

Town of Sheffield, Vermont



2023 Town Report

TOWN OF SHEFFIELD

37 Dane Road
Post Office Box 165
Sheffield, VT 05866
802-626-8862

Town Clerk Hours:

Monday- 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Wednesday- 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM
Friday- 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Email contacts:

Town Clerk:

sheffieldvttownclerk@gmail.com

Assistant Town Clerk:

sheffieldvtassttownclerk@gmail.com

Selectboard:

selectboard@sheffieldvt.org

Listers:

sheffieldvtlisters@gmail.com

Website:

www.sheffieldvt.org

Please bring this report to the Sheffield Town Meeting

TOWN OF SHEFFIELD 2023 ANNUAL REPORT**Table of Contents**

Town Reports	Page
Town Meeting 2024 Annual Meeting Warning	1-3
Town Officers	4-5
Report of the Selectboard	6
Report of the Road Foreman	7
Report of the Planning Commission	8-9
Report of the Town Clerk and Treasurer	10
General 20223 Actual to Budget Comparison and Proposed 2024 General Income Budget	11-12
General Expenses Budget	13-15
Highway 2023 Actual to Budget Comparison and Proposed 2024 Highway Budget	16-17
Capital Budget for 2022 Comparison, Proposed 2023 Budget	18
Fund Balances	19
Vermont Wind, LLC Investment Reconciliation	20
Vermont Wind, LLC Supplemental Calculations and Tax Rate Comparison	21
Loan Information- 2021 Komatsu Loader	22
2022 Tax Rate Calculations	23
Calculation of Tax Rates: Wind Farm Payments	24
Report of Delinquent Tax Collector	25
Wage, Salary and Stipend Report	26
Sheffield Cemetery Association	27
Statement of Auditors	28
Minutes of the 2023 Town Meeting	29-33
Sheffield-Wheelock Volunteer Fire Department (Allocation Line Item)	34-35
Sheffield-Wheelock Transfer Station (Allocation Line Item)	36
Sheffield-Wheelock Transfer Station Audit Report	37
SW-KD Fund (formerly Keniston and Dane Educational Fund)	38
SW-KD Fund (formerly Keniston and Dane Educational Fund) Audit Report	39
Sheffield Historical Society, Inc.	40-41
Caledonia County Sheriff Report	42-43
Millers Run School Principal Report	44
Kingdom East Supervisory District	45
Lyndon Rescue, Inc. (Allocation Line Item)	46-47
Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District	48-49
Northeastern VT Development Association	50
Vermont Department of Health Report	51
NEK Broadband Annual Report	52-53
Appropriation Requests	54

NOTICE TO VOTERS

For Local Floor Annual or Special Meetings

BEFORE MEETING DAY:

CHECKLIST POSTED at Clerks Office by January 24, 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.vermont.gov.

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)

Warning for the 2024 Annual Meeting
Town of Sheffield, Vermont
Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 10:00 am
Town Hall, Sheffield

Notice to Voters:

Residents of Sheffield, who are not already on the voter checklist, may register to vote up to and including the date of the vote, March 5, 2024, no later than 10:00 AM at the entrance to the Town Meeting.

The legal voters of the Town of Sheffield, Caledonia County, Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Sheffield Town Hall in Sheffield on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 10 o'clock in the forenoon to transact the following business:

Article 1 To elect a moderator for the ensuing year.

Article 2 To elect other town officers necessary to fill any vacancies, including the following:

- a. Selectman for a term of three (3) years by paper ballot
- b. Lister for a term of three (3) year by paper ballot
- c. Auditor for a term of three (3) years by paper ballot
- d. Constable for the ensuing year.
- e. Town agent for the ensuing year.
- f. Agent to convey real estate for the ensuing year.
- g. Trustee of public funds for the ensuing year.
- h. Sexton for the ensuing year.
- i. Planning Commissioner for a term of two (2) years.
- j. Planning Commissioner for a term of three (3) years.

Article 3 To see if the Town will accept the reports of the Town officers.

Article 4 To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$ 6,685.00 to help support the following organizations:

Caledonia Home Health and Hospice	1,100
Cobleigh Library	1,000
Fairbanks Museum	1,017
NEK Council on Aging	330
NEK Human Services	738
RCT (Rural Community Transportation	1,000
Umbrella	500
Village Improvement Society/ Powers Park	<u>1,000</u>
	\$6,685

Warning for the 2024 Annual Meeting Town of Sheffield, Vermont, page 2

- Article 5. a. Shall the Town apply a percentage of the supplemental payments received in 2023 from Vermont Wind, LLC (should this actually be Brookfield Renewables, LLC?) as calculated in the Vermont Wind, LLC, Supplemental Payment Information page included in this report, to pay the Town's general and highway expenses thereby reducing the property tax rate for taxpayers of the town?
b. If the vote on Article 6a is affirmative, what shall the percentage be, with the remainder being deposited into the Vermont Wind, LLC, Fund, which was established at the 2012 Town Meeting?
- Article 6. a. Shall the town design & construct Phase I, a new Municipal Highway Garage, designed as approved in Article 7 of the Town Meeting in 2023?
b. If the vote on Article 7a is affirmative, and if acceptable bids are received after advertising the project, shall the Town draw funds from the Sheffield Vermont Wind, LLC, Fund for payments on a ten-year mortgage to pay for the Highway Garage?
c. If the vote on Article 7a is affirmative, and if acceptable bids are received after advertising the project, and if construction proceeds, shall the Town give the Sheffield Select Board the authority to obligate/use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the design of a new Town Offices/Town Hall building?
- Article 7. To see if the Town will give the Sheffield Select Board the authority to obligate /use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the design and land preparation for the construction of a five (5) bay Highway garage with associated Highway office, storage and maintenance rooms, after application of grant funds.
- Article 8. To see if the Town will approve appropriation procedures as follows: If an organization has routinely requested an appropriation they will be required to submit a letter with the request each year, no requirement for a petition. A new organization, organization that misses an appropriation year, or organization requesting an increase in appropriation will be required to obtain a petition with five percent or 25 of the registered voters, whichever is greater
- Article 9. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to apply any surplus accumulated during the year 2023 in the general checking account to defray Town general expenses during 2024.
- Article 10. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to apply any surplus accumulated during the year 2023 in the highway checking account to defray Town highway expenses during 2024.
- Article 11. To see if the Town will approve the proposed general, highway, and land, equipment, and buildings (capital) budgets in the combined amount of \$750,979.40 for General use and maintenance of Town Highways.

Warning for the 2024 Annual Meeting Town of Sheffield, Vermont, page 3

Article 12. To see if the Town will have real and personal property taxes paid to the Treasurer and set the due date of Friday, November 01, 2024.

Article 13. To transact any other business that may properly come before this meeting.

Article 14. To adjourn.

Dated at Sheffield, Caledonia County, Vermont this 22th day of January 2024.

Attest:

Sheffield Board of Selectmen

Erika Lavallee

Walter Smith

Erika Lavallee
Town Clerk and Treasurer

Walter Smith, Chairperson

Max Aldrich

Max Aldrich

Cynthia Roy

Cynthia Roy

Town Officers

Office	Length of Term	Elected at Town Meeting	Term Expires
Moderator	1 Year	Patrick Ham	2024
Town Clerk	3 Years	Erika Lavallee	2026
Treasurer	3 Years	Erika Lavallee	2026
Selectboard	3 Years	Walter Smith	2026
		Max Aldrich	2024
		Cynthia Roy	2025
Road Commissioners		Selectboard	In effect until changed by voters
Listers	3 Years	Edward Jewell	2024
		Mark Cilley	2025
		Vanessa Aguilera	2026
Auditors	3 Years	Sarah Warner	2024
		Vanessa Aguilera	2025
		Magon Lindgren	2026
Constable	1 Year	Erika Lavallee	2024
Town Agent	1 Year	Erika Lavallee	2024
Agent to Convey Real Estate	1 Year	Selectboard	2024
Trustee of Public Funds	1 Year	Selectboard	2024
Sexton	1 Year	John Roy	2024
Planning Commission	3 Years	Barbara Bristol	2024
		Al Robertson, Carolyn Crankshaw	2025
		Keith Ballek	2026

Office	Officers
Board of Civil Authority	Selectboard Justices of the Peace

Office	Length of Term	Elected in General Election	Term Expires
Justices of the Peace	2 Years	Barbara Bristol	2024
		Gay Ellis	2024
		Edward Jewell	2024
		Kathy Newland	2024
		Sally Wood-Simons	2024
Kingdom East School District-School Board Representative	3 years	Brian (Bif) Mahoney	2025

Office

Assistant Town Clerk
 Assistant Treasurer
 Assistant Clerk/ Assistant Treasurer
 Cemetery Commissioners
 Deputy Registrars

Appointed by Selectboard or other Town Officers

Felicia Bedor
 Felicia Bedor
 Kathy Newland, as needed
 Selectboard
 Guibord, Sayles and Pearsons Funeral Home Representatives
 Stephen Robertson
 W. Nelson Dodge
 Mark Harpin
 Candace Dane
 Marc Brown
 Erika Lavallee
 Marc Brown
 Select Board Chairperson
 Robert Blodgett
 Preston Smith
 Erika Lavallee
 Edward Jewell

Dog Warden and Pound Keeper
 Emergency Management Director
 E911 Coordinator
 Forest Fire Warden
 Health Officer
 Lyndon Rescue, Inc.
 NEK Waste Management District
 Tax Collector
 Tree Warden

Vermont Legislators

Representative	Dennis Labounty	dlabounty@leg.state.vt.us	802-828-2228 House Committee on General and Housing 802-828-2228 House Committee on Agriculture, Food Resiliency and Forestry 802-988-2877 home VT Milk Commission Senate Appropriations Committee Legislative Study Committee on Wetlands
Representative	Charles Wilson	115 State St. Montpelier 05633 cwilson@leg.state.vt.us	
Senator	Robert Starr	115 State St. Montpelier 05633 rstarr@leg.state.vt.us 958 Rte 105W, N Troy, VT 05859 Senate Committee on Agriculture- Chair Canvassing Committee	

US Congressional Members

Representative	Becca Balint	1408 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 202-225-4115	
Senator	Peter Welch	G12 Russell State Office Building, Washington, DC 20510 202-224-4242	www.welch.senate.gov
Senator	Committees Bernie Sanders	none at printing time 357 Western Avenue, Suite 1B St. Johnsbury, VT 05819 332 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510 202-224-5141	748-9269 sanders@sanders.senate.gov www.sanders.senate.gov Veteran's Affairs
	Committees	Budget- Chair	

Selectboard Report 2023

2023 Was another year of challenges for everyone in Sheffield.

Top of the list would be the storms and flooding of the summer. The highway crew worked diligently to repair the damage and reduce the impact to the entire town. They deserve our sincere thanks for all that they accomplished.

On the plus side, the new signs and flashing lights for the school zone were installed by VTrans.

In partnership with the planning commission, the solar backup power and Tesla wall project for the Town Office Building was completed. We now have reliable emergency backup power so the Municipal Complex can function appropriately as the emergency operations control center for the town.

The Selectboard would like to thank everyone for their continued support.

Respectfully Submitted,

Walter Smith

Chairperson for the Sheffield Selectboard

Road Foreman's Report 2023

2023, It was quite a year. A year of much change and many extremes.

We experienced a fairly significant thaw in each of the winter months. January, February, March, and April. This kind of weather is extremely hard on our gravel roads and in the end, it is also hard on our budget.

The end of a 25-year career came on May 1st. Dennis Newland officially retired from the road crew. This left a great hole in the road crew. Dennis was an exemplary roadman and will be greatly missed. If you see Dennis, be sure to thank him for all his hard work and dedication.

The search for Dennis' replacement ended in June with the hiring of Kurt Haselton. Kurt was immediately exposed to the hardships of a major flooding event. This event caused massive damage to the town's roads. Damages that took the bulk of the construction season to repair. The materials and contracted work cost \$75,000.00 and the total cost of repairs was approximately \$115,000.00. FEMA will cover 75% of the cost and the states ERAF portion will be an additional 7.5%.

We would like to say many thanks to Simpson Dirtwork, JP Sicard, and Dennis Newland for all their help with flood repairs. Dennis' retirement was cut short when he came back to help until we were back on our feet.

The flooding damage caused us to put on hold the paving project for Berry Hill as well as the two clean water act projects that we had scheduled for the 2023 construction season. We are hopeful that they will get completed this coming season.

The highway department will need to replace a truck in 2025. I have been told that it will take 18 to 24 months to get an equipped truck. This means that we would need to order a truck this spring or early summer to have it for plowing in the fall of 2025. I do not believe that we can vote on the money until next year, however, I am looking for a vote of confidence at the town meeting to start the ordering process.

The winter, 2023 to 2024 saw many temperature changes, bringing rain which washed some roads and thawing that gave us several episodes of muddy roads. Also, making proper repairs during the winter months is nearly impossible, as you that travel the roads know. I hope that these extremes come to an end for the sake of our roads.

In closing, I would like to thank you all for your patience through this last year. Extreme weather changes, personnel changes, and severe inflation made 2023 a very trying year.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask anytime and if you see him, say hello to Kurt. He is doing a wonderful job and would like to meet all of you that he has not already met.

