of David Warden is expiring.
- Lister Chair John Fairchild spoke about the role and tasks of the Board of Listers.
- David Warden spoke, indicating that he was not seeking re-election.
- There were no nominations and no election of a Lister.

Auditor

- Moderator stated that the three-year term of Joseph Breidenstein is expiring.
- Joseph Breidenstein nominated by Dylan Ford.
- Hearing no further nominations, Moderator announced that nominations would cease.
- Moderator instructed Town Clerk to cast one ballot for Joseph Breidenstein.

Collector of Delinquent Tax

- Moderator stated that the one-year term of Lisa Bowden is expiring.
- Lisa Bowden nominated by Mark Gilleland.
- Hearing no further nominations, Moderator announced that nominations would cease.
- Moderator instructed Town Clerk to cast one ballot for Lisa Bowden.

First Constable

- Moderator stated that the two-year term of Steve Mosher is expiring.
- Steve Mosher nominated by David Stevenson.
- Hearing no further nominations, Moderator announced that nominations would cease.
- Moderator instructed Town Clerk to cast one ballot for Steve Mosher.

Second Constable

- Moderator stated that the two-year term of David Stevenson is expiring.
- David Stevenson nominated by William Biddle.
- Hearing no further nominations, Moderator announced that nominations would cease.
- Moderator instructed Town Clerk to cast one ballot for David Stevenson.

Trustee of Public Funds

- Moderator stated that three-year term of Merle Fitzgerald is expiring.
- Merle Fitzgerald nominated by George Coppenrath.
- Hearing no further nominations, Moderator announced that nominations would cease.
- Moderator instructed Town Clerk to cast one ballot for Merle Fitzgerald.

Library Trustee

Moderator stated that five-year term of Julie Roos is expiring.

Page 1 of 5

- Rebecca Pedersen nominated by Julie Roos.
- Julie Roos nominated by Mona Marceau.
- Julie Roos spoke, stating that she declined the nomination.
- Hearing no further nominations, Moderator announced that nominations would cease.
- Moderator instructed Town Clerk to cast one ballot for Rebecca Pedersen.

Library Trustee

- Moderator stated that one year remains of a five-year term originally held by Rebecca Boardman. Linda Cochrane was appointed to replace Rebecca Boardman.
- Linda Cochrane nominated by Julie Roos.
- Hearing no further nominations, Moderator announced that nominations would cease.
- Moderator instructed Town Clerk to cast one ballot for Linda Cochrane.

Library Trustee

- Moderator stated that three years remain of a five-year term originally held by Ashley Wright. Jacquelyn Verley was appointed to replace Ashley Wright.
- Jacquelyn Verley nominated by Dawn Holtz.
- Hearing no further nominations, Moderator announced that nominations would cease.
- Moderator instructed Town Clerk to cast one ballot for Jacquelyn Verley.

The Moderator allowed a brief intermission for announcements and speeches.

Vermont Caledonia-1 District legislator (and Barnet voter) Robert (Bobby) Farlice-Rubio spoke. Mr. Farlice-Rubio began by presenting a certificate of service to Fire Department volunteer Joseph Barrett, who recently retired after forty-three years of service to the Town. A standing ovation was given for Mr. Barrett. Mr. Farlice-Rubio then spoke regarding various recent actions and potential future actions of the legislature.

Transfer Station attendant Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden spoke about Transfer Station & Recycling Center information in the Town Report, Zoning information in the Town Report, and the requirement of zoning permits for most building activities.

Energy Committee member Harry Adamek spoke regarding recent Energy Committee activities, including installation of window dressers to help energy efficiency of homes.

ARTICLE 3. To consider and act upon the report of the Town Auditors.

- Mona Marceau moved to accept the report of the Town Auditors as it appears on page twenty-nine
 of the Town Report. Seconded by Roseann Drew Leute.
- Motion was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 4. Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) to the American Red Cross of New Hampshire and Vermont?

- Caroline DeMaio moved the article as warned. Seconded by Mona Marceau.
- Motion was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 5. Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to the Barnet Historical Society to be used for maintaining the Goodwillie House?

- David Warden moved the article as warned. Seconded by Mona Marceau.
- Motion was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 6. Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to the Barnet Historical Society to be used for conservation and preservation of collections of historical materials associated with the township of Barnet?

- David Warden moved the article as warned. Seconded by Roseann Drew Leute.
- Motion was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 7. Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$2,300.00) to Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice?

- Caroline Demaio moved the article as warned. Seconded by Celina Wright.
- Motion was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 8. Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to Catamount Arts?

- · Dawn Holtz moved the article as warned. Seconded by Kathleen Monroe.
- Motion was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 9. Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to The Community Restorative Justice Center?

- Kathleen Monroe moved the article as warned. Seconded by Mona Marceau.
- Motion was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 10. Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of One Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$1,700.00) to Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium?

- Kathleen Monroe moved the article as warned. Seconded by Roseann Drew Leute.
- Motion was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 11. Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to Kingdom Animal Shelter?

- Kathleen Monroe moved the article as warned. Seconded by Mona Marceau.
- Motion was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 12. Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) to Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging?

- Kathleen Monroe moved the article as warned. Seconded by Mona Marceau.
- Motion was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 13. Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of One Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy-Five Dollars (\$1,775.00) to Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.?

- Kathleen Monroe moved the article as warned. Seconded by Roseann Drew Leute.
- Motion was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 14. Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) to Northeast Kingdom Learning Services, Inc.?

- Kathleen Monroe moved the article as warned. Seconded by Roseann Drew Leute.
- Motion was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 15. Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) to Northeast Kingdom Youth Services?

- Mona Marceau moved the article as warned. Seconded by Joseph Fox.
- Motion was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 16. Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of One Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$1,100.00) to Rural Community Transportation?

- Kathleen Monroe moved the article as warned. Seconded by Roseann Drew Leute.
- Motion was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 17. Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of One Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$1,200.00) to Umbrella Inc.?

- · Kathleen Monroe moved the article as warned. Seconded by William Douglas.
- Mona Marceau spoke, stating that it appears Umbrella has vacated its St. Johnsbury location and inquiring as to Umbrella's current location.
 - Lisa Bowden spoke, indicating that Umbrella's current location is at the former Zuccaro & Willis Law Office on Main Street in St. Johnsbury.
- Motion was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 18. Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$280.00) to the Vermont Center for Independent Living?

- Joseph Fox moved the article as warned. Seconded by Roseann Drew Leute.
- Motion was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 19. Shall the Town of Barnet appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) to the West Barnet Senior Meal Site?

Kathleen Monroe moved the article as warned. Seconded by Roseann Drew Leute.

Motion was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 20. To see what arrangements the Town will vote for the collection of its taxes, and its portion of taxes for Caledonia Cooperative School District, and by what lawful official for the ensuing year.

- Lisa Bowden moved that property taxes become due and payable in hand to the town Treasurer during business hours on or before October 21, 2023, with said taxes to be actually received by said Treasurer on or before the due date without regard to postmark; and thereafter said taxes shall be made payable to the Collector of Delinquent Tax with interest at the rate of 1% per month or fraction thereof, for the first three months, and thereafter at the rate of 1.5% per month or fraction thereof, plus the collector's fee of 8% as provided by law. Seconded by Mona Marceau.
- Mona Marceau asked about the delinquent tax collection policy as regards number of years of arrears before a property is sold at tax sale, noting that several properties are many years delinquent.
 - Collector of Delinquent Tax Lisa Bowden spoke, indicating that the properties with the
 greatest number of years in arrears have been exempt from tax sale proceedings until recently
 because of particular circumstances of the owners, including divorce and numerous
 bankruptcy filings.
 - Selectboard member Benjamin Gates spoke, noting that there are tax sales scheduled.
- · Motion was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 21. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise to defray the expenses and liabilities of the Town for the current year.

- Selectboard member Benjamin Gates moved to raise the sum of \$1,828,374.85 for the General Fund budget. Seconded by Roseann Drew Leute.
- Mark Bowen spoke, inquiring about this status of the Town Hall project.
 - Benjamin Gates stated that the Town has engaged architectural firm Black River Design, who
 worked on the feasibility project for the Town, and has agreed to terms with a construction
 manager, Estes & Gallup Construction. Mr. Gates also indicated that the Selectboard plans to
 proceed with the renovation in the summer of 2023, with a targeted completion date in winter
 2024. Mr. Gates also noted that the Town Hall's former Fire Station addition and annex were
 demolished as planned in autumn 2023.
- Motion was passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 22. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

- Kathleen Monroe spoke about Northeast Kingdom Community Broadband (NEKCBB). Ms.
 Monroe is the former Barnet representative to the NEKCBB Board and current alternate
 representative. Ms. Monroe noted that new representative Neil Glassman recently was appointed. Ms.
 Monroe discussed recent and future developments in enhancing access to broadband internet in
 Barnet.
- Library Trustee Jacquelyn Verley spoke, announcing that the library will hold an open house on March 23, 2023 to celebrate and thank Julie Roos for her years of service to the Library Board of Trustees.
- Selectboard member Dylan Ford spoke on several Town government current events, as summarized below:
 - Thanks to Kathleen Monroe for her service as NEKCBB representative since the organization's inception in 2019.
 - O The Planning Commission is working a new Town Plan.
 - The Dam Committee continues its work to find solutions to protect and improve the health of the waters of Harvey's Lake. Recent work has focused on efforts to reclassify the hazard status of the dam.
 - The Selectboard is working on a installing a new plaque at the Soldiers' Monument at
 Monument Circe in Barnet Village. The Selectboard hopes to have this plaque, in
 commemoration of the military service of Barnet residents since the Vietnam war, installed in
 time for the 2023 Memorial Day observance.
 - The Town Hall project continues to move forward. The Selectboard has design concepts in process but not finalized at this time. Copies of the current conceptual designs are available at the Town Clerk's Office, Library, and the Town website.
 - The term of the appointed Town Health Officer expires at the end of March 2023. The Selectboard is seeking a qualified appointee.
 - Thank you to the School District and custodial staff for the use of the building for this
 meeting.

Hearing no further business, the Moderator announced that the meeting would adjourn. Meeting adjourned 10:57 a.m.

Dennis McLam, Moderator

Dylan Ford, Selectboard Co-Chair

Attest: Benjamin Hersholt, Town Clerk

Barnet Transfer Station & Recycling Center.

Staff, Location, Requirements and Hours of Operation.

Staff:

- Bruce Marston, Supervisor & Recycling Center Attendant
- Donald Nelson, Transfer Station Attendant
- Daniel Ehlers, Recycling Center Attendant
- Shirley Warden, Transfer Station Attendant
- Hours of Operation: Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., all year. During summer months from the first Wednesday after Memorial Day until the last Wednesday before Labor Day we will be open from 3-7 p.m.
- Location: 900 Town Forest Rd: At end of Town Forest Road. In Passumpsic Village, turn onto Bridge Street and cross the bridge over the Passumpsic River. As you come off of the bridge, take a right onto Town Forest Road and go the end of the road. Transfer Station will be on your left; Recycling Center will be straight ahead past the Transfer Station.
- Requirements for use: For rubbish generated by residences located within the Town of Barnet. A sticker is required to show the attendant that you are a resident or taxpayer of Barnet. This sticker can be obtained at the Town Clerk's Office.

Thank you for your cooperation, Bruce Marston

January 1, 2022

PLEASE READ THIS IMPORTANT NOTICE

For the safety of yourself and others.....

Please do not put dangerous items in your household trash. People have been injured and even killed by unsafe items that have been disposed of improperly in trash bags. The following should NEVER be put into a trash compactor:

Gas cans, propane tanks, paint cans, sealed containers of any kind, all fluorescent light bulbs, any bulbs containing mercury, aerosol cans and chemicals of any kind.

Please remember that we collect the items listed above along with many others not listed and the Northeast Waste Management District can help you with the safe disposal of anything that you are not certain of.

You may call the district at 1-802-626-3532.

In order to make recycling work, it is essential that everyone rinse their items and not include any trash in with recyclables. If we all work together it won't be so difficult.

Thank you everyone,

Bruce P. Marston

Barnet Recycling and Waste Disposal Guide

Barnet Transfer Station, End of Town Forest Rd, Saturdays 8:00am – 3:00pm, Additional Summer Hours (until Labor Day) Wednesdays 3:00pm — 7:00pm

Ţ,

SORT ITEMS



MIXED PAPER

Newspapers, catalogs, telephone books, glossy inserts, paperback books, colored & white paper, wrapping paper and junk mail. Any color or type of paper.

NO brown Kraft bags, boxboard, coffee cups, ice cream cartons, or metallic wrapping paper.

CORRUGATED CARDBOARD, BOXBOARD, & BROWN KRAFT BAGS All Cardboard and Boxboard food packaging, Remove

All Cardboard and Boxboard food packaging. Remove excess tape. Staples are OK.

NO wax-coated cardboard, cardboard soiled with food, coffee cups, ice cream cartons, or Styrofoam.
BOXES MUST BE FLATTENED

TIN CANS

Labels are OK. Flattening not required. Separate from aluminum cans. Tin is magnetic.
MUST BE RINSED

ALUMINUM CANS, FOIL AND FOOD TRAYS

Labels OK. Flattening not required.

NO snack bags, candy wrappers, coffee bags.

MUST BE RINSED

GLASS BOTTLES & JARS

*Rinse, Remove Lids (recycle with tin) *
NO parcelain Purex windows crystal

NO porcelain, Pyrex, windows, crystal, light bulbs, lids, metal or wood.

BATTERIES

All types including primary and rechargeable batteries.
Please bag similar types together and bag damaged
batteries separately.

PLASTIC CONTAINERS #1 – #4 & #5 Food Containers

REMOVE CAPS / MAX. SIZE- 2 Gallons / NO BLACK PLASTIC / *MUST BE RINSED*

Includes food containers, health/beauty product, and cleaner containers. #5 included if it's a food container.

NO plastic bags or films, black plastic, screw-top caps, motor oil bottles, pesticide bottles, vinyl siding, toys, CD cases, VHS tapes, Styrofoam, syringes, or medical devices.



NO DIRTY OR UNRINSED ITEMS NO BLACK PLASTIC CONTAINERS NO CONTAINERS larger than 2 GALLONS

ADDITIONAL ACCEPTED MATERIALS at the BARNET TRANSFER STATION:

FOOD SCRAPS: All food scraps, including meat, bones, dairy. Remove PLU stickers. No plastics, metals, paper.

<u>SPECIAL WASTES:</u> Scrap metal, Freon-containing appliances, electronics (TVs, computers, radio/stereos, gaming systems, telephones), automotive batteries, metal aerosols cans, hard cover books, fluorescent bulbs. Tires- fees apply.

TRASH AND BULKY WASTES: \$2.00/30 gallon bag, other fees apply for Bulky waste items. Residents can contract with private waste haulers, find our Licensed Hauler List at http://www.nekwmd.org/pdf/haulerlist.pdf

<u>HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE</u> – May through the end of September BY APPOINTMENT ONLY in Lyndonville, & special Saturday events throughout the District. Call for details.

In addition to services provided at this location, district residents have access to disposal services at the Lyndonville Recycling Center, 224 Church St, Lyndonville.

Recycling, Food Scraps, Scrap Metal, E-waste, Waste Oil, Batteries, Fluorescent Bulbs, Freon-Containing Appliances (Refrigerators, Freezers, A/C units, and Dehumidifiers), Stump Dump, all free of charge, and Tire Disposal, fees apply, available at the Lyndonville Recycling Center.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS – CONTACT THE NORTHEAST KINGDOM WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (802) 626-3532 or (800) 734-4602. www.nekwmd.org, e-mail outreach@nekwmd.org Updated 11/2021

List of Common Items **NOT ACCEPTED** for Recycling

Please dispose of the following items in the trash unless otherwise stated.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT SAFELY AND PROPERLY DISPOSING OF A
MATERIAL—CONTACT THE NORTHEAST KINGDOM
WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

(802) 626-3532 or (800) 734-4602. www.nekwmd.org, e-mail outreach@nekwmd.org

Unacceptable Plastics Include:

Any black plastic containers

Motor oil, gas containers
Pesticide containers
Styrofoam of any kind
Planting pots and trays
Plastic furniture
Plastic Toys
Coffee Makers
Coat hangers
Vinyl Siding
Maple Tubing
CDs, DVDs, VHS, and cases

Water line pipes and plastic tubing of any size **Hard, rigid plastic** (if it shatters, it's not accepted)

Unacceptable Plastic Bags and Films Any type

Unacceptable Aluminum

Chip Bags, Snack Wrappers, Pop tart Wrappers Aluminum Flashing (recycle with scrap metal) Coffee Bags

> <u>Unacceptable Tin</u> Recycle these with Scrap Metal

Frying Pans
Large Pieces of Metal
Nails, Screws, Fasteners
Any tin that is a non-food container

Unacceptable Cardboard

Pringles containers
Milk and Juice Cartons of any kind
Ice cream and waxy or plastic frozen food boxes
Cardboard with metallic interior
Single-use coffee cups
Soiled Cardboard
Waxy Cardboard

Unacceptable Paper

Kraft brown paper bags (recycle with cardboard)
White or Brown Boxboard (recycle with cardboard)
Shiny, glossy, or metallic papers
Paper plates, cups, bowls
Single-use cups
Napkins, paper towels, tissue paper

Unacceptable Glass

Crystal
Incandescent light bulbs
Automotive lights
Pyrex
Porcelain

Unacceptable Food Scraps

PLU Stickers (sticks on fruits, vegetables)
"Biodegradable" bags, cutlery, bowls, plates
Food utensils
Plates, bowls, cups
Plastic bags
Styrofoam
Keurig cups

Barnet Transfer Station & Recycling Center Pricing as of Jan. 1st,2022

Mixed solid household waste (MSW):

- 13 gallon (kitchen) bag: \$2.00
- 30 gallon bag: \$3.00
- 42 gallon bag: \$4.00
- 55 gallon bag: \$6.00

Construction & demolition debris (C &D):

- \$20.00 per cubic yard
- Bulkies: \$17.00 each
- Toilets, dishwashers, (if mostly plastic), refrigerators, freezers and A.C. unites are All \$5.00 each

<u> Metal items: FREE!</u>

Tires: (automobile and pick-up trucks):

- Without rims, less than 16.5": \$ 4.00 each
- With rims, less than 16.5": \$6.00 each
- Without rims, larger than 16.5": \$8.00 each
- With rims, larger than 16.5": \$10.00 each
- Large truck and farm tractor tires:
- \$18.00 and up.

Recycling Center: All acceptable items can be recycled at no charge. See the Recycling List, which contains most of the items below:

- Electronic items, limited to the below list:
 - Amplifiers, answering machines, boom boxes, cable converter boxes, CD players, clock radios, computer systems and components, digital converter boxes, DVD players, electronic games consoles, etc., fax machines, MP3 players, power cords and chargers, scanners, smart phones, etc, stereo equipment, telephones, televisions, and VCRs.

If you have any other questions regarding waste management, please call NEKWMD at (802) 626-3532 or (800) 734-4602 or on the web at www.nekwmd.org

TO ALL RESIDENTS: NOTICE OF A FINE FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH REGULATIONS!

WE ARE FACING A \$155.00 FINE <u>PER DRUM</u> IF WE DO NOT STOP PUTTING UNWANTED ITEMS IN OUR GLASS DRUMS!

The worst part of this problem is the fact that after just three drums that are considered contaminated, they will no longer pick up our glass! Then, what do we do?

Please help prevent this from happening!

Thank you for your cooperation!

2024 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
SATURDAY, MAY 11	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Ryegate Transfer Station
SATURDAY, MAY 18	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Peacham Transfer Station
SATURDAY, JUNE 1	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Derby Recycling Center
SATURDAY, JUNE 8	8:00 a.m. – 12:00p.m.	Brunswick Town Office
SATURDAY, JUNE 22	8:00 a.m. – 12:00p.m.	Newport Center Town Garage
WEDNESDAY, JULY 10	3:00 p.m. – 7:00p.m.	Barnet Transfer Station
SATURDAY, AUGUST 3	8:00 a.m. – 11:00a.m.	Greensboro Recycling Center
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14	1:00 p.m. – 5:00p.m.	Lunenburg Transfer Station
SATURDAY, SEPT. 28	8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Lyndon Recycling Center

The NEKWMD reserves the right to terminate any collection early in the event that we are at storage capacity. Please limit HHW disposal at listed events to 25 gallons. If you have more than 25 gallons, please call our office to schedule an appointment at our Lyndonville facility, May 2 – Oct. 3, 2024.

Not going to be able to make any of these dates? NOT A PROBLEM! The NEKWMD will be accepting these materials by appointment at our Lyndonville facility from May 2, 2024 to October 3, 2024. Due to regulatory handling requirements, hazardous wastes will not be accepted without an appointment. Scheduling ahead ensures that a qualified individual will be on-site ready to accept your hazardous waste.

HHW Collections are free and open to residents of all DISTRICT TOWNS

What are *Household Hazardous Products*? They are consumer products that contain ingredients that **may be:**

Toxic- poisonous if eaten, breathed, or absorbed through the skin

Corrosive- can burn or destroy living tissue if spilled on skin

Reactive- creates fumes, heat, or explosion hazards if mixed with certain materials such as water

Explosive- can explode with exposure to heat or pressure

Flammable/Ignitable- can easily be set on fire

To determine if a product in your home is hazardous, check the label for the following words:

Danger indicates that the substance is extremely flammable, corrosive, or toxic.

Poison means that the substance is highly toxic.

<u>Caution/Warning</u> is put on all other hazardous substances that are a somewhat lesser hazard, but are still dangerous if the directions are not followed closely.

Conditionally Exempt Generator businesses can also use the Lyndonville collections for the actual cost of the disposal of their materials. Please call ahead for pricing and an appointment.

