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TOWN OF LUNENBURG, VERMONT

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024

Town Meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m.
on March 4 at the Lunenburg School.

Polls open at 9:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m.
on March 4 at the Lunenburg School.

****Please bring this report with you.
Additional copies will not be available.**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2025 Town Meeting Announcement	2
2025 Town Officer Candidates & Town Officers Elected in 2024	3
Select Board's Report	4
Auditor's Report	5
Town Clerk/Treasurer's Report.....	6
Essex County Sheriff's Department	7
Health Report.....	8
Town Grand List	9
2024 Delinquent Taxes Report	10
2024 Grant Summary	12
Alden Balch Memorial Library Report	14
Cemetery Commissioner's Report.....	16
Lunenburg Fire District #1	17
Lunenburg Fire District #2	23
Lunenburg Volunteer Fire Department.....	24
Lunenburg Historical Society.....	25
Top of the Common	27
Old Home Day Committee.....	29
Lunenburg Polar Bears.....	31
Representative John Kascenska.....	32
Riverside Rescue	33
Meals Report	34
Town of Lunenburg Budget	35
Notes & Details on Specific Budget Items.....	40
Contact Information of Elected Officials & Committee Personnel	45

WARNING

Town of Lunenburg Annual Town Meeting Tuesday, March 4, 2025

Polls open at 9:00 am and close at 7:00 pm. Australian ballot voting will occur in the Multipurpose Room at the Lunenburg Elementary School for the following positions: Select Board Member for 3 years; Select Board Member for 1 year (to fill a remaining term); Town Clerk for 1 year (to fill a remaining term); Town Treasurer for 1 year (to fill a remaining term); Auditor for 3 years (2 positions); Lister for 3 years; Constable for 1 year; Moderator for 1 year; Cemetery Board Member for 3 years.

The legal voters of the Town of Lunenburg are hereby warned and notified to meet in the Multipurpose Room at the Lunenburg Elementary School in said Town on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at 10:00 am to discuss the following business from the floor:

1. Will the Town collect it's taxes by its Treasurer, as heretofore done and if so, establish Friday, October 10, 2025, as the date when property taxes are due and payable?
2. Will the Town vote to collect its property taxes twice a year, rather than once per year, beginning in 2026?
3. Will the Town spend a sum of \$1,000 per mile on Class 1, 2 and 3 Town Highways within the Town?
4. Will the Town vote to increase the Delinquent Tax Collector's fee from 5% to 8%?
5. Will the Town vote accept the 2025 General Fund Budget as it appears in the Town Report?
6. To conduct any further business to come before said Town.

**Polls open from 9:00 am until 7:00 pm
Dated this 28th day of January 2025**

By the Select Board members of the Town of Lunenburg

Harry Williams, Chair

Nancy Benoit

2025 Town Officer Candidates

Town Moderator for 1 Year.....Jacob Fournier
Select Board for 3 Years.....Harry Williams
Select Board for 1 Year.....Nate Brown
Town Clerk for 1 Year:
.....Gary Briggs
.....Heaven Burt
Town Treasurer for 1 Year.....Gary Briggs
Lister for 3 Years.....Karen Danforth
Lister for 3 Years.....**Available**
Auditor for 3 Years.....Luke Robinson
Auditor for 1 Year.....**Available**
First Constable for 1 Year.....**Available**
Cemetery Commission for 3 Years.....Penny Nason

2024 Elected Town Officers

Town Moderator for 1 Year.....Jacob Fournier
Select Board Member for 3 Years.....Nancy Benoit
First Constable for 1 Year.....Dan Comeau
Auditor for 3 Years.....Karen Sargent
Lister for 3 Years.....Linda Magoni
Commentary Commissioner for 3 Years.....Carroll Macie

Lunenburg Residents,

We have had a very eventful year as a board, and town! All kinds of good things are going on. We have realized that to get more done we need the use of committees and task force groups so we can work on multiple tasks as a town and not get bogged down on specific items. We have multiple groups getting things done that are going to make huge improvements in our town! Our MERP committee has put in a lot of work to bring in a substantial grant, \$398,000, to help get some efficiency upgrades done to multiple town owned buildings, that will hopefully help save money for the future. Our Town Owned Property committee has been working on verifying properties that are owned by the town that can be sold, so they can once again bring tax revenue into the town. Our Emergency Preparedness committee has been working on what we have and how to organize things in the event of a disaster in town. The town hosted a group from the state to facilitate what the residents envision for the future of our town. These meetings were sponsored by Vermont Rural Development. There were 3 large meetings, and that got the group into two separate groups to focus on the two items/plans the large group deemed most important to move forward on. They are now two groups, with their own meetings moving forward to better the town.

The road crew has had yet another busy year. With all the harsh rains once again over the summer, they had a lot of repair work to stay on top of. Multiple culverts, a lot of ditch work, and heavy road damage. Fortunately, FEMA should help us recover much of that cost at some point. Road Crew Foreman Gregg Williams and his crew have been vital in helping the town navigate these challenges and move us forward. We are very pleased to report that all that work has ensured that we should be seeing \$60,000 from FEMA to help cover all the storm damage that we received. We will also be receiving \$200,000 in grant funding for repairs to the bridge on River Road through VTRANS. We hope to get some paving done on River Road this coming year as well.

We have spent a lot of time on the budget this year. We started in August, and have met at least weekly since September, some weeks more than once. It has been a lot of work, but we feel that we have done the best that we can to keep the numbers as low as possible, and still move forward as a town. We look forward to the Town meeting to answer questions to assure that we are doing everything we can to get the most out of our tax dollars.

On another note, I would like to take a moment and thank Patty Scott. She retired December 27th, after over 20 years of service to the town. Thank you Patty, for your dedication to the town, and we hope that you enjoy your retirement!

On behalf of your Select Board,

Harry Williams,

Select Board Chair.

Hello Lunenburg!

We have examined the financial statements, documentation, and articles that were submitted for the Town of Lunenburg as shown in this report. We find that the Town's financial documentation is correct and is consistent with what is reflected in the bank statements from the Town's accounts with Passumpsic Bank, Mascoma Bank and Woodsville Guarantee savings bank. This was done by substantiating each and every invoice, charge and credit throughout the year of 2024, and reconciling them with the Town Bank Accounts.

WHAT A YEAR. So much has happened, and so much has been done towards improving the financial health and stability of our town. New processes and procedures for monitoring, tracking and auditing our Town's finances have been implemented. Throughout the year our Auditing team went through every invoice and receipt line by line and matched them to bank statements to ensure transparency and accountability. And as of the end of 2024, all disputed or unsubstantiated charges were ultimately resolved.

As part of our Auditing Department commitment to transparency, we will continue to hold end of the month meetings for community members to attend and allow the opportunity to ask questions regarding the financial health of the town. We will also be engaging in quarterly performance evaluations/audits with the town Treasurer to ensure state requirements and procedures are being adhered to. We are truly excited for this upcoming year, and look forward to the continued improvements that our Selectboard, Town Clerk/Treasurer and all other departments have been making these last 12 months. Truly, they all deserve a round of applause, or at least a nod of respect, for the effort and work they have all put into our Town.

Our Auditing Team would like to give a HUGE shout out and thank you to Karen Sargent. Karen worked tirelessly and went above and beyond the scope of our department to bring clarity and accuracy to the charges within our Town accounts in 2024. She uncovered and addressed quite a bit of discrepancies during her tenure. Although Karen had to step down at the end of last year, the fruits of her labor will be of benefit to our community probably for years to come. Thank you Karen, you are truly wonderful.

We as a department are looking forward to the future, and we **encourage** the community to continue to stay involved and active.

Please reach out to us with questions!

Auditors@lunenburg-gilmanvt.gov

Auditors:

Jim Moffitt

Luke Robinson

Report from your Town Clerk and Town Treasurer

Hi! It a bit strange writing a report for the Town Clerk/Town Treasurer for the 2025 Town Report since I've only been on the job a few weeks. As many of you know, I was a Select Board member, but stepped down at the end of December to assume the role of Town Clerk/Treasurer. I thoroughly enjoyed being one of your Select Board members. I think the Board has made many great strides in transparency and communication, Town finances, community spirit and involvement and assuring that the Town meets State and Federal requirements to continue receiving grant funding. I left the Board with mixed emotions, but a strong collaboration between the Board and the Clerk/Treasurer is critical for our Town. Board Members Harry and Nancy are both very strong, accomplished, and dedicated champions of our community.