Respectfully,

Max Aldrich

SHEFFIELD PLANNING COMMISSION

2023 TOWN REPORT

January 2024

2023 has, again, been a very busy year for all town officials and the Planning Commission is no exception. There is progress from the results of last year's town meeting approvals, and more additional tasks we are working on:

- **NFIP and the Floodplain Mapping Process**: As you are well aware from past reports, we have been delayed repeatedly in the receipt of the draft "Workmaps" from FEMA. The Corps of Engineers engineer, Scott Olson, sent us this update on 16 January 2024: *"We have targeted April 2024 for Workmap meeting. The workmap meeting is for town officials and the meeting is followed by a period when town officials can comment on maps. Then work begins on the Prelim maps and some rounds of quality reviews before we hold the CCO meeting. Which in turn is followed by public appeal period. So, it is a while before a new regulatory product will be available.... As far as Millers Run, a new detailed study was not done on that river, so the current base flood elevations have been remapped using lidar. This provides more detail to the mapping of Millers Run. Yes, Sheffield will get new floodplain maps...."* If the Planning Commission and Selectboard receive the Workmap drafts in April it is quite possible we may be able to include some significant information on the practical results (Like whether there are parcels along Millers run that aren't in the floodplain) in the Town Plan update. We will try to keep you updated in the meetings we are holding this year.
- **Message Board at the Post Office**: The board was constructed by the Woodworking Shop at Lyndon Institute and installed at the Post Office this fall. We thank their instructor, Mr. Jerry Leonard, and the students for their excellent workmanship and a job well done!
- **Park and Ride Facility**: The town has a \$4,000 grant and had finally archeologically cleared the field across the street from the Municipal Building, giving us two potential sites for the parking lot. Then we had the rains and flooding this summer which occupied all the time and labor our town had available for the project. Now, based on the results of last year's town meeting we are considering adding the Park & Ride to the town

garage project scope. We'll know more later this year where the Park & Ride will be located.

- **Hazard Mitigation Plan- Solar Power Project and Battery Backup for Emergency Power Project:** Based on the results of last year's town meeting the project went forward and was completed in late November. The solar array is behind the sand pile and the power walls are in the boiler room of the Municipal Building. We have recouped almost half the project cost from grants and are working to recoup the rest of the funding we are owed. We are also monitoring our power consumption to see what our annual savings will be from the project.
- **Millers Run School Speed Limit Flashing Beacons:** The beacons were installed by VTrans this summer!
- **Municipal Building Projects:** Based on the results of last year's town meeting the projects are well along, and the design of the new town garage should be completed shortly after this year's town meeting. Please review the 2023 town warning for an approval to construct the facility this year, and begin the design of a new town hall and administrative offices. **The Planning Commission is also highly recommending the use of the Wind Farm Fund for mortgage payments to cover the cost of the new Town Garage. Even with these draws, the continued addition of wind farm payments and the accrual of interest payments mean that at the end of the mortgage payments the Fund will still have roughly \$5.3M.**

Town Plan Update: The Commission has begun updating the state-required town plan. We applied and received a state grant, and NVDA is providing an expert planner to help us with content, direction, and writing. We will be announcing three public planning meetings at the Town Meeting on March 5th, in April, May, and June, (time and locations TBD) to have some open and public dialogue, comments and opinions on issues such as current use, development, eyesores in town, zoning, and floodplain mapping. We will also be holding monthly meetings for the next nine months to work on the content. The meetings will be at 6PM in the town offices on 21 February, 20 March, 17 April, 15 May, 19 June, 17 July, 21 August, 18 September, and 10 October. Residents are invited to attend a session and contribute ideas- there will be a 5-minute time limit per person commenting. There will also be required hearings concerning the draft plan after the draft plan is complete.

Report of the Town Clerk and Treasurer

Our first year in the Town Clerk and Treasurer's office has been eventful.

Felicia and I began the year being mentored by our predecessors prior to their retirement in May. We have continued to learn the ins and outs of the position while carrying out our daily duties. We have been updating files, organizing our town records and rearranging the office setup to make it more inviting place to visit.

July brought us a flood and with the diligent work of our roadcrew the impact on our roads and community was minimized. I was thankful for Max's experience and expertise as we worked together to complete FEMA paperwork to receive proper assistance.

The Town's finances continue to be healthy. There are several line items in the 2024 budgets that are worth noting.

*In the General Budget, the listers – state mandated assessment line has \$18,700.00. This is due to a town wide reassessment that will be performed beginning in July 2026. We will break up the cost over the course of three tax years.

*In the General Budget - We have budgeted \$7500.00 for repairs to the Town Hall fire monitoring system.

*In the Highway budget – The State of Vermont sent an extra highway aid payment in order to help municipalities overcome flood related expenses.

*In the Highway budget – We had \$75,251.22 in flood related expenses. We expect a payment from FEMA in the 2024 budget year. Approximate amount being \$100,000.00.

*In the Capital budget, the town now has one equipment loan from the Wind Farm Investment account for the loader.

Sheffield is fortunate to receive funds from Vermont Wind, LLC, part of which, as voted at the 2023 Town Meeting was used to reduce the municipal property tax burden for property owners. Unfortunately, there is no way to reflect this reduction as a line item on the tax bill. I have added a page to the Town Report that shows the property tax reduction amount before and after the application of the Wind Farm money for various property assessments in 2023.

Lastly, I was elected during town meeting in May 2023. The beginning of my time in the Town Office has been eventful and rewarding. Felicia and I have been learning a lot and enjoy seeing all our neighbors at the office.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'C. A. D.', is written over the 'Respectfully submitted,' text.

General Income Budget

	<u>Jan - Dec 23</u>	<u>Budget - 2023</u>	<u>Budget - 2024</u>
Income			
Solar Array Grant	32,500.00		
Grant Monies	8,000.00		
Property Tax Receipts			
PILOT, CU & PTA Pymts Received	14,421.76		
Prop. Taxes - 2023	947,113.53		
Prop. Taxes - 2022	30,673.01		
Prop. Taxes - 2021	8,605.49		
Prop. Taxes - 2020	999.99		
Prop. Taxes - 2019	1,941.52		
Delinquent Tax Interest			
2023 Delinquent Tax Interest	2,149.52		
2022 Delinquent Tax Interest	1,177.11		
2021 Delinquent Tax Interest	809.85		
2020 Delinquent Tax Interest	303.88		
2019 Delinquent Tax Interest	757.38		
Total Delinquent Tax Interest	<u>5,197.74</u>		
Delinquent Tax Penalties			
2023 Delinquent Tax Penalties	4,712.97		
2022 Delinquent Tax Penalties	2,485.02		
2021 Delinquent Tax Penalties	599.77		
2020 Delinquent Tax Penalties	88.87		
2019 Delinquent Tax Penalties	155.32		
Delinquent Tax Penalties - Other	133.31		
Total Delinquent Tax Penalties	<u>8,175.26</u>		
Total Property Tax Receipts	<u>1,017,128.30</u>		
Vermont Wind LLC Fund Receipts			
Vermont Wind, LLC Payments	520,000.00	520,000.00	520,000.00
Total Vermont Wind LLC Fund Receipts	<u>520,000.00</u>	<u>520,000.00</u>	<u>520,000.00</u>
Cemetery Lots Account. Receipts			
Sales of Burial Lots	-150.00		
Total Cemetery Lots Account. Receipts	<u>-150.00</u>		
Split Fees Collected			
Dog License Fees	940.00		
Marriage License Fees	80.00		
Total Split Fees Collected	<u>1,020.00</u>		
General Fees			
Notary Fee	22.00		16.00
Civil Fines	277.50		200.00
Copying & Research Fees	1,225.25	1,000.00	1,000.00
Green Mountain Passports	6.00		
Recording Fees	9,213.50	6,000.00	8,000.00
No Hunting Zone Registration	25.00	15.00	10.00
Total General Fees	<u>10,769.25</u>	<u>7,015.00</u>	<u>9,226.00</u>
Lister Receipts			
Lister PVR Reappraisal	4445.50	4445.50	4445.50
Lister PVR Equalization	523.00	500.00	525.00
Total Lister Receipts	<u>4968.50</u>	<u>4945.50</u>	<u>4970.50</u>
Interest Receipts			
Interest - ARPA Funds	95.59	50.00	40.00
Interest - General Chkg Acct	261.52	275.00	275.00
Interest - Operating Reserve	1,004.50	800.00	800.00

Interest - PSB Savings	12.48		
Interest - Records Archival	1.80		
Total Interest Receipts	<u>1,375.89</u>	<u>1,125.00</u>	<u>1,115.00</u>
Other Receipts			
Refund from Unified School Dist	13,680.23		
Town Hall Rentals	865.00	500.00	600.00
Total Other Receipts	<u>14,545.23</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>600.00</u>
Total Income	<u>1,605,188.67</u>	<u>528,640.00</u>	<u>535,911.50</u>

General Budget Expenses

Expense			
Solar Project	82,171.00		
Municipal Buidling - 2			
MB2 - Engineering Fees	8,140.93	0.00	157,000.00
MB2 - Other	2,750.00	0.00	
Total Municipal Buidling - 2	<u>10,890.93</u>		<u>157,000.00</u>
Advertising			
General Advertising	784.80	1,000.00	1,000.00
Community Events	0.00	150.00	150.00
Honorariums	323.90	0.00	0.00
Total Advertising	<u>1,108.70</u>	<u>1,150.00</u>	<u>1,150.00</u>
Animal Control			
Animal Control Officer	455.74	400.00	500.00
Dog ID Tags	109.18	115.00	115.00
Total Animal Control	<u>564.92</u>	<u>515.00</u>	<u>615.00</u>
Appropriations			
Caledonia Home Health & Hospice	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.00
Cobleigh Public Library	850.00	850.00	1,000.00
Fairbanks Museum	0.00	0.00	1,017.00
NEK Council on Aging	330.00	330.00	330.00
NEK Human Services	738.00	738.00	738.00
Rural Community Transportation	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Umbrella	500.00	500.00	500.00
VIS - Powers Park	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Total Appropriations	<u>5,518.00</u>	<u>5,518.00</u>	<u>6,685.00</u>
Allocations			
Cemetery Assoc.	11,000.00	11,000.00	11,000.00
Lyndon Rescue Assessment	30,635.14	31,355.00	32,603.21
Sheffield-Wheelock FD - Ops	18,000.00	18,000.00	18,625.00
SWVFD Truck Fund	9,700.00	9,700.00	9,700.00
Total Allocations	<u>69,335.14</u>	<u>70,055.00</u>	<u>71,928.21</u>
Contract Services			
Website Services	3,183.00	5,000.00	2,500.00
Law Enforcement	1,735.50	5,100.00	5,100.00
Legal Services	661.50	1,000.00	2,000.00
Payroll Software Services	2,003.40	1,500.00	2,200.00
Web-based Parcel Mapping	273.75		1,000.00
Total Contract Services	<u>7,857.15</u>	<u>12,600.00</u>	<u>12,800.00</u>
COVID Accomodations Expenses	870.00		
Dues			
Northeastern VT Develop. Assoc	580.00	580.00	580.00
VT League of Cities & Towns	1,995.00	1,995.00	2,011.00
Total Dues	<u>2,575.00</u>	<u>2,575.00</u>	<u>2,591.00</u>
Insurance			
Workers' Compensation Ins.	1,551.00	1,686.00	1,686.00
Health Ins.	10,785.41	11,500.00	4,000.00
Officers' Bond	270.00	270.00	270.00
Property & Casualty Ins.	6,880.00	6,900.00	10,500.00
Total Insurance	<u>19,486.41</u>	<u>20,356.00</u>	<u>16,456.00</u>
Lister			
Lister - Contracted Services	31,458.00		3,000.00
Lister -Software Maint & Update	8,038.08	20,000.00	9,000.00
Lister- State Manadated Reassessment -;	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>18,700.00</u>

Total Lister	39,496.08	20,000.00	30,700.00
Municipal Building			
Municipal Building Maintenance	1,900.00	1,000.00	2,900.00
MB Grounds Maint.	750.00	750.00	750.00
MB Equip Repair & Maintenance	197.75	800.00	800.00
MB Electric	1,676.13	1,800.00	1,800.00
MB Heating Fuel	5,521.56	9,600.00	8,500.00
MB Janitorial Services	353.75	700.00	700.00
Total Municipal Building	<u>10,399.19</u>	<u>14,650.00</u>	<u>15,450.00</u>
Office Equipment			
Office Equipment - Other	0.00	200.00	200.00
Computers	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Total Office Equipment	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,200.00</u>	<u>1,200.00</u>
Office-Furnishings			
O. F.-Furniture	25.00	500.00	500.00
Total Office-Furnishings	<u>25.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>
Office-Operations			
Alarm Monitoring Service	1,698.00	600.00	2,000.00
Computer Maintenance	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Copier Maintenance Contract	606.98	450.00	700.00
Internet	1,440.56	1,500.00	1,600.00
Postage, Mailing Service	2,476.12	1,750.00	2,600.00
Software & Updates	2,210.98	2,600.00	3,000.00
Supplies	1,809.02	2,200.00	2,200.00
Telephone	1,806.73	2,300.00	2,000.00
Training & Seminars	135.94	250.00	250.00
Records Preservation & Archival	410.13	0.00	1,500.00
Total Office-Operations	<u>12,184.33</u>	<u>12,650.00</u>	<u>16,850.00</u>
Planning Commission			
Town Plan	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
PC Community Projects & Activit	900.00	2,150.00	2,150.00
Total Planning Commission	<u>900.00</u>	<u>4,150.00</u>	<u>4,150.00</u>
Taxes - Caledonia County	5,245.00	5,245.00	5,500.00
Town Hall Equip & Improvements	3,330.00	3,000.00	7,500.00
Town Hall-Operations			
TH Propane [Water Heating]	171.84	250.00	250.00
TH Building & Equipment R & M	1,514.97	1,200.00	1,500.00
TH Cleaning	1,000.00	1,000.00	3,250.00
TH Electric	955.05	850.00	1,000.00
TH Grounds Maintenance	830.00	600.00	1,000.00
TH Heating Fuel	3,404.74	5,000.00	5,000.00
TH Inspections	1,485.00	600.00	1,500.00
TH Water	250.00	200.00	300.00
Total Town Hall-Operations	<u>9,611.60</u>	<u>9,700.00</u>	<u>13,800.00</u>
Transfer Station Operations	22,150.00	21,850.00	18,879.19
NEKWMD Per Capita Assessment	722.92	725.00	800.00
Village Street Lights	3,561.69	5,100.00	2,750.00
Stipends			
Ballot Clerk Stipends	0.00	200.00	200.00
Moderator Stipend	100.00	100.00	100.00
Total Stipends	<u>100.00</u>	<u>300.00</u>	<u>300.00</u>
Payroll Expenses			