CONTACT THE NEKWMD IF YOU HAVE ITEM'S YOU CANNOT IDENTIFY 802-626-3532 or 800-734-4602 or www.nekwmd.org

The NEKWMD hazardous waste collection program is made possible in part by a grant from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. This year's grant totaled \$74074.31

Acceptable HHW Materials

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

- AEROSOLS
- AIR FRESHENERS
- AMMONIA
- ARTS AND CRAFTS SUPPLIES
- BLEACH
- CLEANERS (INCLUDES: DRAIN, OVEN, FLOOR, WINDOW, TOILET, RUG, ETC.)
- DISINFECTANTS
- METAL & FURNITURE POLISH
- MOTHBALLS
- MERCURY THERMOMETERS
- NAIL POLISH & REMOVER
- NI-CD, LITHIUM, Mi-MH, AND BUTTON CELL BATTERIES
- SPOT & STAIN REMOVERS
- ALKALINE BATTERIES *

GARDEN SUPPLIES

- CREOSOTE
- DIOXINS
- FERTILIZERS
- FLEA KILLERS
- FUNGICIDES
- HERBICIDES
- INSECT SPRAYS
- MURIATIC ACID
- NO-PEST STRIPS
- PESTICIDES
- RODENT KILLERS

GARAGE

- ANTIFREEZE
- BRAKE FLUID *
- CORROSIVES

• CAR WAXES AND CLEANERS

GARAGE (CONTINUED)

- ENGINE DEGREASERS
- FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS *
- GASOLINE/DRY GAS
- KEROSENE
- LEAD-ACID CAR BATTERIES *
- LIGHTER FLUID
- OIL-BASED PAINT
- LATEX-BASED PAINT
- PAINT THINNER
- PROPANE CYLINDERS
- SEALANTS
- STAINS/STRIPPERS
- SWIMMING POOL CHEMICALS
- TRANSMISSION FLUID *
- WOOD PRESERVATIVES
- USED MOTOR OIL AND FILTERS *
- * ALSO ACCEPTED AT OIL AND BATTERY STATIONS YEAR ROUND

PLEASE DO NOT BRING:

- ASBESTOS
- EXPLOSIVES, INCLUDING GUN POWDER, AMMUNITION
- FLARES
- INFECTIOUS WASTE
- PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION
- RADIOACTIVE WASTE, INCLUDING SMOKE DETECTORS
- UNKNOWN GAS CYLINDERS
- EMPTY CONTAINERS

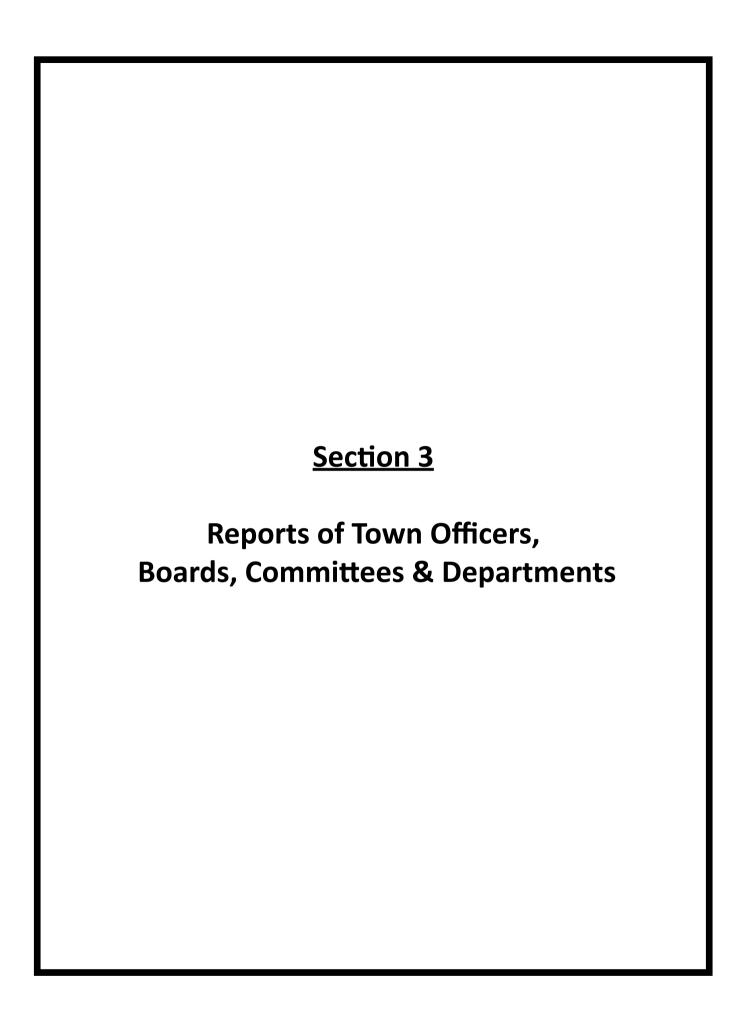
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The NEKWMD hazardous waste collection program is made possible in part by a grant from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. This year's grant totaled \$74074.31

2023 Actual Taxes and Tax Rates

Caledonia County

				Education	Education				Municipal	Local
	Homestead	Nonhomestead		Homestead	Nonhomestead	Municipal	Homestead	Nonhomestead	Actual Tax	Agreement
Town Name	Education GL	Education GL	Municipal GL	Taxes	Taxes	Taxes	Tax Rate	Tax Rate	Rate	Tax Rate
Barnet	1,037,793	1,413,468	2,446,740	1,700,424	2,178,013	1,828,693	1.6385	1.5409		0.0032
Barnet FD #1	-	-	-	-	-	4,389	1.6385	1.5409		0.0000
Barnet FD #2	-	-	_	-	-	7,008	1.6385	1.5409		
Barnet FD #3	-	-	-	-	-	8,583	1.6385	1.5409		
Barnet FD #5	-	-	-	-	-	3,568	1.6385	1.5409		
Burke	1,423,027	2,561,575	4,047,930	1,592,652	3,159,190	2,399,613	1.1192			
Danville	1,956,868	1,395,548	3,355,508	2,848,808	2,054,666	1,818,014	1.4558	1.4723		
Groton	584,264	723,601	1,307,885	880,252	1,098,860	889,885	1.5066	1.5186		
Hardwick	1,123,417	816,231	1,987,055	1,970,474	1,447,830	2,746,706	1.7540	1.7738		
Kirby	342,841	254,219	596,264	669,740	460,924	375,825	1.9535	1.8131		0.0010
Lyndon	1,953,965	1,831,958	3,783,614	2,955,567	3,053,325	1,803,270	1.5126			
Lyndonville Ville	c -	-	-	-	-	586,026	1.5126			
Lyndon Highwa	1	_	-	-	-	1,026,752	1.5126			
Newark	362,602	583,054	944,156	509,637	902,976	735,214	1.4055			
Peacham	679,789	729,515	1,406,562	1,133,548	1,146,214	1,108,230	1.6675			
Ryegat e	714,848	641,270	1,357,735	1,023,662	925,609	962,363	1.4320			
St. Johnsbury	2,224,205	2,863,304	5,120,879	3,181,280	4,626,813	5,458,345	1.4303			
St. J Spec Serv L	5 -	-	-	-	-	1,443,693	1.4303			
Sheffield	290,162	289,490	1,014,880	418,588	460,144	352,062	1.4426			
Stannard	98,544	91,183	189,127	140,839	140,075	162,649	1.4292			
Sutton	642,750	434,659	1,073,831	804,980	599,829	761,990	1.2524			
Walden	627,200	564,737	1,188,337	922,235	780,919	677,946	1.4704			
Waterford	1,034,375	1,012,241	2,099,220	1,676,515	1,542,858	860,050	1.6208			
Wheelock	396,717	263,829	657,191	586,625	429,883	533,573	1.4787	1.6294	0.8119	0.0050



2023 Barnet Selectboard Report

2023 was a very exciting year for the Town of Barnet. The dormant town hall has had new life breathed into it. A new Town Plan was adopted. Numerous roads have been repaired and repaved. Many more homes and businesses with high-speed internet. The dam on the Stevens River has been reclassified. The Village Memorial has acquired a new plaque. The Selectboard would like to thank all the volunteers and town employees who made this a great year in Barnet's rich 260-year history.

Barnet contracted with Black River Design and Estes & Gallup to design and begin to rebuild the Town Hall into a new town office building. We were able to get a Historic Preservation Grant to assist in maintaining the historical elements of the building such as the tin interior, the big wooden front doors, the original hardwood flooring and the big windows. It is so exciting to maintain the memories of the town hall and repurpose it into something that will be used for years to come. Messier's Building moving was hired to lift the town hall and move it to the west and off its original foundation so a new foundation could be dug and poured. Anyone who had the chance to witness either of the moves got to see something amazing. It was crazy to watch them move the huge building with a skid steer and a small excavator. Presently the interior of the building has been carefully deconstructed. The wiring is roughed in thanks to the St. Johnsbury Academy electrical trades class. The contractors are insulating the building and constructing the vault. The building will be climate controlled with a heat pump and propane back-up for heat. This is the most efficient and cleanest option reasonably available. We would like to offer special thanks to William Graves and Jeremy Roberts for all their professional expertise guiding this project on its way. A late summer 2024 grand opening is expected at this point. We sincerely appreciate the support and trust the community has shown us regarding this project.

The planning and zoning in conjunction with NVDA created our new town plan which is designed to give town government officials a sense of direction for the next 8-10 years. This task is a huge undertaking but is essential to keep our town moving in a positive direction and remain eligible to receive money from certain federal programs such as FEMA. We would like to thank everyone who worked on this project.

Our road crew led by Mark Chase was busy this summer cleaning ditches and changing culverts. We applied for a road grant from the state and plan to work on the final section of Roy Mountain Road this coming summer. We also have a grant to fix the bridge on the West Barnet Road towards South Peacham near McKinley Drive. This project was delayed by the State of Vermont because many contractors were busy this summer repairing flood damage around the State. The road to Monroe in McIndoe Falls was repaired under the underpass to redo drainage and newly paved to eliminate the rough spot there make the road more easily maintained. Barnet was fortunate to sustain limited damage during the two heavy storms this summer. We would like to thank the road crew for all their labor and dedication over the past year.

The Harvey's Lake Dam Committee worked with the State of Vermont this year and through great perseverance managed to get the Steven's River Dam reclassified as Low Hazard Potential which will allow the town in conjunction with the state to evaluate the dam and come up with a plan for possible upgrades and to help alleviate back flow into the lake from South Peacham Brook.

In Conclusion the Selectboard would like to once again thank everyone who worked in many capacities in town government and the countless hours performed by volunteers on various committees. We look forward to seeing you all this year at town meeting and at the polls.

Keep up the great work and keep Barnet the town of which we all can be proud.

Sincerely

Barnet Selectboard

Town Auditor's Report

In accordance with Title 24, Section 1681 of the Vermont Statutes, we have examined the accounts and records of the Town of Barnet.

To the best of our knowledge the financial statements in the Town Report represent the financial position of the Town of Barnet as of December 31, 2023.

January 19, 2024

Joseph Breidenstein

Dennis Kauppila

BARNET LISTERS' REPORT

As usual, this was another interesting year for us. As we adjust to the web-based reporting system the State has initiated, we find a few glitches here and there. Overall, we have had good support from the Tax Department and NEMRC, our software consultants. The listers' workload will become more computer oriented as this web system is completed.

This year there are 1,138 taxable properties in the Barnet Grand List compared to 1,130 last year. Property totals in 2023 were \$258,668,500 up from \$258,289,800 last year. The higher value (\$378,700 more for this year) is a result of assessments for new construction and sub-divisions in town.

The Town of Barnet's 2023 Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) is 81.58% which is down substantially from last year at 90.27%. A CLA of less than 100% indicates that in general the properties in town are listed for less than the fair market value. The Town of Barnet's 2023 Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) is 24.14% up from 18.55% in 2022. A high COD value, over 20%, means that many taxpayers are paying more than their fair share, and many are paying less than their fair share of taxes. This means the Town of Barnet will be required to start planning for a town-wide reappraisal.

We look forward to helping Barnet residents with any questions they have regarding their property assessments. Our office hours are Wednesdays from 9am – 11:30pm. You may email us at listers@barnetvt.org, or call 802-633-2256.

/John Fairchild

Nancy Bishop

Report of the Trustees for Public Funds, for fiscal year 2023

After this report, you will find a detailed financial report for the Esden Funds, as held by the Town per Oliver Esden's intent. The portion once held by the School District per Oliver Esden's intent is now held by the Caledonia Cooperative School District. The Trustees of Public Funds have oversight of the original, restricted principal for the Esden Funds, no matter where currently held.

Our investment plan has been to protect the original, restricted principal while the funds have opportunity to grow both by unrealized gain or accumulated value, and by reinvestment of earned dividends and interest. This plan has served well—the Town's share of Esden Funds has an accumulated value of \$218,346.64 on December 31, 2023, and so has gained \$35,676.05 in value since December 31, 2022, at a positive 19.51% rate of total return. Investment income (such as dividends and interest) for 2023 is \$3,433.

The beginning values over 15 years ago were \$53,168 for the Town, and \$53,168 for the School District. The Town's share of funds has increased by 4.1 times in these years.

The cooperative unified school district controlling the Barnet, Walden, and Waterford schools does access the Esden funds and does affect this report. The Cooperative School District Treasurer's name was added, and the Barnet School District Treasurer's name was deleted. There is no financial report for either the Barnet School District or for the Caledonia Cooperative School District in this report. The remaining School portion of the Esden fund has been designated by the **current** Caledonia Cooperative School District board for access and use only for the benefit of Barnet citizens/residents/students. The three Trustees of Public Funds named below do receive monthly reports regarding the assignment and value of the School District Esden funds. The Trustees service to the Caledonia Cooperative School District is by that District's request or permission only. The Trustees do assert a right to oversee the original, restricted principal.

The Trustees have chosen to leave the fund management over these years with the local Edward Jones Company. As the public caretakers of the Funds, we have at times made suggestions to the private fund manager. We believe our roles have evolved, and we ask that our advice be sought before actual draws from the Esden Funds assets are made by either Town or Cooperative School District boards. These Boards do have the choice and right by statute to spend any gains as may seem fitting.

The Trustees' original mission remains to hold sound investments for income and growth, while the original principal is always protected.

George Coppenrath Merle Fitzgerald William Graves

Town of Barnet Esden Fund 2023 Financial Reports

Activity Summary		
Balance in Account Dec. 31, 2022	182,670.59	
Income:	10,826.49	
Gain (loss) in value of investments:	24,849.56	
Assets withdrawn from account:	0.00	
2023 Net Earnings or (Loss)	35,676.05	
Balance in Account Dec. 31, 2023	218,346.64	
Balance Sheet		
Assets:	Dec. 31, 2022	Dec. 31, 2023
Cash	6,526.84	7,593.30
Corporate Bonds	0.00	0.00
Government Securities	0.00	0.00
Unit Trusts	17,325.72	17,778.24
Mutual Funds	158,818.03	192,975.10
Total Assets	182,670.59	218,346.64
Fund Equity:		
Fund Balance - Non-spendable	53,168.58	53,168.58
Fund Balance - Unassigned	129,502.01	
Total Fund Equity	182,670.59	218,346.64

2023 Annual Report of the Town of Barnet, VT Planning Commission & Zoning Board of Adjustment

The Planning Commission and Zoning Board (Board) serves two distinct roles. The Planning Commission drafts and amends the Town Plan that "provides guidelines for orderly growth and intelligent appraisal of appropriate land use" for the well-being of the community. The Zoning Board focuses on maintaining the Town Plan's provisions by drafting and amending Barnet's Zoning Bylaws. It hears landowners' appeals to denied permits, grants variances, approves conditional use, and handles waivers of dimensional requirements. Both the Town Plan and Zoning Bylaws require approval from the Selectboard.

The Board meets monthly at the Barnet Fire & Rescue Department, 151 Bimson Drive, every second Tuesday. Regular meetings are announced at least 7 days prior, and public hearings are announced at least 15 days prior. The agenda and meeting details are posted at the Town Clerk's office, Barnet Library, Barnet Post Office, <u>barnetvt.org</u>, and other public venues as needed. Public hearings are also published in The Caledonian Record. Meeting minutes are available for review five days after each session at <u>barnetvt.org</u>.

There are 9 Board members appointed by the Selectboard to serve 4-year staggered terms expiring on July 31st. As of December 31, 2023, the members were: Benjamin Adams (Vice Chair), Bruce Denio, Dawn Holtz, Zachary Mangione, Dennis McLam (Chair), Trent Roy, Susan Sinclair (Secretary), Eric Skovsted, and Jacob Stevenson. During 2023, Adams, Holtz and McLam were re-appointed to their respective officer positions. Mark Bowen and Elizabeth Evans resigned from the Board (replaced by Jacob Stevenson and Susan Sinclair, respectively) and Sinclair assumed the role of Board Secretary from Holtz. The Board extends its sincere thanks and gratitude to Mark Bowen and Elizabeth Evans for their time and dedication during their terms and also to Shirley Warden, the Zoning Administrative Officer, for her ongoing support and to the Board.

The Board met 11 times in 2023, including 7 public hearings. During the public hearings, the Board approved 1 application for the subdivision of small lots, granted 3 conditional use permits and 3 requests for variance and approved 1 change of use application.

A revised draft of the Town Plan was submitted for review and adoption to the Selectboard in 2023. The Board was advised by the Northeastern Vermont Development Association in drafting the Town Plan. Ms. Evans, Mr. Skovsted and Ms. Warden coordinated the revisions on behalf of the Board. Prior to submitting the draft to the Selectboard, a public hearing was held on August 8, 2023 for members of the community to address questions about, revisions to, and general opinions about the draft Town Plan.

During the year, the Board heard from members of the public requesting further regulations about short-term rental housing and amendments to the existing Zoning ByLaws related to accessory dwelling units.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BARNET ZONING ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Barnet zoning Bylaws, effective August 14, 2018, require "any land development (as defined by the Bylaws)" be issued a permit by the Zoning Administrative Officer(ZAO) before commencing the development. This included ALL "structures" defined as "an assembly of materials for use or occupancy," over 50 square feet (5'X10'). There is no exemption for "temporary structures".

These Bylaws require the appointed ZAO "administer the provisions of these Bylaws literally". The ZAO has 30 days to act on a completed application. The permit becomes effective 15 days after it is signed. Any act or decision of the ZAO may be appealed, within 15 days of the act or decision, by filing a notice of appeal, on the form provided with the Secretary of the Board of Adjustment. Appeals with the fee should be addressed to Susan Sinclair, P.O.BOX 4026, St. Johnsbury VT 05819.

I do not keep regular hours at the Town Clerk's office, therefore applications left there will delay the permit. I may be reached by phone at 802-633-4993, please repeat your number twice. My address is 521 Warden Road, Barnet VT 05821.

Application forms and Please read before completing the Zoning application form are available at the Town Clerk's office and on the Town website www.barnetvt.org. The form should be dated January 2024 or newer. Applications must be submitted with the fee set by the Select Board, checks made to the Town of Barnet.

I received 59 applications in 2023, 15 were returned for more informmation, 4 of those were not returned. 55 applications were processed, of those 2 were denied and one was warned for a public hearing and found not allowed.

I issued 15 notices of violation for construction without a permit and collected fourteen late fees.

5 applications were referred to the Board for public hearings, three for conditional use private burial sites; 1 for building on a class 4 town highway and one for setback from Harvey's Lake shoreline.

Permits were issued for 3 subdivisions; 6 porches; 4 barns & 4 barn additions; 6 decks; 8 sheds; 4 raised beds; 2 shed additions; 2 condominium cabins; 3 residential garages; 2 patios; 2 dwellind additions; 2 carports; 2 shed additions; then 1 of each of the following: porch rebuild; porch enclosure; gazabo; over size gate; breezway; pavilion; horse run addition; green house; dwelling tent; carport addition; convert shed to dwelling; replace dwelling; add 2nd story to dwelling; storage container; replace RV& deck; convert garage to dwelling; cabin addition; pool & pond.

Five "Intent to build forms were submitted for "qualifying" agricultural structures with the \$15.00 recording fee. They were for 3 green houses; 2 sugar houses; a farm pond & a shed.

In 2023 I issued 11 new 911 locatable address numbers.

Resouctfully Submitted Skirley Warden

Shirley Warden

Barnet Zoning Administrative Officer

Term ending March 2025

Report of the Collector of Delinquent Tax Lisa J. Bowden, Collector December 31, 2023

	Taxes Charged			Uncollected Tax
<u>Year</u>	to Collector	<u>Collected</u>	<u>Abated</u>	as of 12/31/23
2012	\$ 5,111.87	\$ 5,111.87	~ O -	\$ -0-
2013	11,248.87	11,248.87	~ O -	- 0 -
2014	11,680.96	11,680.96	~ 0 -	- 0 -
2015	9,963.00	9,963.00	- 0 -	- 0 -
2016	628.08	628.08	- 0 -	- 0 -
2018	10,019.86	10,019.86	- 0 -	- 0 -
2019	10,413.40	10,413.40	- 0 -	-0-
2020	18,096.31	14,781.23	- 0 -	3,315.08
2021	7,786.65	6,796.30	- 0 -	990.35
2022	56,094.63	51,264.24	- 0 -	4,830.39
2023	<u> 158,888.89</u>	78,892.41	- 0 -	79,996.48
	\$ 299,932.52	\$210,800.22	- 0 -	\$ 89,132.30

Unpaid Tax Balances by	/ Taxpayer:	Larocque, Malcolm	1,012.80*
<u>2020</u>		March, Jeremiah/Connie	2,669.60
Alongi, Vito	\$ 907.76	Mitchel, Stephanie	1,551.79*
Hahr, Christopher	2,407.32*	Noble, Deborah etal	3,430.62*
<u>2021</u>		Northrop (Lampman, Tim)	1,551.35*
Hahr, Christopher	\$ 684.86+	O'Shana, Tarcia	476.63
Hahr, Christopher	305.49*	Ouellette, William	671.41
<u>2022</u>		Patneaude, Robert	3,856.59
Alongi, Vito	\$ 1,034.30	Roy, Chad	1,347.40+
Lacourse, Dennis	1,984.98	Seiler, Farrell Family Tr.	2,202.13
Tetreault, Shawn	1,811.11	Somers, Brian Estate	1,500.93
<u>2023</u>		Stacey, Justin	5,425.64*
492 US Rte 5 LLC	\$ 1,553.64	Starosciak, Keith	421.64
Alongi, Vito	2,816.26	Strand, Kasey	2,568.29+
Banbury, Lorraine	66.22	Walsh, Diane	994.10*
Campbell, Kathleen	4,284.68*	Wischerth, William	479.77+
Cooper, Teresa	2,446.43	WVT Land LLC	4,404.26
Cooper, Teresa et als	2,169.30		
Edmunds, Tarcia	1,956.94		
Hahr, Christopher	2,564.19*		
Hahr, Christopher	962.43+		
Hilliker, Shawn	1,103.77		
Jones, James	11,998.30		
Kendall, James	4,065.12		
Kendall, Jere	1,892.78		
Lacourse, Dennis	3,101.05		
Lamper, Michael	46.16	* Payment plan in place	
Larrabee Morrisette Tr	4,404.26	+ Paid in full by publication	date

2023 REPORT OF BARNET FIRE & RESCUE

Barnet Fire & Rescue responded to 213 incidents in 2023 compared to 177 for the previous year. This is a 20% increase from CY 2022 which also had a 20% increase from CY 2021. On average 4 times a week or every other day members are taking time out of their day and night to assist their neighbors in one way or another. Of the 213 incidents 156 were logged in as medical emergencies, 17 were motor vehicle accidents, and 40 were various fire related calls. We are currently operating with a roster of 16 members. Operationally we have 3 EMTs, 1 EMR, 1 FF/EMR, 1 VEFR, 5 FF/VEFRs, and 5 FFs.

Currently we are running with 3 pieces of apparatus. A 1984 Chevrolet brush truck/tow vehicle, a 1989 GMC pumper/tanker, and a 2005 International pumper. We are planning on replacing the 1984 brushtruck/tow vehicle this year with a new chassis using funds from the departments' truck fund. In addition, looking forward a few years, we will be starting grant applications to the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program for the replacement of the 1989 GMC. This is a very competitive grant and usually takes a few grant revisions and submissions before being awarded. Manufacturers right now are indicating delivery of a new apparatus can be up to two years from the date of contract, so it does not make sense to wait.

2023 saw the retirement of a 42+ year veteran of Barnet Fire & Rescue. Assistant Chief Joseph J Barrett decided to turn in his gear and spend more time with his family and riding his Harley. An open house in his honor was held at the fire station in February and attended by many of his friends and family. He was presented with a service award plague and his helmet for his years of dedicated service to the department and community.

When not responding to incidents or training members kept busy on other items. In May the department participated in a Recruitment and Retention program in conjunction with the Vermont Fire Academy. The program, "Operation Mayday" was designed to get individuals who might be interested in Emergency Services in the door and exposed to the job and answer any questions they may have. A lot of time and effort went into the program by several area department and had less than expected results. If you are that person or know of someone, contact any member, or stop by the firehouse on the first or third Tuesday evenings for more information. The Town of Barnet provides an hourly stipend for time spent on calls, Workers Compensation and an Accident & Sickness policy that provides additional coverage above the Workers Compensation.

Later we hosted a VT Dept of Health sponsored Vermont Emergency First Responder (VEFR) class. This was a two-day course that gives the student a first step into the EMS field. On completion the individual receives a VT EMS license which gives them a limited scope of practice and allows them to respond with a licensed EMS agency. Barnet had 5 members in the class and who are now responding to calls.

The department was invited to kick off the Barnet Library Summer Reading Program. Young readers and their families met at the fire station for fire safety messaging along with a tour of the firehouse and equipment. The children were then outfitted with gear and proceeded to stretch a hose line on an imaginary fire and extinguish it. A fun time was had by all.

Respectfully submitted, Ronald L Morse, Chief

Barnet Fire Rescue 2023 Treasurer's Report

Balance on hand January 1, 2023		\$	14,285.68
<u>Income</u>			
Donations	\$ 1,563.00		
Interest	\$ 6.27		
MiscCredits	\$ 1,230.96		
BBQ receipts	\$ 3,191.00		
911 Sign Sales	\$ 240.00		
Paint Party	\$ 600.00		
Total Income	\$ 6,831.23		
January 1st halance plus income		\$	21 110 01
January 1st balance plus income		\$	21,116.91
<u>Expenses</u>			
Sign Posts	\$ 281.50		
Operation Mayday(recruitment)	\$ 185.76		
Trunk or Treat	\$ 114.64		
Christmas Party	\$ 625.00		
Training	\$ 797.26		
Office supplies	\$ 178.69		
Member Reimbursments	\$ 24.38		
Building Maint. Equip	\$ 408.82		
Fire Prevention	\$ 117.48		
EMS Supplies	\$ 1,128.85		
Fire Equipment	\$ 143.98		
911 Sign Supplies	\$ 265.51		
Paint Party	\$ 306.39		
BBQ expenses	\$ 2,239.31		
Postage & Box Rent	\$ 41.00		
Donations	\$ 260.00		
Retirement open house/plaque	\$ 3,425.22		
Total Expenses	\$ 10,543.79	\$	10,543.79
Balance on hand December 31,2019		\$	10,573.12

Christopher Bunnell, Treasurer

Harvey's Lake Beach Committee- Town Report 2024

Summary of beach happenings for the year 2023

2023 was a great season at the beach. We were able to employ several local youths and it was our first year up and running with the new playground, which brought a lot of excitement and is getting used a ton!