I want to thank Pat Scott for her two decades of service to the Town. I wish her well in retirement and I have her on speed dial for questions as I continue to the get up to full speed.

We made two significant operational changes in 2024: moving financial management operations to Quickbooks Online and transitioning payroll processing from Quickbooks to ADP. Both changes have significant benefits to our operations, but the transitions were not easy.

So, let's focus on 2025 and beyond. Here's a few immediate positives:

- I've found more than \$14,000 in overpayments on 2024 invoices. Those overpayments will be applied to current invoices as they come into the office in 2025.
- We paid more than \$7,000 in late payment fees in 2024. That is a waste of your tax dollars. Paying late fees will end immediately.
- The 2025 budget process has involved a tremendous number of hours of research on the part of your elected officials. As long as I'm Clerk/Treasurer, the annual budget process will be concise, simplified, accurate and seamless.
- Our new Purchase Order system (championed by Board Member Nancy) has expanded to all departments providing us assurances that contracted services are correctly billed.

But not all changes in the Town Clerk's Office will be financial. The Clerk's Office is one of the most visited buildings in our community. Few, if any updates, have occurred in the office in 2 decades. Our archives need significant attention. Our basement safe is not currently a reliable storage space for historic documents. Upon entering the Clerk's Office, you encounter a cramped space with an impeding counter that inefficiently serves those needing to transact business in our office. We have 7 file cabinets in the office and safe...each with broken drawers and limited storage capacity. The interior of the office will soon be painted at no cost to the Town. I've asked for a modest amount of funds in the 2025 budget for much needed updates to the office (new floor, 2 new desks, redesign of the counter). We don't need a show palace, but our Town Clerk's Office should be inviting and one that we're proud of sharing.

We're thrilled with the MERP grant funding that will provide more than \$65,000 to the Town Office Building to finally bring the building into full ADA compliance. We project the total cost of these renovations to be around \$150,000 and we've identified several possible grant funds to supplement our \$65,000 MERP grant. It's high time that we finally bring our Town Office Building into 100% ADA compliance and that is a top priority.

This is just a highlight of changes and things to come. I hope you'll endorse the improvements we've seen in the past few years. Personally, I thank you for your trust and support.

Respectfully,
Gary Briggs
Town Clerk/Town Treasurer



ESSEX COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

STATE OF VERMONT

Trevor Colby
Sheriff

91 Court House Dr
Guildhall, VT 05905
Tel: (802) 676-3500
Fax: (802) 676-3400

Essex County Sheriff's Department Report to Lunenburg Select Board

for the period of January 01, 2024 to December 31, 2024

Our current contract in Lunenburg is for an average of 20 hours per week. During 2024, we responded to 146 incidents in Lunenburg. We made over 186 traffic stops. We wrote over 74 tickets in Lunenburg. We applied roughly 1121 hours toward the Lunenburg contract this calendar year.

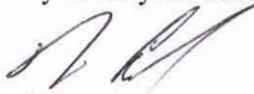
During 2024, the Sheriff's Department officers throughout the county responded to 624 incidents. Our officers made roughly 992 traffic stops. From those stops, we issued over 384 traffic citations and 635 warnings. Our Department continues to conduct Special Investigations Unit Services for the Essex county cases of sexual assault and child abuse. We are continuing another year of patrolling V.A.S.T. trails through a contract with V.A.S.T. This year we will be conducting Occupant Safety Checks, distracted driving patrols, and DUI patrols under grants from Vermont Highway Safety. We also are conducting patrols through grants from the Department of Public Safety and the Division of Homeland Security. In 2024, grants provided over 2,749 hours of services throughout the county. Our court security contract for 2024 continues to be our largest contract at over 2,600 hours. Many of our contracts this year were under-spent due to staffing levels and new increased contract levels.

We continue to be under-staffed. We had a part-time officer get done, one full-time officer took a job with the judiciary. We are still in transition from losing our office manager. Our court officer is still assisting me in financial management, and we still have a part-time staff supporting the office three days a week. We anticipate one of our part-time officers will be moving into a full-time position after the beginning of the year, and have a candidate for training in March.

As of July 1, 2025, I am going to increase our town contract rates to \$58.00 per hour. I am doing this in order to make several staff benefit package changes. We are moving from a 30 year to a 20 year retirement. This will increase both the department and employee contributions. The Department will fund approximately 6% more of the employees' annual earnings toward their retirement. We are also expanding health benefits to include a percentage for family members. Our current plan covers 100% for the employee, but does not fund additional family members. I am also planning to continue increasing staff salaries as I am still about \$4-10 an hour behind where we should be pay-wise for officers. I have been trying to implement these changes slowly, however you can see from our staff turnover I need to become more competitive. I have continuously kept our rates for the towns low. This is the second year staffing levels are lower than where the townspeople are requesting, and we have under-spent funding 2 years in a row.

During calendar years 2020-2022, the department averaged between 8,600 and 9,000 hours each year. In 2023, we started trying to fulfill an additional 3,000 hours a year to cover Canaan and Brighton. In 2023, we hit 10,400 hours. In 2024, our dedicated team put in over 11,300 hours of time serving on the department. We hope to increase staffing and patrol hours again this year.

Thank you for your continued support,


Sheriff Trevor Colby

Hello Lunenburg!

There were quite a few calls for the Town Health Officer over this last year, and I anticipate there will be quite a few this year as well!

I am so excited to participate further in ways of benefiting the overall health of our town. This year, there will be a greater emphasis on response and action regarding public health hazards, including soil and water contaminants. To the members of the community who expressed a desire for these concerns to be looked into, thank you for bringing them to my attention, and I will be pursuing these this year.

Town Health Officers are responsible for:

- Investigating possible public health hazards and risks within the town or city
- Taking action to prevent, remove, or destroy any public health hazards
- Taking action to lessen significant public health risks
- Enforcing health laws, rules and permit conditions, and taking the steps necessary to enforce orders

This last year 2024, our Lunenburg/Gilman Town Health Officer received:

- 6 Landlord/Tenant Disputes - 3 disputes have were resolved
- 3 Public Safety Complaints - all 3 have been addressed and resolved
- 2 FEMA related inspection reports. - Pending information from FEMA on these

UPDATES:

As of January 1, 2025, the state Division of Fire Safety is now the government entity with the primary authority to enforce State laws governing rental housing health and safety. Last year, The Division of Fire Safety adopted the Rental Housing Health and Safety Code and designed a complaint-based system to ensure rental housing, including short-term rentals, is maintained in a safe and healthy manner, and will take the lead on rental housing inspections in most of the state. However, town health officers have the authority to assist the Division of Fire Safety in inspecting rental housing, pursuant to 18 V.S.A. §602a(5) and 20 V.S.A. Chapter 172.

Contact information and forms for these process are available at:

https://firesafety.vermont.gov/rental_housing_healthandsafety

Our Regional Manager for Rental Housing issues and disputes is Benjamin Moffatt, and his email address is: **Benjamin.Moffatt@vermont.gov**

Luke Robinson
Town Health Officer
lunenburg.tho@gmail.com

GRAND LIST

	2023	2024
Town	\$1,123,564.92	\$1,770,712.85
School	\$1,102,571.70	\$1,747,224.00

Statement of Taxes Billed

Town Grand List	\$1,123,564.92	\$1,770,712.85
School Listed Value		
Homestead	\$44,724,700.00	\$74,948,500.00
Non-Homestead	\$76,440,000.00	\$111,738,800.00
School List		
Homestead	\$447,247.00	\$749,485.00
Non-Homestead	\$764,400.00	\$1,117,388.00

Taxes Assessed & Billed on Above Grand List

	Resident	Non-Resident
General	\$0.1947	\$0.1947
Highway Fund	\$0.4082	\$0.4082
School	\$1.1813	\$1.2624
Total	\$1.7842	\$1.8653

Karen Danforth
 Linda Magoni
 Board of Listers
 (802)892-1162

2024 Delinquent Taxes Collected						
					Rick Mullen	
Date	Deposit #	Amount			Collector Fee	
01/10/2024	212	\$38,837.28				
01/10/24	213	\$1,600.00				
01/24/2024	214	\$6,810.68				
02/08/2024	215	\$2,994.94				
02/22/2024	216	\$300.00				
02/29/2024	217	\$1,700.00				
03/13/2024	218	\$7,522.03				
03/28/2024	219	\$500.00				
		\$60,264.93	5.00%		\$3,013.25	
04/12/2024	220	\$10,388.27				
04/17/2024	221	\$780.00				
05/08/2024	222	\$5,997.51				
06/05/2024	223	\$6,156.56				
		\$23,322.34	5.00%		\$1,166.12	
07/10/2024	225	\$2,213.78				
07/17/2024	226	\$2,363.94				
07/24/2024	227	\$1,815.35				
08/07/2024	228	\$7,674.57				
08/21/2024	229	\$1,100.03				
09/05/2024	230	\$7,824.71				
		\$22,992.38	5.00%		\$1,149.62	
		\$106,579.65	5.00%		\$5,328.99	