Officers Payroll			
Town Clerk Wages	19,598.26	23,600.00	23,600.00
Auditors Salaries	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00
Select Board - Salaries	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Total Officers Payroll	23,998.26	28,000.00	28,000.00
Payroll - Others			
Constable	0.00	300.00	300.00
Lister	7,242.00	22,100.00	12,000.00
Asst Town Clerk Wages	23,383.79	30,900.00	20,000.00
Transfer Station Wages	14,720.50	16,350.00	16,350.00
Total Payroll - Others	45,346.29	69,650.00	48,650.00
Town Portion of Payroll Taxes			
Social Security and Medicare	4,701.42	5,800.00	5,800.00
Unemployment Tax	361.00	750.00	750.00
Total Town Portion of Payroll Taxes	5,062.42	6,550.00	6,550.00
Total Payroll Expenses	74,406.97	104,200.00	83,200.00
Total Expense	382,510.03	316,039.00	470,804.40
	\$157k less \$129,506.94K of APRA funds		341,297.46
Other Expense			
Education Taxes Remitted	791,337.68	800,000.00	800,000.00
Split Fees Remitted			
State Dog License Fees	446.00		
Marriage License Fees to State	65.00		
Total Split Fees Remitted	511.00		
Total Other Expense	791,848.68	800,000.00	800,000.00
Grand Total Expenses	1,174,358.71	1,116,039.00	1,270,804.40
Less ARPA funds for New Town Garage Fees			1,141,804.40

Highway Expenses Budget

	Jan - Dec 23	Budget 2023	Budget 2024
Income			
Highway Receipts			
HW State Aid - Class 2	54,732.58	33,000.00	47,485.69
HW State Aid - Class 3	50,579.06	32,000.00	46,805.91
HW Road Permits	245.00	100.00	200.00
Total Highway Receipts	105,556.64	65,100.00	94,491.60
Interest Receipts			
Interest - Highway Chkg Account	27.12	50.00	20.00
Total Interest Receipts	27.12	50.00	20.00
Total Income	105,583.76	65,150.00	94,511.60
Expense			
Flood 2023	75,251.22		
HW Road Maintenance			
HW Road Maint. Equip Purchased	1,604.29		2,500.00
HW Road Maint. Contracted Work	5,487.50	10,000.00	10,000.00
HW Road Maint. Equipment Rental	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
HW Road Maint. Fuel & Mileage	29,588.17	32,000.00	32,000.00
HW Road Maint. Materials			
Road Maint. - Culverts & Rails	1,890.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Road Maint. - Dust Abatement	11,061.15	15,000.00	15,000.00
Road Maint. - Gravel, Stamat	38,854.33	45,000.00	45,000.00
Road Maint. - Salt	1,293.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Road Maint. - Signs	1,018.58	500.00	1,200.00
Road Maint. - Winter Sand	23,943.00	20,000.00	25,000.00
Total HW Road Maint. Materials	78,060.06	87,000.00	92,700.00
Total HW Road Maintenance	114,740.02	133,000.00	141,200.00
HW Equipment Repair and Maint.			
HW Equip R&M Shop	10,362.76	7,000.00	7,500.00
HW Equip R&M-2015 Freight-TR1	19,699.06	6,000.00	7,500.00
HW Equip R&M-2018 Freight-TR2	8,347.51	4,000.00	7,500.00
HW Equip R&M Grader 2011	17,933.22	7,500.00	7,500.00
HW Equip R&M Loader	0.00	1,500.00	3,500.00
HW Equip R&M Trailer-Dust Abate	0.00	300.00	300.00
HW Equipment Repair and Maint. - Other	246.50		
Total HW Equipment Repair and Maint.	56,589.05	26,300.00	33,800.00
HW Dept. Administration			
HW Training	0.00	200.00	200.00
HW Licenses and Permits	1,899.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Total HW Dept. Administration	1,899.00	2,200.00	2,200.00
Insurance			
Workers' Compensation Ins.	5,884.00	5,884.00	6,500.00
Health Ins.	39,678.99	33,500.00	59,000.00
Property & Casualty Ins.	3,580.00	3,580.00	4,000.00
Total Insurance	49,142.99	42,964.00	69,500.00
Office-Operations			
Postage, Mailing Service	11.20		15.00
Supplies	91.42		500.00
Total Office-Operations	102.62		515.00

Total Highway Department	248,479.29	161,500.00	247,215.00
Payroll Expenses			
Highway Wages	93,212.03	80,500.00	100,000.00
Town Portion of Payroll Taxes			
Social Security and Medicare	7,207.21		7,500.00
Total Town Portion of Payroll Taxes	7,207.21		7,500.00
Payroll Expenses - Other	3.04		
Total Payroll Expenses	100,422.28	80,500.00	107,500.00
Total Expense	348,901.57	242,000.00	354,715.00

Capital Expenses Budget

	<u>Jan - Dec 23</u>	<u>Budget 2023</u>	<u>Budget 2024</u>
Other Income/Expense			
Other Expense			
Fixed Asset Investments			
Dexter Cemetery Fence	17,280.00	20,000.00	0.00
School Zone Flashing Beacons	0.00	3,500.00	0.00
Grader Garage Roof	1,900.00	7,000.00	0.00
Town Hall Roof	0.00	5,000.00	0.00
Total Fixed Asset Investments	<u>19,180.00</u>	<u>35,500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Loan Principal Payments			
2021 Komatsu Loader Principal	32,000.00	32,000.00	32,000.00
Total Loan Principal Payments	<u>32,000.00</u>	<u>32,000.00</u>	<u>32,000.00</u>
Interest Expenses			
2021 Komatsu Loader Interest	960.00	960.00	960.00
Total Interest Expenses	<u>960.00</u>	<u>960.00</u>	<u>960.00</u>
Highway Special Projects			
Berry Hill Paving Project	0.00	50,000.00	0.00
Total Highway Special Projects	<u>0.00</u>	<u>50,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Other Expense	<u>52,140.00</u>	<u>118,460.00</u>	<u>32,960.00</u>

Fund Balances As Of 12/31/2023

These balances are the primary source of operating funds from January through October

Operating Funds

General Fund Checking Account	348,989.48
General Operating Reserve	128,836.36
Highway Fund Checking Account	11,206.12
Records Archival Reserve Acct	3,928.84
Passumpsic Checking Account	13,024.55
Passumpsic Savings Account	17,031.46
Total Checking/Savings	523,016.81

Petty Cash	400.00
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Regulated Funds

ARPA Funds	129,506.94
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Restricted Cemetery Trust Accounts

Cemetery Lots Account	26,768.70
Ena Bickford Fund	116,665.62

Invested Accounts—2023

Funds invested with Community Financial Services Group ("CFSG")

Cemetery Accounts

Cemetery Lots (Perpetual Care) Fund. *The assets of this account are held in trust. Proceeds from the sales of cemetery lots are deposited to this account. Earnings help provide for the perpetual care of the town's cemeteries.*

01-01-23	Market value	\$25,409.63	
	Sales of lots	300.00	
	Earnings (net)	1,059.07	
12-31-23	Market value		\$26,768.70

CFSG Account

Ena Bickford Fund. *Funds in this account are trust funds established by Ena Bickford to benefit the William Dexter Cemetery. Earnings from these funds are used to help pay for maintenance of and/or improvements to the cemetery.*

01-01-23	Market value	\$101,424.82	
	Earnings (net)	2,548.57	
	Increase in value	12,692.61	
12-31-23	Market value		\$116,666.00

Vermont Wind, LLC

Investment Reconciliation—2023

01-01-23	Fund balance	\$2,619,569.91
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Income

Capital gains, dividends and interest	\$97,636.48	
Vermont Wind, LLC payments	520,000.00	
2021 Kometsu loader repayment	32,960.00	
Total Income	\$650,596.48	

Disbursements

Foreign taxes withheld	\$507.17	
Investment advisory fees	21,987.82	
Investment penalty	2,656.08	
Town of Sheffield (2023 property taxes)	141,795.46	
Town of Sheffield (to reduce 2023 municipal and highway tax rates)	204,515.24	
Total Disbursements	371,461.77	-371,461.77

Net receipts		279,134.71
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		\$2,898,704.62
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Fund appreciation		230,031.64
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12-31-23	Fund balance	\$3,128,736.26
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Account Receivable

2021 Kometsu loader loan (unpaid balance)	\$98,880.00
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Vermont Wind LLC

Supplemental Payment Information and Tax Rate Comparison Chart

Information Used to Set 2023 General (Municipal) and Highway Tax Rates

Anticipated payments to be received in 2023	\$	520,000.00
2022 property taxes assessed to Vermont Wind, LLC	\$	(151,795.46)
Supplemental payments for 2023	\$	368,204.54
Percentage Voted at 2023 Town Meeting to be Used to Reduce Tax Rates		50 %
Amount Used to Reduce Tax Rates	\$	184,102.27

Please refer to the 2023 Tax Rate Calculations

Proposed Information for Determining the Amount to be Used to Reduce 2023 Municipal (General) and Highway Tax Rates

Anticipated payments to be received in 2023	\$	520,000.00
2023 property taxes assessed to Vermont Wind, LLC	\$	(151,795.46)
Net Supplemental payments for 2024	\$	368,204.54

Please refer to Article 5 of the Town Meeting Warning

Tax Rate Comparison							
Year	Education		Town			Total	Total
	Homestead	Non-Residential	Municipal & Capital	Highway	Total	Homestead Tax Rate	Non-Residential Tax Rate
2010	1.6386	1.9497	0.4279	0.2816	0.7095	2.3481	2.6592
2011	1.6813	1.8994	0.4470	0.2964	0.7434	2.4247	2.6428
2012	1.2886	1.4032	0.0817	0.0365	0.1182	1.4068	1.5214
2013	1.2657	1.3750	0.1234	0.0753	0.1987	1.4644	1.5737
2014	1.4343	1.3905	0.0903	0.0866	0.1769	1.6112	1.5674
2015	1.6091	1.4629	0.1293	0.1044	0.2337	1.8428	1.6966
2016	1.6474	1.5048	0.0952	0.1017	0.1969	1.8443	1.7017
2017	1.6449	1.5168	0.0506	0.0390	0.0896	1.7345	1.6064
2018	1.5626	1.5613	0.0822	0.1031	0.1853	1.7479	1.7466
2019	1.5158	1.6083	0.1350	0.1435	0.2785	1.7943	1.8868
2020	1.5156	1.7288	0.1444	0.1651	0.3095	1.8251	2.0383
2021	1.5489	1.7518	0.1810	0.0585	0.2395	1.7884	1.9913
2022	1.5344	1.6610	0.1759	0.0777	0.2536	1.7880	1.9146
2023	1.4426	1.5895	0.2072	0.0918	0.3462	1.7888	1.9357

Town of Sheffield						
Loan from Town of Sheffield Wind Farm Investment Account No. 16135900055						
to the Town of Sheffield						
Loan Amount: \$160,000.00						
Interest: 3% simple \$4,800.00						
Total Paid: \$164,800.00						
Loan Date: 30-Dec-21						
Term: 5 Years						
Purpose: Purchase of 2021 Komatsu Loader						
Payment Schedule						
Payment No.	Payment Date	Principal	Interest	Total Paid	Date Paid	Balance Due
	30-Dec-21					\$164,800.00
1	30-Dec-22	\$32,000.00	\$960.00	\$32,960.00	27-Dec-22	\$131,840.00
2	30-Dec-23	\$32,000.00	\$960.00	\$32,960.00	14-Dec-23	\$98,880.00
3	30-Dec-24	\$32,000.00	\$960.00	\$32,960.00		\$65,920.00
4	30-Dec-25	\$32,000.00	\$960.00	\$32,960.00		\$32,960.00
5	30-Dec-26	\$32,000.00	\$960.00	\$32,960.00		\$0.00
TOTALS		\$160,000.00	\$4,800.00	\$164,800.00		

2023 Tax Rate Calculations

Grand List Total \$ 1,016,705.00

Total Approved Vermont Wind, LLC
Supplement to be Applied \$ 204,515.24

General (Municipal)

Approved Municipal (General) Budget \$ 320,639.00
Approved Estimated Receipts \$ (8,640.00)

Total Approved to be Raised \$ 311,999.00 Would result in tax rate of: 0.3069

42 % of Approved Vermont Wind, LLC
Supplement to be Applied \$ 85,896.40

Surplus to be Applied \$ 15,434.75

Amount to be Raised by Taxes \$ 210,667.85

General (Municipal) Tax Rate \$ 0.2072
(Amount to be Raised Divided by Grand List Total) Tax rate reduction of: 0.0997

Equipment, Buildings and Land (Municipal)

Approved Equipment, Buildings & Land Budget \$ 68,460.00
Approved Estimated Receipts \$ -

Total Approved to be Raised \$ 68,460.00 Would result in tax rate of: 0.0673

10 % of Approved Vermont Wind, LLC
Supplement to be Applied \$ 20,451.52

Surplus to be Applied \$ -

Amount to be Raised by Taxes \$ 48,008.48

Equipment, Buildings and Land (Municipal) Tax
Rate \$ 0.0472
(Amount to be Raised Divided by Grand List Total) Tax rate reduction of: 0.0201

Highway

Approved Highway Budget \$ 291,164.00
Approved Estimated Receipts \$ (65,150.00)

Total Approved to be Raised \$ 226,014.00 Would result in tax rate of: 0.2223

48 % of Approved Vermont Wind, LLC
Supplement to be Applied \$ 98,167.32

Surplus to be Applied \$ 34,501.42

Amount to be Raised by Taxes \$ 93,345.26

Highway Tax Rate \$ 0.0918
(Amount to be Raised Divided by Grand List Total) Tax rate reduction of: 0.1305

Total Combined Municipal and Highway Rates \$ 0.3462
Total tax rate reduction of: 0.2503

Education Tax Rates
Provided by the VT Dept. of Taxes

Homestead \$ 1.4426 0.0145 Decrease

Non-Residential \$ 1.5895 0.0908 Decrease

Total Combined Homestead Tax Rate \$ 1.7888 0.0004 Decrease

Total Combined Non-Residential Tax Rate \$ 1.9357 0.1675 Decrease

Calculation of Tax Rates before and after Application of Wind Farm payment as voted on at 2023 Town Meeting for 2023 Property Taxes.