What you should know for summer 2024:

- -Beach hours will be 8:30am 6pm. During those times entrance fees will be charged.
- -Per person fees will increase to \$4.
- -Season Passes will increase to \$60 after June 1 (\$50 prior). Passes are for 5 people ONLY and they will need to be listed. When entering the beach only the people listed on the pass are free under the pass, others must pay the entrance fee. This fee means for each person on the pass you are ONLY paying for 3 visits, what a great deal!
- We will be hosting a few FUNdraising events to continue our efforts towards more beach improvements! These events might include corn hole tournaments, concerts, food truck events...
- -We will remain a carry in carry out facility for trash, this has become the widespread practice at many facilities across the state and means that portion of our budget is freed up.
- We will continue to operate without lifeguards, there is a statewide shortage and our attempts to hire have been unsuccessful.
- As a reminder we are a **NO DOGS ALLOWED** beach! This is on and off season and is backed by a town ordinance. Thank you for respecting all beach visitors!

What your beach fee covers: Mowing, weed whacking, other general maintenance (ie, stay mat, fence repairs), building upkeep and renovations, beach cleaning, utilities, porta potties, and youth employment opportunities. As always, we are open to any suggestions for improvements, please feel free to reach out to a beach committee member with all questions or concerns! The beach committee meets once monthly, usually the first Monday of the month at the Fire Station, please consider joining us!

Our webpage, <u>harveyslakebeach.net</u>, contains most information along with passes and pavilion rental forms that can be printed or picked up at the beach. Please feel free to email us at <u>harveyslakebeach@gmail.com</u> if you cannot find what you are looking for!

As always, THANK YOU, the town, for your continued support of the beach!

Committee Members: Christen Emerson, Jennifer Kierstead, Chris Yancey, Sue Persson, and

Aaron Hall







Barnet Public Library Librarian's Report 2023

2023 has really been defined by our summer reading theme of **All Together Now**. It felt like a year of possibilities and community celebration. The library is, above all else, a place for you all to feel like you can come in and talk, meet, inquire, share, play and read. It is our aim here to be here for you; our Barnet family. This year has seemed like a turning point in getting back to all being back together as a community.

The biggest events we held this year were our off-site programs; ones that incorporated different places around town; In April, Maplemont Farm once again hosted our Lambing Storyhour. It's hard to find a better way to feed the soul in snowy, cold, wet April than to hunker down in a clean, cozy barn full of lambs, kids, cookies and hay. Over 60 people of all ages came to enjoy the morning. Our summer reading kickoff was equally well-attended and successful in partnering with the Barnet Fire & Rescue Team. Our crew had games, lessons, and firetrucks ready to go for all our future firefighters. It was a perfect, hot day to be refreshed by the hoses. Summer Reading was a whirlwind of Crafternoons with our High School assistants there to help and ended with another brilliant puppet show by Modern Times Theater.

Our Winter classes in wreath making, felting, paper arts, essential oils and more are back to being fully in-person again. These are always lively and lovely evenings offered every year when the dark begins to close in on us here in Barnet.

Thank you to our supportive and enthusiastic community. We love feedback so please let us know how we can better serve your needs. Check out our various social media for updates on classes, services and extended hours.

FMI: www.barnetpubliclibrary.com, 633-4436, barnetlibrary1@gmail.com or Facebook & Instagram

Barnet Public Library

Budget Status as of 12/31/2023

12/	31/2023		
Account	Budget	Actual	2024
Income			
Town Tax Appropriation	32,000	32,000	34,000
Donations	1,500	5,875	1,500
Grants	300	600	300
Fundraisers	1,000	970	1,000
Annual Appeal	2,000	1,435	2,500
Transfer from Investment	0	10,373	0
Interest on Bank Accts	0	54	0
	36,800	51,307	39,300
Expenses			
SALARIES			
Gross Wages	25,500	21,237	37,733
FICA Taxes (Soc. Sec.)	1,913	1,625	2,641
Workshops	200	0	200
FACILITIES EXPENSES			0
Telephone	550	618	620
Internet Service	1,150	1,318	1,320
Maintenance & Renovatio	400	0	400
LIBRARY OPERATIONS			0
Audio/Video	150	115	150
Adult Books	2,200	2,214	2,200
Kid Books	1,100	945	1,100
Magazines/Newspaper	450	270	450
Ebooks	450	456	450
Website	300	492	500
Fundraisers	100	0	100
Software	200	206	200
Annual Appeal Expenses	0	77	0
SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT			0
Mileage	50	0	50
Office Supplies	650	211	650
Computer	500	0	500
Postage	325	373	325
SPECIAL PROGRAMS			0
Special Events	900	1,229	900
•	37,088	31,385	50,489
	(000)	40.000	(44.400)
Net Income	(288)	19,922	<u>(11,189)</u>

Barnet Transfer Station Report For 2023

We had another busy year at the Transfer Station in Construction debris, Trash, Metal and Recycling. Special thanks to Donald Nelson, Rusty Ehlers, Michael Bigelow and Shirley Warden for all that they do. The Good Neighbor Fund did well in 2023 due to the generosity of the folks here in town.

The Barnet Good Neighbor Fund hosted two Clothing Giveaways again in 2023; one in June and one in November. The proceeds from these fundraisers (take what you need; leave what you can) were deposited into the Barnet Good Neighbor Fund to help any of our neighbors who may need help in the future. Joyce Evans (my wife), Lisa Bowden, Debbie Morse, her grandchildren Layla and Leif McGarvin, Bonnie Easter, Heather Lindstrom, David and Ruth Anderson, Annette Dauscher, Patrick McWilliams and his wife, Leann Despins, Melody Phelps Peterson, Fran and Tom Flanagan, Chris Demers and her daughters, Sophia and Bella, Mike Valcourt, Darlene Coursey, Sue Roberts, Grace Desroches, Bonnie Ellis, Laurie Somers, Janice Narey, Kianna Crosson and her son, Matthew, and Mary Catanzarita helped with organizing these events. The Barnet Church Store generously donated some clothing after they closed for the season. We completely filled the pews of the church - yet again - with clothing from size newborn to 5X. Over 280 families took advantage of these opportunities and we are extremely thankful for all of the generous donations that allowed our neighbors to be warm this winter. Leftover clothing was donated to local non-profit agencies like NEKCA, HOPE, L.I.S.T.E.N., ST. J HUB and local schools. We were excited by the number of young people who volunteered with these Clothing Giveaways. Hopefully, next year, we'll have more young people who want to be involved.

This year we collected over 272 tons of trash and construction debris and, over 20 tons of scrap metal. The Recycling Center had another busy year and the residents of Barnet were able to keep over 80 tons of recyclables out of the landfill. Of that 80 tons almost 8 tons were plastic containers and, believe it or not, almost 10 tons of compost!

The Barnet Good Neighbor Fund has had another great year. We would like to thank everyone who has donated their returnable bottles to this worthy cause. Debbie King of the West Barnet Quick Stop continues to watch out for any neighbors who may need monetary assistance from our Good Neighbor Fund. If you find yourself, or someone you know who is a Barnet resident, in need of financial assistance, please don't hesitate to ask one of our committee members: Bruce Marston, Shirley Warden, Tammy Carpenter or Tina Morrison, for help.

The folks at Casella, All Metals and The Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District did another fine job of making all of this happen.

More pups than ever were here this year and they were all happy to exchange a scratch on the head for a special reward.

Our little dog pals are always looking forward to Saturday so they can enjoy a snack when they stop in for a visit. As I say each year, we are always sad to hear about the loss of any of our dog friends and this year was no exception. We seem to lose a few dogs each year.

We still need more folks to use more care in putting items in the right place and rinsing dirty items. We seem to be moving backwards again in this regard. When people don't follow the rules of recycling, it makes more work for the rest of us and Daniel "Rusty" Ehlers is spending more time than ever before climbing in and out of the dumpsters, barrels, boxes and plastic bottle bags retrieving items that are put in the wrong place. Please do a better job to help us with this on-going problem by reading the signs, asking questions and removing the caps from all **non carbonated** containers. Rusty spends over an hour extra, each week, putting recycled items in the right place and removing bottle caps from plastic and glass containers; thus, costing the town over \$1000 annually.

It would also be helpful, especially during the winter months, if you could arrive <u>BEFORE 3:00 p.m.</u> Donald and Rusty have been at their posts since before 8 o'clock in the morning and are chilled to the bone! It's not fair to expect them to stay past closing time.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Marston

<u>The following</u> is a list of some of the most common items that can be found in landfills along with the approximate time needed for decomposition:

Cigarette butts 10-12 years, Fishing line 600 years, Rubber boot soles 50-80 years, Plastic bottles 450 years, Leather shoes 25-40 years, Milk cartons 5 years, Cotton gloves 3 months, Aluminum cans 80-100 years, Metal cans 50 years, Train tickets 2 weeks, Batteries 100 years, Rope 3-14 months, Wool clothing 1-5 years, Styrofoam NEVER, Plywood 1-3 years and Nylon fabric 30-40 years.

Please consider giving items that can still be used to others, rather than throwing them away. Re-use is always better for our planet and its inhabitants. You might consider using the website BUY NOTHING CALEDONIA. It's incredible how many things get recycled from there. You can even make a request for something you need/want and people offer it up. My wife Joyce uses it to find new homes for the things that I bring home from the Transfer Station, that should not be thrown away. We either have folks come to the house to pick things up or she will deliver them to you if need be.

If you have any questions on the proper recycling of any item, you may call the Waste Management District in Lyndonville at 1-802-626-3532.

Report of the Barnet Dam Committee January 2023

The Barnet Dam Committee (BDC) includes Dylan Ford, George Coppenrath, Joe Mangiapane, Don Easter, and Red Dufresne with Richard Downer serving as a technical advisor. Our goal remains to improve the water quality in Lake Harvey by reducing backflow from the South Peacham Brook during heavy storms and spring runoff. The desired dam improvement project concept includes:

- 1. Replace the stop boards with aluminum or fiberglass planks.
- 2. Removal of a portion of the existing concrete spillway to allow installation of an inflatable bladder or a crest gate system as necessary to pass a 100-year flood to the Stevens without backwatering Lake Harvey. The bladder or gate would be automatically controlled by
- 3. various water level sensors to lower the level at the dam to prevent backflow into the lake.
- 4. Reducing the level of the east fish ladder concrete wall to improve spillway capacity.
- 5. Remove the silt on the upstream side of the dam to allow renovation of the lower-level drain gate and operator which is currently inoperable and install a bar rack to prevent logs and debris from collecting in the drain outlet channel.
- 6. Complete ancillary site improvements which include re-grading the riprap below the dam, providing erosion protection on the western portion of the downstream side of the discharge channel. Construct an upstream spur dike to divert flow to the east side of the dam and remove silt from the east side of the dam.

These improvements require a dam alteration permit under 10 VSA Chapter 43 from the State of Vermont which can be an arduous process. Representatives of the Vermont Dam Safety Program suggested the BDC complete an engineering study to assess the potential hazard analysis as a first step. The Harvey Lake Dam was listed as a "significant hazard dam" by default and if it was proven to be a "low hazard dam", the permitting process would be much more straight forward. After discussions, the BDC agreed to retain McFarland Johnson Engineering to complete a Hydraulics and Hydrology (H&H) Study to ascertain the hazard potential of the dam. This report has now been

completed and was recently accepted by the State, which shows the dam to be a low hazard dam. The schedule and budget for construction of the dam Improvement project has not been completed at this time.

Other minor tasks which do not require a permit include safety improvements such as grating and railings as well as repairing the broken drain gate stanchion which would not require a state permit. Some of these items have been completed or are in progress and scheduled for completion in 2024.



Dam Committee Members Complete Decking

Memorial Flags

Patricia McLam, Lisa Bowden and Judy Butson had charge of getting the flags and new standards from the Town Clerk. On May 26, 2023 they met the school bus at each cemetery and passed out the flags to the following 6th grade students, staff and bus driver.

Students: Olivia Adams, Bella Demers, Daniel Dobart, Londan Donaghy, Autumn Edwards, Wyatt Lazerick, Alana Leigh, Liam Mathews, Molly Roberts, Tyler Roy, Maddox Stacey, Hailey Walsh

Staff: Caroline Adams, Evan Chase, Amanda Babcock

Bus Driver: Frieda Fournier

We would like to thank the students and staff at the Barnet School for their help and hope this tradition will continue.

The following is the number of flags placed at each cemetery. 86 at McIndoes, 31 at Walter Harvey, 36 at West Barnet, 73 at Barnet Center, 9 at Stevens and 91 at Pleasant View plus 3 at the monument on the Barnet Village circle.

We want to thank the following volunteers who collected the flags this fall.

Lisa Bowden, Mark Gilleland, Judy Butson, Tony & Mary Faris, Claudia Heisholt and daughters Luisa & Clara.

Patricia McLam, Lisa Bowden Judy Butson

Memorial Day Report 2023



The 2023 Memorial Day services were held Sunday, May 28 by the VFW and the Barnet Selectboard. The first ceremony was held at the Passumpsic Monument at 9am, the second at the Barnet Village monument at 9:30am. The ceremonies began with a welcome by Selectboard member Mark Jefferson and a prayer led by Benjamin Gates.

The speaker for both events was David Curtin. David served two years in Vietnam in the 173 Airborne Brigade, and as a civilian in the Defense Department for twenty-seven years.

Also participating was VFW Post 793 and the Auxiliary led by Commander Chris Haggett. Debbie Smith played taps at both locations. Thank you to all for making this day special.

The Barnet Village monument has a new plaque commemorating those who served their country in combat since 1975. We are accepting donations from those who wish to make a contribution. The 2024 ceremony will include a special recognition of the new marker.

All are welcome. Please join us.

2023 BOAT MONITOR REPORT

By Kathy Wirthwein

This year boats were monitored between May 26 and September 26. The total number of boats monitored was about 1007 (launches and retrievals combined) including the extra kayaks in some groups. These included 213 fishing boats minus about 91 labeled as retrievals for a total of 122. This was about one quarter of our total. There were 4 "government visits" including 4 recorded launches and 3 retrievals. The recreational boats totaled 777 with 460 launches and 317 retrievals.

The launches totaled 582 and the retrievals 409. (I am leaving out the extra kayaks.) On individual days much did not match up. We launched 66 pontoons (close to my mid-season dock count of 62). Forty of these were retrieved before Sept 25. Other totals were: 242 outboards (192 retrieved), 34 inboards (18 retrieved), 16 jet-skies (10 retrieved), 150 kayaks (97 retrieved), 2 paddleboards, 7 rowboats (8 retrieved), 48 SUP (30 retrieved), 1 wake boat (retrieved Sept 24), 17 canoes (14 retrieved). While cruising around the lake by pontoon in July shortly after the flood, I counted the following boats either docked or visible on land: pontoons (62), outboards (7), inboards (22), jet-skies (2), kayaks (58), canoes (19), rowboats (2), sailboats (4), paddleboards (2).

Vermont could improve the software by adding the following categories: "launched to a dock" and "retrieved from a dock". These boats will not enter the lake and depart on the same day. Thus early (and late) in the season the launches and retrievals will not match in numbers. And often retrievals are missed on busy days. In past years while monitoring I only recorded retrievals near season end.

Boats came from 45 different lake or river locations. Ten of these locations contained Milfoil and/or other invasive species (Zebra Mussels among others for instance in Lake Champlain). In ABC order, with "x" the number of times from each, the locations with milfoil were Arrowhead Mountain, Carmi State Park (2x), Lake Champlain (Keeler Bay in S Hero, Mallets Bay in Colchester, Benson Landing in Benson, VT (latter 2x), Connecticut River at Old Ferry Rd in Brattleboro (3x), Crystal Lake (6x), Lake Fairlee access (5x), Halls Lake (3x), Memphremagog (2x), Lake Morey (6x), Ticklenaked Pond (4x), Lake Willoughby (9x). Because some of these visits were not recent not all boats needed to be washed.

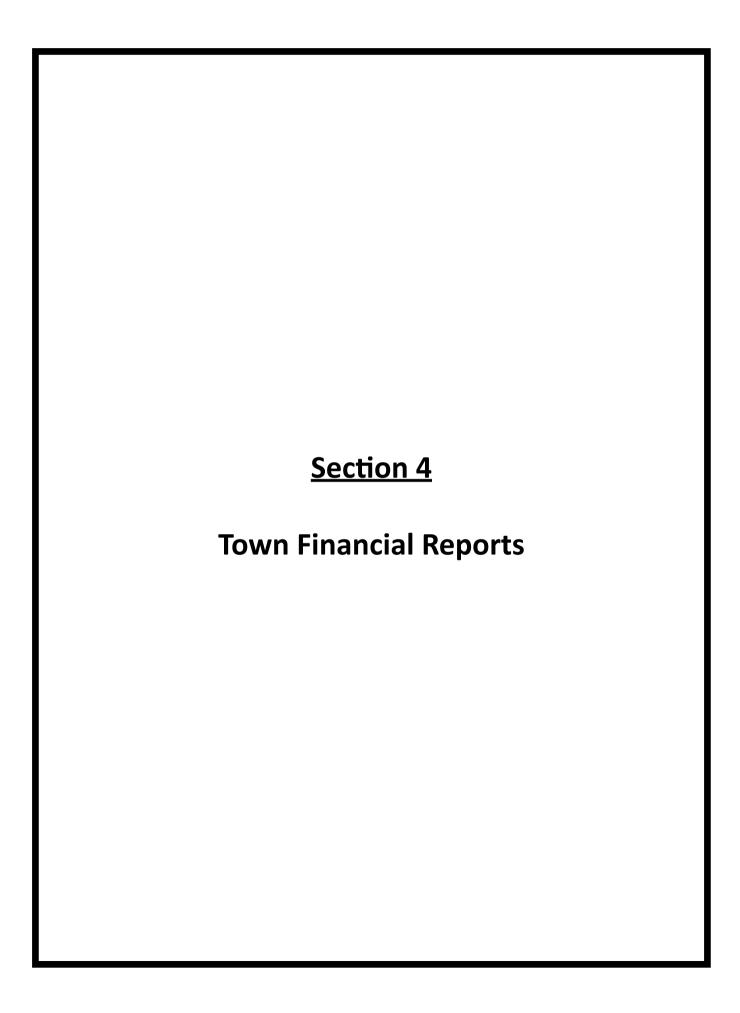
Our criteria for which boats should be washed include whether arriving from lakes with invasive species, and whether last used during the previous 2 weeks. Except for the invisible Lake Champlain zebra mussel larvae which can survive a month or more out of water, 2 weeks is considered adequate time for any boat attached invasives to dry up and die. We assume plant seeds and invasives not on the lists can hide in dirt. For whatever reason, this year our on-the-spot IPad data entry system did not allow the list of washed boats to be transferred to the state of Vermont data base. However, Don Easter, our program manager, documented that we washed about 40 boats, especially those visiting from known infested lakes, after we inspected boats and talked with their owners.

Our Greeter Station hot water pressure washer is superior, using heat to kill the microscopic Lake Champlain zebra mussels. Boats with inboard motors are now required by law to drain out all inside water when departing a lake. Serious fines are levied against those who violate our protective state laws. All – along with constant vigilance - contribute to our ongoing success.

Most boats arrive owner washed. Greeter dedication and education and boater cooperation have resulted thus far in keeping our waters free of invasive species. So far, so good.

Thank you all - our Barnet Selectboard and residents, Lake Harvey Association members, and responsible lake residents and visitors – for your generous support. Your dollars, diligence and time make a difference.

"PREVENTION IS THE ONLY CURE, HELP US KEEP LAKE HARVEY PURE!"



Treasurer's Report

The past year saw more than usual activity in the Town's finances, some predictable and some unexpected. The General Fund returned a noteworthy surplus, while the Reserve Fund's activity ramped up as renovations of the Town Hall began in earnest.

The 2023 General Fund surplus of \$441,000 was due in part to marginal underspending of various accounts. Due to the considerable number of individual budget lines, a small under-expenditure in each can contribute to a sizable annual surplus. This has been the case in most recent years, and the Selectboard continues to work to calibrate the budget to cause total actual numbers to align with the budget more closely. In 2023, there were also a number of unexpected General Fund windfalls, including an influx in revenues from tax sales, Vermont Agency of Transportation State Aid to Roads funding related to statewide flooding, and a transfer from the new Education Tax Liability Credit Reserve Account, which was uncertain and unbudgeted at the beginning of 2023.

The above-mentioned Education Tax Liability Credit Reserve Account relates to the 2021 tax appeal of Great River Hydro, LLC, the owner of the Comerford Dam and McIndoe Falls Dam, which was settled in 2022. As stipulated in the Settlement Agreement the Town "agrees to apply a credit to each tax bill issued against the April 1, 2023 through April 1, 2027 Grand Lists in the amount of \$146,414.60 each year as an offset to the taxes owed in each tax year." This amount becomes an annual budget lineitem, which can be found in Section 38 of the budget. These payments represent refunds of Great River's overpayment of 2021 property taxes in comparison to the values agreed upon in the settlement. Most of the overpaid tax was education tax which already had been delivered to the State of Vermont. The Town applied to the State for recalculation of the 2021 education tax liability, to reduce the burden of these future repayments. This State's decision on this application, which was uncertain when the 2023 budget was developed, was received in March 2023. The State forwarded a credit of \$465,364, which represents approximately 86% of the education funding previously delivered to the State education fund. This funding was placed in the Reserve Fund and will be transferred to the General Fund in five equal annual amounts beginning in 2023. See Section 6.1 of the budget for these General Fund revenues.

After many years of building the Reserve Fund to save for building and renovation projects and due to ARPA funding, 2023 saw the greatest amount of planned expenditures from that fund in many years. Expenditures for Town Hall renovations came from the Municipal Building Fund (\$358,506) and ARPA funds (\$73,570), totaling \$432,077. Meanwhile, a new pick-up truck and a new dump truck were purchased using the Truck Fund, for total expenditures of \$257,317.

The Town remains fiscally strong thanks to years of sound management; there remains a healthy accumulated surplus and no long-term notes payable. Both elements of Town finance result from the design of the Selectboard and the trust of the taxpayers.

Town financial documents are sometimes perplexing because they differ in presentation from those encountered in business and personal lives. Town finances are reported using Fund Accounting: monies are separated into various funds because the Town must demonstrate that expenditures comply with restrictions on the use of the money. These restrictions can be externally imposed, as when benefactors restrict the use of the principal in the Trust Fund – these balances are called *non-spendable* or *restricted*. Or the restrictions can be internally imposed, as with many of the Town's Reserve Accounts – these balances are called *committed* or *assigned* fund balances. Monies that can be expended without restrictions are referred to as *unassigned* fund balances. Fund accounting also allows the Town to demonstrate that the use of money complies with approved budgets, and with accounting standards imposed by the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB). The following is a summary of the function of each of the Town's funds.

- General Fund: The general operating fund of the Town. It is used to account for all financial resources, except these required to be accounted for in another fund. The operating income and expenditures of the Selectboard, including the Highway Department, are included in the General Fund.
- Reserve Fund: Used to account for a collection of various accounts held in reserve by the Town for
 future projects. Most of these are set aside by the Selectboard, with the approval of the voters, to
 prepare for large future expenditures while incurring minimal debt. They are each reserved for
 specific purposes and generally cannot be used otherwise.
- <u>Trust Fund:</u> Used to account for various permanent trust accounts established for the benefit of the Town. In each of the three current accounts the principal donated is non-spendable.

I continue to appreciate the confidence committed to the Treasurer's Office by the voters, and the assistance of the many volunteer officers that help make the Town's fiscal policy operate effectively.