				Cindy Wilmott	Was appointed in October
11/01/2024	241	\$5,493.68			
11/07/2024	242	\$18,508.09			
11/22/2024	246	\$18,338.85			
11/22/2024	247	\$4,453.32			
11/29/2024	248	\$11,604.89			
11/29/2024	250	\$7,359.24			
12/09/2024	253	\$59,620.00			
12/16/2024	254	\$7,979.03			
12/20/2024	256	\$12,759.62			
12/30/2024	257	\$4,199.31			
		\$150,316.03		\$1,009.50	
Taxes Collected In 2024		\$256,895.68			

2024 Grant Summary

2024 was a great year for the Town of Lunenburg and Village of Gilman in garnering grant funding for several arts, community and highway projects. This is in addition to the much-needed grant money from FEMA that will come into the Town in 2025 for the devastating storms of July 2023 and 2024. (We expect to receive approximately \$85,000 from FEMA to cover costs of the July 2023 storms very soon). This narrative does not include the Agency of Transportation and regular State grant funding the Town receives which are reflected on the AOT and State Reimbursement line items of the 2024 actual budget figures.

Sparks Connecting Community Grant: If you've attended a Select Board meeting during the past year, you've noticed new equipment: Meeting Owl Camera, Laptop and Flat Screen TV. In 2024, the Legislature passed a law requiring that all Select Board Meetings be of a hybrid nature; both in person and online. These grant funds (\$3,038) funded the cost of this new equipment.

Lancaster Rotary Club Grant Program: There's been a great deal of discussion about composting in Lunenburg and Gilman this year and that's thanks to a generous grant (\$1,170.84) provided by the Lancaster Rotary Club that funded workshops, composting units, an educational program at the Lunenburg Elementary School and 15 new books on composting for the Alden Balch Memorial library. Our Town-wide composting efforts will continue for years to come.

Vermont Arts Council Art Projects Grant: This grant funds the incorporation of arts into existing Town infrastructure. Thanks to a \$4,000 grant, we are working with a muralist to develop a large-scale mural that will be hung off the side of the semi-trailer at the Transfer Station. Why art at a Transfer Station? It's one of our most visited community locations and this demonstrates that inviting things can be found in even not-so-pretty places.

Vermont Community Foundation Arts & Social Cohesion Grant: This grant will fund the construction and supplies necessary to build a Community Art Cart. When completed, the Art Cart will visit community events and organizations and allow people to create some art and take home (for free) a supply of art materials to use at home.

Vermont Agency of Transportation Bridge Grant: This grant provides \$200,000 of funding to replace the membrane and do much needed structural repairs to the bridge on South Lunenburg Road at the entrance to South Lunenburg from the North. We expect to receive this funding in May 2025.

AARP Winter Placemaking Grant: This \$3,475 grant is funding 3 Winter walks in Lunenburg and Gilman, the first of which was held on January 30th in Lunenburg. Future walks will occur on February 15th in Gilman and March 16th in Lunenburg. These walks are designed to get people out of their homes during the Winter months and enjoy catching up with friends and neighbors.

Gilman Gazebo Grants: Most of you have probably seen the beauty of the newly renovated gazebo in the middle of the park in Gilman. Thanks to a generous \$5,000 donation from Ampersand and a \$745 Rapid Response grant from Vermont Humanities, we were able to scrape, prime and paint the Gazebo in addition to putting a new roof on the structure, repairing the stairs and replacing the surrounding fence.

In 2022, the Vermont Department of Agency of Administration’s Buildings and General Services Division announced more than \$45 million would be made available through the Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP) to support critical energy resilience programs and infrastructure improvements in municipalities throughout the State.

In 2023, municipalities were invited to apply for a mini grant of \$4,000. The Committee used \$3,200 to conduct an ADA audit at the Library and Town Office to determine what building enhancements were needed. \$800 from that grant remains and will be used to augment the MERP award received. The State of Vermont provide a consultant to do a comprehensive energy audit to identify infrastructure improvements needed in 5 Town-owned Buildings (see below). The byproduct of that audit was a comprehensive list of equipment and structural improvements necessary to improve energy efficiency in Town-owned buildings.

In 2024, the Town’s MERP Committee submitted a grant application in the amount of \$489,000 in consideration of these improvements. In October, we received a grant award of \$397,321, to be appropriated as follows:

Alden Balch Memorial Library	\$ 70,743
Gilman Fire Station	\$ 24,971
Lunenburg Fire Station/Town Garage	\$147,237
Lunenburg Town Office Building	\$129,206
Lunenburg Transfer Station	\$ 25,164

In 2025, a Project Manager will be assigned to each of the buildings who will manage the various projects identified to be completed.

In addition, Fire District #2 applied for and received \$81,342 which will fund energy upgrades at the water treatment facility in Gilman.

The MERP Grant is a significant award for Lunenburg and Gilman and will support projects that increase energy resilience and efficiency and continue to provide benefits for years to come in lower energy costs to the Town. In addition, the grant includes a provision that allows up to 20% of the full grant award to be earmarked for ADA compliant improvements.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harry Williams, Select Board Chair
Nancy Benoit, Select Board Member
Debbie Thomas, MERP Committee Chair
Lis Benoit, MERP Committee

ALDEN BALCH MEMORIAL LIBRARY 2024 TOWN REPORT

We have so much happening at the library, it's hard to know where to begin! Programs, grants, and building improvements are the highlights for 2024.

- The Lunenburg Elementary School visits are in full swing. We have one or two grades visit weekly, along with the After School Program. The library's outreach program includes monthly story time at Head Start in Gilman, and these youngsters visit the library once a month. We held our first StoryWalk event and author, Natalie Kinsey Warnock, visited.
- The Bookin' It Book Club is a lively group of (mostly!) senior citizens, who meet monthly at the Gilman Senior Center to share thoughts, ideas, lots of laughter, and sometimes the lunch served by the Center. We had our first Zoom meeting in November with author, Kirsten Panachyda, who has spent many summers in Lunenburg.
- Northeast Kingdom Broadband installed high speed internet at the library!! As their 200th customer, they brought along cake and balloons to honor the occasion.
- We had a robust Summer Reading Program, which included a visit from the Deputy Sheriff, two Fish and Game Wardens, the 4-H Livestock Ambassador with her cow, Ava, a graphic artist (Library Trustee Elaine Rentz), and two student airplane pilots!
- We celebrated the library's 120th anniversary in August with speakers, a display of books written by Lunenburg authors, cake, and a community photograph. We have come a long way since the doors opened in 1904!
- The Library's Second Annual Home for the Holidays Decorating Contest sponsored by Aunt Sadie's Candles brought much holiday joy, and our judges were hard pressed to name the winners!
- Preservation Trust of Vermont is advising us as we tackle building issues, and we are working with an architect. Water in the cellar resulted in the installation of a sump pump, a commercial dehumidifier, and light fixtures in the cellar, all paid for with ARPA funds.
- We were chosen by Vermont Library Foundation to receive a \$25,000 grant this year! The funds can ONLY be spent on the building, and we stretch the dollars as far as we can.
- The library received over \$79,000 of the Town's grant from MERP (Municipal Energy Resilience Program), and we look forward to new lighting and other energy improvements.

Our library is more than just a place to borrow books. It is a vibrant hub for connection, education, and culture. Your tax dollars have significant impact! Together, we can ensure that our library remains a cornerstone of our community. Thanks to significant donations in 2024, we are able to increase our open hours from 18 to 20 hours per week. Please check us out!