	Tax Rate Based on Approved Budget	Actual Tax Rate after Wind Farm money and 2022 surplus
General	0.3069	0.2072
Highway	0.0673	0.0472
Capital	0.2223	0.0918
Total	0.5965	0.3462

Note: This table is for the Town of Sheffield taxes only. The tax rate does not include the Vermont Education tax.

Examples of Difference in Tax Calculation for Properties with Differing Assessments

Property Valuation	Tax Based on Approved Budget	Actual Tax owed after Wind Farm and surplus	Amount of Tax Reduction
\$80,000	\$477.20	\$276.96	\$200.24
\$175,000	\$1,043.88	\$605.85	\$438.03
\$250,000	\$1,491.25	\$865.50	\$625.75
\$350,000	\$2,087.75	\$1,211.70	\$876.05
\$500,000	\$2,982.50	\$1,731.00	\$1,251.50

See the 2023 Tax Rate Calculations page in this report for how the tax rate is figured.

Statement of Delinquent Taxes
Pursuant to 32 VSA §§5162, 5263
December 31, 2023

Real Estate

Year	Delinquent Tax Total Due on 01-01-	Interest Charged	Penalty Charged	Abatements During 2022	12/31/2022 Balance
2019	68.79	12.42	5.51	-	86.72
2020	319.97	92.22	25.44	-	437.63
2021	1,027.21	156.36	82.18	-	1,265.75
2022	9,312.09	234.47	388.61	-	9,935.17
Total	10,728.06	495.47	501.74	-	11,725.27
Received for					
Collection					
2023	31,279.12	Interest Charged 302.37	Penalties 2,418.66	Abatements -	12/31/2022 Balance \$34,000.15

Total Balance Outstanding 2019-2023 57,450.69

Total Collections Remitted to Treasurer

By: _____
Collector of Delinquent Taxes

State of Vermont
County of Caledonia
Certified and sworn under oath before me, this 4th day of January 2024
Notary Public. My commission expires _____.

Wage, Salary and Stipend Report January to December 2023

Name	Job / Office	Base Pay Rate	Gross for Year	Health Insurance
Max Aldrich	Road Foreman	\$28.00 per Hour	58,240.00	23,869.20
	Select Board	\$1,000.00 Annual	1,000.00	-
Dennis Newland	Road Crew	\$23.00 per Hour	-	-
Chuck Dill	Road Crew	\$21.00 per Hour	-	-
Kurt Haselton	Road Crew	\$22.00 per Hour	45,760.00	28,039.68
Erika Lavallee	Town Clerk & Treasurer	\$22.00 per Hour	19,287.00	-
Kathy Newland	Asst. Town Clerk & Treasurer	\$17.50 per Hour	1,123.75	-
Felicia Bedor	Asst. Town Clerk & Treasurer	\$19.00 per Hour	21,216.00	-
Jim Blackbird	Transfer Station	\$18.50 per Hour	7,544.00	-
Alexis DeGreenia	Transfer Station	\$18.00 per Hour	7,640.00	
Nancy Blackbird	Transfer Station	\$16.00 per Hour	144.00	
Cindy Roy	Select Board	\$1,000.00 Annual	1,000.00	-
Sarah Warner	Auditor	\$800.00 Annual	800.00	-
Magon Lindgren	Auditor	\$800.00 Annual	800.00	-
Vanessa Aguilera	Auditor	\$800.00 Annual	800.00	-
Patrick Ham	Moderator	\$100.00 per Meeting	100.00	-
Barbara Bristol	Justice of the Peace	\$20.00 per Meeting	40.00	
Gay Ellis	Justice of the Peace	\$20.00 per Meeting	40.00	
Kathy Newland	Justice of the Peace	\$20.00 per Meeting	40.00	
Sally Wood-Simons	Justice of the Peace	\$20.00 per Meeting	40.00	
Combined Total Payroll		165,614.75		
Total Stipends				
Combined Total		165,614.75		
Combined Total Health Insurance				51,908.88

SHEFFIELD CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
2023 Financial Statement

Date	Description	Amount	Amount	Cash Balance
01-01-23	Balance on hand (checking account)			\$106.32
	Receipts			
	2023 Town of Sheffield budget			11,000.00
Cemetery	Disbursements			
Baptist	Maintenance, mowing and trimming		\$2,400.00	
Cass	Maintenance, mowing and trimming		500.00	
Dexter	Maintenance, mowing and trimming		6,522.21	
Ingalls			0.00	
UnionHse	Mowing and trimming		125.00	
			<u>\$9,547.21</u>	-9,547.21
12-31-23	Balance on hand (checking account)			\$1,559.11

Town of Sheffield, Vermont
Chartered 1793

Statement of the Auditors
Town of Sheffield, VT

In accordance with the Vermont Statutes Annotated Title 24, Section 1681, we, the Auditors of the Town of Sheffield, Vermont have examined the preceding accounts and financial records of the Town of Sheffield, Vermont. To the best of our knowledge, the financial statements and financial reports of the Town of Sheffield contained therein show the financial activity position of the Town of Sheffield for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023.

Auditors

Sarah Warner 1/20/24

Sarah Warner

Date

Magon Lindgren 1/20/24

Magon Lindgren

Date

Vanessa J. Aguilera 1/20/24

Vanessa Aguilera

Date

Town of Sheffield, Vermont
2023 Annual Town Meeting
Sheffield Municipal Building- Outside
May 16, 2023, 10:00 AM

Thirty Six (36) legal voters of Sheffield, assembled outside the Sheffield Municipal Building for the 2023 Sheffield Town Meeting. Patrick Ham called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. The preamble of the 2023 warning was read with the following business being transacted.

The people in attendance stood and spoke the Pledge of Allegiance.

Article 1. To elect a moderator for the May 16, 2023, Sheffield Town Meeting.

The gavel was turned over to William St. Peter as Town Clerk to proceed with the election of a Town Moderator for the May 16, 2023, Town Meeting. Biff Mahoney nominated Patrick Ham for Moderator, seconded by Erik Lavallee. Hearing no further nominations. Patrick Ham was elected Moderator for the 2023 Town Meeting by voice vote.

Article 2. To elect other town officers necessary to fill any vacancies, including the following:

a. Town Clerk and Treasurer for a term of three (3) years by paper ballot

William St. Peter nominated Erika Lavallee for Town Clerk and Treasurer, seconded by Max Aldrich. Lindsay Miller nominated Makayla Wright for Town Clerk and Treasurer, seconded by Richard Rowell. Hearing no further nominations, Patrick Ham made the announcement to have a written floor vote for Erika Lavallee and Makayla Wright. The current selectboard counted the votes. The majority of the votes (27 to 4) were cast for Erika Lavallee. Patrick Ham announced that Erika Lavallee was elected as Town Clerk and Treasurer for a three (3) year term.

b. Selectman for a term of three (3) years

Max Aldrich nominated Walter Smith, seconded by Al Robertson. Hearing no further nominations, Erik Lavallee made the motion to have the clerk cast one ballot for Walter Smith, seconded by Al Robertson. Passed by voice vote, the Clerk cast one ballot for Walter Smith who was elected Selectman for a term of three (3) years.

c. Lister for a term of three (3) years

William St. Peter nominated Rebecca Wilder for lister, seconded by Beverly Frost. Hearing no further nominations, Walter Smith made the motion to have the clerk cast one ballot for Rebecca Wilder, seconded by Al Robertson. Passed by voice vote, the Clerk cast one ballot for Rebecca Wilder who was elected Lister for a term of three (3) years.

d. Lister for a term of one (1) year

Was added to the warning in error and William passed over the article.

e. Auditor for a term of three (3) years

Erika Lavallee nominated Magon Lindgren as auditor, seconded by Lindsay Miller. With no further nominations, Al Robertson made the motion for the Clerk to cast one ballot for Magon Lindgren for

auditor, seconded by Max Aldrich. Magon Lindgren was elected as Auditor for a term of three (3) years.

f. Auditor for a term of two (2) years

Erika Lavallee nominated Vanessa Aguilera as auditor, seconded by Cindy Roy. With no further nominations, Biff Mahoney made the motion for the Clerk to cast one ballot for Vanessa Aguilera for auditor, seconded by Walter Smith. Vanessa Aguilera was elected as Auditor for a term of two (2) years.

g. Auditor for a term of one (1) year

Erika Lavallee nominated Sarah Warner as auditor, seconded by Al Robertson. With no further nominations, Erik Lavallee made the motion for the Clerk to cast one ballot for Sarah Warner for auditor, seconded by Al Robertson. Sarah Warner was elected as Auditor for a term of one (1) year.

h. Constable for the ensuing year

Susan Bartlett nominated Erika Lavallee as Constable, seconded by Sara Ford. With no further nominations. Erika Lavallee was elected as Constable for a term of one year.

i. Town agent for the ensuing year

William St. Peter nominated Erika Lavallee for Town Agent seconded by Susan Bartlett. With no further nominations for this seat, Erika Lavallee was elected by voice vote for Town agent for a term of one year.

j. Agent to convey real estate for the ensuing year

Biff Mahoney nominated the Selectboard for this Agent seconded by Beverly Frost. With no further nominations for this seat, the Selectboard was elected by voice vote for Agent for a term of one year.

k. Trustee of public funds for ensuing year

Biff Mahoney nominated the Selectboard for this Trustee seconded by Erik Lavallee. With no further nominations for this seat, the Selectboard was elected by voice vote as Trustee for a term of one year.

l. Sexton for the ensuing year

Maureen Aldrich nominated John Roy for the Sexton position, seconded by Walter Smith. With no further nominations for this position John Roy was elected by voice vote as Sexton for a term of one year.

m. Two (2) Planning Commissioners for a term of three (3) years

Al Robertson nominated Francis Hersey for Planning Commissioner, seconded by Susan Bartlett. Without any further nominations Francis Hersey was elected by voice vote as Planning Commissioner for a term of three (3) years. Al Robertson nominated Keith Ballek for Planning Commissioner, seconded by Biff Mahoney. Without any further nominations Keith Ballek was elected by voice vote as Planning Commissioner for a term of three (3) years. Bobbie Bristol nominated Carolyn Crankshaw to replace Jessica Brinkerhoff as Planning Commissioner, who resigned this year, seconded by Al Robertson. Without any further nominations Carolyn Crankshaw was elected by voice vote as Planning Commissioner for a term of two (2) years.

Article 3. To see if the Town will accept the reports of the Town officers.

Al Robertson made the motion to accept the reports of the Town Officers, seconded by Erik Lavallee. Hearing no further discussion, Article 2 passed by voice vote.

Article 4. To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$6,418.00 to help support the following organizations:

Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice	1,100.00
Cobleigh Public Library	850.00
Community Restorative Justice Center	500.00
Lyndon Youth Baseball and Softball	400.00
NEK Council on Aging	330.00
Northeast Kingdom Human Services	738.00
Rural Community Transportation	1,000.00
Umbrella	500.00
Village Improvement Society/ Powers Park	1,000.00

Kathy Newland made the motion to accept Article 4 as written, seconded by Erik Lavallee.
Bobbie Bristol asked to get the Fairbanks Museum included in next year's appropriations list.
Article 4 passed as written by voice vote.