Respectfully submitted, Benjamin P. Heisholt, Treasurer

Town of Barnet, Vermont

2024 General Fund Budget

Selectboard: Dylan Ford, Benjamin Gates & Mark Jefferson

(See pages following this report for schedules and notes)

Section & Note	Account	<u>2022 Actual</u>	<u>2023 Budget</u>	<u>2023 Actual</u>	<u>2024 Budget</u>
Reven	ues				
	Selectboard Income				
1	Taxes				
a	Selectboard Budget Tax Appropriation	1,674,029.83	1,828,374.85	1,828,693.46	1,644,097.89
b	Change in Deferred Property Tax Revenue	14,955.99	1,828,374.83	48,911.30	1,044,037.83
~	Total Taxes	1,688,985.82	1,828,374.85	1,877,604.76	1,644,097.89
•					
2	Town Clerk's Office Fees	46.755.00	47.000.00	44.605.00	45 000 00
_	Recording Fees General Office Fees	16,755.00	17,000.00	14,695.00	15,000.00
а	Dog Licenses	2,882.81 1,148.00	2,500.00 1,500.00	2,147.90 1,095.00	2,500.00 1,500.00
ь		70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00
•	Other Licenses	200.00	0.00	100.00	0.00
	Total Town Clerk's Fees	21,055.81	21,070.00	18,107.90	19,070.00
		•		•	•
3	Planning Commission & Zoning Board				
	Zoning Permit Fees	1,815.00	1,200.00	2,025.00	1,200.00
4	Transfer Station				
	Transfer Station Collections	67,343.50	60,000.00	68,406.00	60,000.00
5	Hamisaria taka Banah				
5	Harvey's Lake Beach Admission Charges	13,693.40	9,500.00	11,398.50	9,500.00
	Pavilion Rental	2,220.00	1,500.00	1,555.00	1,500.00
	Total Harvey's Lake Beach	15,913.40	11,000.00	12,953.50	11,000.00
	•		·		
6	General Selectboard Income				
а	Late Filing Fees - HS-122 forms	3,488.05	0.00	4,308.09	2,000.00
	Interest - Delinquent Taxes	15,254.81	15,000.00	90,124.58	15,000.00
b		12,130.28	28,000.00	44,875.43	45,000.00
	Highway Access Permits	40.00	0.00	90.00	0.00
С	State of VT - Current Use Payment (Selectboard's share)	38,117.50	40,000.00	42,373.50	40,000.00
	State of VT - Current Use Change Tax	1,084.00	0.00	2,302.00	1,000.00
d	_	7,504.98	7,500.00	7,504.98	7,500.00
e		9,323.00	7,000.00	9,140.00	7,000.00
·	Electronics Recycling Credit	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00
f		7,200.00	7,200.00	7,200.00	7,200.00
•	(formerly known as Village Partnership	.,200.00	. ,=====	,	,
g	<u> </u>	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00
	District Court of VT - Local Fines	1,020.50	1,500.00	146.50	1,500.00
	School Election Expense Refund	815.19	0.00	0.00	0.00

<u>Section</u>					
& Note	Account	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
	Various Other Income	(1.17)	0.00	2,092.31	0.00
	Total General Selectboard Income	95,977.14	108,400.00	210,157.39	126,200.00
6.1	Reserve Fund Proceeds				
а	Proceeds from Education Tax Liability Credit			93,078.79	93,078.79
	Fund				
	Total Reserve Fund Proceeds			93,078.79	93,078.79
7 a	Use of Prior Surplus	200,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	250,000.00
	Total Selectboard Income	2,091,090.67	2,230,044.85	2,482,333.34	2,204,646.68
	Total Selectional income	2,091,090.07	2,230,044.83	2,402,333.34	2,204,040.08
	Highway Income				
9	State Aid				
a	State Aid to Roads	206,594.14	205,000.00	303,686.47	155,000.00
-	Total State Aid	206,594.14	205,000.00	303,686.47	155,000.00
				-	·
12	Other Highway Income				
	State of VT - Current Use Payment (Highway	38,117.50	40,000.00	42,373.50	40,000.00
	share)				
	Scrap Metal Sales	0.00	0.00	446. 4 0	0.00
	Gravel Sales	1,176.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Various other receipts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total Other Highway Income	39,293.50	40,000.00	42,819.90	40,000.00
13 a	Use of Prior Surplus	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total Highway Income	245,887.64	245,000.00	346,506.37	195,000.00
		2 226 272 24	2 475 044 05	2 020 020 74	2 200 545 50
	Total General Fund Income	2,336,978.31	2,475,044.85	2,828,839.71	2,399,646.68
Expend	ditures				
LAPEIR	artures				
	Selectboard Expenditures				
15	Payroll Benefits & Taxes:				
19	FICA Taxes (Social Security)	11,926.53	17,000.00	12,452.83	13,000.00
	Health Insurance	27,053.17	30,183.00	30,532.09	34,400.00
а	Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA)	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
	Reserve Fund Appropriation				
b	Retirement	3,979.25	6,000.00	4,881.04	5,200.00
c	Unemployment Compensation	456.50	380.50	394.00	437.50
d	Dental Insurance	431.64	500.00	431.64	500.00
	Total Payroll Benefits & Taxes	45,847.09	56,063.50	50,691.60	55,537.50

<u>Section</u>						
& Note		Account	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
16		Town Clerk's Office (formerly "Office				
		Supplies"):				
		Salaries (See Schedule A):				
	а	Benjamin Heisholt, Town Clerk & Treas.	70,197.78	71,618.44	73,695.95	75,199.36
I	b	Assistant Town Clerk & Treas.	21,085.75	25,000.00	20,405.50	25,000.00
	С	Substitute Town Clerk	408.00	0.00	680.00	500.00
		Total Salaries	91,691.53	96,618.44	94,781.45	100,699.36
		Land Record Books & Supplies	2,034.94	700.00	0.00	700.00
(d	Land Record Online Portal	0.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
(е	Copier Expenses	1,644.36	1,500.00	1,282.48	1,500.00
		Tax Bills	380.00	350.00	385.00	350.00
1	f	Software Service Agreement	5,845.20	6,000.00	6,304.01	6,000.00
1	g	Computer Maintenance, Supplies	4,649.72	5,000.00	3,889.79	5,000.00
		Postage	1,957.97	2,500.00	2,301.11	2,500.00
		Postage Meter Rental	296.23	300.00	296.23	300.00
		Advertising	2,061.84	800.00	1,224.00	1,000.00
		Various Office Supplies	1,731.58	1,500.00	1,227.63	1,500.00
		Total Town Clerk's Office	112,293.37	116,468.44	112,891.70	120,749.36
17		Listers' Office:				
i	а	Salaries (See Schedule B)	14,537.38	15,000.00	14,767.35	15,000.00
ĺ	b	Contracted Services (professional appraiser)	1,900.00	4,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
		Computer Maintenance & Supplies	1,189.97	1,500.00	1,653.66	1,500.00
		Software Service Agreement	0.00	250.00	0.00	0.00
		Mileage	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
		Training	859.53	300.00	1,231.07	1,000.00
(С	Tax Map Maintenance	3,037.50	3,500.00	3,240.00	3,500.00
		Total Listers' Office	21,524.38	25,550.00	20,892.08	23,000.00
18		Planning Commission/Zoning Board:				
	а	Administrative Officer Salary	3,850.00	4,250.00	4,250.00	4,250.00
	b	Wages - Secretary	2,276.00	2,000.00	986.00	2,000.00
		Administrative Officer Expenses	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
		Advertising	432.00	600.00	792.00	600.00
		E911 Administrative Expenses	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00
•		Town Plan Update	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00
		Other	0.00	300.00	0.00	300.00
			7,558.00	13,200.00	12,028.00	8,200.00
		Total Planning Commission/Zoning Board				
19		Auditors:				
13		Salaries	0.00	800.00	0.00	800.00
		Printing Town Reports	1,798.50	2,700.00	2,794.03	2,430.00
		Total Auditors	1,798.50	3,500.00	2,794.03	
		Total Faultois	1,790.30	3,300.00	2,734.03	3,230.00
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
20		Landfill/Transfer Station:				
	а	Salaries-Transfer Station (See Schedule C)	7,819.51	8,500.00	8,475.25	8,500.00
	b	Environmental Compliance/ Post-Closure	1,752.80	1,500.00	2,361.40	2,500.00
		Testing				

ection					
Note	Account	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
С	Northeast Kingdom Waste Management	8,330.94	8,000.00	8,968.47	8,000.00
	District Annual Appropriation/Surcharge				•
	Supplies - Transfer Station	94.61	100.00	85.64	100.00
d		26,520.17	30,000.00	29,251.95	30,000.00
е		24,395.00	27,500.00	22,050.00	27,500.00
	Advertising - Transfer Station	120.00	150.00	72.00	150.00
f	Hired Equipment	360.00	400.00	390.00	400.00
	Equipment Maintenance	23.33	0.00	10.00	0.00
	Total Landfill/Transfer Station	69,416.36	76,150.00	71,664.71	77,150.00
22					
22	Barnet Recycling:	0.539.00	40.000.00	44.062.75	10.000.00
а	, ,	9,538.00	10,000.00	11,062.75	10,000.00
	Disposal Fees	2,450.00	3,500.00	2,499.00	3,500.00
	Compost Tote Fees	957.50	1,000.00	920.00	1,000.00
	Equipment & Supplies	4.60	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total Recycling	12,950.10	14,500.00	14,481.75	14,500.00
23	Fire & Rescue:				
а	Volunteers' Reimbursement	4,728.25	5,000.00	7,426.95	12,000.00
b	Equipment & Supplies	4,694.52	12,100.00	13,161.49	12,100.00
	Vehicle Maintenance & Repair	961.92	2,000.00	4,103.59	4,000.00
С	Mutual Aid Dues & Dispatching Service	3,612.50	4,000.00	3,835.50	4,000.00
d	Rescue Squad Expenses	0.00	3,200.00	3,752.26	3,200.00
	Regionalization	0.00	1,100.00	0.00	1,100.00
	Annual Equipment Testing				2,000.00
	Other	0.00	600.00	334.85	600.00
	Total Fire & Rescue	13,997.19	28,000.00	32,614.64	39,000.00
24	Harvey's Lake Beach:				
47		10 404 54	20,000,00	0.040.70	20,000,00
	Salaries - Lifeguards & Gate Attendants (See	10,404.54	20,000.00	8,849.76	20,000.00
	Schedule E)	0.00	252.22	2.22	
	Employee Training	0.00	850.00	0.00	0.00
	Operating Supplies	326.87	400.00	433.57	500.00
	Advertising	197.20	500.00	457.60	500.00
	Total Harveys Lake Beach	10,928.61	21,750.00	9,740.93	21,000.00
25	Police Services:				
	Constable Charges - Dogs	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
	Constable Charges - Other	0.00	200.00	0.00	200.00
	Sheriff's Patrol	5,902.25	7,500.00	4,072.50	7,500.00
	Other	0.00	200.00	78.86	200.00
	Total Police Services	5,902.25	8,000.00	4,151.36	8,000.00
26					•
26 a	Selectboard: Salaries	1,010.96	1 500 00	1 000 00	1 500 00
d	Expenses	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,000.00 1,500.00	1,500.00
	Total Selectboard	2,510.96	1,500.00 3,000.00	2,500.00	1,500.00
	Total Scientification	2,310.90	3,000.00	2,300.00	3,000.00
27	Elections Expenses:				
	Ballot Clerks	906.76	500.00	160.02	1,000.00
					,

Section					
& Note	Account	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
<u> </u>	Moderator	0.00	100.00	300.00	100.00
_	Polling Place Custodian	0.00	100.00	300.00	520.00
	Advertising	528.00	400.00	600.00	400.00
	Supplies/Equipment	31.67	50.00	0.00	50.00
	Total Election Expenses	1,466.43	1,050.00	1,060.02	2,070.00
	rotar Election Expenses	1,400.43	1,030.00	1,000.02	2,070.00
32 a	Buildings/Grounds Utilities & Maintenance				
	Town Clerk's Office				
b	Fuel Oil	2,790.36	2,000.00	2,576.99	2,000.00
	Electricity	1,540.70	1,200.00	1,563.47	1,200.00
	Water	0.00	400.00	0.00	400.00
	Telephone	981.37	1,000.00	1,073.24	1,000.00
	Internet	1,242.92	800.00	976.53	800.00
	Maintenance	2,810.87	3,000.00	2,341.47	3,000.00
	Cleaning	920.00	2,100.00	680.00	2,100.00
	Total Town Clerk's Office	10,286.22	10,500.00	9,211.70	10,500.00
	Barnet Public Library Building:				
а	Fuel Oil	6,983.68	8,500.00	7,438.56	8,500.00
	Electricity	808.48	900.00	900.57	900.00
С	Water	1,642.12	1,700.00	1,642.12	1,700.00
d	Maintenance	1,744.78	2,800.00	3,820.83	2,800.00
	Total Barnet Public Library Building	11,179.06	13,900.00	13,802.08	13,900.00
	Town Ha <u>ll</u>				
	Electricity	429.61	2,000.00	108.90	4,000.00
	Water	547.36	450.00	547.36	550.00
	Maintenance	1,122.83	1,000.00	1,001.00	1,000.00
	Total Town Hall	2,099.80	3,450.00	1,657.26	5,550.00
	Total Town Hair	2,033.80	3,430.00	1,037.20	3,330.00
	<u>Transfer Station</u>				
	Utilities/Electricity	2,252.97	2,100.00	1,903.64	2,100.00
	Portable Toilet	0.00	55.00	0.00	55.00
	Total Transfer Station	2,252.97	2,155.00	1,903.64	2,155.00
	Recycling Center				
а	Fuel Oil	213.18	200.00	141.85	200.00
	Total Recycling Center	213.18	200.00	141.85	200.00
	Fire & Rescue Station				
а	Fuel Oil	4,781.50	5,000.00	6,489.05	5,500.00
ď	Electricity				•
	Telephone	1,608.50 1,814.20	1,800.00	1,649.14	1,800.00
	Internet	1,014.20	1,800.00 550.00	2,249.00 345.31	1,800.00
	Maintenance	2,608.81	1,900.00		550.00
	Total Fire & Rescue Station	10,813.01	11,050.00	2,768.73	2,500.00
	Total Fire & Nescue Station	10,613.01	11,030.00	13,501.23	12,150.00
	West Barnet Fire Station				
	Electricity	298.08	400.00	356.74	100.00
	Total West Barnet Fire Station	298.08	400.00	356.74	100.00

Section					
& Note	Account	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
	Harvey's Lake Beach				
	Electricity/Utilities	1,754.19	1,500.00	1,868.51	3,000.00
	Telephone	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
	Portable Toilet	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00
	Maintenance	1,195.12	2,000.00	1,359.63	2,750.00
	Total Harvey's Lake Beach	2,949.31	5,000.00	3,228.14	5,750.00
	Total Buildings/Grounds Utilities & Maintenance	40,091.63	46,655.00	43,802.64	50,305.00
33	Insurance & Bonds:			•	
	Vehicles, Buildings & Town Officer Bonds	14,049.52	11,955.16	23,077.39	25,000.00
	Workers' Compensation	5,039.80	5,500.00	7,653.03	7,000.00
а		2,810.00	1,250.00	898.00	1,250.00
_	Total Insurance & Bonds	21,899.32	18,705.16	31,628.42	33,250.00
		ŕ	•	,	,
34	Legal Expenses:				
	Tax Appeals	3,650.00	1,000.00	900.00	1,000.00
	Tax Collectors Items	(582.96)	500.00	774.50	500.00
	General	500.00	5,000.00	3,525.00	2,500.00
а	5	9,427.64	1,000.00	1,350.00	1,000.00
	Animal Control	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
	Legal Settlements	0.00	0.00	2,050.00	0.00
	Total Legal Expenses	12,994.68	9,000.00	8,599.50	6,500.00
35	Interest on Loans:				
а		4,062.78	24,000.00	22,278.04	21,100.00
	Total Interest on Loans	4,062.78	24,000.00	22,278.04	21,100.00
36	Professional Services:				
38	Tax Abatements & Credits:				
а	Tax Abatements	3,918.87	0.00	0.00	0.00
b	Tax Credits	0.00	146,414.60	146,414.60	146,414.60
	Total Tax Abatements & Credits	3,918.87	146,414.60	146,414.60	146,414.60
20	A				
39	Annual Appropriations: American Red Cross	250.00	250.00	350.00	250.00
	Area Office on Aging			250.00	250.00
	Barnet Historical Society	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Caledonia Home Health Care	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Catamount Arts	2,300.00	2,300.00	2,300.00	2,300.00
	County Tax	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
	County Tax Community Restorative Justice Center	27,952.00	27,298.49	21,852.00	30,908.88
	Fairbanks Museum	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
	Habitat for Humanity	1,700.00	1,700.00	1,700.00	1,700.00
	Kingdom Animal Shelter	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
а		500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
a	Northeast Kingdom Human Services	768.30	1,500.00	6,481.14	1,500.00
	Northeast Kingdom Human Services Northeast Kingdom Learning Services	1,775.00	1,775.00	1,775.00	1,775.00
	Horacase Kingdom Learning Services	300.00	250.00	250.00	250.00

ction					
<u>Note</u>	Account	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
	Northeast Kingdom Youth Services	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Northeastern Vermont Development	1,281.00	1,281.00	1,281.00	1,414.00
	Association				
	Rural Community Transportation	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.00
	Umbrella Inc.	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
	Vermont Center for Independent Living	280.00	280.00	280.00	280.00
	Vermont League of Cities & Towns	3,182.00	3,290.00	3,290.00	3,392.00
	West Barnet Senior Meal Site (formerly	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
	known as Volunteer Senior Meal Site)				
	Total Annual Appropriations	51,088.30	50,724.49	50,259.14	54,569.88
40 a	Cemeteries:				
	Stevens Cemetery - Misc. Mowing	680.00	2,000.00	879.00	2,000.00
	Palmer Cemetery	680.00	2,000.00	629.00	1,000.00
	Pleasant View Cemetery Association	6,750.00	7,750.00	7,750.00	7,750.00
	McIndoe Falls Cemetery	3,600.00	3,600.00	3,600.00	3,600.00
	Total Cemeteries	11,710.00	15,350.00	12,858.00	14,350.00
			·	·	ŕ
41	Appropriations to Other Funds:				
а	Fire Department Fund	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
	Municipal Buildings Fund	225,000.00	225,000.00	225,000.00	100,000.00
	Harvey's Lake Beach Fund	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
	Harvey's Lake Dam Fund	5,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	30,000.00
	Library Fund	31,000.00	32,000.00	32,000.00	34,000.00
	Fire District Grant Fund	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
	Total Appropriations to Other Funds	274,000.00	285,000.00	285,000.00	177,000.00
42	Miscellaneous Selectboard Expenses:				
	Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Fire Warden Charges	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Town Officers Meetings	28.00	1,000.00	47.00	1,000.00
	Health Officer Expense	0.00	200.00	45.00	200.00
	Harvey's Lake Dam Maintenance	200.00	500.00	203.66	500.00
а	Harvey's Lake Dam Registration Fee	350.00	500.00	350.00	500.00
	Harvey's Lake Boat Wash/Monitoring (See	24,668.84	25,000.00	24,698.27	25,000.00
	Schedule F)	2 .,000.07	23,000.00	2 1,000.27	23,000.00
b	Ambulance Service	37,578.24	41,073.00	41,073.02	70,380.00
	Economic Development	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
	Other Various	687.61	2,000.00	301.68	2,000.00
	Total Miscellaneous Expenses	63,512.69	72,273.00	66,718.63	101,580.00
43 a	·	63,512.69 0.00	0.00	0.00	
	Contingency:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
43 a 44	·		•		

46

Parts & Supplies:

Section					
& Note	Account	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
а	Blades & Chains	13,743.64	6,000.00	9,240.00	6,000.00
	Tools	1,383.97	5,100.00	3,433.62	2,500.00
	Safety Supplies	195.76	1,000.00	119.11	1,000.00
	Shop Supplies	4,672.51	2,500.00	3,929.56	2,500.00
	Total Parts & Supplies	19,995.88	14,600.00	16,722.29	12,000.00
47	Payroll Benefits & Taxes:				
	FICA Taxes (Social Security)	23,389.16	21,000.00	23,229.89	21,000.00
	Health Insurance	63,733.80	71,107.32	71,929.74	81,000.00
	Health Insurance Declination Stipend	11,500.00	10,400.00	11,000.00	10,400.00
а	Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA)	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
_	Reserve Fund Appropriation	0,000.00	0,000.00	0,000.00	0,000.00
	Uniforms	5,162.44	5,000.00	5,503.04	5,000.00
b	Retirement	16,909.47	17,500.00	19,637.54	17,500.00
c	Unemployment Compensation	456.50	380.50	394.00	437.50
d	Dental Insurance	1,727.04	2,100.00	1,727.04	2,100.00
•	Total Payroll Benefits & Taxes	128,878.41	133,487.82	139,421.25	143,437.50
48	Town Garage				
а	Propane	495.02	700.00	390.92	700.00
	Electricity	4,071.35	4 ,000.00	4,593.98	4,000.00
b	Telephone	1,004.38	1,100.00	1,097.24	1,100.00
С	Cellular Phone	585.00	550.00	585.00	550.00
	Internet Service	972.88	1,000.00	1,025.59	1,000.00
	Computer Maintenance & Supplies	512.93	500.00	1,272.80	500.00
	Building Maintenance	6,520.10	5,000.00	5,590.33	5,000.00
	Advertising	0.00	200.00	0.00	200.00
	Total Town Garage	14,161.66	13,050.00	14,555.86	13,050.00
48	Insurance				
	Vehicles & Buildings	8,235.66	12,410.84	15,707.54	12,410.84
	Workers' Compensation	13,027.20	19,892.00	25,602.22	19,892.00
	Total Insurance	21,262.86	32,302.84	41,309.76	32,302.84
50	Equipment Maintenance:				
	Dump Trucks	72,062.93	55,000.00	55,678.70	55,000.00
	Grader	326.43	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Grader (2022)	29.00	10,000.00	7,734.44	10,000.00
	Loader (1991)	1,107.33	3,000.00	4,986.62	3,000.00
	Loader (2010)	4,157.86	5,000.00	7,896.89	5,000.00
	Backhoe	0.00	0.00	63.55	0.00
	Backhoe (2019)	8,180.03	5,000.00	3,767.92	5,000.00
	Roadside Mower Tractor	2,824.16	2,000.00	1,130.36	2,000.00
	Pickup (2015)	12,821.59	5,000.00	5,171.52	0.00
	Pickup (2024)		3,000.00	4,185.82	5,000.00
	Chainsaws	50.50	500.00	0.00	500.00
	Other Equipment	1,509.71	1,000.00	186.93	1,000.00
	Welding Supplies	717.98	1,200.00	909.85	1,200.00
а		14,597.00	15,000.00	11,916.00	15,000.00
-	Stock Items	1,326.83	0.00	1,707.49	0.00
	Total Equipment Maintenance	119,711.35	102,700.00	105,336.09	102,700.00
	. oto: Equiparent Manitellance	113,7111.33	102,700.00	EU.050,05	102,700.00

<u>Section</u>					
& Note	Account	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
F4	0. 0.01				
51 a	Gas & Oil: Gasoline	146.22	1,000.00	0.00	200.00
a b	Diesel fuel	88,399.08	85,000.00	82,518.24	300.00 80,000.00
	Oil	3,318.90	4,000.00	3,713.65	4,000.00
	Other Petroleum Products	3,806.68	2,000.00	3,586.37	2,000.00
	Total Gas & Oil	95,670.88	92,000.00	89,818.26	86,300.00
52	Contracted Services:				
	Hired Equipment & Equipment Rental	200.00	300.00	750.00	300.00
а	Sweeping Roads	200.00	300.00	750.00	300.00
b	Screening Winter Sand	11,359.53	16,000.00	15,430.50	16,000.00
С	Overburden Removal - Sand	0.00	10,000.00	6,882.00	15,000.00
	Mowing Roadsides	7,050.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
d	Crushing	85,172.56	85,000.00	70,203.00	80,000.00
е	Overburden Removal - Gravel	0.00	10,000.00	13,260.00	15,000.00
	Permitting	1,350.00	2,500.00	2,005.00	2,500.00
	Highway Department Education	450.00	750.00	30.00	750.00
	Total Contracted Services	105,582.09	124,550.00	108,560.50	129,550.00
53	Operating Supplies:				
а	Salt	64,429.46	70,000.00	64,104.60	70,000.00
	Cold Patch/Hot Mix	3,710.22	2,500.00	2,836.00	2,500.00
	Specialty Aggregate	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
	Culverts	0.00	7,500.00	5,330.40	7,500.00
	Chloride	24,900.62	24,000.00	27,047.37	29,000.00
	Guardrails	1,260.00	10,000.00	4,483.00	5,000.00
	Erosion Control	201.97	500.00	149.00	500.00
	Sign Maintenance Program (formerly in	5,285.53	4,000.00	730.05	4,000.00
	Selectboard Expenditures budget)				
	Total Operating Supplies	99,787.80	120,000.00	104,680.42	120,000.00
54	Bridge Repairs:				
3-1	Bridge Fund Appropriation	50,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00
	Total Bridge Repairs	50,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00
55	Highway Construction Projects:				
<i></i>	TH #1 - West Barnet Road/West Main St	61,959.20		102 560 30	
		61,959.20		183,560.28	
	TH #6 - North Monroe Road	127 710 00		13,120.00	
	TH #9 - Barnet Center Road TH #8 - Church Street	137,710.80			
_	Paving/Construction Projects	45,816.24	242 000 00	106 680 30	242 000 00
a b	Construction Fund Appropriation	245,486.24 60,000.00	242,000.00 0.00	196,680.28 0.00	242,000.00
2	Total Highway Construction Projects	305,486.24	242,000.00	196,680.28	0.00 242,000.00
56	Appropriations to Other Bearing Assessed				
э б	Appropriations to Other Reserve Accounts: Equipment Account	100 000 00	135 000 00	135 000 00	75 000 00
b	Truck Account	100,000.00 90,000.00	125,000.00 125,000.00	125,000.00 125,000.00	75,000.00
		30,000.00	125,000.00	123,000.00	125,000.00