Deborah Thomas, Librarian
Bonnie Van Horne, Assistant

Kelsey Wilkinson (2029)
Angela Marchetti (2028)
Elaine Rentz (2027)
Monica Eastman (2026)
Katie Carpenter (2025)
Library Board of Trustees

LIBRARY HOURS:

Tuesday 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Wednesday 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Thursday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. & 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

ALDEN BALCH MEMORIAL LIBRARY 2024						
CHECKING ACCOUNT:						
INCOME:						
	Balance on Hand, 01/01/2024				\$	13,089.18 *
	Town Appropriation				\$	25,000.00
	Donations				\$	3,236.00
	Book & Bake Sale				\$	692.00
	Grants (State, Rotary, PTV)				\$	995.00
	Candles sales				\$	165.00
	Transfer from endowment accounts				\$	830.08
	Other (refunds, etc.)				\$	129.60
	TOTAL INCOME				\$	44,136.86
EXPENSES:						
	Wages				\$	14,798.17
	Quickbooks online payroll fee				\$	480.00
	Books				\$	2,559.96
	Magazines				\$	153.69
	Cataloging and other supplies				\$	1,119.79
	Museum passes and events				\$	1,106.14
	Summer Reading Program (State funded)				\$	325.14
	Computer upgrades/office expenses				\$	816.17
	Architect fee (matching grant)				\$	375.00
	Repairs, maintenance, other				\$	1,648.34
	Internet				\$	1,235.55
	Oil				\$	3,403.03
	Electric				\$	2,055.65
	Water				\$	825.49
	Phone				\$	1,168.60
	TOTAL EXPENSES				\$	32,070.72
	BALANCE 12/31/2024				\$	12,066.14
Library Building Checking Account						
	Account balance, 01/01/2024*				\$	18,915.51
	Expenses:					
	Plumber		\$	850.00		
	Commercial dehumidifier		\$	2,400.00		
	Portable air conditioner unit		\$	299.00		
	Bank fee for checks		\$	32.42		
	Total expenses paid with ARPA		\$	(3,581.42)		
	Vermont Library Foundation grant		\$	25,000.00	**	
	Library Building Account Balance, 12/31/2024		\$	40,334.09		
Endowment Principal Amounts:						
	Franklin Bell, \$20,000; Enos Lamson, \$3,500; Harriet Silsby, \$2,500					***
*Actual. Numbers were rounded in last year's report.						
**Grant can be used for building improvements only.						
***Investment account opened in amount of each original bequest. Amount in savings account over and above the bequest was transferred to checking account as income.						

**LUNENBURG OLD CEMETERIES COMMISSONERS REPORT 2024
(Corner Cemetery, Powers Cemetery, and Baptist Hill Cemetery)**

The cemeteries were cleaned in the summer and fall and were mowed. All of the stones at the Corner Cemetery (across from the Lunenburg Common) were sprayed with cleaner by volunteers (Carroll Macie, B Thomas, Debbie Thomas, and Sharon Eastman), and the fence was painted with a second coat, thanks to donated time and labor of Nason Painting. A portion of the Baptist Hill Cemetery fence was replaced with volunteer labor (B Thomas and Carroll Macie), and a few stones at that Cemetery were treated with cleaner.

The Town appropriation was used to pay ALL of this year’s expenses, as set forth below. We planned to spend the funds remaining from ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act funds) in 2024 but the good weather and time got away from us. The goal for 2025 is to rent equipment and use volunteers along with professional help to re-set a few of the old stones that have toppled over in the Baptist Hill Cemetery, to cut down more trees in Corner Cemetery that threaten to damage stones with falling limbs, and to continue work on the fences. If the Town continues to give us financial support, we will be able to clean most, if not all, of the stones in Baptist Hill Cemetery and Powers Cemetery, both located on Baptist Hill.

If anyone wants to volunteer with cleaning stones, please call Carroll Macie at 802-892-7746 or 802-505-3396.

Carroll D. Macie (2027), Deborah Thomas (2026), Penny Nason (2025)
Lunenburg Cemetery Commissioners

LUNENBURG CEMETERY FINANCIAL REPORT 2024

WOODSVILLE BANK CHECKING ACCOUNT

INCOME:

Balance on hand as of 01/01/2024	\$ 4,398.60
Town Appropriation	5,500.00
Interest	<u>2.68</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 9,901.28

DISBURSEMENTS:

Cleanup and Mowing	\$ 3,850.00
Stone cleaning product	832.00
Fence materials (Baptist Hill Cemetery)	<u>823.10</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	<u>(\$ 5,505.10)</u>

Checking Account Balance as of 12/31/2024 **\$ 4,396.18***

*All ARPA funds.

Lunenburg Fire District #1 – WSID #5112
Annual Operations Report for 2024
January 20, 2025

Water Production and Distribution Usage for the year 2024, was 4.6 million gallons of water.

Construction of the new water plant and the addition of 2 new water source wells has been completed and the new water plant is running well. The new backup generator has performed well since installation, but the outer casing is rusting which is a factory warranty issue.

Many changes in the State and Federal regulations will be implemented over the next couple of years and I strongly urge all Fire District members and residents to become more proactive in the governance and regulatory oversight for the operations of your water systems. Please participate by becoming a proactive member of the Fire District's Board of Water Commissioners. Those residents interested should contact the Fire District for more information on these very important positions which need to be filled with new participants. Our water systems operators will be required to have additional licensing requirements for the operations and management of the water production facility and the distribution system in the very near future, as well as changes to the distribution system where the water main crosses the Neal Brook Bridge. This project is currently in the engineering and planning stages with construction to commence in the coming year.

We have been working with the Vermont Agency of Transportation for the replacement of that Stone Arched Bridge on US RT 2 and will most probably be required to move the water main to another location in order to continue service to those 20 or so customers on the west side of that bridge. We will try to keep our customers informed on that project.

The survival of our Fire Districts in the future will depend more on your participation and support of those dedicated residents who will carry things forward and continue with improvements to further secure the safety and public health of our communities. If you all like the fact that water pours from your faucet when turned on, then please become proactive. The people who bring these services to you are tired and ready for the next generation to take over from them and into the future.

Thanks to the many Fire District members who have supported my efforts to achieve those goals over the past 25 or so years, in order to provide the estimated 600 residents in Fire District's #1 Lunenburg and Fire District #2 in Gilman with clean, safe drinking water. Thanks to The Vermont Rural Water Association for all of their technical assistance and support during our 30 plus years of membership with them. I hope we have made a difference!

Thank you for all of your support,

Buddy Ball, Water System Operator

CLERK/TREASURERS REPORT 2024

LFD#1 received Government Assistance from the LIHWAP Program for our customers -	\$2,696.71.
The total Delinquency at the end of 2024, which is mostly from 9 customers, was	\$24,223.50.
ARPA Funds expended on the Water Main at the Creamery Rd. & Bridge Abutment	\$10,585.00.

I am retiring at the end of January 2025 after 13 years of service as the Clerk/Treasurer and Delinquent Account Manager. Samantha Hodgdon, owner of the Lunenburg Variety Store & Deli, will be your next Clerk/Treasurer. The mailing address & phone will be the same.

I want to thank everyone for your continued support over the past 13 years. This has been a great community to live and work in. You're the best!

Gail M. Ball, Clerk/Treasurer

Lunenburg Fire District No. 1

Profit & Loss

January through December 2024

Cash Basis

	Jan - Dec 24
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Reimbursed Expenses -	
WPL-225 VTSRF	64,233.86
Total Reimbursed Expenses -	64,233.86
Fire District Income	
Delinquent Account Collection	
Late Fees and Finance Charges	705.40
Delinquent Account Collection - Other	400.69
Total Delinquent Account Collection	1,106.09
CFC Share	30,398.86
Water Service Fees	
Miscellaneous Service Fee	108.00
Curbstop Fee	50.00
Basic Water Fee	44,299.80
Water Service Fees - Other	5,203.52
Total Water Service Fees	49,661.32
Total Fire District Income	81,166.27
Investments	
Interest-Savings	35.74
Total Investments	35.74
Uncategorized Income	204.70
Total Income	145,640.57
Gross Profit	145,640.57
Expense	
Payroll Expenses	26,731.52
Water Source Project	
Construction Costs	51,890.57
Total Water Source Project	51,890.57
Business Expenses	
Audit of Books	100.00
Annual Board Member Pay	372.00
Loan Interest	4,516.42
Bank Charges	286.76
State Water Withdrawal Fee	232.42
Total Business Expenses	5,507.60
Contract Services	
Accounting Fees	
Delinquent Acct. Collector Fee	365.40
Total Accounting Fees	365.40
Outside Contract Services	
Electrical & General Maint.	100.00
Excavating Contractor	16,706.00
Total Outside Contract Services	16,806.00
Total Contract Services	17,171.40
Facilities and Equipment	
Water Plant Equipment	74.84
Computer Equipment	
Software	2,618.33