Article 5. a. Shall the Town apply a portion of the supplemental payments received in 2022 from Vermont Wind, LLC, as calculated in the Vermont Wind, LLC Supplemental Payment Information page included in this Report, to pay the Town's general and highway expenses thereby reducing the property tax rate for taxpayers of the Town?
Al Robertson made the motion to accept Article 5 (a) as written, seconded by Biff Mahoney.
Article 5(a) passed by voice vote.

b. If the vote on Article 5a. is affirmative, what shall the amount of such portion be, with the remainder being deposited into the Vermont Wind, LLC Fund, which was established at the 2012 Town Meeting?
Al Robertson made the motion to use fifty percent (50%) of the noted funds to reduce tax and fifty percent (50%) to be put into the investment fund, seconded by Biff Mahoney.
Article 5 (b) passed by voice vote.

Article 6. To see if the Town will give the Sheffield Select Board the authority to obligate/use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the construction and installation of a solar array and a TESLA wall battery backup at the Sheffield Municipal Building after application of grant funds

Al Robertson made the motion to accept Article 6 as written, seconded by Lindsay Miller. Article 6 passed by voice vote.

Article 7. To see if the Town will give the Selectboard the authority to obligate/use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the design and land preparation for the construction of a five (5) bay Highway garage with associated Highway office, storage and maintenance rooms, after application of grant funds.

Al Robertson made the motion to accept Article 7 as written, seconded by Biff Mahoney. Al Robertson then made a motion to amend the article to the following,

To see if the Town will give the Selectboard the authority to obligate/use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the design and land preparation for the construction of a five (5) bay Highway garage with associated Highway office, storage and maintenance rooms, and for the study, to include draft site floor layouts, energy efficiency improvements in coordination with Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services for applications for the MERP Grant Program, and

construction cost estimates, for the highway garage building, the current Municipal Building, and the future Town Offices/Town Hall building after application of grant funds.

Seconded by Biff Mahoney. Article 7 and the amendment passed by voice vote.

Article 8. To see if the Town will authorize the expenditure of \$5,000.00 for the design and launch of a new website for the Town of Sheffield.

William St. Peter made the motion to approve the new website for the Town of Sheffield, seconded by Al Robertson. Article 8 passed by voice vote as written.

Article 9. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to apply any surplus accumulated during the year 2022 in general checking account to defray town general expenses during 2023.

Biff Mahoney made the motion to accept Article 9 as written, seconded by Al Robertson. Article 9 passed by voice vote.

Article 10. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to apply any surplus accumulated during the year 2022 in the highway checking account to defray town highway expenses during 2023.

Biff Mahoney motioned for the article to pass as written, seconded by Erik Lavallee. Article 10 passed by voice vote.

Article 11. To see if the Town will approve the proposed general, highway, land, equipment, and buildings (capital) budgets in the combined amount of \$680,263.00 for general use and maintenance of Town Highways.

Biff Mahoney motioned for the article to pass as written, seconded by Erik Lavallee. Article 11 passed by voice vote.

Article 12. To see if the Town will have real and personal property taxes paid to the Treasurer and set the due date of Friday, November 03, 2023.

Biff Mahoney motioned for the article to pass as written, seconded by Erik Lavallee. Article 12 passed by voice vote.

Article 13. To transact any other business that may properly come before this meeting.

Annie McLean asked to make the appropriation process easier. Stating that maybe appropriations not requiring a petition, maybe a letter and a representative from the organization at the meeting, or maybe a petition and letter the first year, followed by only a letter in following years.

Walter Smith called the motion on Article 13, seconded by Erik Lavallee.

Article 14. To adjourn the meeting.

Biff Mahoney moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Megan Pierce. Article 14 passed by voice vote. The Sheffield Town Meeting adjourned at 12:15pm

Dated at Sheffield, Caledonia County, Vermont this 24th day of May 2023

Respectfully Submitted,

Felicia Bedor

Felicia Bedor

Assistant Town Clerk and Assistant Treasurer

Patrick Ham

Patrick Ham

Moderator

Barbara K. Bristol

Barbara Bristol

Justice of the Peace

Kathy Newland

Kathy Newland

Justice of the Peace



Sheffield – Wheelock Fire Department

P.O. Box 161 -Sheffield, VT. 05866

SheffieldWheelockFire@Gmail.com

(802)626-8862

To our Supporters,

In 2023 we responded to a total of **91** calls for service. These calls consisted of 30 motor vehicle accidents, 29 medical/lifts assists, 7 Fires, 7 alarm activations/investigations, 3 hazardous materials incidents, 4 power line incidents, 3 agency assists, 2 remote rescues and 6 mutual aid fire calls. Total calls are up more than 50% over last year and looking back over the past 5 years our annual calls have close to tripled.

In 2023 we took delivery of our new to us rescue pumper to replace our old engine 24. This truck not only serves as a fully equipped first due pumper with 1000 gallons of onboard water but also holds a full complement of extrication equipment and hazardous materials response supplies. Housed in the Sheffield Station this serves as the first due Engine to all calls in Sheffield as well as being first due for all motor vehicle and Hazmat related incidents.

This year we welcomed a few new members to the department. These individuals spent much of the year getting acquainted with the fire service as well as our department procedures while completing their probationary period. I'm happy to report that these members have completed their probationary period and are proving to be valuable assets to the department. As of today we have 16 active members on our roster and hope to continue the trend of adding to this number. We continue to focus on training both in house as well as regional fire schools and hope to have at least 4 of our newest members enrolled in the next available Vermont Fire Academy's Firefighter 1 class.

This year, for the first time since 2020, we are requesting a slight increase in our appropriations. This is mainly due to an increase in dispatching fees which is directly related to the amount of calls we are dispatched to per year. That said, the additional call volume also adds additional wear and tear on equipment and increases use of supplies. We take great pride in always having our supporter's best interest in mind and we would not be asking for this increase if we did not feel it was absolutely necessary.

Finally, I would like to personally thank all of the members of this department for their hard work and dedication over the past year. As we become busier as a department we continue to ask more of our membership and I couldn't be happier to say that these men and women have proved up to the task. I am very proud of this group of individuals and cannot thank them enough for all they do.

Thank you all for your continued support of this department and as always, please consider becoming a member.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shane C. Lanpher".

Shane C. Lanpher
Chief / President

SHEFFIELD-WHEELOCK FIRE DEPARTMENT

2023 BUDGET COMPARISON

(budget tools are for both towns combined)

Description	2023 Budget vs. Actual	2024 Proposed
Workers Comp.	1,600 1,321.00	1,600
Dispatch	4,250 4,368.16	5,500
Insurance	5,250 5,654.00	5,250
Veh. Maint. & Repairs	5,900 9,279.22	5,900
Equipment Repairs	2,250 1,012.38	2,250
Radio / Pager	2,250 1,304.22	2,250
Training	1,500 1,415.00	1,500
Personal Equipment	6,250 13,305.33 *	6,250
New Equipment	2,300 2,922.76	2,300
General	3,250 2,594.13	3,250
SCBA Bottle Fund (New for 2023)	1,200 0 **	1,200
Capital Equipment Purchases / Other	0 11,764.80 ***	
Total	54,941	
Grants, Donations, Fundraising	13,720.71	
Budget	36,000	37,250

* Includes 2 sets purchased and backordered from 2022 received in 2023

** New account being created to hold these funds, Transfer to happen in January

***Purchase of new SCBA bottles using ARPA funds

We are requesting an appropriation of **\$18,625** from each town for budgeted costs.

We are again requesting **\$9,700.00** from both towns for our truck replacement fund.

Transfer Station Budget

	Actual 2023	Budget 2023	Budget 2024
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Roof Replacement	2,592.70	0.00	
Bulky Item Reimbursement	0.00	0.00	
Town Appropriations-Operations			
Sheffield Appropriation	22,150.00	22,150.00	18879.19
Wheelock Appropriation	22,150.00	22,150.00	18879.19
Total Town Appropriations-Operations	44,300.00	44,300.00	37758.38
Interest Income	6.28	5.00	5.00
Trash Bag Sales	43,609.96	37,000.00	40000.00
Income from Recycled Metals	1,858.10	2,000.00	2000.00
Previous Year's Surplus	0.00	0.00	8096.62
Total Income	92,367.04	83,305.00	87860.00
Expense			
Imprinted Trash Bags	15,429.75	15,500.00	5000.00
Imprinted Windshield Stickers	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hauling Fees			
Trash (Compactor) Hauling	10,221.31	7,800.00	12000.00
Open-Top (Demolition) Hauling	4,712.10	5,000.00	6000.00
Recycling Pickup Fees	2,548.00	3,500.00	3500.00
Bulky Hauling	1,726.75	3,000.00	3000.00
Total Hauling Fees	19,208.16	19,300.00	24500.00
Disposal (Tipping) Fees			
Trash (Compactor) Disposal	26,253.07	24,000.00	30000.00
Open Top (Demolition) Disposal	8,050.21	8,500.00	9000.00
Compost Recycling Tote Fees	1,020.00	1,500.00	1500.00
Bulky Disposal	476.43	1,200.00	1200.00
Total Disposal (Tipping) Fees	35,799.71	35,200.00	41700.00
NEKWMD Surcharges	8,740.91	8,500.00	10500.00
Operations			
Office Supplies	22.77	0.00	100.00
Bank Service Charges	0.00	0.00	
Electric	986.06	900.00	1100.00
Heating Fuel	1,854.01	2,850.00	2850.00
Porta Toilet	110.00	55.00	110.00
Postage and Shipping	0.00	0.00	0.00
Repairs and Maintenance	1,388.61	1,000.00	2000.00
Telephone	0.00	0.00	
Operations - Other	7.52		
Total Operations	4,368.97	4,805.00	6160.00
Total Expense	83,547.50	83,305.00	87860.00
Net Income	8,819.54	0.00	0.00

Sheffield/ Wheelock Transfer Station

Joint Statement of the Auditors

Town of Sheffield, VT

In accordance with the Vermont Statutes Annotated Title 24, Section 1681, we, the Auditors of the Town of Sheffield, Vermont have examined the preceding accounts and financial records of the Sheffield/ Wheelock Transfer Station. To the best of our knowledge, the financial statements and financial reports of the Sheffield/ Wheelock Transfer Station contained therein show the financial activity position of the Sheffield/ Wheelock Transfer Station for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, *with the exception of the unaudited budget line for trash bag sales.*

Auditors

Sarah Warner 1/20/24

Sarah Warner

Date

Sheffield

Magon Lindgren 1/20/24

Magon Lindgren

Date

Sheffield

Vanessa Aguilera 1/20/24

Vanessa Aguilera

Date

Sheffield

SW-KD EDUCATIONAL TRUST

The Keniston and Dane Educational Fund was established in 1964 by Marion K. Dane and Harry A. Keniston to benefit qualified college students as well as qualified endeavors at Miller's Run School. In 2021, the Fund was transferred to the Towns of Sheffield and Wheelock and named the SW-KD Educational Trust. The Trust will maintain and continue the endeavors of the Fund.

Annual Report Year 2023

	Basis	Market Value
Invested assets as of December 31, 2023	\$1,073,333.44	\$1,262,222.33
Distributions to beneficiaries in 2023		\$52,219.00

The following **college students** received distributions from the Fund during 2023.

From Sheffield: Alexis DeGreenia. **From Wheelock:** Alexis M. Duranleau, Elizabeth M. Duranleau, Madison R. Duranleau, Wisteria G. Franklin, Eli W. Hooker, Nicolas J. Lasseigne, Asa T. Rexford, Julian D. Stahler and Gavin R. Williams.

The eighth grade at **Miller's Run School** received matching funds during 2022.

Town of Sheffield, Vermont

Chartered 1793

Statement of the Auditors

SW-KD EDUCATIONAL TRUST

In accordance with the Vermont Statutes Annotated Title 24, Section 1681, we, the Auditors of the Town of Sheffield, Vermont have examined the financial account of the SW-KD EDUCATIONAL TRUST of the Towns of Sheffield and Wheelock, Vermont. To the best of our knowledge, the financial statements and financial reports of the SW-KD EDUCATIONAL TRUST contained therein show the financial activity position of the SW-KD EDUCATIONAL TRUST for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023.

Auditors

Sarah Warner 1/20/24

Sarah Warner

Date

Magon Lindgren 1/20/24

Magon Lindgren

Date

Vanessa Aguilera 1/20/24

Vanessa Aguilera

Date

SHEFFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2023 Annual Report

The Sheffield Historical Society is a 501(c) (3) not for Profit Corporation established in 1992. Current Board of nine directors: Becky Martin, President; Francie Vos, Vice President; Becky Martin, Secretary; Ed Richardson, Treasurer; Margret Martin, Curator, Beverly Frost, Betty Burt, Harold Burt, Gretchen Fadden, and Patty Baker.

Our Mission statement reads:

The purpose of the society shall be charitable, historical and antiquarian work and research; the collection, acquisition, preservation and exhibition of books, manuscripts, pamphlets, genealogical information, works of art, and other articles of historical, cultural and antiquarian interest, the publication of books, periodicals, tracts and pamphlets devoted to or treating historical, antiquarian and genealogical subjects. Subjects considered for acquisition and research shall include but not limited to the material, agricultural, industrial, civil, political, literary, ecclesiastical, genealogical and military history of the community of Sheffield, Vermont.

The Sheffield Historical Society had their annual meeting in June 10th, 2023. Each weekend from Memorial Day through Labor Day weekend, Sheffield Field day the historical building on the hill can be open by appointment. Tours may be conducted by Francie V, Ed Richardson or Beck Martin. Contact the Town Treasurer or one of the ones above to schedule an appointment.