Account	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
Highway Maintenance Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,300.00
Total Appropriations to Other Reserve	190,000.00	250,000.00	250,000.00	208,300.00
Accounts				
Total Highway Department Expenditures	1,444,991.95	1,439,690.66	1,384,740.12	1,419,140.34
Total General Fund Expenditures	2,234,463.46	2,475,044.85	2,387,809.91	2,399,646.68
General Fund Surplus of (Deficit) (total general fund revenues less total general fund expenditures)	102,514.85	(0.00)	441,029.80	(0.00)
	Highway Maintenance Account Total Appropriations to Other Reserve Accounts Total Highway Department Expenditures Total General Fund Expenditures General Fund Surplus of (Deficit) (total general fund revenues less total general fund	Highway Maintenance Account 0.00 Total Appropriations to Other Reserve 190,000.00 Accounts Total Highway Department Expenditures 1,444,991.95 Total General Fund Expenditures 2,234,463.46 General Fund Surplus of (Deficit) (total general fund revenues less total general fund	Highway Maintenance Account 0.00 0.00 Total Appropriations to Other Reserve Accounts Total Highway Department Expenditures 1,444,991.95 1,439,690.66 Total General Fund Expenditures 2,234,463.46 2,475,044.85 General Fund Surplus of (Deficit) (total general fund revenues less total general fund	Highway Maintenance Account 0.00 0.00 0.00 Total Appropriations to Other Reserve Accounts 190,000.00 250,000.00 250,000.00 Total Highway Department Expenditures 1,444,991.95 1,439,690.66 1,384,740.12 Total General Fund Expenditures 2,234,463.46 2,475,044.85 2,387,809.91 General Fund Surplus of (Deficit) (total general fund revenues less total general fund 102,514.85 (0.00) 441,029.80

Town of Barnet Schedules for General Fund Budget

Sahadula A. Taum Claulia Office Calcula	
Schedule A - Town Clerk's Office Salaries	72 605 05
Heisholt, Benjamin - Town Clerk & Treasurer	73,695.95
Roy, Catherine - Assistant Town Clerk & Treasurer	20,405.50
Warden, Shirley - Substitute Town Clerk	680.00
Total	94,781.45
Schedule B - Listers' Office Salaries	
Bishop, Nancy	7,077.50
Fairchild, John	7,689.85
Total	14,767.35
Schedule C - Transfer Station Salaries	
Nelson, Donald	7 247 00
Warden, Shirley	7,347.00
Total	1,128.25
Total	8,475.25
Schedule D - Recycling Center Salaries	
Bigelow, Michael	457.25
Ehlers, Daniel	7,863.00
Marston, Bruce - Supervisor	2,567.50
Nelson, Donald	175.00
Total	11,062.75
Schedule E - Harvey's Lake Beach Lifeguards, Etc. Salaries	
Blanchard, Ella	107.44
Hanover, Andrew	573.33
Hanover, Shawn	3,135.00
Hovey, Ava	1,318.00
Kierstead, Lucas	1,575.01
Rijnbout, Amelie	483.48
Rijnbout, Milena	537.20
Stevenson, Lucia	1,120.30
Total	8,849.76
Cabadala E Maria de La Diagnosia de la Cabadala E Maria de La Diagnosia de la Cabadala de la Cabadala de La Cab	
Schedule F - Harvey's Lake Boat Wash/Monitoring Program	
Carlson, Richard	3,836.00
Easter, Donald Roy, Jennifer	8,334.00
Vaal, Charlie	2,394.00
	3,178.00
Young, Rory Total	4,875.00
Total	22,617.00
Schedule G - Highway Salaries	
Bunnell, Christopher	48,875.06
Chase, Mark - Road Foreman	73,710.39
Fearon, Glenn	52,517.00
Gibson, Paul	4,288.45
LeClair, Jason	57,608.68
Mosher, Steve	2,205.13
Snow, Barry II	53,450.70
Total	292,655.41

Town of Barnet, Vermont 2024 General Fund Budget Notes

Revenues

1. Taxes

- a. Net funds required for current-year operations for Selectmen's budget. For budget columns, this is the difference between total expenditures and non-tax revenues (including use of prior surplus).
- b. Actual amounts include adjustment for change in the balance of the deferred property tax revenue account.

2. Town Clerk's Office Fees

- a. Includes copier, fax service, vehicle registration fees, etc.
- b. Town receives \$70.00 of state licensing fee for each license.
- 3. Planning Commission & Zoning Board
- 4. Transfer Station
- 5. Harvey's Lake Beach

6. General Selectboard Income

- a. Penalty paid to Town for late filers of Homestead Declaration forms that were due by April 15th.
- b. Interest gained from savings accounts as a result of tax anticipation borrowing plus other accounts yielding interest of lesser sums.
- c. State payment to Town for loss in tax due to land enrolled in current use program.
- d. Payment from State of Vermont for Roy Mountain Wildlife Area.
- e. Grant to reimburse Town for a portion of expenses for Harvey's Lake boat wash/monitoring program.
- f. Rent paid by Karme Choling for second floor at library building.
- g. Percentage of state-wide education tax that is paid to town for administration of the program.

6.1 Reserve Fund Proceeds

a. New in 2023 Actual and 2024 Budget: Funds transferred from new "Education Tax Liability Credit Fund" in Reserve Fund. Fund created by credit from State of Vermont for refund of education tax to Great River Hydro due to settlement agreement. See section 38 for offsetting credit expenditure.

7. Use of Prior Surplus

- a. Use of built-up surplus in the general fund to reduce overall tax request.
 - 2024 Budget: Increase in surplus to offset pre-payment of 2024 State Aid to Roads in 2023. See Section 9.

8. Taxes (inactive section)

9. State Aid

- a. Funds received from State of Vermont based on mileage: Class 2 roads=52%, Class 3 roads = 48%.
- 10. Reserve Fund Proceeds (inactive section)
- 11. Flood Repair Proceeds (inactive section)
- 12. Other Income

13. Use of Prior Surplus

a. Use of built-up surplus in the general fund to reduce overall tax request.

Expenditures

14. Salaries – Town Officers (inactive section)

15. Payroll Benefits & Taxes

- a. Appropriation is made to a reserve fund equaling \$2,500 for each full-time employee. Employees can use these funds to cover out-of-pocket health care expenses.
- b. Mandatory for full time employees. Employees pay 4.5% of wages. Town rate increased to 7.000% as of July 1, 2024.
- c. Paid to the Vermont League of Cities & Towns Unemployment Trust.
- d. Dental plan through Delta Dental. Town pays employee cost; employee pays for rest of family if they wish.

16. Town Clerk's Office (formerly "Office Supplies")

- a. Benjamin Heisholt.
- b. Catherine Roy.
- c. Occasional employee to keep office open when both Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk are unavailable.

- d. Hosting of public online access to land records index and documents by New England Municipal Resource Center (NEMRC).
- e. Includes: service contract on copier, copy paper, tax bills, toner.
- f. Contract with New England Municipal Resource Center (NEMRC) for service on municipal software (grand list, land records, accounting, etc.), offsite backup plan, and disaster recovery.
- g. IT contract through RB Technologies, and various computer components and service.

17. Listers' Office

- a. John Fairchild & Nancy Bishop.
- b. Beginning in 2022 budget: hired assessor to work with Listers in hybrid Lister-Assessor arrangement. 2022 quote from NEMRC appraisers based on proposed division of tasks and NEMRC hourly rates.
- c. Contract with CAI Inc. for maintenance of digital mapping (tax maps, planning & zoning maps).

18. Planning Commission/Zoning Board

- a. Wages are annual salary for Shirley Warden.
- b. Secretary Susan Sinclair.

19. Auditors

20. Landfill/Transfer Station

- a. Gate attendant. Works 7 hours per week regularly, 11 hours per week during summer.
- b. Post-closure monitoring required as part of closure plan. This work done by Endyne Inc. of Montpelier.
- c. Fee paid to Waste District to run program.
- d. Charge for disposal by Casella Waste Management. 2024 rate: 106.44 per ton.
- e. Casella charges per trip for MSW and for construction debris. 2024 rate: 394.20 per trip.
- f. Mowing of former landfill to keep brush from growing.

21. Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District (inactive section)

22. Barnet Recycling

a. Total employee hours 8 hours per week regularly, 12 hours per week during summer.

23. Fire & Rescue

- a. Wages for actual time at fires as submitted by Fire Chief paid at minimum wage.
- b. Annual budget for equipment purchases by Fire Department. See Section 6 for grant income for equipment purchases.
- c. Dues paid to Twin State Mutual Aid System and Grafton County Sheriff's Department for dispatching services.
- d. Equipment, supplies, medications, etc. used by rescue personnel.

24. Harvey's Lake Beach

25. Police Services

26. Selectboard

a. Selectboard each paid \$500 annually.

27. Election Expenses

a. Annual moderator salary for Dennis McLam.

28. Advertising & Postage (inactive section)

- 29. Heat & Lights (inactive section)
- 30. Telephones (inactive section)
- 31. Building Maintenance (inactive section)

32. Buildings Utilities & Maintenance

a. Prices: December 31, 2023: Fuel oil: 3.3246 per gallon.

Town Clerk's Office

b. Town Clerk's Office fuel usage: 698 gallons in 2023.

Barnet Public Library Building (formerly known as Village Partnership Building)

- a. Library Building fuel usage: 2,072 gallons in 2023.
- c. Water from Barnet Water System.
- d. Carpet service.
 - Price as of December 2012 at \$44.75 once every four weeks from UniFirst.
 - 2014 Budget: Changing to service from G & K Services on May 1, 2014, at \$15.40 once every four weeks.
- e. Services to heating system; minor building repairs.

Town Hall

Transfer Station

Recycling Center

a. Recycling Center usage: 63 gallons in 2023.

Fire & Rescue Station

a. Bimson Road Fire Station usage: 1,762 gallons in 2023.

West Barnet Fire Station

33. Insurance & Bonds

a. Accident & Sickness policy, a supplement to workers' compensation coverage.

34. Legal Expenses

a. Legal fees for general legal advice for zoning matters, or for defense of zoning decision in Environmental Court.

35. Interest on Loans

- a. Tax anticipation borrowing. See revenues for offsetting income amount.
 - 2023: borrowed \$791,925 from Passumpsic Savings Bank at a rate of 3.02%
 - 2024: to borrow \$526,792.26 from Community National Bank at a rate of 4.000%

36. Professional Services

37. Capital Expenditures

38. Tax Abatements & Credits

- a. Abatements approved by the Board for the Abatement of Taxes.
- b. New expense for 2023 Budget: Tax credits due to taxpayers. As stipulated in the Settlement Agreement with Great River Hydro, LLC on a 2021 property tax appeal, the Town "agrees to apply a credit to each tax bill issued against the April 1, 2023 through April 1, 2027 Grand Lists in the amount of \$146,414.60 each year as an offset to the taxes owed in each tax year." See Section 6.1 for offsetting revenue.

39. Annual Appropriations & Charges

 a. Appropriation paid through expenditures associated with Town Memorial Day observance. Includes flags and flagstaffs for cemetery markers and advertising for Memorial Day services in Passumpsic Village and Barnet Village.

40. Cemetery Appropriations

a. Stevens Cemetery and Palmer Cemetery maintained through agreement by the town with local contractor. Pleasantview Cemetery and McIndoe Falls Cemetery as private cemetery associations are appropriated funds per their requests.

41. Appropriations to Reserve Accounts

a. Funds placed in reserve account for future purchase of fire truck.

42. Miscellaneous Expenses

- a. Beginning in 2016 Budget, new fee from State of Vermont.
- b. Beginning in 2019 Budget, Selectboard contracts ambulance service, rather than appropriation to CALEX.

43. Contingency

44. Total Selectboard Expenditures

45. Salaries - General Maintenance

46. Parts & Supplies

- a. Blades, cutting edges, and chains for dump trucks.
- b. Small tools and parts replacements for small tools used in shop.

47. Payroll Benefits & Taxes

- a. An appropriation is made to a reserve fund equaling \$2,500 for each full-time employee. Employees can use these funds to cover out-of-pocket health care expenses.
- Mandatory for full time employees. Employees pay 4.5% of wages. Town rate increased to 7.000% as of July 1, 2024.
- c. Paid to the Vermont League of Cities & Towns Unemployment Trust.
- d. Dental plan through Delta Dental. Town pays employee cost; employee pays for rest of family if they wish.

48. Town Garage

- a. Town Garage propane usage. 195 gallons in 2023.
- b. Two lines: telephone and dedicated alarm line.
- c. Cellular phone for Road Foreman. Road Foreman reimbursed for use of personal cell phone for Highway Department use approximately \$45 per month.

49. Insurance

50. Equipment Maintenance

a. Tires for dump trucks only.

51. Gas & Oil

- a. Gasoline usage: None in 2023.
- b. Diesel Fuel: 21,317 gallons in 2023. Price as of December 31, 2023 at 3.8388 per gallon.

52. Contracted Services

- a. Various equipment and contractors used for brief periods in non-employee role.
- b. Screening of winter sand at Town pit. 2023 Actual: Simpson Dirtworx (5,058 cubic yards at \$2.25).
- c. Expenses incurred to remove overburden to access sand at Town pit.
- d. Crushing of gravel at Town pit. 2023 Actual: Simpson Dirtworx 3/4" minus crushed gravel (9,029 cubic yards), 1 ½" crushed stone (1,000 cubic yards); all products at \$7.00 per cubic yard.
- e. Expenses incurred to remove overburden to access gravel at Town pit.

53. Operating Supplies

a. Salt purchased from Cargill Salt Co. and American Rock Salt Company. \$95.00 per ton for the 2023-2024 season.

54. Bridge Repairs

55. Highway Construction Projects

- a. Road construction projects including paving.
- b. Funds that have been raised for several years for highway reconstruction placed in reserve.

56. Appropriations to Other Reserve Accounts

- a. Funds placed in reserve account to cover purchases of major road equipment other than trucks.
- b. Funds placed in reserve account for future purchase of trucks.

57. Other Projects

58. Totals

Town of Barnet General Fund Balance Sheet

Assets:	Dec. 31, 2022	Dec. 31, 2023
Checking Account	209,799.66	137,129.79
Checking Account ICS	127,662.04	0.79
Union Bank TAN Deposit Accounts	527,068.03	0.00
Passumpsic Savings Bank TAN Deposit Accounts	0.00	1,375,780.29
Delinquent Tax Collector Checking Account	2.80	2.80
Petty Cash	347.95	324.40
Undeposited Funds	2,465.35	3,662.70
Uncollected Delinquent Taxes	141,043.60	89,132.30
Current Taxes Receivable	4,322.84	339.58
Due from State for Aquatic Nuisance Grant	9,323.00	0.00
Due on Tax Sale	0.00	125,220.42
Various Accounts Receivable	18,619.14	18,781.95
Due to/from Other Funds	0.00	95,570.91
Total Assets	1,040,654.41	1,845,945.93
Liabilities:		
Tax Appropriation Due to School District	17,060.67	20,989.55
Payroll Withholdings Payable	(4,270.08)	(4,400.27)
Various Accounts Payable	74,244.24	218,743.49
Fees due to Delinquent Tax Collector	2,781.00	2,701.79
Sales Tax Payable	0.00	114.85
Due to/from Other Funds	(439.53)	464,399.91
Deferred Property Tax Revenue	129,543.60	80,632.30
Total Liabilities	218,919.90	783,181.62
Fund Equity:		
Fund Balance - Unassigned (Accum. Surplus)	719,219.66	621,734.51
Current Operating Surplus or (Deficit)	102,514.85	441,029.80
Total Fund Equity	821,734.51	1,062,764.31
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity	1,040,654.41	1,845,945.93

Town of Barnet Statement of Taxes Raised Year Ended December 31, 2023

0.00
0.00
0.00)
0.00)
0.00)
0.00
)

Net Grand List (1% of Net Real Estate & Personal Property)

Property

2,446,740.00

Department Town:	Grand List	Homestead Rate	Non-Residential Rate	Taxes Raised
Town General	2,446,740.00	0.7474	0.7474	1,828,693.46
Total Town		0.7474	0.7474	1,828,693.46
School:				
Homestead	1,040,628.00	1.6385		1,705,069.05
Non-Homestead	1,405,648.00		1.5409	2,165,963.05
Local Agreement	2,446,740.00	0.0032	0.0032	7,829.53
Total Schools		1.6417	1.5441	3,878,861.63
Grand Total		2.3891	2.2915	5,707,555.09

Penalty added for late filing of Homestead Declarations: 3,859.54

^{*}Personal property taxed at non-residential rate.

Town of Barnet Estimation of 2024 Town Tax Rate

The following estimation of the 2024 Town tax rate is based on 2023 Grand List valuations and the proposed 2024 budget. School District tax rates are excluded.

	Grand List	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Tax Rate</u>
2023 Actual	2,446,740.00	1,828,693.46	0.7474
2024 Projected	2,446,740.00	1,644,097.89	0.6720

Town of Barnet

General Fund - Statement of Loan Transactions Year Ended December 31, 2023

Tax Anticipation Loans:

Borrowed during 2023:

Passumpsic Savings Bank tax anticipation note (3.02%)	791,924.92
Repaid during 2023:	791,924.92
Balance as of December 31, 2023	0.00

General Fund - Surplus or (Deficit) Year Ended December 31, 2023

Statement of Changes - Accumulated Surplus Account (total of years prior to 2023)

Total Accumulated Surplus as of December 31, 2022	621,734.51
Subtract: Transfer from Accumulated Surplus to 2023 Income	(200,000.00)
Add: 2022 Operating Surplus	102,514.85
Total Accumulated Surplus as of December 31, 2021	719,219.66

2023 Surplus or (Deficit):

Income	2,828,839.71
Expenditures	2,387,809.91
General Fund Budget Surplus or (Deficit)	441,029.80

Total General Fund Surplus as of December 31, 2023 1,062,764.31

Reserve Fund Reports

Town of Barnet 2023 Reserve Fund Activities

(See following pages for Income and Expense Schedules)

		Beginning	<u>Add</u>	Add Other		Less	Balance Dec. 31,
Ac	count	<u>Balance</u>	Appropriation	<u>Income</u>	Add Interest	Expenditures	2023
•	Act 60/Reappraisal Funds	80,366.65		11,067.50	863.87		92,298.02
•	Harvey's Lake Dam Renovation	51,714.26	15,000.00		626.03		67,340.29
•	Homeland Security Grants	198.70			2.00		200.70
•	Land Record Restoration Fees	21,885.55		4,730.00	245.51		26,861.06
•	Lister Education Funds	2,412.05			23.96		2,436.01
•	Municipal Planning Grant Fund	0.00			0.00		0.00
•	ARPA Funds	451,676.70			4,255.60	103,974.97	351,957.33
•	92 Surplus	82,187.40			817.57		83,004.97
•	Education Tax Liability Credit Fund	0.00		465,363.93	0.00	93,078.79	372,285.14
•	Highway Maintenance Fund	65,142.32			578.26	21,269.49	44,451.09
•	Municipal Buildings Fund	800,558.24	225,000.00	8,032.93	7,011.55	368,767.29	671,835.43
•	Fire District Grant Acct.	26,435.89	1,500.00		274.12		28,210.01
•	Bridge Fund	380,425.71	25,000.00		3,978.26	1,004.70	408,399.27
•	Equipment Account	14,981.47	125,000.00		775.39	39,665.73	101,091.13
•	Fire Department Account	132,219.82	10,000.00		1,389.65		143,609.47
•	Harvey's Lake Beach Fund	8,503.54	1,500.00	263.00	93.74	525.00	9,835.28
•	Health Reimb. Acct. Fund	123.73	8.000.00	1.500.00	0.04	9,585.39	38.38
•	Highway Construction Account	653,541.99			4,893.92	7,126.62	651,309.29
•	Town Clerk's Office Paving Account	1,635.47			16.22		1,651.69
•	Truck Account	123,783.14	125,000.00	8,269.49	264.37	257,317.00	(0.00)
	Totals	2,897,792.63	536,000.00	499,226.85	26,110.06	902,314.98	3,056,814.56

Town of BarnetSchedules for Reserve Accounts

Schedule A - Other Income

Act 60/Reappraisal Funds	
State of Vermont - Reappraisal funds & Grand List Study (EEGL)	11,067.50
Total	11,067.50
Education Tax Liability Tax Credit Fund Funds received from State of Vermont Education Fund due to request for list value recalculation following settlement agreement on tax appeal of Great River Hydro LLC	465,363.93
Total	465,363.93
Harvey's Lake Beach Fund Proceeds from Beach Committee fund-raisers &	263.00
donations Total	263.00
Health Reimbursement Account Fund Funds remaining from prior year plan Total	1,500.00 1,500.00
Land Record Restoration Fees	
Recording fee surcharge Total	4,730.00 4,730.00
Municipal Buildings Fund	
ARSL Sustainable & Resilient New England Libraries Grant	8,032.93
Total	8,032.93
Truck Account	
Transfer from Highway Maintenance Account Reserve Fund	8,269.49
Total	8,269.49
Total Other Income	499,226.85

Town of BarnetSchedules for Reserve Accounts

<u>Schedule B - Expenditures</u>

Bridge Fund	
Poulsen Lumber Co - planks for bridge at Garfield Lane	1,004.70
Total	1,004.70
Equipment Account	
Pete's Equipment & Sales - Diamond mower for	39,665.73
roadside mower tractor Total	39,665.73
Harvey's Lake Beach Fund	
Fundraiser expenses	400.00
Beliveau Builders - parking curbs	125.00
Total	525.00
Health Reimbursement Account Fund	
Employee qualified health care expenses paid through	9,585.39
HRAs	3,363.33
Total	9,585.39
Highway Construction Account	7 406 60
Pike Industries, Inc South Monroe Road paving (State of Vermont Grants-in-Aid)	7,126.62
Total	7,126.62
1000	7,120.02
Highway Maintenance Account	
Transfer to Truck Account Reserve Fund	8,269.49
St. Johnsbury GMC - Partial purchase of 2024 pick-up	13,000.00
truck with trade- in (see Truck Fund) Total	21,269.49
Total	21,209.49
Municipal Buildings Fund	
Town Hall property - Renovation:	
Estes & Gallup LLC - construction management	257,727.53
Black River Design - architectural design consulting	57,170.07
Mathews Excavating - demolition of old fire station	9,500.00
State of Vermont - permitting	8,156.25
Misenko Construction Law - contract consulting M & W Soils Engineering - soil testing & dig safe	7,530.00
Andrew Dussault - surveying services for former	5,560.00 5,047.09
Wells River Savings Bank lot (park-and-ride)	3,047.03
Ruggles Engineering - civil engineering	3,966.62
CED-Twin State - electrical components	2,810.07
Green Mountain Power - temporary power service	1,014.86
Dad's 4 By Tool & Supply - caution tape and grade	23.98
stakes	
Total Town Hall	358,506.47
Library Building:	
Ash Electric LLC - interior overhead lights	8,032.93
Total Library Building	8,032.93

Town of Barnet Schedules for Reserve Accounts

Homavia Laka Basah	
<u>Harvey's Lake Beach:</u> FW Webb - toilets	670.50
Richard Stevenson - labor for toilet installation	670.50 120.00
Total Harvey's Lake Beach	790.50
·	790.30
Fire & Rescue Station:	
Graves Builders - platform and steps for heating fuel	1,437.39
delivery Total Fire & Rescue Station	1,437.39
	•
Total	368,767.29
Truck Fund	
ATG Westminster LLC - 2024 Western Star dump truck	129,307.00
purchase with trade-in	120,007.00
Viking-Cives - dump truck body for 2024 Western Star	85,000.00
St. Johnsbury GMC -partial purchase of 2024 pick-up	35,000.00
truck with trade-in (see Highway Maintenance Fund	·
PTO's Repair, Inc plow for2024 pick-up truck	8,010.00
Total	257,317.00
ARPA Funds	
<u>Grants:</u>	
McIndoes Academy Community Center	28,000.00
Total Grants	28,000.00
Policing:	
Pikcomm Communications - radios for constables	2,404.87
Total Grants	2,404.87
	2, 10 1.07
Town Hall property - Renovation:	
Estes & Gallup LLC - construction management	63,419.22
Black River Design - architectural design consulting	5,495.59
Irving Energy - heating fuel	2,796.64
CED-Twin State - electrical components	1,797.98
Green Mountain Power - temporary power service	60.67
Total Town Hall	73,570.10
	. 0,01 0.20
Total	103,974.97
Educate E II I III a III a	
Education Ta x Liability Credit Fund	
Transfer to General Fund to offset expenditure for tax	93,078.79
credit for Great River Hydro, LLC Total	03 070 75
r O SMI	93,078.79
Total Expenditures	902,314.98