Lunenburg Fire District No. 1

Profit & Loss

January through December 2024

Cash Basis

	Jan - Dec 24
Total Computer Equipment	2,618.33
Equip Rental and Maintenance	
Fuel	47.92
Total Equip Rental and Maintenance	47.92
Maintenance & Repairs	
Well Servicing	683.64
Mowing & Landscaping	300.00
Total Maintenance & Repairs	983.64
Materials & Supplies	
Miscellaneous	2,204.90
Total Materials & Supplies	2,204.90
Property Insurance	4,084.90
Rent & Utilities	
Electricity	9,063.49
Heating Fuel	647.76
Office Rental	2,000.00
PO Box Rent	72.00
Total Rent & Utilities	11,783.25
Total Facilities and Equipment	21,797.78
Insurance	
Bond Insurance on Clerk	150.00
Total Insurance	150.00
Operations	
Shipping & Handling	124.15
Laboratory Testing	1,700.00
Postage, Mailing Service	427.80
Supplies	
Office Supplies	444.59
Total Supplies	444.59
Telephone, Telecommunications	
WSO - Pager	250.20
Internet Service	1,342.12
Telephone	
Office	1,167.73
Water Plant	548.08
Total Telephone	1,715.81
Total Telephone, Telecommunications	3,308.13
Total Operations	6,004.67
Other Types of Expenses	
Advertising Expenses	96.00
Memberships and Dues	1,390.00
Other Costs	-49.95
Total Other Types of Expenses	1,436.05
Reimbursed Expenses	
Gasoline & Oil	70.00
Office Supplies	24.48
Postage	9.32
Total Reimbursed Expenses	103.80
Travel and Meetings	

Lunenburg Fire District No. 1

Profit & Loss

January through December 2024

Cash Basis

	Jan - Dec 24
Conference, Convention, Meeting	225.00
Total Travel and Meetings	225.00
Uncategorized Expenses	0.00
Total Expense	131,018.39
Net Ordinary Income	14,622.18
Net Income	<u>14,622.18</u>

Lunenburg Fire District No. 1

Balance Sheet

January through December 2024

Cash Basis

	Dec 31, 24
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Regular Savings Acct.#5172	1,262.08
Water Source Checking #3130	41,802.76
USDA Checking Account #6448	14,873.79
Capital Reserves Savings #632	30,661.16
Regular Checking Acct. #1109304	909.81
Total Checking/Savings	89,509.60
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	-1,813.96
Total Accounts Receivable	-1,813.96
Other Current Assets	
Inventory Asset	2,281.41
Total Other Current Assets	2,281.41
Total Current Assets	89,977.05
Fixed Assets	
Water Distribution System	
Customer Meters and Readout Pad	31,273.90
Customer Curbstop Connections	24,600.00
Metering Equipment - Meter Pit	12,146.00
Main Line Valves	40,000.00
Distribution Mains	250,000.00
12 Fire Hydrants	98,880.00
Total Water Distribution System	456,899.90
Water Production Facility	
Remote Control Equipment	2,060.00
Pump Station Control Building	
Control Building Equipment	
Computer Controls and Software	
Level Transducer	450.00
Computer Controls and Software - Other	2,995.00
Total Computer Controls and Software	3,445.00
Control Building Equipment - Other	30,282.00
Total Control Building Equipment	33,727.00
Pump Station Control Building - Other	28,189.00
Total Pump Station Control Building	61,916.00
#6 Well Pump	3,811.00
#5 Well Pump	4,223.00
#4 Well Pump	3,811.00
#3 Well Pump	6,695.00
#2 Well Pump	1,957.00
Spring Pump	1,236.00
150K Concrete Storage Tank	309,000.00
Total Water Production Facility	394,709.00
Lands & Easements	
Lot 22-24.1	50,000.00
Lot 10-23	4,000.00
Lot 10-19.01	8,000.00
Lot 10-18	500.00
Lot 10-2.3	1,000.00
Lot 10-2.2	2,000.00

Lunenburg Fire District No. 1

Balance Sheet

January through December 2024

Cash Basis

	Dec 31, 24
Total Lands & Easements	65,500.00
Furniture and Equipment	
Operator's Home Office	
Canon Pixma IP1600 Printer	250.00
Dell 5150 Computer	800.00
Total Operator's Home Office	1,050.00
Water Plant	1,200.00
Business Office	
Flat Screen Monitors - 2	229.94
HP All-in-One	350.00
HP Computer	900.00
Total Business Office	1,479.94
Total Furniture and Equipment	3,729.94
Total Fixed Assets	920,838.84
TOTAL ASSETS	1,010,815.89
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	-1,365.06
Total Accounts Payable	-1,365.06
Other Current Liabilities	
Payroll Liabilities	5,562.34
Total Other Current Liabilities	5,562.34
Total Current Liabilities	4,197.28
Long Term Liabilities	
Wilmington Trust - M & T Bank	224,129.70
USDA Loan # 91-01	73,365.23
Total Long Term Liabilities	297,494.93
Total Liabilities	301,692.21
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	529,527.72
Retained Earnings	164,973.78
Net Income	14,622.18
Total Equity	709,123.68
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	1,010,815.89

Lunenburg Fire District #2-Gilman, VT 2024

Financial Report

The following is the account used for general/ "day-to-day" business:

Waste Water Checking Account

Beginning Balance (January 1, 2024):	\$6,043.82
Customer Receipt/Deposits:	\$132,558.06
Low Income Assistance Program Direct Deposit:	\$5,137.56
Total Income:	\$143,739.44
Disbursements:	\$174,936.20
Overdrawn:	\$-31,196.76
Transferred from	
Water Checking/Sewer/Water Savings:	\$37,169.00
Balance December 31, 2024:	\$5,972.24
Salary/Payroll:	\$53,685.49
H2O Innovation	\$20,033.24
USDA Water Loan	\$21,656.00
USDA Sewer Loan	\$5,794.00
Endyne labs	\$3,995.00
USA Bluebook	\$7,576.51
Allen Engineering	\$2,145.91
Green Mountain Power:	\$17,118.75
Consolidated Comm./Internet/Paging:	\$2,083.76
M and T Bank	\$870.59
Staples/Office Supplies:	\$2,975.16
Equip. Reimbursement	\$127.79
Sewer Pump Repairs	\$1,935.68
Property maintenance/services	\$8,000.00
Outside Sewer Repair/O'Reilly:	\$161.89
VT Taxes, Quarterly, Withholding, Dept. of Labor	\$1,381.52
941 Employer Tax	\$9,830.95
VT 436 Tax	\$1,244.00
Mileage:	\$747.52
Stiles Fuel:	\$3,836.47
VLCT Property/Casualty Ins./Operating Fee/Annual Dues:	\$9,191.97
Central Paging	\$223.80
J.S. Water Work (unplugged sewer line)	\$450.00
EOS Research:	\$600.00
Yankee Generator:	\$515.00
Total Disbursements:	\$174,936.20

LUNENBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

OPERATIONS BUDGET 2024

BUDGET INCOME:

BALANCE ON HAND AS OF JANUARY 1, 2024	\$7,251.14
TOWN APPROPRIATION 4/12/24	\$10,000.00
TOWN APPROPRIATION 10/04/24	\$10,000.00
INTEREST EARNED 2024	\$4.64
AMAZON REFUND	\$7.60
TOTAL:	<u>\$29,216.56</u>

DISBURSEMENTS:

TELEPHONE	\$1,591.13
RADIO EQUIPMENT & BATTERIES	\$4,878.73
STATION SUPPLIES & REPAIRS	\$1,031.69
FIRE GEAR & EQUIPMENT	\$3,184.09
MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$607.00
OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$715.13
EQUIPMENT REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE	\$3,678.46
TRAINING	\$527.46
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS:	<u>\$16,213.69</u>
 OPERATIONS BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31,2024	 \$11,049.69

Stephen Colby, Chief/LVFD Treasurer

The Town of Lunenburg Historical Society

The Lunenburg Historical Society continues its work to preserve the history and heritage of Lunenburg, Gilman, South Lunenburg – our entire community! We are always looking for photos, diaries and other items to document the town's past. We are always looking for photos that contribute to the pictorial record of our maple tradition, for display during the annual Maple Festival, which is slated for March 22 in 2025. Pictures of life in and around the Gilman mill and Gilman village during the mill years are also highly sought after. We urge anyone with photos or information that would help with any of these undertakings to contact us through a member or our website. Photos can typically be scanned and quickly returned.