Respectfully submitted, Ed Richardson Treasurer



(see next page)

Tribute to Mabel Whitcomb

In Honor of Mabel Whitcomb as Sheffield's oldest resident – 2023

□

**Mabel, your life goes back a long ways
This Historical Society Honor is to give you kudos and praise.
The strength shown by your life's journey is one of a kind
That shows the Grace of God, for you and us all, to keep in mind.**

**I remember from those years of long ago that you and my mom
Were good friends as our little neighborhood began to grow.
Dora M., your mom and your siblings everyone got to know
There was Maggy, Dot, Doris, and Raymond, a family glow.**

**The neighborhood back then was not the same as now
We visited, had 8 party lines, neighborly chats and maybe a cow,
Travel was not the same, not many cars as today
We walked, went by horses, sleds, toboggans or sleigh.**

**I know short term memories sometimes go amiss
But our long term memories are like an unforgotten kiss.
The Bickford School was nearby, just up Duck Pond Road
Adults and our children all attended there, a healthy walk even in the cold.**

**My memory includes stories about my mom and you
See how time has flown, I'm sure you remember, too.
They are about carriages of Nancy and I up and down Rte 122
Sky could be gray or blue for each, my mom and you.**

**The neighbors of old, the Guide-Board, but some memories we screen
There was Clarence and Emma with Junior, Marvel, Muriel, and Marlene.
Dale and Mary in the Oney Simpson's house up Duck Pond Road,
The Moffets, the Eastmans and with all, a good conduct code.**

**The Simpson's home which was across from the Ashes below you
The Maynards were not far away, where the Newland house is today.
The Federated Village Church was where many Sheffield folks would worship
These gatherings were where we learned God's sin payment and His Lordship.**

**What a peaceful life in Sheffield we all seemed to have, for which we are thankful
The friends we made and the time God has given, and other things we are grateful
So Mabel as you remember the history of your past, we honor you as first class.**

**Becky Martin
Vice President**

**Frances Hersey-Vos
Treasurer-writer**

Ed Richardson President/Secretary

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.

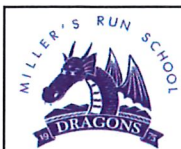
Having served with the department for 18 years I will continue to make my best effort to serve all of you in this wonderful community whether you live, work, play or raise a family. I am always available for any questions or comments here at the office and feel free to visit our Facebook page as well.

Respectfully;

James Hemond

Caledonia County Sheriff





Miller's Run School

Patrick Ham, Principal



Inspiring Growth in Arts and Academics: Using the University of Florida Literacy Institute (UFLI) for core instruction and Literacy Footprints for intervention, we have seen great improvements in students' reading. In math, we use Bridges (K-5) and Open Up Resources (6-8). We have weekly classes in guidance, PE, art, music, technology/library skills, and grades 3-8 have Chinese language and culture. Students in grades 3-8 participate in instrumental music programs.

Growing Engaged Citizens: Our student council organizes and runs Positive Behaviors Interventions and Supports (PBIS) school-wide assemblies. These students gave speeches to demonstrate why they should be on the council, and the student body votes on whom they think should represent them. This practical expression of democracy is further developed in grades 5 and 7 who learn about Town Meeting and how to be involved in our local communities.

Cultivating a Collaborative and Cooperative Community: The Friends of Miller's Run (PTO) meets monthly to share ideas and to support the students by helping to fund special projects such as our first soccer goals, special 3rd/4th grade basketball hoops, and snacks for the winter activities program. They raise money through fall plant sales, as well as seed sales in the winter. Feel free to join them on the second Monday of each month. To support the community garden, our middle school students maintain the composting program for our food wastes. The community garden then raises vegetables that are free to senior citizens and available to others by donation.

Daring to Dream Big: 2023 brought us our first Nordic ski team! We had field trips to Tree Corners campground, the Echo Center with a history cruise on Lake Champlain, and 8th grade went to Washington, DC. Students participated in Girls on the Run, both locally and at the state level. We hosted a KESD soccer team, our students built bridges for an engineering competition, we had book fairs, enjoyed an amazing costume parade, and our fall concert was packed and enjoyed by all. Our monthly assemblies recognized every student, through the course of the year, with a focus on academic growth and character development.

In 2024, we have plans for our regular Winter Activities program. Our 6th & 8th graders are scheduled to be trained in CPR and First Aid. We look forward to the Dragon Strings Concert and our annual Author's Night.

Physical plant: Our playground was damaged in the July floods. We look forward to it being repaired so we can fully access our outdoor recess areas soon.

We continue to need sidewalks and sidewalk repairs for safety in our parking lot.

In the future, we will need to update the windows in the "original" wing of the building.

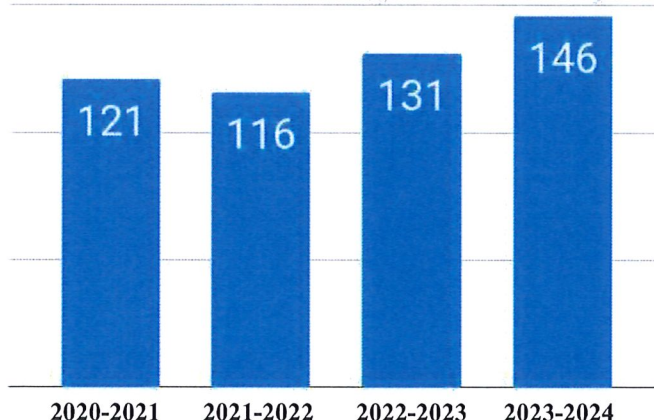


At Miller's Run School, our vision is for every student to thrive by having the opportunity daily to acquire the skills and to have the experiences they need to be successful and to pursue their dreams.

We look forward to continuing this mission in 2024 and beyond!

Grades: PreK-8
Classroom Teachers: 11
Special Educators: 2
Support Staff: 7
Students PreK-8: 146

Enrollment Trends (As of 10/1/23)



Kingdom East School Board Report

Kingdom East School District Community,

We greatly appreciate your continued support of all of our KESD schools! We exist to provide rigorous and engaging learning across a variety of environments to ensure the academic and social-emotional growth of ALL KESD students. In addition, we continue to focus on attracting and retaining high-quality staff to contribute to the growth of our students, and the vibrancy of our schools and communities. The KESD School Board is thankful for the heroic efforts of staff, parents and students to make our schools caring places that foster and support the character development and strong social and emotional health of our students.

Specifically, the KESD School Board would like to express our gratitude to Lyndon Town School Principal Amy Gale and Lunenburg School Principal Cheryl McVetty for their amazing contributions to their schools, communities and our district, as they plan for their upcoming retirements. With gratitude and appreciation, we wish Amy and Cheryl the very best in their well-deserved retirement!

Here are a few highlighted successes and continuous work with KESD's Strategic Priorities:

Quality & Robust Academics

- Art, music, technology, and world language in all schools
- iReady data system to track student progress in literacy and math

Character Development & Social-Emotional Health

- Anti-bullying, Experiential, Athletics, Afterschool & Summer programs in all schools

Community Connections

- Ongoing strong partnerships with Kingdom Trails, Village Sports Shop, Burke Mountain, Lyndon Outing Club and Vermont Rural Education Collaborative (VREC) to provide healthy, engaging learning opportunities for all students

Effective & Efficient Management of Resources

- Ad Hoc Facilities committee working on comprehensive facilities plan across all schools
- Staff Recruitment and Retention Team working on attracting and retaining high-quality staff

This report highlights our district programs, individual schools, and all of the details of the Board's proposed FY25 budget of **\$49,201,455**. Act 127, new legislation created to better support rural districts like KESD, provides an opportunity for the district to receive greater financial support from the Vermont State Education Fund. While budget development has been challenging due to a new method of counting students under Act 127, coupled with decreasing Common Level of Appraisals (CLAs), the proposed budget also offers an opportunity to continue to support students with the resources needed to meet our strategic priority of providing robust academics for ALL students.

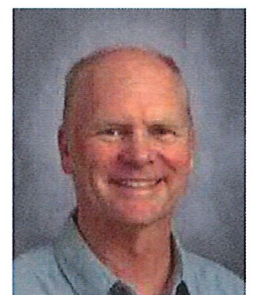
Every policy, decision, and strategy considers our students, staff, and community following the KESD mission statement that guides our efforts:

"In partnership with the community, staff, and students, the Kingdom East School District is committed to providing a collaborative and equitable environment of educational excellence through rigorous learning experiences that develop individual and diverse talents and abilities of all our students to prepare them for successful lives as contributing, responsible citizens."

On behalf of our entire team of board members, we thank you for your commitment to the Kingdom East School District and we look forward to serving the needs of our students and community now and into the future.



Cynthia Stuart
School Board Chair



Sean McMannon
Superintendent of Schools

Lyndon Rescue, Inc.
114 Vail Drive
P O Box 401
Lyndonville VT 05851-0401



Office: 802.626.1101
Crew: 802.626.4337
FAX: 802.626.8637
www.lyndonrescue.net
*In an emergency, Dial **9-1-1***

"CARING FOR THE KINGDOM"

Town of Sheffield,

In September 2023, Jillian McLaughlin stepped down from being the Director of Operations for Lyndon Rescue. We appreciate her dedicated years of service in leadership and are appreciative of her efforts to keep Lyndon Rescue a prosperous service. The Board of Directors hired Anthony Skelton to become the Director of Operations. Anthony is no stranger to Lyndon Rescue and has been with the organization in some capacity since 2006.

In 2023 we had 1,590 incidents which was lower than 2022 which had 1,516 incidents. Of these incidents, 892 were 911 transports and 201 were inter-facility transfers. That means that approximately 28% of our call volume resulted in no one being transported. These non-transports are the result of various types of calls, including lift assists, vehicle crashes with no injuries, and operational standby events, such as structure fires or law enforcement support.

In addition to responding to 911 calls, we continued to provide EMS coverage for events such as sports games and large gathering events, such as mountain biking events, races, and more. We offer child car seat inspections by appointment at our station with our three nationally certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians. Our American Heart Association CPR Instructors taught CPR and First Aid courses out in the community to daycares, businesses, and healthcare providers. Anyone interested in becoming CPR or First Aid certified can contact us for more information on course options.

In a challenging economy, paying adequate wages for professional staff is essential for recruitment and retention. Therefore, the Board of Directors took this to heart and approved a pay increase for current employees. We have also paid off our final ambulance loan in 2024. We are continuing to add a reasonable amount to our ambulance fund to offset the cost of a new ambulance, which now can exceed \$200,000. Additionally, we have discussed a proposal with Vermont State University to purchase our current building from the University and are actively working on a plan to expand the current building to accommodate all our vehicles. In the meantime, we are extremely grateful to the Town of Lyndon for the use of their Public Safety facility in housing one of our ambulances.

We want to thank all the residents of our member towns for their continued support as we navigate the challenges that Emergency Medical Services are experiencing, with lower federal insurance reimbursement rates and skyrocketing costs of equipment and supplies. When preparing our 2024 budget, we took a hard look at our finances and built what we believe to be an equitable and responsible budget to serve our communities in the coming year. The amount requested from all nine of the towns where Lyndon Rescue provides ambulance services increased by 4.1% for 2024. The amount in 2023 from Sheffield was \$31,323.02 and the amount in 2024 is \$32,603.21.

Your representative on our Board of Directors is: Robert Blodgett
Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Skelton'.

Anthony Skelton, NREMT - Lyndon Rescue Director of Operations

**A Non-Profit Ambulance Company serving the communities of: Burke, East Haven, Granby, Kirby,
Lyndon, Newark, Sheffield, Sutton, and Wheelock**

Lyndon Rescue Inc. 2024 Budget

Expense Summary		FY 2023	FY 2024	Percent Change	Per Capita - 2023
Operations Expenses		\$740,555.78	\$781,775.45	5.6%	\$45.93
Administration Expenses		\$230,243.13	\$249,187.98	8.2%	
Facilities Expenses		\$21,020.00	\$36,050.00	71.5%	
Vehicle Expenses		\$135,056.68	\$91,550.00	-32.2%	
CPR, First Aid and Education Expenses		\$6,450.00	\$6,450.00	0.0%	\$47.81
Administration - Billing Expenses		\$29,355.07	\$28,718.26	-2.2%	
Administration - Billing Facility Expenses		\$600.00	\$600.00	0.0%	
Total Expenses		\$1,163,280.66	\$1,194,331.69	2.7%	
Income					
		\$676,350.00	\$687,500.00	1.6%	
Net Revenue		-\$486,930.66	-\$506,831.69	4.1%	
Town - Lyndon		\$252,191.68	\$262,498.85	4.1%	
Town - Burke		\$75,827.44	\$78,926.53	4.1%	
Town - Sheffield		\$31,323.02	\$32,603.21	4.1%	
Town - Wheelock		\$34,859.50	\$36,284.22	4.1%	
Town - Granby		\$321.50	\$334.64	4.1%	
Town - Kirby		\$11,252.41	\$11,712.30	4.1%	
Town - Sutton		\$41,932.44	\$43,646.23	4.1%	
Town - Newark		\$26,822.06	\$27,918.29	4.1%	
Town - East Haven		\$12,400.61	\$12,907.43	4.1%	