Town of Barnet Schedules for Reserve Accounts

Town of Barnet Statement of Reserve Fund Loan Transactions For Year Ended December 31, 2023

No Reserve Fund loans or loan transactions in 2023

Town of Barnet Reserve Fund Balance Sheet

Assets:	Dec. 31, 2022	Dec. 31, 2023
Money Market Account - Passumpsic Savings Bank	39,291.55	46,615.63
ICS Account - Passumpsic Savings Bank	2,225,089.31	2,336,788.77
Passumpsic Financial Advisors - Cash	28,675.67	28,996.81
Passumpsic Financial Advisors - Investments	255,865.90	275,831.52
HRA Account - Passumpsic Savings Bank	1,333.20	1,247.81
Due from Other Funds	0.00	465,367.93
Due from State of Vermont - Class 2 Roadway Grant	175,305.71	305.71
Due from State of Vermont - Structures Grants	173,445.91	(1,554.09)
Total Assets	2,899,007.25	3,153,600.09
Liabilities:		
Due to Other Funds	0.00	95,570.91
Accounts Payable	1,214.62	1,214.62
Total Liabilities	1,214.62	96,785.53
Total Basilities	1,217.02	90,763.33
Fund Equity:		
Restricted Fund Balances:		
Act 60/Reappraisal Funds	80,366.65	92,298.02
Harvey's Lake Dam Renovations	51,714.26	67,340.29
Homeland Security Grants	198.70	200.70
Land Record Restoration	21,885.55	26,861.06
Lister Education Funds	2,412.05	2,436.01
ARPA Funds	451,676.70	351,957.33
Total Restricted Fund Balance	608,253.91	541,093.41
Committed Fund Balances	•	
92 Surplus	82,187.40	83,004.97
Education Tax Liability Credit Fund	0.00	372,285.14
Highway Maintenance Fund	65,142.32	44,451.09
Municipal Buildings Fund	800,558.24	671,835.43
Fire District Grant Fund	26,435.89	28,210.01
Total Committed Fund Balance	974,323.85	1,199,786.64
Assigned Fund Balances		. ,
Bridge Fund	380,425.71	408,399.27
Equipment Account	14,981.47	101,091.13
Fire Department Account	132,219.82	143,609.47
Harvey's Lake Beach Account	8,503.54	9,835.28
Health Reimbursement Account Fund	123.73	38.38
Highway Construction Account	653,541.99	651,309.29
Town Clerk's Office Paving Account	1,635.47	1,651.69
Truck Account	123,783.14	0.00
Total Assigned Fund Balance	1,315,214.87	1,315,934.51
Total Fund Equity	2,897,792.63	3,056,814.56
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity	2,899,007.25	3,153,600.09

Trust Fund Reports

Town of Barnet Trust Funds

Transactions Detail

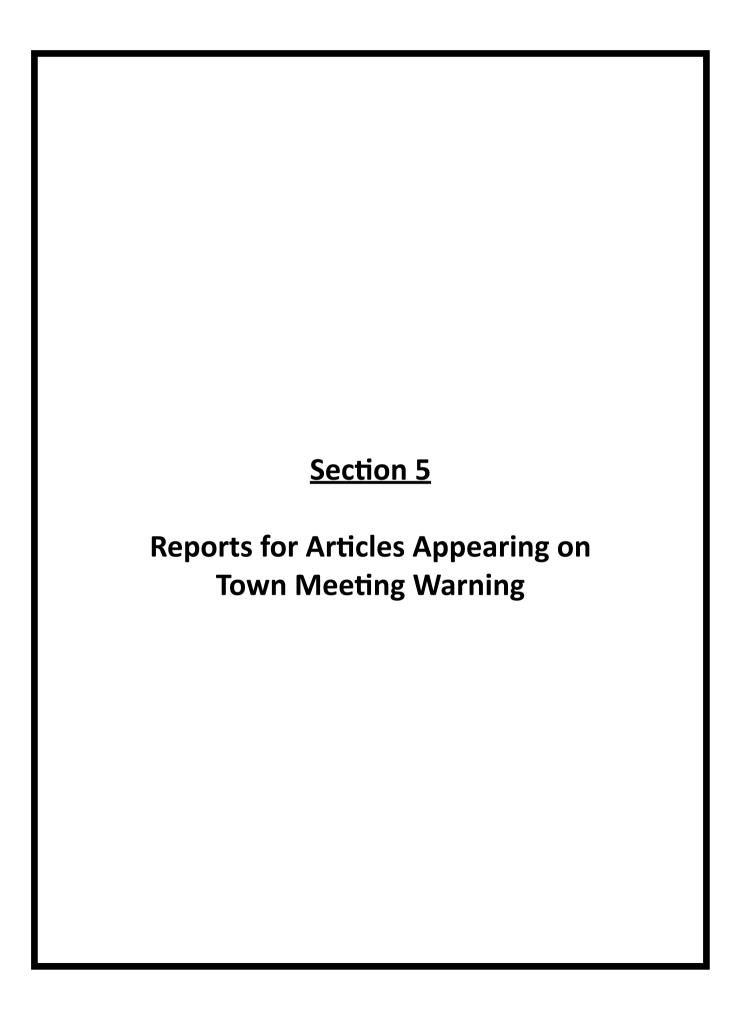
Esden Fund

(See separate report with Trustees of Public Funds' Report)

Steven's Cemetery Fund	
Balance in account Dec. 31, 2022	1,279.54
Add: Interest on savings account	7.10
Balance in Acct. Dec. 31, 2023	1,286.64
Palmer Cemetery Fund	
Balance in Account Dec. 31, 2022	754.40
Add: Interest on savings account	0.66
Balance in Acct. Dec. 31, 2023	755.06

Balance Sheet

	Dec. 31, 2022	Dec. 31, 2022
Assets:		
Esden Fund Investments (Edward Jones)	176,143.75	210,753.34
Esden Fund Cash (Edward Jones)	6,526.84	7,593.30
Stevens Cemetery Fund - Savings	1,279.54	1,286.64
Palmer Cemetery Fund - Savings	754.40	755.06
Total Assets	184,704.53	220,388.34
Fund Equity:		
Non-spendable Fund Balances		
Esden Fund	53,168.58	53,168.58
Stevens Cemetery Fund	1,000.00	1,000.00
Palmer Cemetery Fund	350.00	350.00
Total Non-spendable Fund Balance	54,518.58	54,518.58
Unassigned Fund Balances		ŕ
Esden Fund	129,502.01	165,178.06
Stevens Cemetery Fund	279.54	286.64
Palmer Cemetery Fund	404.40	405.06
Total Unassigned Fund Balance	130,185.95	165,869.76
Total Fund Equity	184,704.53	220,388.34





December 26, 2023

Town of Barnet Attn: Benjamin Heisholt PO Box 15 Barnet, VT 05821

Dear Benjamin,

As we look ahead to the new year, we take a moment to reflect on our profound gratitude to the municipal partners who help us deliver our lifesaving mission in our community. With your support, we are able to ensure the health, safety, and preparedness of our friends and neighbors throughout Northern New England.

Last year, our staff and volunteer workforce provided an array of services throughout the Northern New England region:

- We made **700 homes safer** by installing **2,177** smoke detectors and educating **897** families about fire safety and prevention through our Home Fire Campaign.
- Trained **42,950 people** in first aid, CPR, and water safety skills. (training data for county level)
- We collected over **133,100 units of blood.** Hospitals throughout Northern New England depend on the American Red Cross for these collections.
- In our region, over **3,400** service members, veterans, and their families received supportive services through our Service to the Armed Forces department.

Your American Red Cross remains committed to providing relief and support. We do this with the help of our incredible volunteers and donors, including you, our friends in Barnet. *This year, we respectfully request a municipal appropriation of \$250.00*. These funds will directly benefit individuals and families right here in our region, who benefit from our unique services at no cost.

For more information about the work we've been doing in your area, please refer to the attached Service Delivery sheet for Caledonia County. If you have any questions, please call us at 1-800-464-6692 or supportnne@redcross.org.

Warmly,

Lauren Jordan

Lawren Tordan

Development Coordinator

32 N Prospect St Burlington, VT 05401

2 Maitland St Concord, NH 03301

2401 Congress St Portland, ME 04101

www.redcross.org/nne
American Red Cross of Northern New England



Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice

Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice Visit Statistics for 2024 Town Appropriations

Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice (CHHC) is Northern Counties Health Care's (NCHC) certified Medicare and Medicaid comprehensive Home Care and Hospice division.

Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice has proudly served the residents of Caledonia and Southern Essex counties since 1968. Our mission is to provide high quality, accessible, patient-centered health care, and our vision is to be a key partner in building healthy families and thriving communities.

In the last year, Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice was honored to provide 1131 visits to 77 residents of Barnet, VT.

While working with residents, we provided physical, occupational, and speech therapies. We provided physician, skilled nursing, physical and occupational therapy, medical social work, home health aide and homemaker visits. We work together with primary care physicians so that care is specific and structured to treatment goals.

2024 Town Appropriation Visit Statistics Barnet, VT

- # of residents served: 77
- Home Care (Therapy, Nursing, MSW): 566 visits
- Hospice (Nursing, Therapy, Personal Care, Respite): 319 visits
- Long Term Care (Case Management, Personal Care, Respite): 246 visits

Total Visits in Barnet, VT = 1131 visits

Testimonials

"All my nurses and LNA's make me feel like I matter and all are so caring. They are not only care providers, but more like friends and family."

"Absolutely outstanding and highly professional staff!"

"Every nurse that came to my home was professional, compassionate, competent and caring. CHHC does and exceptional job serving the people of Caledonia County. We are extremely fortunate to have such a great resource in our rural area."

To learn more about our programs and services please visit www.nchcvt.org or call (802) 748-8116. Thank you!

Compassionate Care in Our Home or

Administrative Office

Concord Health Center Danville Health Center

Hardwick Area Health Center

Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice 161 Sherman Drive St. Johnsbury, VT 05819 802-748-8116 tel • 802.748.4628 www.NCHCVT.org

Island Pond Health & Dental Center

Northern Counties Dental Center

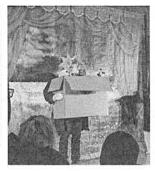
Orleans Dental

St. Johnsbury Community Health Center

Catamount Arts









The residents and voters of Barnet have consistently played a very important role in the success of Catamount Arts. Through your support at Town Meeting and by attending many of the 100+ events Catamount offers throughout the year, Barnet helps keep the Arts vital and available to all Northeast Kingdom residents, boosting our creative economy for a more vibrant, sustainable community!

In June 2023, Catamount Arts was unexpectedly displaced from our beloved Eastern Avenue Arts Center due to air contaminants. We worked tirelessly with environmental consultants and the state to remediate these concerns safely and quickly. We want to thank the Catamount Arts community, including the voters in the town of Barnet, for your steadfast and patient support.

The show must go on, and we continued programming despite the temporary displacement, including dozens of summer concerts, such as Levitt AMP and Final Fridays, throughout the Northeast Kingdom; camps and workshops ranging from EPIC Music to acting and circus arts; the return of Catamount Bluegrass Night, live music and performances at the Catamount ArtPort in the Green Mountain Mall, and the KCP Presents series (presenting another thrilling season with international performance tours from Bulgaria, the United Kingdom, and Canada, bringing orchestral music, world-class a capella, and circus art); live music at York Street Meeting House, First Night North in St. Johnsbury (bringing nearly 200 artists to a dozen venues for nine straight hours of family-friendly entertainment), and events with new partners including Umbrella, the Vermont Humanities Council, and our friends in northern New Hampshire.

In addition to integrating arts into the fabric of our community's daily life via live shows, screenings, classes, workshops, exhibitions, and more, Catamount programming generates more than \$1.5M each year to the local economy, playing a key role in the Northeast Kingdom's long-term vibrancy and sustainability. Thanks to support from our Barnet neighbors, we look forward to seeing you—all of you!—at Catamount Arts in 2024!

Susan Cherry, Executive Director Neil Favreau, Program Director Susan Russell, Reentry Coordinator Emma Cataford, Reparative Panel Stephanie Rowe, Victim Outreach Liaison Amanda Robinson, Court Diversion Programs Kathleen Hunter, Administrative Assistant Alexis Eickleberry, Kaitlyn Ross, Housing Coordinators

December 1, 2023

Programs: *Community Development; Neighborhoods

*Mediation; Circles *School Training and Support

*Free Legal Clinic/Information and Referral

*Restorative Justice Panels *Court Diversion Programs

Restorative Reentry

*Victim Outreach



Select Board, Town of Barnet c/o Benjamin P. Heisholt, Town Clerk PO Box 15 Barnet, VT 05821

Dear Select Board of Barnet:

The Community Restorative Justice Center respectfully requests that the following special appropriation article appear on the 2024 warning for the Barnet Town Meeting:

Shall the Town vote the sum of \$500 to support the operation of The Community Restorative Justice Center during the ensuing year? The CRJC believes in preventing and resolving conflict in the community using victim and community needs as guiding information in repairing harm and restoring right relations. We work with schools, neighborhoods, and the criminal justice system to respond to community needs as it relates to justice being served and attending to the needs of victims and community. In this process, we use community members to work with their neighbors to resolve conflict and repair harm.

The Community Restorative Justice Center holds restorative justice panel meetings for cases referred directly from law enforcement as well as cases referred from the Department of Corrections. Cases that go through the CRJC have a 32% reduction in recidivism.

We have serviced a total of 13 Barnet residents, of which, a total of 2 Barnet residents participated in our Free Legal Clinic. We have attorneys who offer their services for our once-monthly legal clinic and help guide our community members to the next step in resolving their legal issues. We also had 3 reparative panels, served 2 victims, and 5 cases were seen by the parking board.

The CRJC mission states that we are committed to providing a safe environment for neighbors and parties to resolve conflict in our communities, to restore relationships, and to take responsibility to repair harms caused. We promote the principles of victim-informed restorative justice that transforms practices in workplace, school, institution, and living spaces throughout Caledonia and southern Essex Counties.

Thank you for your kind attention to this request. Petition signatures will be sent to your office in early January.

Sincerely.

Susan A. Cherry, Executive Director

576 Railroad St. Suite 2 • St. Johnsbury, VT 05819 Telephone: (802) 748-2977 • Fax: (802) 748-3146 cherry@communityric.org

www.communityrjc.org and "Like" us on Facebook

December 7, 2023

Benjamin Heisholt, Town Clerk Town of Barnet PO Box 15 Barnet, VT 05821



Dear Mr. Heisholt:

The Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium respectfully requests that the following special appropriation article appear on the 2024 warning for Barnet Town Meeting:

"Shall the Town vote the sum of \$1,700 to support the operation of the Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium during the ensuing year, in exchange for free unlimited general admission to the Museum for all Barnet residents?"

The Fairbanks Museum invites Barnet residents to take full advantage of their unlimited free general admission to the Museum to explore the nature, beauty, and wonders of our world. Your municipal appropriation provides essential support for the care of the Museum's historic building and the maintenance and exhibition of the most extraordinary educational collections in northern New England. These are among our region's most prized assets. Each year the Museum offers new opportunities for exploration and discovery, so do come for a visit!

In 2023, we brought in more visitors and campers to the museum than ever before. Once again our outdoor classroom transformed into a butterfly house for the summer, and Franklin's Guides led the way to further discovery for our visitors. Campers learned about astronomy, drones, and robots. We debuted new engaging live shows and movies in our planetarium, and we welcomed Rube Goldberg expert Zach Umperovitch for a weeklong residency and Eddy Lecture. With community support, the Museum is fully engaged in community economic, educational, and cultural development initiatives and contributes significantly to the attraction of visitors to our region. Your appropriation this year will support unlimited access to our new Science Annex.

The Board of Trustees, staff, and volunteers of the Museum are tremendously grateful for the support, encouragement, and collaborative planning that keep our programs relevant and vital. We aim to ensure the Museum delivers services, programs, and a commitment to community development that benefit your town's residents and visitors, as well as contribute to a remarkable quality of life.

Sincerely yours,

Adam Kane, Executive Director



Shall the Town of Barnet vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$2000.00 for the support of Kingdom Animal Shelter to provide services to residents of the Town?

KINGDOM ANIMAL SHELTER MISSION STATEMENT: Kingdom Animal Shelter is a limited access, all volunteer, non-profit 501(c) (3) animal rescue organization. Our mission is to facilitate the placement of rescued, abandoned, abused or neglected animals in safe, life-long homes. We respect the inherent value of every animal in our care and we strive to prevent overpopulation and cruelty to animals.

We provide many services to the area, including accepting stray and unwanted cats to our shelter, rescues from abusive and hoarding situations, and trap/neuter/release (TNR) of feral and barn cats, a serious and ongoing problem in the communities we serve. We take in cats from Barnet, St. Johnsbury, Wheelock, Waterford, Peacham, Danville, Burke, Lyndon, Passumpsic, Groton, Concord, Kirby, Cabot, Walden, Hardwick, Sheffield, Sutton, and Ryegate. From November 2022 through October 2023, we took in 73 cats and adopted 70 cats to their forever home. We work with the community to raise awareness of the importance of spay/neuter programs and the responsibilities of pet ownership. Each cat that comes to the shelter costs roughly \$300-\$500 for vaccinations, testing, spay/neuter, other medical treatment, food, and lodging.

The cats in our care are with us until they are adopted. During their stay they are lovingly cared for, played with and socialized by our many volunteers. Any medical needs are tended to promptly and the cats are provided with vaccinations as appropriate. They are spayed or neutered and receive a microchip before they go home with their new family. We welcome cats of a wide variety of ages, colors, and personality types.

Our volunteers work tirelessly to raise the funds necessary to meet our annual operating expenses of approximately \$110,000 which pays for veterinary bills, food, rent, utilities, and supplies. As part of our fundraising efforts, we attend Danville's Autumn on the Green, have yard sales in the spring, summer, and fall; sell calendars online and at local businesses as a part of a fall fundraiser; and have our Memorial Tree and Giving Tuesday fundraisers in the winter. In April 2023 we held a rabies vaccination clinic and pets, both dogs and cats, received a three-year vaccination for \$25.00. Just over 100 pets received these low-cost vaccinations. The Shelter's Community Fund supports numerous elderly and financially disadvantaged residents who are challenged with the costs of pet care.

We operate with no federal or state funding, and we depend on the generosity of towns and individuals to meet our operating expenses. We're asking for an appropriation of \$500.00 (unchanged from last year's request) to assist us in our mission of finding homes for unwanted or abandoned cats, and providing quality care and a safe, clean shelter for our cats until they are adopted. We welcome any assistance given to help our animals in need. We greatly appreciate your interest and support.

Kingdom Animal Shelter Board of Directors: Helen Morrison--President, Nancy Rivet, Rod Lauman, Kathy Bouffard, Caleb Stone, Julia Persch

> 1161 Portland Street St. Johnsbury, VT 05819 802-473-3377 l: info@kingdomanimalshelt

email: info@kingdomanimalshelter.com www.kingdomanimalshelter.com



March 2024

For over 45 years, the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging has been a valued and trusted resource for older Vermonters to age independently, their way. Our mission is to deliver the person-centered support necessary for our older Vermonters to sustain their independence and live well in their communities.

Our valuable services include a Helpline; Medicare counseling and Bootcamp; specially-trained staff who help people develop long-range planning as they age; exercise and mobility programs; family and caregiver support programs and grants; case management for those who need a bit more support with aging in place; as well as assistance in applying for fuel, food, and pharmacy programs.

Our nutrition programs partially fund 14 meal sites and home delivered meals under the guidance of our registered dietitian. Working with RCT and Legal Aid, we provide solutions for the complex challenges people face while living in a rural community. In addition, our work is supplemented by over 400 volunteers who serve as home-delivered meal drivers, wellness program leaders, friends who make neighborly check-in phone calls, and home-based caregivers.

Our service area extends across the entire Northeast Kingdom, all Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties. During this past year, 150 residents of Barnet used the services of our organization to meet their needs. People called our Helpline for assistance with caregiving and programs such as 3SquaresVT, Medicaid and Medicare, our e-learning portals Trualta and GetSetUp, fuel assistance, and transportation, among other services. Our website www.nekcouncil.org provides information on many of our programs and services.

We sincerely thank the residents of Barnet for your continued support in making a difference in the lives of your residents, who are often the most vulnerable. As a private non-profit, we are able to remain independent and put the focus on our clients who need unbiased assistance.

If you have a friend or family member who may benefit from our services, please contact us. We're just a phone call away at the Helpline: 800-642-5119 or (802) 748-5182.

In gratitude,

Meg Burmeister Executive Director

Meg Dumeister



NORTHEAST KINGDOM HUMAN SERVICES, INC. (NKHS) Requesting \$1775 in 2024

181 Crawford Road — Derby, P. O. Box 724, Newport, VT 05855 ◆ 802-334-6744 or 800-696-4979
2225 Portland Street, P. O. Box 368, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819 ◆ 802-748-3181 or 800-649-0118
Emergency Crisis Line 802-334-6744 — 24 hours a day/7 days a week

www.nkhs.org

Thank you, **Town of Barnet** voters, for your appropriation support at your Town Meetings. Annual appropriations are a vital funding source to provide needed services to residents who cannot otherwise afford care. The 2024 appropriation request of **\$1775** is the same amount voted on at the 2023 Town Meeting. This represents 1.84% of appropriation requests from 48 towns. We offer supportive, confidential program services for Emergency/Crisis Services, mental health, addiction, and developmental/intellectual disabilities. <u>Our mission</u> is to empower individuals, families, and communities by promoting hope, healing, and support.

Summary Activity Report July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023:

- 3800 individuals of all ages in our service area utilized support services.
- 56 individuals from the Town of Barnet accessed supportive care at NKHS.
- Employees provided over 300 hours of community consultation, education, and outreach in community meetings, events, and trainings in NKHS offices, area schools, and businesses at no cost to participants. We offered QPR (Question, Persuade, and Refer) suicide awareness and prevention trainings, Youth Mental Health First Aid, and other educational opportunities to at least 700 Northeast Kingdom community members.
- **416** total dedicated professional employees, **10** from the Town of Barnet, support community members in the Derby or St. Johnsbury offices, the satellite office in Hardwick, telehealth, homes, schools, and throughout Northeast Kingdom communities.

Good mental health is important for everyone. As a Designated Agency serving Vermont's system of care, NKHS is responsible for assuring that a comprehensive range of services are available regardless of an individual's ability to pay. A sliding fee scale is available for those in financial need. NKHS is asking the Town of Barnet voters to consider helping neighbors, family members, and friends receive the supports they need to live a happy, fulfilling life and be an active and contributing member of your community.

Thank you so much for your support!

Respectfully submitted,
Kelsey Stavseth, Executive Director
Board of Directors
Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.



NORTHEAST KINGDOM LEARNING SERVICES, INC.

55 Seymour Lane, Suite 11 Newport, VT, 05855 **1-844-GO NEKLS** (466-3557) / toll free (802)334-6532 / phone (802)334-6555 / fax **info@neklsvt.org** www.**NEKLSVT.**org



October 24, 2023

Town of Barnet,

At NEKLS, our Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) program, our K-12 Tutorial program and our Ready, Set, Grow Childcare Center (RSG) are on a mission to provide dynamic and impactful educational experiences for the members of communities like Barnet.

Imagine a future where our adult education initiatives flourish and every individual can access high-quality learning opportunities to improve their skills and pursue their dreams. We believe that education is the key to a brighter future for our students, and we need your support to make that happen. Your appropriation of \$250.00 will directly fuel our efforts to enhance and expand our programs.

In Newport, Vermont, our Ready, Set, Grow Childcare Center, a 5 STAR, high quality child care is licensed to serve 99 children.

Our Adult Education and Literacy programs, available at learning centers located in Canaan, Hardwick, Island Pond, Newport and St. Johnsbury, include programs for unenrolled individuals age 16 and older, who are interested in:

- earning their high school diploma or GED
- gaining skills to transition into a new career
- improving their academic skills in reading, writing and math
- becoming workforce trained or college ready
- learning or improving English language skills as a second language

Our Tutorial program partners with local schools throughout the NEK to provide tutorial services for students K-12 to help them achieve academic success.