We have a day of Civil War related activities planned for Saturday, September 13. We are hoping to have the Civil War Hemlocks re-enactors here to stage an encampment, and renowned Civil War historian Howard Coffin is expected to be in attendance and do a presentation. It promises to be a fun and informative day!

On Saturday, May 3rd we are hosting the 40th Army Band for a concert, at the Lunenburg bandstand if weather permits, or at one of the adjacent churches if necessary.

There is a Cemetery Work Day scheduled for Saturday, the 19th of July, 2025 to work on cleaning and repairing grave stones. If you would like to learn about the proper techniques for cleaning stones and repairing broken markers, or would just like to help out, join us at the Corner Cemetery adjacent to the Common on July 19, at 10 am. Hope to see you there!

During the past year we briefly considered producing a calendar with a World War II theme, which would feature Lunenburg men and women who served during the war. It was decided we did not have time to do this project right for 2025, but we still want to pursue this idea. If you have pictures and/or other information about family members who served, we are interested.

Our long-planned project to interview some of the elder members of the community, to preserve their experiences before they are lost forever, got underway at long last in 2024. The generation who had stories of growing up in the Great Depression and the World War II years are gradually leaving us, and we hope to gather their recollections before the opportunity is lost. Thanks to Josh Bell and Tina Breault for jump-starting this effort and getting it up and running. If you are interested in helping with this project, contact a member or contact us through our website.

The Society's other activities include helping people with Lunenburg family connections with genealogical research, sharing historical finds and information at our monthly meetings, and various special programs on subjects of historical interest. Calendars from previous years featuring photos of historical interest remain available.

We thank everyone who has donated items or otherwise helped out in the past year, and invite anyone with an interest in history to attend our meetings and programs. Regular

meetings are the third Sunday of each month at 2 p.m., October through March, and the third Wednesday, at 6:30 p.m., April through September. There is no December meeting. Most meetings are at the Alden Balch Library. Memberships in the Society are encouraged, and cost only \$5.00 for an individual, \$10.00 for a family. Our website is lunenburghistoricalsociety.org. Also, keep watch for the return of our website at Lunenburgvt historical society.

Gary Fournier, President
802-274-6836



Photo of Oscar Wilson's Barn - Lunenburg Historical Society photo

Top of the Common Committee, Inc.

The Top of the Common Committee achieved one of its major goals – painting and maintenance work on the steeple of the Congregational Church - this year, but it proved far more costly than anticipated. When our painting contractor got a close-up look at the wood sheathing on the steeple it was found to be crumbling and decaying beyond saving. The contractor, BONND Construction, took on the unexpected task of adding additional bracing, re-siding and painting the steeple, and completed the work in record time – for which we are immensely grateful! The cost associated with this extra work came to \$10,000. We were able to cover the unanticipated expense, but this had consequences and may delay other work that we were hoping to press ahead with. We are hoping to recoup this cost through donations.

We have been working on cleaning out the Old Town Hall to clear the way for work to begin to stabilize the structure, which was compromised when cross-beams were removed many years ago. We are sounding out contractors who might potentially be interested in taking on the job, and hoping to get some cost estimates so we can begin pursuing grants.

In 2025 we will once again have a full roster of community and fund-raising events. The Maple Festival is slated for March 22nd this year, featuring our pancake breakfast and soup luncheon at the Lunenburg School, and a variety of other activities and displays. As always, participating sugarmakers will be welcoming visitors at their sugarhouses around town.

We have traditionally held four open-mic concerts during the summer (June through September). We are expanding to five concerts for 2025, starting in May. Open-mics are the second Saturday of the month, 6 pm, at the Congregational Church, unless the May session is moved to the Methodist Church to take advantage of the heated space. The town common hosted our Grub-on-the-Green celebration once more in 2024 with a good crowd entertained by the local favorites, Comfort Country. We also hosted "Wednesdays on the Common," a flea/farm market event enjoyed by customers despite attracting a small number of vendors. We encourage anyone with hand-made products or flea market items to sell to consider vending at this event.

The Gingerbread Bazaar continues to be popular. Look for it again in early December. This is a vendor event with a limited number of slots available. If you are interested in vending contact us through our website. (Listed below.)

Meanwhile, the mission of the Top of the Common Committee remains unchanged. Improvements to the Congregational Church such as installing heat and restoring additional stained-glass windows remain to be completed, and there is always maintenance work to be done – painting, anyone? The Old Town Hall awaits complete restoration.

Our mission, however, reaches well beyond simply renovating buildings. The goal is for the common and the buildings surrounding it to serve as a place for community to come together and interact, to make our postcard-perfect town center a place where residents and visitors alike can enjoy cultural, educational and recreational activities together.

If you wish to help financially, direct donations are always welcomed. We still have a few copies of our maple sugaring book, "A Wicked Good Run," for sale, and our Lunenburg t-shirts are available in two colors - navy blue and maroon. It is also easy to contribute through on-line donation platforms such as Guidestar, PayPal Giving Fund, eBay for Charity, You can also

donate through Benevity, which matches employee donations, or ask your employer whether they match employee donations.

We still have a long way to go to complete the restoration of these historic buildings. We thank all who have given of their time, talents or money – our member and non-member volunteers who lend a hand with building improvement projects, all those who help at our fund-raising events through the year, and all who contribute to decorating the common and its surroundings for the holidays. We invite anyone interested in helping to join us. Committee meetings are the first Saturday of each month, 2 p.m. at the Alden Balch Memorial Library. If committee meetings aren't your thing, we'd be happy to put you on a list of volunteers willing to assist with fund-raisers or other activities. Our website is at topofthecommon.org.

Gary Fournier, President
802-892-5925



Old Home Day 2024

In another great celebration of our town's founding, we enjoyed the parade, were entertained by the band, Still Kickin', were fed well by the Lunenburg Polar Bears Snowmobile Club and treated to lots of vendor items for sale on our common.

This event takes many hands and many months to pull off and we appreciate all who contribute to its success every year on the first Saturday of August.

Our theme this year is "Camping Fun" which should bring a record number of creative floats into the parade. Please contact Callie Smith at 1-603-991-7487 for more information as to how you can enter the parade or volunteer your help.

Our vendor spaces are still very reasonable at just \$15 each and benefit the Lunenburg Historical Society towards their efforts.

There is a lot of talent in our town of Lunenburg and village of Gilman so I encourage all bakers, makers, crafters etc.. to book a space to show and sell your items.

Contact me, Dianne Peyton at 1-802-751-9279 to book a space or volunteer to help with this part of the event.

If you can help in our lawn game area, there is a need for a coordinator and moderator for a Jr. Corn hole tournament. Please let me know if this is something you can do. Look for updates about meetings or other needs coming up in our community pages and in bulletins posted around town. We'd love to have more input and volunteers for this fantastic event. Thank you.

A special thank you to our MC's: Cheryl Cloutier and Joanne Gilman. It was wonderful to have such experienced members of our community to do all the announcements and keep the day on track!

Lunenburg Old Home Day Committee

Financial Information

Income:

Balance on hand for Jan. 1, 2024	\$1,056.31
Maple Festival luncheon – bake sale	340.00
Donation	50.00
Town appropriation (12/03/2024)	800.00
Interest earned	<u>.55</u>
	\$2,246.86

Disbursements:

2023 outstanding debit (check cashed in 2024)	\$ 250.00
USPS box rental	72.00
Vermont Secretary of State (Biennial Report)	25.00
Lawn games	116.61
Entertainment – band	500.00
Portable Toilets – 2024 (encumbered funds)	<u>250.00</u>
	\$ 1,213.61

Available Funds: \$ 1,033.25

Respectfully submitted,
Loretta Pitt, Treasurer

Lunenburg Polar Bears Snowmobile Club

This report reflects our accomplishments and challenges wrapped around the 2023-24 winter.

The Polar Bears sustained a leadership team of four officers and three directors. Activities were coordinated at monthly meetings, in addition to our interaction with peer Organizations, landowners, stakeholders, and VAST. Our membership and TMAs (trail pass) were slightly up from the previous season and we remained a fiscally healthy non-profit organization.

We were thrilled when we heard the news that member and groomer operator Jeff Miller was the recipient of the VAST Ambition Award. The club participated in meetings for the Municipal Action Plan, Rails to Trails, and Lunenburg Select Board. We also participated in events like the Gingerbread Bazaar, Touch-A-Truck, Riverside Cemetery cleaning, and even the Trunk or Treat where we took in top honors! Again, the club prepared food for the Lunenburg Old Home Day celebration. Donations of money or items were made to the Gilman Senior Center and Top of The Common. We launched a successful Toys for Tots campaign with Project H.O.P.E.