2024 NEKWMD BUDGET- APPROVED

	A	B	C	D
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	\$2,000.00
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	\$7,500.00
18	Miscellaneous	\$500.00	\$4,511.00	\$1,000.00
19	Water/Sewer	\$1,200.00	\$1,175.76	\$1,400.00
20	TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	\$55,565.00	\$57,409.38	\$57,025.00
21	Gross Wages	\$445,164.00	\$422,760.32	\$457,414.00
22	OT Wages--Warehouse	\$5,000.00	\$10,439.76	\$9,000.00
23	Fica (Employer Match)	\$27,942.00	\$27,564.01	\$28,918.00
24	Medi (Employer Match)	\$6,534.00	\$6,446.43	\$6,763.00
25	Unemployment/HCP Insurance	\$6,000.00	\$7,326.60	\$7,150.00
26	VMERS (Retirement)	\$25,725.00	\$27,593.95	\$30,709.00
27	Health Insurance	\$60,000.00	\$0.00	\$72,000.00
28	Workman's Comp. Insurance	\$27,500.00	\$25,573.23	\$34,000.00
29	Mileage - Employee	\$4,000.00	\$4,890.17	\$5,000.00
30	Life & Disability	\$5,700.00	\$7,840.36	\$7,750.00
31	Personnel Equipment	\$500.00	\$729.46	\$750.00
32	Training	\$500.00	\$30.00	\$500.00
33	TOTAL PERSONNEL	\$614,565.00	\$541,194.29	\$659,954.00
34	EQUIPMENT EXPENSES			
35	Baler Repairs	\$2,000.00	\$853.13	\$3,000.00
36	Baler Supplies	\$6,000.00	\$7,793.24	\$5,000.00
37	Forklift Fuel	\$3,000.00	\$2,486.31	\$3,000.00
38	Forklift Repairs	\$4,000.00	\$7,804.67	\$3,500.00
39	Misc. Equipment Repairs	\$500.00	\$8,387.94	\$1,000.00
40	Skidsteer Repairs	\$3,000.00	\$4,980.23	\$3,000.00
41	Warehouse Supplies	\$2,500.00	\$3,440.29	\$3,500.00
42	Mack Truck Loan Payment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
43	Trucks--Diesel	\$27,000.00	\$27,537.50	\$28,000.00
44	Trucks--Repairs	\$15,000.00	\$33,038.85	\$27,500.00
45	TOTAL EQUIPMENT	\$63,000.00	\$96,322.16	\$77,500.00

2024 NEKWMD BUDGET

2024 NEKWMD BUDGET- APPROVED

	A	B	C	D
	BUDGET ITEM	2023 BUDGET	2023 ACTUAL as of 12/31/2023	2024 PROPOSED BUDGET
46				
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	\$26,500.00	\$24,000.00
68	TOTAL CAPITAL FUND	\$24,000.00	\$26,500.00	\$24,000.00
69				
70	TOTAL NEK EXPENSES	\$885,280.00	\$1,068,666.58	\$947,429.00
71	Grants--St of VT	\$80,000.00	\$124,686.17	\$111,000.00
72	Grants--Organics	\$0.00	\$141,335.50	\$0.00
73	Surplus Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
74	Hauling--Recycling Pick-ups	\$59,000.00	\$58,465.00	\$59,000.00
75	Haz Mat/Paint Care	\$5,000.00	\$5,060.34	\$5,000.00
76	Interest Income	\$30.00	\$45.95	\$30.00
77	Miscellaneous Income	\$1,500.00	\$2,945.62	\$2,500.00
78	Program Sales--Composter/Bins	\$2,000.00	\$2,070.60	\$1,500.00
79	Programs- Oil Filter Program	\$150.00	\$125.00	\$150.00
80	Sale of Recyclables	\$122,000.00	\$60,151.24	\$100,000.00
81	Compost Income	\$26,000.00	\$21,550.00	\$23,000.00
82	Electronics Income	\$14,000.00	\$18,751.08	\$19,000.00
83	Scrap Metal Income	\$18,000.00	\$16,631.04	\$18,000.00
84	Battery Income	\$5,000.00	\$4,710.45	\$5,000.00
85	Tire Income	\$15,000.00	\$14,732.50	\$15,000.00
86	Per Capita Assessment	\$50,000.00	\$49,763.82	\$54,506.00
87	Surcharge--Waste Haulers	\$487,600.00	\$544,742.64	\$533,743.00
88	TOTAL NEK REVENUES	\$885,280.00	\$1,065,766.95	\$947,429.00

2024 NEKWMD BUDGET



To the Voters of Sheffield:

The Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) serves Sheffield 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 inventoried and reported Sheffield's residential and road damage to VT Emergency Management following the July flooding. We also updated Sheffield's Local Emergency Management Plan which has been adopted and accepted by Vermont Emergency Management.

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

Local Health Office Annual Report: 2023

St. Johnsbury Local Health Office | 107 Eastern Ave, Suite 9, St. Johnsbury, VT
802-748-5151 | AHS.VDHStJohnsbury@Vermont.gov

Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the Vermont Department of Health. **The St. Johnsbury Local Health Office serves towns in Caledonia, southern Essex and a portion of Orange counties.** Some highlights of 2023 are below. For more information on our work and the areas we serve, visit

HealthVermont.gov/local/st-johnsbury



Pregnant People, Infants and Children

Our Women, Infants & Children (WIC) team received 1 of only 13 national Premiere Level 2023 WIC Breastfeeding Awards of Excellence.

- In 2023, our WIC Program **helped more than 775** pregnant people, infants and children under 5. We offer **healthy food**, breastfeeding **support**, nutrition **education** and community service **connections**.
- We worked with Salvation Farms to give families free local fresh **seasonal produce**.
- To make our services **more accessible**, our staff provided tele-WIC and expanded to 5 community clinic sites, including 2 daycares.



Collaborations and Collective Impact

Our team participates in many collaborative efforts in our community. Some 2023 highlights include:

- **NEK Prosper!** - The Caledonia & Southern Essex County Accountable Health Community - working to leverage relationships and collaborative action to build community health equity.
- **NEK United** - Bringing together public health and community leaders to work towards advancing health equity and well-being for all. Our work together will bring limited national funding to our region.
- **Radon Test Kit Distribution** - Our pilot program worked with town clerks, librarians and health centers. It led to an increase in test kits distributed in Caledonia and Southern Essex counties.



Prepared and Responsive

Our team is prepared to respond to changing community needs and emerging public health threats. In 2023 our staff:

- **Investigated** reports of infectious diseases and outbreaks.
- **Vaccinated** uninsured or underinsured people with COVID, flu, Mpox and other immunizations.
- Distributed free **home drinking water test kits** after historic flooding affected many in our community.
- Joined the collaborative NEK long-term **recovery planning efforts** post-flooding.
- Supported the Northeast Kingdom **Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)**—contact us to volunteer!

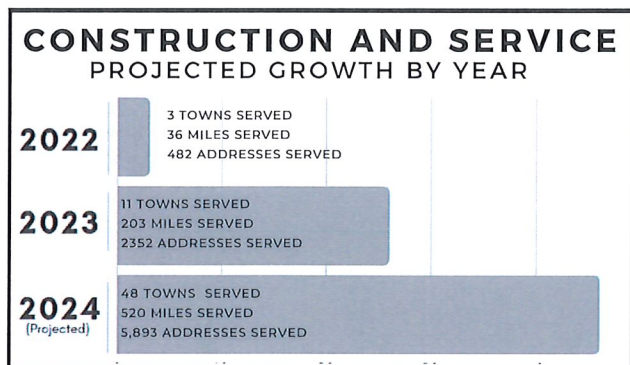


2023 ANNUAL REPORT



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

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

NEK 
BROADBAND

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)	Projected Surplus from 2023
Administrative Grant Revenue	\$2,252,718	\$996,599	\$355,546
Operations Revenue	\$747,767	\$222,790	\$564,532
Capital Grant Revenue	\$28,785,288	\$10,311,147	\$18,474,141
Total Cash In	\$31,785,773	\$11,530,536	\$20,255,237
Administrative Cost	\$1,847,194	\$852,862	\$994,332
Operational Cost	\$586,601	\$235,395	\$351,206
Construction Cost	\$28,785,288	\$10,311,147	\$18,474,141
Total Cash Out	\$31,219,083	\$11,399,404	\$19,819,679
Annual Net Cash Flow	\$682,205	\$131,132	\$551,073
Increase in Capital Assets	\$28,785,288	\$10,311,147	\$18,474,141

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.



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



Northern Counties

HEALTH CARE

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 1323 visits to 40 residents of Sheffield, 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 Sheffield, VT

- # of residents served: **40**
- Home Care (Therapy, Nursing, MSW): **358 visits**
- Maternal Child Health: **3 visits**
- Hospice (Nursing, Therapy, Personal Care, Respite): **103 visits**
- Long Term Care (Case Management, Personal Care, Respite): **859 visits**

Total Visits in Sheffield, VT = 1323 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
Center

St. Johnsbury
Community Health Center

Northern Counties
HEALTH CARE
Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice

December 14, 2023

Sheffield Town Clerk
PO Box 165
Sheffield, VT 05866

Dear Town Clerk and Select Board,

As in previous years, Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice would like to place an Article on your Town Warning to read as follows: "Shall the Town of Sheffield vote to appropriate \$1,100.00 to Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice to be used in providing health care services."

Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice is Northern Counties Health Care's certified Medicare and Medicaid comprehensive Home Care and Hospice Division. Our Mission is to provide high-quality, accessible, patient-centered health care. We meet this Mission in Sheffield by providing Home Care, Maternal Child Health, Hospice, and Long Term Care services to residents who need these services. This past year, we provided **1323** visits to residents of Sheffield. The attached visit statistics report provides details on these visits and services provided.

Caledonia Home Health Care's financial picture continues to be unpredictable given constant changes in the reimbursement policies of the government and private insurance plans. One hundred percent of this appropriation will be utilized for direct patient services.

Please advise if you would like me or a local member of our Board of Directors to attend the Select Board's meeting at which our warning article will be considered. If we do not hear otherwise we will assume that the above article will appear on the Warning for the March 2024 Town Meeting. If you have any questions, or would like further information, I can be reached at trenyb@nchcvt.org or (802)748-8116. Our website is www.nchcvt.org

We greatly appreciate the support from your town.

Sincerely,



Treney Burgess
Director
Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice

Compassionate Care in Our Home or

Administrative
Office
Concord
Health Center

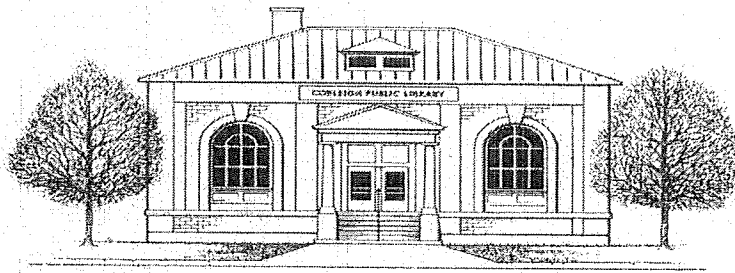
Danville Health
Center
Hardwick Area
Health Center

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
Center
St. Johnsbury
Community Health Center



Cobleigh Public Library
14 Depot St./P.O. Box 147, Lyndonville, VT 05851
www.cobleighlibrary.org/ (802) 626-5475 info@cobleighlibrary.org

December 28th, 2023

Dear Voters of Sheffield,

The Trustees of the Cobleigh Public Library would like to thank you for approving our request for funding this past year. For 2024, we are again requesting a contribution of \$1000.00 from the Town of Sheffield. This annual appropriation, alongside similar contributions from the other local towns that make up the Cobleigh's service area, allow us to continue offering programs and services for Sheffield and the rest of the community. Among the library's many offerings:

- Books. Not only our collection of over 35,000 physical volumes but also access to the state and national interlibrary loan networks as well as downloadable ebooks and audiobooks available through the Libby app, and a large streaming video library available through Kanopy
- Internet access, including Wi-Fi inside and outside the building, lending laptops with cameras and microphones for meetings, and public desktop computers
- Printing and copying services, both of which are offered by donation
- Technology help and troubleshooting, both one-on-one assistance and at our weekly computer classes
- Children's programs and storytimes every day of the week, as well as Summer Reading programs, activities, and special events throughout the summertime. Our services also help support a large number of area preschools and daycares, students in the Kingdom East School District and at the Riverside School, as well as early education students at VTSU-Lyndon
- Plus, a wide array of Things: E-bikes. Snowshoes. Fishing poles. Laptops. Wood water meter. Blood pressure cuff. Page magnifiers. Puzzles. Board games. State park passes. Museum passes and discounts. Concert tickets.
- Public meeting space. We serve as a host site for free tax help from AARP, housing support from RuralEdge, job hunting and resume assistance through the Vermont Department of Labor, and other. The library is also utilized by area organizations such as the Lyndon Chamber of Commerce, Burklyn Arts, Northeast Kingdom Dulcimers, VSAC, and others, as well as the local Democratic, Republican, and Progressive caucuses.

And we are always looking to expand our list. Is there something else you would like to see or try out at the library? Let us know! We welcome any chance to better align the free offerings of the library with the needs of our community.

As ever, the Trustees and staff of the Cobleigh Library are grateful for the opportunity to serve the residents of Sheffield, and for the support of your annual appropriation. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jessica Simpson, Lorrie Mawhinney, Hilary Adams, Paula Pearce, and Sylvia Dodge
Cobleigh Public Library Trustees



November 7, 2023

Town of Sheffield Select Board,

On behalf of the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging, we are writing to ask for an appropriation from the town of Sheffield to support our work with older Vermonters living in your community. Your support is vitally important as we continue to face challenges due to the increased costs of food and fuel, and the increasing need to protect and feed our elder Vermonters.