Join us in making a difference by investing in the education of your community. Enclosed is our NEKLS appropriations information sheet to include in your town report; it is a summary of our services for taxpayers' information.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Faust

Michelle Faust Executive Director

Enclosure: NEKLS Appropriations Infographic

OUR MISSION IS TO INSPIRE AND EMPOWER LEARNERS, BIRTH AND BEYOND

NEWPORT (802)334-6535 / ST. JOHNSBURY (802)748-5624 / HARDWICK (802)472-3183 / ISLAND POND (802)723-1134 / CANAAN (802)274-2608

Town Report Summary

2023 NEKYS Served 17 in Barnet

NEKYS has been offering vital supportive services for youth and families since 1975 In 2023 NEKYS served 417 individuals throughout Caledonia and Essex Counties

NEKYS Family Programs Provide:

- Staff is available 24/7 to support youth, families, and individuals.
- Supportive counseling for youth and families, case management, support for youth and families within their schools and family mediation.
- Summer Central Scholarship program offering scholarships for children to attend summer activities they otherwise could not afford.

NEKYS Youth Programs Include:

- Staff is available 24/7 to support youth, families, and individuals.
- Support to local young people ages 15-22 that are homeless or at risk of homelessness; have current or past involvement with foster care; are pregnant and/or parenting; experiencing mental health issues; struggling with substance abuse; have current or past involvement with the criminal justice system.
- Programs that utilize a positive youth development, trauma-informed approach that is tailored to meet the needs of young people. Encouragement for each young person to identify their strengths and achieve goals related to housing, education, employment, and life skills.
- Access to short-term and long-term housing support that addresses the complex needs of young adults who are 18-22 years old. Young adults receive support which include in-home case management, rental assistance, landlord mediation, job skill development and educational advancement support.

Northeast Kingdom Youth Services is a private, non-profit agency governed by a community-based, volunteer Board of Directors. We rely on grants, contracts, donations and appropriations from the towns we serve to continue our mission. Thank you for supporting families in our community. Please call our office at 748-8732 if you have any questions.



Rural Community Transportation, Inc.

1677 Industrial Parkway • Lyndonville, Vermont 05851

Phone: (802)748-8170 ● Fax: (802)748-5275 ● http://riderct.org
"COMMUNITY IS OUR MIDDLE NAME"

Special Appropriation Recipient Report

Thank you for your continued support for Rural Community Transportation. Your support is felt in our communities daily. Rural Community Transportation, Inc. (RCT) is a private nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation that has provided public transportation services throughout Lamoille, Caledonia, Orleans, and Essex Counties. RCT operates fare-free shuttle and commuter bus routes, microtransit, and emergency relief transportation facilitating connections between towns in our region and the ability to travel throughout Vermont and beyond. RCT also provides demand-response transportation services under several programs, such as Medicaid, the Older People & People with Disabilities program, and Rides 2 Recovery.

RCT runs four commuter routes to enhance access to employment, connecting Morrisville to the towns of Barre and Waterbury and St. Johnsbury to Montpelier and to Littleton. We operate three shuttle routes tying Morrisville, Newport/Derby, and St. Johnsbury/Lyndonville residents and nearby Vermonters to essential locations, from grocery stores to medical centers. Shopping routes provide similar services spanning Morrisville and Stowe in the west, Newport and surrounding towns in the north, and Lyndon to New Hampshire in the east. Our neighbors, who utilized over 130,000 rides in FY2023, have expressed their gratitude and noted their dependence on our services.

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

Thank you for your consideration and continued support,

Caleb R. Grant

Executive Director

Rural Community Transportation



Activity Report for Town of Barnet
Fiscal Year 2024 * July 2023 – June 2024
Town Appropriation Request: \$1200

Since 1976, Umbrella has ensured that communities in Caledonia, Orleans and Essex counties have access to services that cultivate a Northeast Kingdom where all people thrive free from abuse and oppression. Umbrella operates 4 multifaceted, client-centered programs and plays a crucial role in decreasing the incidence and impact of domestic and sexual violence. Services offered include:

- Social Change focuses on prevention education and initiatives in schools and in the community that aim towards preventing gender-based violence, and creating a community where abuse and oppression are acknowledged and addressed. One of our strategies is to provide pathways for girls to work within this social change and prevention field through the Youth in Power Program. In FY23, we provided 2,613 youth with educational workshops throughout our 18 school partners. We provided 387 adults with educational programs through 20 workshops.
- Advocacy Program serves survivors of domestic and sexual violence, stalking, teen dating violence, as well as violence related to gender or sexual orientation which in total we characterize as gender-based violence. In our work, the client leads and we support them in any way they need us to including legal advocacy, housing advocacy, support with parenting after trauma and more. In FY23, 750 individuals received direct advocacy, 81 people were housed in our emergency shelters as a result of fleeing domestic or sexual violence and 15 were housed in our Transitional Housing program.
- Family Based Services focuses on child-care and strengthening family relationships. Kingdom Child Care Connection (KCCC) assists families in the Northeast Kingdom to receive subsidized child care, appropriate child care referrals and specialized childcare placement support. The Family Room offers supervised visitation for families throughout the Northeast Kingdom. In FY23, KCCC served 801 families and the Family Room worked with 63 families.
- **Economic Empowerment** serves women with significant barriers to employment in Orleans and Northern Essex Counties. Our *Cornucopia* program, and our social enterprise, *Dolcetti* each wrap around women to support them in building job readiness skills while helping them to address challenges in their lives so they are able to move towards financial self-sufficiency. In FY23 as part of the skill-building program, participants packaged and prepared 39,509 meals for homebound seniors through Meals on Wheels.

Given that some services are provided anonymously, it is difficult to provide each town with a precise number of people served by Umbrella. However, at least 7 households in the Town of Barnet were served by Umbrella in Fiscal Year 2023 and the community as a whole benefited from prevention and outreach programs in schools, as well as training and consultation for human service and law enforcement professionals.

Community support is critical to sustain our programming and to discover innovative approaches to the work Umbrella does. We are deeply grateful for Barnet's support.

Respectfully,

Amanda Cochrane Executive Director

Umbrella Inc. was incorporated in 1981 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation whose mission is: To cultivate a Northeast Kingdom where all people thrive free from abuse and oppression.

1330 Main St., St Johnsbury, VT 05819 | Phone (802) 748-1992 | Fax (802) 748-1405

EIN: 03-0268884



December 14, 2023

Ben Heisholt Town Clerk's Office PO Box 15 Barnet, VT 05821

Good Morning Ben,

We respectfully request to be on the 2024 Barnet Town Meeting ballot for a \$500 appropriation. Here is our report on the work we did in 2023:

This past spring, we began our Critical Home Repair work with those projects we'd had to put on hold through the winter and we also accepted many new applications. Despite the heavy rains in July which delayed our projects for weeks, we are proud to share that we were able to complete six projects in Barnet, Concord, Lyndonville, Irasburg, Gilman/Lunenburg and St Johnsbury. Most of this work centered around providing safe and dependable access that allows homeowners to age in place. We accomplished this with one paid staff person and dozens of volunteers. A major milestone this year was celebrating 15 years of service to the Northeast Kingdom, which includes the building of 3 houses and the repair of 153 homes. This work impacted 349 people who with our help live in new or vastly improved, safer, warmer homes.

There is still a great need for simple, decent housing and folks to do the repair work to keep it so. In 2024, our theme will be "Helping Our Neighbors One Home at a Time" --- we already have 20 applicants in Island Pond, Victory, Lyndon, Wheelock, Walden, Stannard, Lunenburg, Barnet, Newark, Sutton, Holland, Danville and Concord waiting for approval and for our 2024 build season to begin --- and to help them, we'll need more funds to purchase building materials. Additionally, to increase our capacity, we'll need more volunteers for committees, lunch providers for construction crews, and hands-on workers for our construction sites.

We are very grateful to the citizens of Barnet who vote to allow an appropriation of \$500 to NEK Habitat in 2024 which will help us purchase building materials. On behalf of the Board and Staff, as well as the current and future families of NEK Habitat, we thank you.

Please let me know if there is anything else you need from us. Thank you very much!

Habitat Strong, Patricia Janssen, General Manager

Upper Valley Habitat for Humanity in the NEK 459 Portland Street, Suite 2
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
O: 802-751-1212
pjanssen@nekhabitat.org
www.nekhabitat.org

THE VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING #03-0271000 TOWN OF BARNET SUMMARY REPORT

Request Amount: \$280.00

For over 44 years, The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) has been teaching people with disabilities and the Deaf how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. VCIL employees (85% of whom have a disability) conduct public education, outreach, individual advocacy and systems change advocacy to help promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities into community life.

In FY'23 (10/2022-9/2023) VCIL responded to thousands of requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information, referral and assistance and program services for individuals living with a disability. VCIL Peer Advocate Counselors (PACs) provided one-on-one peer counseling to 140 individuals to help increase their independent living skills and 4 peers were served by the AgrAbility program. VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) assisted 178 households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; 115 of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) provided 73 individuals with information on assistive technology; 41 of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. 379 individuals had meals delivered through our Meals on Wheels (MOW) program for individuals with disabilities under the age of 60. Our Vermont Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (VTEDP) served 17 people and provided 7 peers with adaptive telecommunications enabling low-income Deaf, Deaf-blind, Hard of Hearing and individuals with disabilities to communicate by telephone.

VCIL's central office is in downtown Montpelier (although we are working from home as our office (along with so many others) was devastated in the July flood and we have four branch offices in Bennington, Chittenden, Rutland and Windham Counties. Our PACs and services are available to people with disabilities throughout Vermont.

During FY'23, 2 residents of Barnet received services from the following program:

Information Referral and Assistance (I,R&A)

To learn more about VCIL, please call VCIL's toll-free I-Line at: **1-800-639-1522**, or, visit our web site at **www.vcil.org**.

WEST BARNET SENIOR MEAL SITE

P.O. Box 139, Barnet, Vermont 05821

January 22, 2024

Barnet Town Clerk's Office P.O. Box 14 Barnet, Vermont 05821

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Dear Friends:

The West Barnet Senior Meal Site, located at the Presbyterian Church of Barnet, is asking once again for financial support from the Town of Barnet.

We have many loyal patrons who attend regularly, and have welcomed many new people over the past year. Our current Registration List, updated at the first of the year, has 177 individuals on it. Towns they reside in are Danville, Topsham, Concord, St. Johnsbury, Monroe, West Danville, Peacham, Bradford, Groton, Ryegate, Waterford, Passumpsic, McIndoe's Falls and Wells River.

Twice a week we provide three services to fit their needs: In-house dining, home deliveries, or take-out. There is no doubt that the meals and fellowship are needed and appreciated. We are proud to offer such a valuable service.

Thank you in advance for your continued support and consideration.

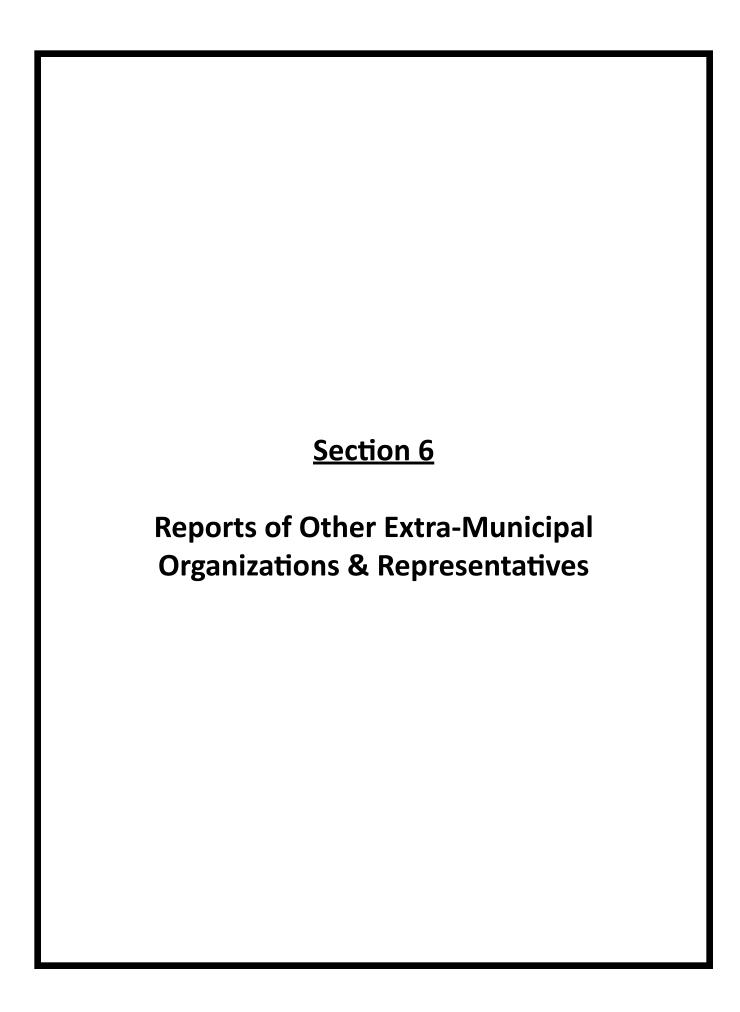
Respectfully,

Linda A. Choate

Secretary

Dine In: 11:30 A.M. Pick-up: 11:00 to 12:00

Call 603/638-4002 to order Pick Up - Call 802/633-4068 for Meal Site



PHONE: (802) 828-2228

FAX: (802) 828-2424

115 STATE STREET MONTPELIER, VT 05633-5201



STATE OF VERMONT HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January 25th, 2024

To the Esteemed Residents of the Town of Barnet,

I have been serving as your representative in Montpelier for just a little over a year now, and every day that I am in the capital, or back home in our town, I think of ways that I can use my voice and my actions to make life better for all of us. It has been a great joy to hear the thoughts from those of you who have called or sent me messages, and I hope that you all find it easy to get in touch with me. My legislative email address is bfarlice-rubio@leg.state.vt.us, and I hope to hear from you soon.

Through my work as a member of the House Health Care Committee, I helped to stabilize funding for our Emergency Medical Services so that you know that someone will be there when you have a tragedy strike in the middle of the night. We improved the condition of our mental health care providers, like Northeast Kingdom Human Services, and our community health centers, to make sure that they have what they need to keep you healthy. We also passed two suicide prevention bills that we know have already saved lives. Outside of my committee, I supported the historic investment in child care, Act 76, and Act 47, which seeks to lower the barriers for construction and access to new housing. I have also been a fierce advocate for keeping the tradition of school choice that allows Barnet students to attend the St. Johnsbury Academy, Lyndon Institute, Danville High, Blue Mountain, or any other approved high school that suits their needs.

I understand that for many of you, your biggest concern is the unsustainable increase in property taxes. The causes are many, but one of the main factors causing this rise is the cost of health care. I want you to know that lowering that burden has become one of our highest priorities in the State House, and I continue to explore ways to solve this problem. One solution to improve our financial picture is to attract more young families to Barnet, to increase the tax base, and to keep the Barnet School thriving. This is why increasing housing opportunities and access to child care are so important to me.

This year, I am an original co-sponsor of a bill, H.719, that aims to remove the regulatory red-tape, an inadvertent side-effect of Act 250, to further enable the construction of housing in village centers like Barnet, Passumpsic, McIndoe Falls, and West Barnet. This tri-partisan bill was heralded by Governor Phil Scott himself. I have also crafted my first bills, including H.807, which fights censorship in school libraries, and H.810, which gives farms a new way to attract young workers that will hopefully lead to them putting down roots in Barnet. Please come visit me in Montpelier, if you can, while we are in session. Otherwise, I hope to see you on the weekends, or at Town Meeting. It continues to be an honor to serve you,

Rep. Bobby Farlice-Rubio

Vermont House of Representatives, serving Caledonia One - Barnet, Ryegate, and Waterford

Caledonia County Sheriff's Department

Sheriff James Hemond
970 Memorial Drive St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
P: (802)748-6666 F: (802)748-1684
Email: caledoniasheriff.net

Upon taking office of February of 2023 I was eager to make positive changes within the department. I immediately sought qualified competent applicants to add to the departments depleted roster. During the spring and summer I was able to add four new deputies to the ranks resulting in 11 deputies employed with the department. I reconnected with area Law Enforcement Fire, Emergency Services, Mental Health and Human Services Agencies not only in Caledonia County but State wide. Much of these relationships resulted in opportunities to train, assist with service to community members and law enforcement and combine resources to best serve the community. We completed our annual financial audit for the department in 2023 and it resulted in no findings or problems of any kind.

We continue to add vehicles to our fleet, 3 new patrol cruisers were purchased, replacing an aging fleet that have served us well. We have 9 marked cars, a transport van for prisoner transports, and one unmarked car for civil process service. The radar cart was deployed throughout the county providing speed deterrence where deployed.

It was my great pleasure to return to security services at this year's Caledonia County Fair. This would not have been possible without the dedication of my staff, but also much appreciated help from The Lamoille County Sheriff's Department. The department was also contacted throughout the year by several towns for contracted patrols. Of the 17 towns in the county the department provides services to 13 of these towns. Due to staffing shortages it has been difficult to provide consistent services to these communities but we are working hard to improve as well as increase our presence to provide consistent, quality, and cost effective Law Enforcement Services to you all of you. As much as possible we maintain an active presence with local schools to ensure the safety of students and staff. We have been involved with drills and evacuation plans and will continue to assist as needed. The department maintains a Take Back Drugs Location serving as a drop off for expired, unused and no longer needed Rx medications. 2023 saw the expiration of many deputies body armor. Grant money provided by the US Department of Justice sees to it that every six years body armor is replaced to provide every sworn member of Law Enforcement access to daily worn body armor. I took this opportunity to upgrade body armor providing all of us with the most protection available. The department also purchased Axon body worn cameras with funds received from a grant from the state of Vermont. I continue to apply for grants and seek funding to provide the most modern, quality, cost prohibitive equipment for the department to best serve the community.

I would like to announce the retirement of Sergeant Steven Gadapee and Deputy Gilbert Roberts. Each served over 30 years as Law Enforcement Officers and will be missed.

Having served with the department for 18 years I will continue to make my best effort to serve all of you in this wonderful community whether you live, work, play or raise a family. I am always available for any questions or comments here at the office and feel free to visit our Facebook page as well.

Respectfully;

James Hemond

Caledonia County Sheriff





Caledonia Essex Area Ambulance Service Inc.
2023 Town Report
Barnet
2023 CALEX Responses
154 Responses
63 Non-Transports

Compassionate professionals delivering the highest quality emergency medicine, specialty care, and training to our providers and communities.

2023 has been a record-breaking year for us in our overall volume, however we are seeing a growing percentage of non-transports and reduced amount of inter-facility transfers. As we monitor trending in post pandemic healthcare, 2023 has yet again had some unique challenges. While our 911 volume is up and our inter-facility transfers are down. We continue see many of our tertiary care centers such as DHMC and UVMMC that we commonly transfer overwhelmed and unable to accept. We see more local care due to the system being overwhelmed. Our agency relies heavily on inter-facility transports to support our budget as our 911 transports do not cover the expenses to maintain a 24/7/365 Paramedic level EMS service. This is not unique to CALEX as most EMS agencies rely on interfacility transports to help support their budgets and to keep town funding requests as reasonable as possible. State and Federal reimbursements, specifically Medicare and Medicaid, do not cover the actual costs. Roughly, we lose about 51.65% due to fee schedules that we don't have control over. This is called contractual discounts. We only get paid by Medicare / Medicaid what they reimburse and that is not the actual costs to deliver the service. Inter-facility transports, due to the longer distance billable loaded miles, generates a more substantial part of the budget. This is a well-known problem EMS financial problem state and nationally. Local and state legislative leaders are discussing in hopes to support for more funding for EMS. Our non-transport rate system wide is about 32%, 1,045 calls for service in 2023 were non-billable responses. Vermont currently is allowing services to bill Medicaid a fee (\$108) for some of these non-transport services. This is new and we will begin this process moving into 2024. Responses such as lift assist, medical aid, treat/release calls we will be able to bill Medicaid. Unfortunately, at this time Medicare does not allow for billing of non-transports and they are our most commonly billed provider. We are hopeful that we will see some changes soon, but we have had no choice but to raise our contracts beginning in January 2024.

Many EMS systems are struggling around the state and nationally with funding due to rising costs to provide the service, along with reimbursements are not keeping up with those increases. The workforce, since the pandemic, has also created challenges as many other careers are paying much higher hourly rates than we can afford in EMS. This is currently a point of discussion that state leaders and legislators are looking to find some funding mechanisms to support. We will closely monitor this and support any opportunities to assure EMS is an essential service supported appropriately to provide workforce professionals that stand ready 24/7/365.

We are looking forward to beginning another EMT course in early January with St. Johnsbury Academy Adult Education and are hopeful for some additional staffing from this program. We are also hosting several other EMS programs and advanced certifications this year from funding that was support by Vermont.

CALEX continues to provide the highest quality of prehospital care to all the towns we serve providing 911 coverage at the Paramedic level 24/7/365. We have been asked to provide services to Granby this year, so we are now serving 10 towns – Saint Johnsbury, Waterford, Barnet, Concord, South Kirby, Victory, Granby, Danville, Walden and Peacham. Our 2023 volumes were up overall by about 9% this year. CALEX responded to 2,646 911 responses and 606 being Interfacility Transfers and Medical transports. Our average response time to the scene for our entire service area 8 minutes 05 secs. Overall, our agency responded to 3,252 requests for service. These interfacility transports are a critical part of our service, reducing any delays of getting our patients to definitive care whether it be trauma services, cardiac care, or other specialty services at a higher-level care facility such as DHMC or UVMMC and other hospitals across the New England. This year we transported as far as Albany, NY a couple times and Portsmouth, NH 15 due to other hospitals declining admissions.

As we end 2023, I look forward to a safe and successful year of providing the very best pre hospital care to our communities. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated and experienced team providing care for when it is needed. We hope you will continue to support us and approve our funding requests so we can continue providing the very best Emergency Medical Care to the region. Lastly, please take some time and learn CPR /AED use, we would be glad to assist you. You could save a life!

In closing, I would like to thank all of our staff, their families, and the CALEX Board of Directors and our dedicated dispatchers for their continued support and dedication to the Agency's mission.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael J. Wright, NRP Chief Executive Officer

Riverbend Local River Subcommittee

of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions

New Hampshire - Lancaster, Dalton, Littleton, Monroe, Bath, Haverhill Vermont - Guildhall, Lunenburg, Concord, Waterford, Barnet, Ryegate, Newbury



Connecticut River – Riverbend Local River Subcommittee – Annual Report 2023

The Riverbend Subcommittee of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions (CRJC) meets quarterly and consists of up to two volunteers nominated by riverfront municipalities, with allowance for alternates. Throughout 2023, the Subcommittee has maintained a hybrid meeting format where a quorum of participating municipalities is required to be present in person. Current members of Vermont are Bill Graves and John Fairchild from Barnet, Deborah Noble from Concord, Scott Labun from Newbury, Sally Wilson from Ryegate, William Piper from Waterford, and openings in Guildhall & Lunenburg. Current members of New Hampshire are Rick Walling from Bath, Gal Potashnick from Dalton, Pauline Corzilius and Howard Hatch from Haverhill, Rob Christie from Lancaster, Sean Doll from Littleton, and Justin Bradshaw and Steve Sherman from Monroe. Those with one representative have an opening for a second volunteer. During 2023, Rick Walling served as chair. Meetings and events are open to the public.

Riverbend is one of the five subcommittees a part of the CRJC since 1989. The Subcommittees provide a local voice to help steward the resources on or affecting the Connecticut River, particularly on topics related to the maintenance of good water quality, wildlife habitat, and appropriate development. Specific responsibilities include providing feedback on proposed permits and plans to NH Department of Environmental Services, VT Agency of Natural Resources, and municipalities. In addition, CRJC is responsible for maintaining a bi-state watershed plan.

During 2023, Riverbend engaged on several issues. Permits that were reviewed include a water quality certification for the Newbury Hydroelectric project, Wetlands permit for Eversource, Alteration of Terrain for a transmission line, stormwater runoff during construction in Ryegate, herbicide use, and a Lancaster floodplain restoration. Riverbend is also following the Twin States Clean Energy Link project.

Riverbend supported outreach efforts in service of the Connecticut River, including the Making Room series: Planning for those who are here and those on their way; as well as the Connecticut River Watershed Partnership meeting in coordination with Friends of Conte. Further, Riverbend supported water quality monitoring efforts along the Connecticut River.

In 2024, Riverbend will continue their activities in management, outreach, and learning for the Connecticut River. Riverbend welcomes local participation in permit reviews, educational events, watershed planning, and water quality monitoring. If you are interested, contact info@cric.org.