Throughout the year The Polar Bears continued to maintain our seventy miles of trails and three dozen bridges in East Haven, Ferdinand, Gilman, Granby, Guildhall, Lunenburg, and Victory. A big boost was the use of ARPA funding to improve segments of Hagan Road and Old Pond Hill Road, which also served other recreational interests.

The club promoted some area properties with access to trails, in addition to highlighting local businesses. An example was our relationship with the Lunenburg Variety Store, recognized as a vital business in the area. We initiated a first-ever collaborative partnership with the Vermont Horse Council and began plans to extend their trail network into the Lunenburg area. Our organization sustained a strong media presence, plus we rebranded with a new logo and line of club apparel.

Yes, there was a collective gasp when we learned the news of the fire at Tracy and Jeff's. Thankfully the family and pets were unharmed. Then, despite the preparations by our volunteers for snowmobiling the winter was simply awful. We only groomed one quarter of our typical mileage. This follows two prior seasons of poor snow support. Combined with the non-existent winter across the country, these overall impacts became very concerning for the future of our sport. Making matters worse, the preceding was further exacerbated by tremendous flash flood damage in July.

With more than five decades of experience, the Polar Bears Snowmobile Club hopes to reap the rewards for our persistence and steadfast determination! Our volunteers will continue to promote outdoor winter recreation and related initiatives in the best interest of the community. Thanks to all our members, supporters, and landowners! Think snow!

Mike Mutascio, President



Representative John Kascenska

Essex/Caledonia District

**Bloomfield, Brunswick, Burke, East Haven,
Ferdinand, Granby, Guildhall, Lunenburg,
Maidstone, and Victory.**

House Committee on Appropriations

House Canvassing Committee

VT National Guard and Veterans Affairs Caucus

VT Rural Caucus

Contact Information

P.O. Box 41, East Burke, VT 05832

802-274-4112

Email: jkascenska@leg.state.vt.us

Dear Residents,

I am very honored to have been elected to serve as your State Representative in Montpelier. Your support during the 2024 election year was greatly appreciated and my pledge to all communities that comprise the Essex/Caledonia District is to do my best to bring your voice to the Statehouse on the issues that have an impact on your lives and those from across the State. I am grateful for the support received from Representative Terri Williams from Granby, who honorably served your community representing the everyday needs of the Northeast Kingdom. Thank you, Terri.

In 2024, I made it known that to be an effective legislator, it takes dedication to community; leadership experience; strong communication skills; the ability to work in a collaborative and effective manner; make informed decisions; and the commitment to be sure the real needs of our small towns in the Northeast Kingdom and across the state are listened to and acted upon for the benefit of all Vermonters. During my travels across the Essex-Caledonia District, residents in each town voiced common concerns about statewide issues affecting them locally. Education funding, available and affordable housing, increases in property taxes, and the cost and availability of healthcare were the concerns that rose to the top of the list.

In his Inaugural Address on January 9, 2025, Governor Scott directly called upon the Legislature to listen to the voices of our constituents; and work together to provide what Vermonters need and what they can afford. My appointment to serve on the House Committee on Appropriations highlights the essential need for me and my legislative colleagues to be laser focused on affordability in all legislative matters as we consider appropriating money from the Treasury to adequately fund our current obligations without the need to add additional tax burdens on hardworking Vermonters. Do not hesitate to reach out to me with your questions concerning legislation and any assistance needed for your community.



This year marked a new chapter for Riverside Rescue as it took over the Riverside Boarding & Grooming facility, transforming it into a full-time shelter. In 2024, we faced challenges finding homes for 240 pets due to increased surrenders and strays from financial and veterinary difficulties in the community. Riverside remains a no-kill rescue serving Essex County, Caledonia County, VT, and Coos County, NH, and was recognized by the Best Friends Network for achieving over a 90% no-kill save rate in 2022 and 2023. In 2024, we took in 100 puppies/dogs and 140 kittens/cats.

Looking ahead to 2025, ownership of the building will transfer to Riverside Rescue, Inc., and we hope to construct a Wellness Center to offer more low-cost veterinary services. We are grateful for the ongoing support and concern for the pets in our care.

Our Shelter Staff and Board of Directors look forward to your continued love and support of our mission to help as many area pets as possible.

Site Name

Gilman

	Congregate	Home Delivered & Grab and Go	Total # of Meals
Number of meals prepared	1,674	8,138	9,812

Revenue

	Total
Meal Site Income	\$ 8,400
Participant donations	\$ 7,285
Community donations	\$ 6,239
Area Agency on Aging funding	\$ 48,892
Town Funding	\$ 10,000
Bingo Income	\$ 8,394
Grants	\$ 32,800
Total Revenue	\$ 122,009

Expenses	Paid	Paid AOA		Cost Per
Personnel/labor	\$ 50,745			\$ -
Food	\$ 37,202		\$ 37,202	\$ 3.79
Contract Services	\$ 810		\$ 810	\$ 0.08
Audit/Legal	\$ 300		\$ 300	\$ 0.03
General Supplies	\$ 2,193		\$ 2,193	\$ 0.22
Utilities	\$ 14,347		\$ 14,347	\$ 1.46
Mortgage	\$ 6,001		\$ 6,001	\$ 0.61
Advertising	\$ 200		\$ 200	\$ 0.02
Fundraising	\$ 1,356		\$ 1,356	\$ 0.14
			\$ -	\$ -
Insurance	\$ 5,258		\$ 5,258	\$ 0.54
Home Delivered Meal Supplies	\$ 3,578		\$ 3,578	\$ 0.44
Driver Paid Area on Aging **		\$ 9,538	\$ 9,538	\$ 1.17
Total Expenses	\$ 121,989	\$ 9,538	\$ 131,527	
Cost Per Meal - Congregate				\$ 8.51

Volunteer Staff Hours

Kitchen Aid - 15+	Building Grants	
Sharon & Pam 20+		Grant Funds Funds Paid
Other Center Volunteers 20+	Tilliston Grant Mini Split	\$ 17,000
Includes Food Panty & Bingo	Vermont BGS Grant	\$ 10,000
Date submitted: 1/15/2024	JA Corey	17,000
Prepared by: Sharon Eaton	Unlimited Building	10,000
		\$ 27,000 \$ 27,000

Town of Lunenburg				
Profit & Loss Report				
2024 Actuals + 2025 Proposed Budget				
Income:	2024 Budgeted	2024 Actual Income	2025 Anticipated Income	% Change
3100 - Taxes				
3110 Property Taxes - Municipal *Note 1	--	\$905,215.08	\$1,000,000.00	10.47%
3120 Property Taxes - Delinquent	\$120,000.00	\$87,944.00	\$100,000.00	13.71%
3130 Interest on Delinquent Taxes	\$2,300.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	0.00%
3150 Current Use Taxes	--	\$4,030.00	\$4,000.00	-0.74%
3170 PILOT Program	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00	0.00%
3100 Taxes Total:	\$133,300.00	\$1,008,189.08	\$1,116,000.00	11.09%
3200 - Licenses, Permits & Fees				
3210 Dog Licenses	\$1,000.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	0.00%
3220 Permits	\$6,000.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	0.00%
3230 Town Clerk Fees	\$3,500.00	\$2,233.34	\$3,000.00	34.33%
3240 Liquor Licenses	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	0.00%
3270 Civil Authority Fees	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
3200 Licenses Permits & Fees Total:	\$10,770.00	\$3,003.34	\$3,770.00	25.03%
3300 - Intergovernmental Revenues				
3350 State Grants & Reimbursements *Note 2	\$250,322.80	\$139,622.28	\$130,000.00	-6.89%
3351 Listers Grant	\$9,159.26	\$7,086.50	\$9,000.00	27.00%
3352 A.O.T. Highway Aid	\$100,000.00	\$103,636.60	\$100,000.00	-3.51%
3300 Intergovernmental Revenue Total:	\$359,482.06	\$250,345.38	\$239,000.00	-4.53%
3400 - Charges for Services				
3404 Transfer Station Charges	\$48,860.92	\$49,891.00	\$45,000.00	-9.80%
3400 Charges for Services Total:	\$48,860.92	\$49,891.00	\$45,000.00	-9.80%
3500 - Miscellaneous Sources				
3503 Rent for Municipal Property	\$2,500.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	0.00%
3504 Fines	\$350.00	\$557.00	\$400.00	-28.19%
3507 Interest on General Fund	\$350.00	\$4,955.97	\$4,000.00	-19.29%
3500 Misc Sources Total:	\$3,200.00	\$11,512.97	\$10,400.00	-9.67%
Total Income	\$555,612.98	\$1,322,941.77	\$1,414,170.00	6.38%
2024 Grants Awarded				
MERP Disbursement 1 - Alden Balch Memorial Library		\$70,743.00		
MERP Disbursement 2 - Gilman Fire Station		\$24,971.00		
MERP Disbursement 3 - Lunenburg Fire Station/Town Garage		\$147,237.00		
MERP Disbursement 4 - Lunenburg Town Office Building		\$129,206.00		
MERP Disbursement 5 - Lunenburg Transfer Station		\$25,164.00		
Vermont Community Foundation Arts & Social Cohesion Grant		\$9,000.00		
National Opioid Settlement Fund		\$1,889.00		
Sparks Connecting Community Grant		\$3,038.00		
Lancaster Rotary Club Grant program		\$1,170.84		
Art Councils Art Project Grant		\$4,000.00		
AARP Winter Placemaking Grant		\$3,475.00		
Gilman Gazebo Grants		\$5,745.00		
Total Grants awarded in 2024		\$425,638.84		