The NEK Council on Aging serves as a central guide for older Vermonters to gain services and assistance in their communities. From 8/1/22 – 7/31/23, the Council aided **4,350 residents of the Northeast Kingdom**, and with our 14 congregate and home-delivered meals partners, **delivered 209,379 meals**. Our nutrition programs partially fund meal sites and home delivered meals under the guidance of our registered dietitians. We also offer a Helpline, Medicare counseling and Medicare Bootcamp, exercise and mobility programs; specially-trained staff who help people develop long-range planning as they age; family and caregiver support programs and respite grants; case management for those who need a bit more support with aging in place; and support to apply for fuel, food, and pharmacy programs. Working with RCT and Legal Aid, we provide for the complex challenges people face while living in a rural community. Our work is supplemented by over 450 volunteers who serve as home-delivered meals drivers, wellness program leaders, and home-based caregivers.

As a private, 501c (3) non-profit corporation, we have been serving older Vermonters for over 44 years. This year, we are requesting the amount of \$330.00 from the residents of the Town of Sheffield. We have enclosed a brief letter in support of this request for inclusion in your town report and a copy of our 2023 Annual Report.

Suggested wording for the warning article for town meeting follows: *"Shall the town vote to appropriate the sum of \$330.00 to assist the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging in providing services to older Vermonters in the ensuing year."*

Please feel free to contact me should you have questions or need additional information.

Warm regards on behalf of the staff and Board of Directors of the NEK Council on Aging,

Meg Burmeister
Executive Director

www.nekcouncil.org



November 7, 2023

Town of Sheffield
P.O. Box 165
Sheffield, VT 05866

We are pleased to offer the following information to be included into the Sheffield Town Report in relation to our request for a 2024 Town Appropriation for the NEK Council on Aging. Our Town Appropriation request remains the same as last year and thank you for your continued support of the NEKCOA.

The mission of the NEK Council on Aging is to provide communities the services to age well.

From August 1, 2022 – July 31, 2023, the \$330 appropriation received by the Town of Sheffield for the NEKCOA provided the following services to Sheffield residents:

- 1) Assisted 7 people with State Health Insurance and Medicare support.
- 2) Supported 3 people for Case Management to help with independent living.
- 3) Coordinated home-delivered meals for 8 people and congregate meals for 1.
- 4) Assisted 14 people with calls to the Helpline and 6 people with options counseling.
- 5) Provided one person with caregiver support.
- 6) Provided one person with technology support.

A total 30 Sheffield residents were assisted by the NEK Council on Aging.

The NEK Council on Aging serves residents in the counties of Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans. Our staff of 29 and over 435 volunteers help to coordinate services for elder Vermonters across the entire Northeast Kingdom. We are committed to providing person-centered care and lifestyle options that inform, encourage, inspire, and support older adults.

Thank you for supporting the NEK Council on Aging.

Sincerely,

Meg Burmeister
Executive Director mburmeister@nekouncil.org www.nekcouncil.org



NKHS
Northeast Kingdom Human Services

We're
All About
**Being
Human!**

September 20, 2023

Town of Sheffield Select Board
P. O. BOX 165
SHEFFIELD, VT 05866
sheffielddvtasstownclerk@gmail.com; sheffielddvtownclerk@gmail.com

RE: 2024 Town Meeting Appropriation Request

Dear Town of Sheffield Select Board and Community Members:

The professional employees at Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc. follow their mission to empower individuals, families, and communities by promoting hope, healing, and support. We ask you to financially support our mission and agency by including the following article in your 2024 Town Meeting Warning.

ARTICLE: Shall the Town of Sheffield vote to raise, appropriate, and expend the sum of \$738 for the support of Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc., a nonprofit 501(c)(3), to support community members who cannot otherwise afford care?

This request is the same amount as voted at the 2023 Town Meeting.

A Fiscal Year 2023 Summary Activity Report of how Northeast Kingdom Human Services (NKHS) supported your town and the Northeast Kingdom is included with this letter.

For more information about our agency and services, please visit our website at <https://www.nkhs.org>, or call our offices in Derby (802-334-6744) or St. Johnsbury (802-748-3181). Emergency Services are available 24/7.

We strive to respond to community needs with quality care.

Respectfully,

Kelsey Stavseth, Executive Director
Northeast Kingdom Human Services Board of Directors and Leadership Team

Contact Ruth Marquette at RMarquette@nkhs.net regarding appropriation questions.

Derby
181 Crawford Road
PO Box 724, Newport, VT 05855
802-334-6744 · Fax 802-334-7455
Toll free 800-696-4979

nkhs.org

St. Johnsbury
2225 Portland Street
PO Box 368, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
802-748-3181 · Fax 802-748-0704
Toll free 800-649-0118



NORTHEAST KINGDOM HUMAN SERVICES, INC. (NKHS) Requesting \$738 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 Sheffield** 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 **\$738** is the same amount voted on at the 2023 Town Meeting. This represents 0.77% of appropriation requests from 48 towns. We offer supportive, confidential program services for Emergency/Crisis Services, mental health, addiction, and developmental/intellectual disabilities. Our mission 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.
- **42** individuals **from the Town of Sheffield** 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 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 Sheffield 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.



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"

November 8, 2023

Town of Sheffield
Sheffield Town Office
P.O. Box 165
Sheffield, VT 05866

Re: Request for town appropriation

Dear Sheffield Voters,

Rural Community Transportation, Inc. (RCT) respectfully requests that the following special appropriation article appear on the 2024 warning for the Town Meeting:

Article: Shall the Town of Sheffield vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of **\$1,000.00** for the support of **Rural Community Transportation, Inc.** to provide services to residents of the Town of Sheffield.

RCT is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation guided by its mission to provide public transportation services for everyone that is safe, reliable, accessible, and affordable to enhance the economic, social, and environmental health of communities throughout Caledonia, Orleans, Essex and Lamoille Counties.

In FY2023, RCT provided 291 rides to 11 residents of Sheffield, traveling 4,731 miles at a total cost of \$2,647.03.

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 therefore vital to RCT's operation. In FY2022, Sheffield's appropriation of \$1,000 provided 37.77% of funds used for direct patient/client services utilized by residents of Sheffield. This much-appreciated funding was commensurate with RCT's need for matching funds.

We hope you will vote to fund this request, and RCT looks forward to continued service to the residents of Sheffield.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jessy M Pelow".

Jessy M Pelow
Office Administrator



Activity Report for Town of Sheffield
Fiscal Year 2024 * July 2023 – June 2024
Town Appropriation Request: \$500

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 multi-faceted, 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 12 households in the Town of Sheffield 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 Sheffield's support.

Respectfully,

Thank
you!

Amanda Cochrane
Executive Director

Powers Park

Village Improvement Society/Powers Park 2023 Report

41 Powers Park, PO Box 715, Lyndonville, VT 05851

powersparkvt@gmail.com | www.powersparkvt.org

In 1915, Powers Park was a place for annual summer meetings. Washington Irving Powers' vision then included the purchase of a 25-acre grove from the Boston and Maine Railroad. Over time, it evolved to have a pond for swimming; we are now on our third swimming pool since 1936. The location of the current Powers Park currently encompasses 18 acres with an in-ground swimming pool, bathrooms, playground, basketball court, tennis courts, nature trails, pump track, pavilion and picnic area.

We continue to pursue the vision of Mr. Powers and his children. We serve over 400 children annually from Lyndon and surrounding towns as well as employ local youth as lifeguards, recreational instructors, and aides. As a community park, many groups and businesses also use the pool and surrounding activities for events such as birthday celebrations, graduations, and family reunions.

We have been hard at work this past year in partnership with Northern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) and Jay Miller Landscape Architecture having been awarded a Planning grant to plan for future improved use and development of the park and its activities for people of all ages and abilities, better linking the park to the town. Hopefully, the community has received survey links to gauge priorities in this endeavor. If not, we invite you to get involved and provide feedback to us via email, mail or joining our group of volunteers and board members.

Other activities that took place and ways appropriation monies are utilized include:

The Playground – The playground is frequently used by many area children. The play area is high on our list to make it more inclusive to all skill levels.

The Pool – Partnering with Local Childcare Centers, Adaptive Sports Partners, KESD and the public, we were able to provide American Red Cross Swim Lessons and open swim to over 450 area children. With utilization of appropriation dollars, we can keep the costs lower than other area summer program activities. With donation money, we hosted Open Swim and Movie nights for the public.

Tennis Courts/Basketball Court– The tennis courts and basketball courts get a lot of use from the public. Within our summer program, we offer tennis instruction to area children as well as keep the courts available for public use. We currently have a group of Pickleball enthusiasts who regularly use the courts weekly for recreational league play. Appropriation monies help with the surface upkeep and maintenance, including the fence.

Pump Track – Although we did not use any money for the pump track for upkeep, we appreciate our volunteers and Kingdom Trail Crews who help to keep the track open, maintained and help prevent weeds from taking over.

The Pavilion – The Pavilion was once again used to distribute free lunches to area children during the Summer Program season. We also were able to open the pavilion for use for private party rentals.

Lyndonville Farmers Market – With limited use of the bandstand Park, Powers Park was able to host the Lyndonville Farmer's Market on Friday afternoons with local vendors and live music.

Funds from appropriations allow us to keep our program open and, more importantly, hire staff to run our Summer Program. A large portion of our appropriations goes directly to operating expenses.

On behalf of the Board and volunteers at the Village Improvement Society Inc., (Powers Park), we would like to thank the taxpayers and the area businesses for their continued support. We take great pride in our summer program and are excited for the summer of 2024 and future growth! We also welcome anyone to join us in volunteering, becoming a board member or a supporter. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sarah Christman, Heather Tanner, Sarah Lafferty

Powers Park

December 2023

Town of Sheffield
37 Dane Road
Sheffield, VT 05866

Via email: sheffieldvttownclerk@gmail.com, sheffieldvtassttownclerk@gmail.com

Dear Town of Sheffield,

As President of the Powers Park Board, I wish to request our annual \$1000.00 appropriations from the Town of Sheffield during its Annual Meeting in March of 2024. The funding requested will go directly towards our operating expenses for the Summer of 2024.

I am attaching a summary of our program from this past summer.

We greatly value our partnership with the Town and look forward to a successful year ahead! Please let me know if you have any questions. On behalf of the Board, thank you for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

Sarah Christman

Sarah Christman
President, Village Improvement Society

Enclosure



Northeast Kingdom Youth Services

63 Eastern Avenue, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
Phone: (802) 748-8732 • Fax: (802) 748-2383
Email: nekys@nekys.org

September 22, 2023

Town of Sheffield
William St. Peter
PO Box 165
Sheffield, Vermont 05866

Dear Appropriations Committee,

Please include Northeast Kingdom Youth Services' appropriation request of \$300.00 on the warning for the Sheffield Town Meeting.

Enclosed you will find the information about our services for inclusion in your Town Report.

Northeast Kingdom Youth Services' (NEKYS') mission is to create opportunities for youth, adults, and families to strengthen life skills and resiliency in the face of adversity.

NEKYS's staff relies on appropriations from the area towns it serves to enable them to provide vital case management supports and services through its varied programs. NEKYS' Family and Youth Programs staff is available 24/7 to support youth and their families at times of crisis. Additionally, we can help mediate during family conflict as well as support youth as they transition into adulthood.

Historically NEKYS has served at least 9 Sheffield residents per year.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Constance S. Anderson
Executive Director

Board of Directors:

Richard Leighton, President
Elaine Gray

Shawn Timson, Vice President/Treasurer
Janssen Willhoit

John Robillard, Secretary

Staff: Constance Anderson, Executive Director

Kathy Griffin	Star Barden	Brandi Thornton
Chauncey Chery	Trina LaBounty	Tammy Blais

Town Report Summary

2023 NEKYS Served 9 in Sheffield

***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.

December 7, 2023

William St. Peter, Town Clerk
Town of Sheffield
37 Dane Rd.
Sheffield, VT 05866



Dear Mr. St. Peter:

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

“Shall the Town vote the sum of \$1,017 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 Sheffield residents?”

The Fairbanks Museum invites Sheffield 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Kane".

Adam Kane, Executive Director

Dates to Remember

Event	Date	Location	Time
2024 Town Meeting	Tuesday, March 05, 2024	Sheffield Town Hall	10:00 AM
Sheffield Cemetery Assoc.	Annual Spring Meeting	Town Clerk's Office	To Be Determined
Dog/wolf hybrid licensing	Due before April 1, 2024	Town Clerk's office	Office hours
Keniston and Dane Education Fund Application Deadlines	July 1 (fall semester) and December 15 (spring semester)	Town Clerk's office	Office hours
Listing of properties for taxes	April 1	Town Clerk's office	Contact listers at (802) 626-8862
Planning Commission Meetings	3rd Wednesday, quarterly (January, April, July, October)	Town Clerk's office	6:00 p.m.
Selectboard Meetings	1st Wednesday of each month	Town Clerk's office	6:00 p.m.
Sheffield Food Pantry	2nd Wednesday of each month	Town Hall	11:30 am to 2:30 pm
Town Clerk's/Treasurer's Office Hours	Monday and Friday Wednesday	Town Clerk's office	9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. 9:00a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Transfer Station Bulky Days	Wednesdays and Saturdays Second Wednesday of April, July and October and the following Saturday.	Wheelock Village	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
A Walk in the Woods	Saturday, August 17, 2024	Pfalzerwald Tree Farm	11:00 AM