Dear NEK Neighbors,

We are pleased to present our 2023 Annual Report to all 56 towns in the NEK. As you know, we are the Communications Union District (CUD) for Northeastern Vermont - the municipal, non-profit organization whose mission is to build high-speed, fiber internet infrastructure to unserved and underserved communities in the NEK. As a resident of one of NEK's 56 towns, you have a voice through your town's representative to our Governing Board. To see who that is, please visit our website, nekbroadband.org and go to the Member Towns page.

Our 2023 Annual Report shows the significant progress we've made in working towards our ambitious goals and we hope you enjoy reading it.

AND we know there is more work to be done. The two questions most often asked are "When are you coming to me? And how much will it cost?" To answer the 'When' we have to take into consideration multiple factors such as technical challenges, availability of grant funding, local interest and customer base, and material costs. All of these factors help us determine the most cost effective, efficient way to build a network that will need 2700 miles of fiber optics to reach everyone in the Kingdom. The easiest way to know when service will be available to you is to pre-register at get.nekbroadband.org, and stay up to date with messages and notifications.

We also know that affordability of high-speed internet is a critical issue to many living in our region. That's why we include a free router and free aerial installation up to 400 ft for every customer. NEK Broadband also participates in the ACP (Affordable Connectivity Program), helping to create affordable pricing for 27% of households in the district that are eligible. This federally funded program provides a discount of \$30 per month toward internet service for eligible households. As of today, this program will run out of funds by mid April.

Last year we also started a program that gives NEK residents the opportunity to lend a hand to their low-income neighbors. For those customers who choose our 500/500 Mbps service, \$30 of their monthly payments will go towards giving a fellow low-income NEK resident an equivalent \$30 discount per month. For those who choose our 1 gig/1 gig service, their monthly payment will help 3 of their low-income NEK neighbors with an additional discount of \$30/month each. We have decided to use these funds to subsidize to the same level if the ACP shuts down.

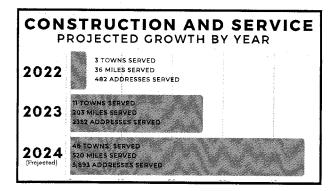
At NEK Broadband, we continue to search for and create ways to make it easier for all of our neighbors to get access to high-speed internet because In today's interconnected world, access to online resources is essential for participating in various aspects of life, including education, employment, healthcare, and civic engagement. We are proud to work to bridge the gap and increase these opportunities for all of our neighbors in the NEK.

The NEK Broadband team

2023 ANNUAL

DELIVERING ON OUR PROMISE

In 2023, NEK Broadband put in place the additional staff, funding and infrastructure needed to continue delivering on its promise to bring high-speed, reliable internet to unserved and underserved communities in the NEK. We've made significant progress in building the "backbone" of our network throughout the region. This "backbone" of interlocking fiber optic cable will provide extra reliability for our internet service. We received a USDA ReConnect grant of 17.5 million to cover most of Essex County, thus freeing up more funds to expand our network build in the rest of the NEK. This year, we also increased our construction capacity and our ability to purchase and store more materials so that we can increase the speed of our buildout.



2352



SERVICE AVAILABLE WE NOW OFFER SERVICE TO 2352 ADDRESSES IN THE NEK.

179



IN 2023, WE OVER DOUBLED THE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS SERVED.



AT THE END OF 2023, WE NOW HAVE 203 MILES OF FIBER NETWORK SERVED THROUGHOUT THE NEK.



GRANTS & FINANCING

- We were awarded a USDA ReConnect grant of \$17,474,000 that will cover most of the addresses in Essex county and Eastern Orleans and Caledonia counties.
- The Vermont Community Broadband Board (VCBB) approved an additional \$17.94 million in construction funding, bringing the total investment in NEK Broadband to \$38.9 million to date.
- · Our 2022 financials were given an unqualified "clean" opinion (evaluation) by our auditors.

BUILDING CAPACITY

- We are up to 6 full-time staff.
- · We now have active warehouses in Danville, St. Johnsbury and Brighton for the storage of construction materials.
- · We are working with state and vocational partners to train and increase the workforce in the NEK to help build our network.

BUDGET SUMMARY

OVER \$15,876,591 HAS BEEN INVESTED IN NEK COMMUNITY-OWNED BROADBAND.

2023 BUDGET TO ACTUAL (PROJECTED)

2024 PROPOSED BUDGET

	Budget	Actual 2023	Projected Surplus	\$355,546
	buager	(Projected)	 from 2023	\$333,346
Administrative Grant Revenue	\$2,252,718	\$996,599	Administrative Grant Revenue	\$2,564,532
Operations Revenue	\$747,767	\$222,790	Operations Revenue	\$852,455
Capital Grant Revenue	\$28,785,288	\$10,311,147	Capital Grant Revenue	\$36,200,196
Total Cash in	\$31,785,773	\$11,530,536	Total Cash In	\$39,617,183
Administrative Cost	\$1,847,194	\$852,862	Administrative Cost	\$1,885,621
Operational Cost	\$586,601	\$235,395	Operational Cost	\$678,912
Construction Cost	\$28,785,288	\$10,311,147	Construction Cost	\$36,200,196
Total Cash Out	\$31,219,083	\$11,399,404	Total Cash Out	\$38,764,729
Annual Net Cash Flow	\$682,205	\$131,132	Annual Net Cash Flow	\$852,455
Increase in Capital Assets	\$28,785,288	\$10,311.147	Increase in Capital Assets	\$36,000,196

ABOUT NEK BROADBAND

We are a Communications Union District (CUD), a municipal entity representing our 51 member communities in Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties, plus Wolcott in Lamoille County. Our district is building high-speed broadband internet infrastructure for underserved communities in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom.

SIGN UP FOR UPDATES

To order our service, get updates, or sign up for our newsletter, fill out the form at get.nekbroadband.org.

	A ZUZ4 NEKV	WMD BUDGET	- APPROVED	D
				2024 BBOBOSED
1	BUDGET ITEM	2023 BUDGET	2023 ACTUAL as of 12/31/2023	2024 PROPOSED BUDGET
2	ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES			
3	Advertising	\$300.00	\$144.25	\$300.00
4	Audit Financial	\$6,845.00	\$8,750.00	\$9,000.00
5	Audit Waste Haulers	\$2,500.00	\$2,129.60	\$2,500.00
6	Bank Charges	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$25.00
7	Surplus	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
8	Cleaning	\$1,920.00	\$1,869.00	
9	Copier	\$1,500.00	\$1,406.55	\$1,500.00
10	Dues/Permits/Fees/Penalties	\$5,500.00	\$6,444.16	\$6,500.00
11	Heating Fuel	\$1,300.00	\$988.42	\$1,500.00
12	Liability & Casualty Ins.	\$15,000.00	\$12,595.77	\$16,000.00
13	Legal Fees	\$3,000.00	\$702.00	\$2,000.00
14	Postage	\$2,000.00	\$1,860.48	\$2,000.00
15	Office Supplies	\$4,000.00	\$5,715.38	\$3,500.00
16	Secretary Stipend	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
17	Telephone/IT - Office	\$10,000.00	\$8,757.01	·······
18	Miscellaneous	\$500.00	\$4,511.00	
19	Water/Sewer	\$1,200.00		
20	TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	\$55,565.00	\$57,409.38	
21	Gross Wages	\$445,164.00		
22	OT WagesWarehouse	\$5,000.00	\$10,439.76	
23	Fica (Employer Match)	\$27,942.00		
24	Medi (Employer Match)	\$6,534.00		
25	Unemployment/HCP Insurance	\$6,000.00		
26	VMERS (Retirement)	\$25,725.00		
2,7	Health Insurance	\$60,000.00	\$0.00	\$72,000.00
28	Workman's Comp. Insurance	\$27,500.00	\$25,573.23	
29	Mileage - Employee	\$4,000.00	\$4,890.17	
30	Life & Disability	\$5,700.00	\$7,840.36	
31	Personnel Equipment	\$500.00	\$729.46	
32	Training	\$500.00	\$30.00	
33	TOTAL PERSONNEL	\$614,565.00	\$541,194.29	\$659,954.00
34	EQUIPMENT EXPENSES			
35	Baler Repairs	\$2,000.00	\$853.1	3 \$3,000.00
36	Baler Supplies	\$6,000.00	\$7,793.24	4 \$5,000.00
37	Forklift Fuel	\$3,000.00	\$2,486.3	1 \$3,000.00
38	Forklift Repairs	\$4,000.00	\$7,804.6	
39	Misc. Equipment Repairs	\$500.00	\$8,387.9	
40	Skidsteer Repairs	\$3,000.0	\$4,980.2	3 \$3,000.00
41	Warehouse Supplies	\$2,500.0	0 \$3,440.2	
42	Mack Truck Loan Payment	\$0.0	0 \$0.0	0 \$0.00
43	TrucksDiesel	\$27,000.0	0 \$27,537.5	0 \$28,000.00
44		\$15,000.0	0 \$33,038.8	5 \$27,500.00
45	TOTAL EQUIPMENT	\$63,000.0	0 \$96,322.1	6 \$77,500.00

	A	MMD BUDGET	С	D
46	BUDGET ITEM	2023 BUDGET	2023 ACTUAL as of 12/31/2023	2024 PROPOSED BUDGET
47	BUILDING EXPENSES			
48	Electricity	\$5,400.00	\$5,557.34	\$5,400.00
49	Maintenance	\$2,000.00	\$150.35	\$1,500.00
50	Trash Removal	\$3,600.00	\$4,175.76	\$3,800.00
51	TOTAL BUILDING	\$11,000.00	\$9,883.45	\$10,700.00
52	PROGRAMS EXPENSES			
53	Composting	\$26,000.00	\$22,970.00	\$23,000.00
54	Composter/Bin	\$3,500.00	\$2,785.60	\$3,500.00
55	Foam Cycle	\$0.00	\$48,500.00	\$0.00
56	Organics VT Grant	\$0.00	\$141,335.50	\$0.00
57	Education Outreach	\$7,000.00	\$7,560.43	\$8,000.00
58	Hazmat Disposal	\$35,500.00	\$56,545.30	\$40,000.00
59	Hazmat Supplies	\$5,500.00	\$5,986.48	\$5,500.00
60	Sale of Recyclables-Processing	\$24,000.00	\$33,718.71	\$22,500.00
61	Special Collections	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
62	Supplies	\$400.00	\$494.48	\$500.00
63	Tire Disposal	\$15,000.00	\$17,460.80	\$15,000.00
64	TOTAL PROGRAMS	\$117,150.00	\$337,357.30	\$118,250.00
65	SUB-TOTAL	\$861,280.00	\$1,042,166.58	\$923,429.00
66				
67	Capital Improvement Fund	\$24,000.00		
68	TOTAL CAPITAL FUND	\$24,000.00	\$26,500.00	\$24,000.00
69				
70	TOTAL NEK EXPENSES	\$885,280.00		
71	GrantsSt of VT	\$80,000.00		
72	GrantsOrganics	\$0.00	\$141,335.50	
73	Surplus Funds	\$0.00		
74	HaulingRecycling Pick-ups	\$59,000.00	\$58,465.00	
75	Haz Mat/Paint Care	\$5,000.00		
76	Interest Income	\$30.00		
77	Miscellaneous Income	\$1,500.00	-	
78	Program SalesComposter/Bins	\$2,000.00	<u> </u>	
79	Programs- Oil Filter Program	\$150.00		
80	Sale of Recyclables	\$122,000.00		
81	Compost Income	\$26,000.00		
82	Electronics Income	\$14,000.00		
83	Scrap Metal Income	\$18,000.00		
84	Battery Income	\$5,000.00		
85	Tire Income	\$15,000.00	\$14,732.5	
86	Per Capita Assessment	\$50,000.0	\$49,763.8	
87	SurchargeWaste Haulers	\$487,600.0		
88	TOTAL NEK REVENUES	\$885,280.0	0 \$1,065,766.9	5 \$947,429.0



To the Voters of Barnet:

The Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) serves Barnet as a regional advocate for stronger communities and vibrant local economies. NVDA is the regional planning commission and economic development organization for Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties, so we are uniquely suited to effectively serve municipalities and businesses.

This year, we are again requesting annual dues from our member communities. These funds are critical, as they allow us to provide direct technical assistance to the 50+ municipalities and the many businesses in our region. Municipal contributions also allow us to leverage additional state and federal funds that benefit our region.

Local governance has become increasingly complex in recent years, and our staff remains available to assist your community in multiple capacities:

- Land use planning and regulation;
- Transportation studies and project planning;
- Digital mapping and GIS services;
- Grant writing and administration;
- Direct business support, referrals, and lending to employers in our region;
- Energy planning and water quality planning to help communities meet evolving statutory requirements;
- Planning for natural hazards and local emergency response;
- Brownfield assessments and remediation assistance;
- Economic development activities to grow and strengthen businesses in our region;
- Training for local officials.

The July flood brought new challenges to local governments and businesses already navigating post-pandemic realities. In addition to our regular services, we participated directly in flood response. We also began helping our communities meet the requirements of Act 47 (the HOME Act) to alleviate the housing crisis, and we continued to aid in regional pandemic recovery through assistance with ARPA funding as well as other state and federal recovery resources, such as the Municipal Energy Resilience Program and the Municipal Technical Assistance Program.

How have we served your community? In 2023, NVDA staff worked with the Barnet planning commission on a new town plan. This included producing updated maps as well as an enhanced energy plan intended to give the Town heightened standing in Section 248 proceedings. We also completed the Town's road erosion inventory for 2023-2027 cycle and assessed condition of sidewalks in Barnet village. Finally, our staff provided guidance to update Barnet's Local Emergency Management Plan.

NVDA dues are just \$0.85 per capita, with a maximum of \$3,965 and a minimum of \$565. We take great pride in serving the communities and businesses of the NEK. This additional contribution allows us to continue providing a high level of professional service. We take pride in keeping communities aware of new opportunities through our e-newsletter and social media. Contact us at tgonyaw@nvda.net to receive our e-newsletter and like us on Facebook.

Sincerely, David Snedeker Executive Director

Vermont League of Cities and Towns

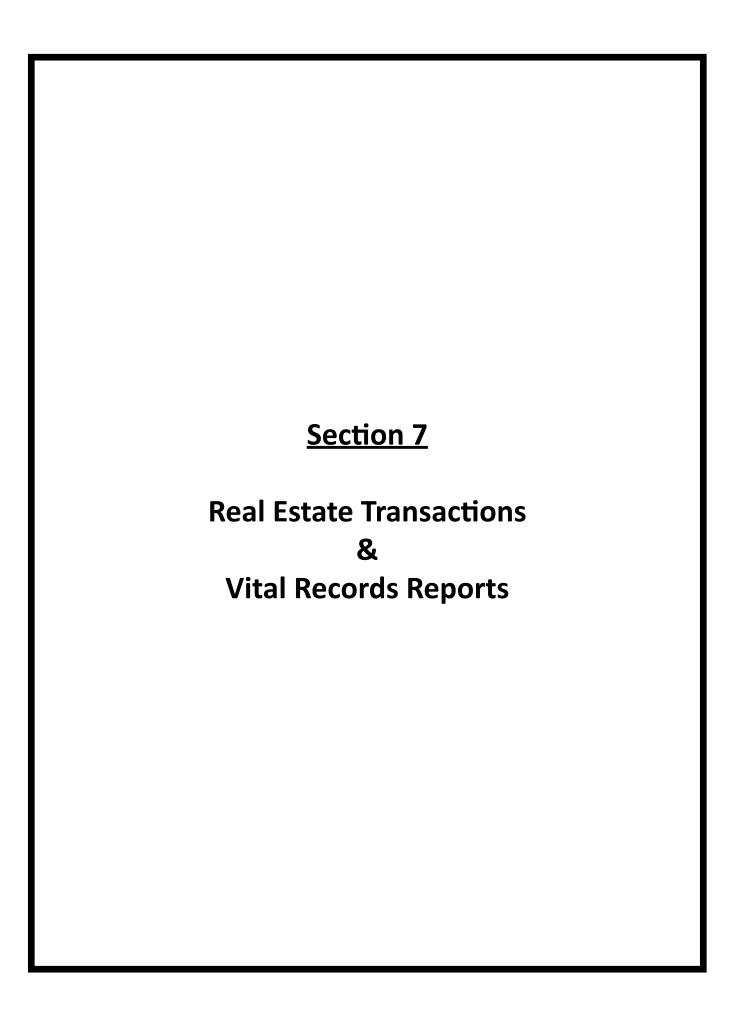
Serving and Strengthening Vermont Local Government

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

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

- Legal and technical assistance, including prompt responses to member questions that often
 involve how to comply with state and federal requirements. Staff responds to thousands of member
 questions and publishes guidance, templates, research reports, and FAQs. In 2023, VLCT
 specialists provided government-specific finance training as well as resources and consultation that
 help Vermont's cities and towns comply with federal rules for receiving federal ARPA and
 infrastructure funding. Staff also provides input to state leaders on designing and implementing
 grant programs for municipalities.
- Trainings and timely communications on topics of specific concern to local officials. The League provides training via webinars, classes at members' locations, and its annual member conference, the largest gathering of municipal officials in the state. In the wake of the 2023 floods, VLCT became a crucial information hub for local officials. VLCT's Equity Committee assists local officials in centering the work of justice, diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging in their municipalities' decision making, policies, practices, and programs.
- Representation before the state legislature, state agencies, and the federal government, ensuring that municipal concerns are heard collectively and as a single, united voice. VLCT's recent legislative efforts have helped cities and towns access additional resources to respond to the pandemic, repair roads and bridges, enact cybersecurity, improve housing and economic growth, promote renewable energy, provide emergency medical services, address equity and inclusion, and ensure the quality of our drinking water. Specific success in 2023 includes securing \$3 million for towns to expand their capacity to access state and federal grants through the Municipal Technical Assistance Program, fighting to balance changes to local zoning laws with state land use laws to facilitate housing construction, elevating awareness of the financial difficulties rural emergency medical services face, amplifying municipal concerns as the Legislature contemplates moving toward a state-led reappraisal system, and increasing municipal authorities in statute. Members are also represented at the federal level to Vermont's Congressional delegation and through our partner, the National League of Cities.
- Access to insurance programs. The Property and Casualty Intermunicipal Fund (PACIF) provides comprehensive and cost-effective property, liability, and workers' compensation insurance coverage, programs, and services that protect the assets of your community. The VLCT Unemployment Insurance Trust provides unemployment insurance at stable pricing. VLCT also offers members group rates on important benefits for municipal employees: life, disability, dental, and vision insurance. All the programs offer coverage and products that members need and ask for, help Vermont municipalities stretch their budgets, and are only available to VLCT members.

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



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Real Estate Transactions

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Description
1/3/2023	3 Girouard, Nicholas	Rittenhouse, Matthew & Inglis, Erin	MH & land Symns Pond Road
	3 Moorehouse, Peggy	Moss, Michelle	Dwl & land US Rte 5 South
	3 McGrath, Dorothy A	Bird, Jason T	Dwl & land Strobridge Hill
	3 Shields, David & Karen	Warden, Laurie & Spicer, Dakota	Dwl & land Kitchel Hill
-	Bailey, Vena D	Leader, Andrew & Janet Jt Revoc Trust	Land only US Rte 5 South
	Bogie, Calvin Jr & Darlene	Bogie, Robert Scott & Loreto	Dwl & land Whitehill Road
	3 Gajtka, Cheryl Ann	Olivares, Steven & Belmain, William	Dwl & land Granger St
	3 LoanCare LLC	Roy, Chad	Dwl & land Meeting House Hill
• •	B Roy, Bruce L & Catherine L Family Trust	Cote, Joseph & Damaris Roy	Land only
• •	Rowden, Ryan & Allison	Heaney, Jeb	Land only
	Northrop, Randall	Day, Denise & Lampman, Tim	Dwl & land US Rte 5 North
	Kempton Farms Partnership	Shearer, Eric & Jessie	Dwl & land West Main St
• •	B Hatley, John	Brown, Jonathan & Liberty, Quinton	Land only Symns Pond Road
	Fontecha, Kevin	Warner, Janet	Dwl & land US Rte 5 South
	3 Geraghty- Spinelli Living Trust	Starr, Sean	Dwl & land Harvey Mountain Road
	Gorman, Thomas	Thistle Hummingbird Prop LLC	MH & land Thistle Hill Lane
	First Congregational Church in McIndoe Falls	McIndoe Falls Academy	Church & land Brook Circle
	3 Evans, David & Brynn	Knights, Michael	Dwl & land Kitchel Hill
6/20/2023	3 Choate, Linda	Ready-Campbell & Rafter	Dwl & land West Barnet Road
	3 Himes, Patricia	Young, Dana & Larney-Young, Kathleen	Dwl & land Little Scotland Road
7/12/2023	3 Zorn, Jaccob & Jennifer	Riehl, Stephen	Dwl & land Gadley Hill
7/31/2023	3 Hale, Michael & Margaret	Cookson, Michael & Meghan	Camp & land Denio Road
8/3/2023	3 Shambhala USA	Graves, William J Trust	Land only West Barnet Road
8/7/2023	3 Willman, Jayne	Morse, Christopher & Mary	Dwl & land Cottage Lane
8/7/2023	3 Shambhala USA	Rauschenberg, Carlton & Sara	Land only Little France
8/28/2023	3 Ervin, Charles & Marin, Graciela	Berthoff, Thomas	Dwl & land Harvey Mountain Road
8/28/2023	3 Low, Melvin R Trust	McCullough, Lisa & David III	Dwl & land Little Scotland Road
8/31/2023	Bradley-Ward, Delia	Kearney, Maria & Timothy	Store & land US Rte 5 South
9/8/2023	3 Ackerman & Ackerman-Sevareid Trust	Botzojorn, Jennifer & Lars	Land only Chamberlain Road
	Burnett, Michael & Julie	Duncan, Jonathan & Morgan	Dwl & land Old West Road
10/12/2023	Bogie, David	Bogie, Clark & Patrice	Land only

Date	Grantor
10/13/2023	Babcock, Heather
10/18/2023	Roy, The Bruce L & Catherine L Family Trust
10/25/2023	MPF 2023 Trust
10/30/2023	Blue Sky Builders Inc
11/6/2023	Daniels, Kevin & Sarah
12/8/2023	Roy, The Bruce L & Catherine L Trust
12/13/2023	Bushey, Louis & Melissa
12/20/2023	Moore, Kevin Sr & Deborah
12/22/2023	Williams, David & Royalty, Ellen
12/26/2023	LaHaye, Daren

Grantee
Lewis, Peter
Roy, Windsor F
Fitzgerald, William & Sharon
Braley, Kelli & Gabriel
Lederman, Megan
Roy, Moses & Brandy
Johnson, JH Pourover Trust
BGP LLC
Timson, Shawn & Nicquelle
Great River Hydro LLC

Land only Warden Road
Farm & land Roy Mountain Road
Camp & land Cottage Lane
Condo Unit #10 Campers' Lane
Dwl & land Granger St
Dwl & land MacLeroy Lane
Land only Slayton Lane
Dwl & land Monroe Road
Land only Anderson Street
Land only Monroe Road

Description

BIRTHS

Nommik, Arianna Lynn to Lumbra, Libby & Nommik, Aureon

Albert, Hilda Lee to Moore, Morgan & Albert, Ryan

Cummings, Imaani Tomei to Cummings, Lawuo & Ethan

Bishop, Johnny David to Bishop, Katharine & Patrick

MARRIAGES

Albarran Segura, Maria Fernanda & Manasjan, Thomas Duncan Zita, Samantha D & Furbert, Dylan Leroy Fullerton, Walter Thomas Jr & Anderson, Shawn Thomas Brown, John Thompson Jr & Totten, Michael Shane Bishop, Johanna Kristi & Pearl, Christopher Glen Norton, Amanda Darcy & Gombas, Dylan Wayne Barnes, Laura Janice & Impey, Jeffrey Hugh Tigano, Rachel Elizabeth & Simmer, Mark James Fairley, Elizabeth Cobb & Pearl, Daniel William Labounty, Katrina Joy & Elliott, Jeffrey Mitchell Sr

DEATHS

Kinerson, Richard C	Age 71	Denio, Carolyn May	Age 75
Machell, Vicki Louise	Age 77	Bartlett, Dexter Whitcomb	Age 81
McGrew, Verne M	Age 98	Westcott, Richard Paul	Age 66
Young, Ray Vernon	Age 64	Bona, Armando Angelo	Age 87
Hamilton, Madeleine Artieres	Age 91	Dunbar, Barbara	Age 95
Somers, Paul R	Age 68	Curschmann, Christian III	Age 68
Davis, Joyce Lillian	Age 86	McGuire, Susie May	Age 74
Cunningham, Ian Thomas	Age 54		