	2024 Budgeted	2024 Actual Expense	2025 Anticipated Expense	% Change
Expenses				
<i>4100 - General Government</i>				
<i>4130 - Executive</i>				
4130.10 Select Board Salaries	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	0.00%
4130.40 Advertising *Note 3	\$4,000.00	\$448.50	\$2,000.00	345.93%
4130.45 Attorney *Note 4	\$14,000.00	\$1,120.00	\$2,000.00	78.57%
4130.50 Select Board Expenses	\$1,400.00	\$1,942.63	\$2,000.00	2.95%
4130.60 Select Board Administrative Assistant *Note 5	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
4130.70 Subscriptions, Fees & Website	\$5,870.00	\$5,529.64	\$5,500.00	-0.54%
4130 Executive Total:	\$34,270.00	\$18,040.77	\$20,500.00	13.63%
<i>4140 - Election & Registration Fees</i>				
4140.05 Town Clerk Retirement	\$1,600.00	\$1,405.25	\$1,405.25	0.00%
4140.10 Town Clerk Salary	\$25,550.00	\$25,550.00	\$25,550.00	0.00%
4140.11 Recording Program	\$3,480.00	\$3,480.00	\$3,500.00	0.57%
4140.12 Vital Records Repair *Note 6	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
4140.15 Assistant Town Clerk Salary	\$17,799.60	\$17,325.00	\$18,400.00	6.20%
4140.30 Town Clerk Health Insurance	\$2,400.00	\$1,908.00	\$2,000.00	-4.82%
4140.50 Town Clerk Expenses/Office/Payroll Process	\$1,500.00	\$6,080.00	\$6,000.00	-1.32%
4141.10 Election Official Salaries	\$600.00	\$325.00	\$300.00	-1.66%
4140 - Election Fees Total:	\$53,329.60	\$56,073.25	\$57,155.25	1.93%
<i>4150 - Financial Administration</i>				
4150.12 (4150.02) Treasurer Salaries	\$20,440.00	\$20,440.00	\$20,440.00	0.00%
4150.20 Treasurer Retirement	\$1,124.20	\$1,124.20	\$1,100.00	-2.15%
4150.50 Treasurer Expenses *Note 7	\$250.00	\$945.00	\$1,000.00	5.82%
4150.60 Fees - Delinquent Tax Collector *Note 8	\$2,300.00	\$7,522.56	\$5,000.00	-33.83%
4151.10 Auditors' Salaries *Note 8	\$3,600.00	\$3,900.00	\$3,600.00	-7.80%
4151.80 Auditors' Supplies (Town Report) *Note 10	\$2,299.00	\$3,790.01	\$2,700.00	-26.76%
4152.91 Computer	\$2,000.00	\$250.99	\$250.00	-0.38%
4150 - Financial Administration Total:	\$32,013.20	\$37,972.76	\$34,090.00	-10.23%
<i>4153 - Revaluation of Properties</i>				
4153.10 Listers' Salaries	\$9,000.00	\$9,400.00	\$12,000.00	27.66%
4153.40 NEMRC Administration	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	0.00%
4153.50 Listers' Expenses	\$3,000.00	\$2,928.75	\$3,000.00	2.43%
4153.51 Re-Appraisal	\$30,000.00	\$24,975.00	\$30,000.00	20.12%
4153.60 Re-Appraiser Miscellaneous Costs	400	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
4153.90 Consultants	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	0.00%
4153 Revaluation of Properties Total:	\$44,000.00	\$37,903.75	\$46,600.00	22.94%
<i>4194 - General Government Buildings</i>				
4194.10 Maintenance Salaries	\$1,250.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,690.00	40.83%
4194.11 Tax Map	\$2,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00	25.00%
4194.16 Copy Machine Contract	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	0.00%
4194.55 Municipal Building Utilities	\$16,000.00	\$9,060.26	\$10,000.00	10.37%
4194.60 Repairs & Maintenance *Note 11	\$1,000.00	\$217.96	\$5,000.00	2194.00%
4194.70 Grounds - Sub Contractor	\$22,000.00	\$21,000.00	\$22,000.00	4.76%
4194.83 Street Lighting	\$13,396.00	\$13,879.00	\$14,000.00	0.87%
4194.90 Bandstands	\$500.00	\$629.67	\$650.00	3.23%
4194.91 War Memorial	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00	100.00%
4194 General Government Building Total:	\$59,146.00	\$50,486.89	\$59,340.00	17.54%

	2024 Budgeted	2024 Actual Expense	2025 Anticipated Expense	% Change
4196 Insurance				
4196.10 Insurance	\$52,000.00	\$45,916.80	\$50,000.00	8.89%
4196 Insurance Total:	\$52,000.00	\$45,916.80	\$50,000.00	8.89%
4200 Public Safety				
4210.20 Sheriff's Fee *Note 12	\$50,000.00	\$43,132.11	\$50,000.00	15.92%
4210.25 - Dispatch Fees	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	0.00%
4210.30 Animal Control	\$1,800.00	\$1,992.00	\$2,000.00	0.40%
4210.40 - Riverside Contracted Services *Note 13	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	0.00%
4210 Police Total:	\$57,300.00	\$47,624.11	\$57,500.00	20.74%
4215 Ambulance				
4215.10 Lancaster Coverage	\$58,590.00	\$58,590.00	\$80,990.00	38.23%
4215.30 Transfer to Gilman Rescue *Note 14	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	0.00%
4215 Ambulance Total:	\$63,590.00	\$58,590.00	\$85,990.00	46.77%
4220 Fire Department				
4220.10 Transfer to Lunenburg Fire Department	\$21,794.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	0.00%
4220.11 Gilman Fire Department Utilities	\$8,000.00	\$5,877.20	\$6,000.00	2.09%
4220.15 Emergency Vehicle Repair	\$2,500.00	\$7,895.98	\$10,000.00	26.65%
4220.20 Emergency Vehicle Replacement *Note 15	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$20,000.00	33.33%
4200 Fire Department Safety Total:	\$47,294.00	\$48,773.18	\$56,000.00	14.82%
4300 Highways Streets & Bridges				
4312 Highway				
4312.10 Highway Salaries	\$150,000.00	\$135,557.00	\$155,000.00	14.34%
4312.11 Highway Overtime	\$15,168.00	\$18,900.00	\$15,000.00	-20.87%
4312.20 Highway Payroll Taxes	\$0.00	\$19,941.02	\$20,000.00	
4312.30 Highway Health Insurance	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$9,000.00	50.00%
4312.31 Physicals/Drug Testing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
4312.40 Highway Retirement	\$11,000.00	\$6,498.38	\$12,000.00	84.66%
4312.41 Salt Shed Building	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	0.00%
4312.42 Salt	\$29,160.00	\$24,300.00	\$29,000.00	19.34%
4312.43 Sand *Note 16	\$28,080.00	\$11,897.79	\$25,000.00	110.12%
4312.50 Expense/Office Supplies	\$250.00	\$297.27	\$250.00	-15.98%
4312.52 Highway Uniforms/ Clothing Allowance	\$1,500.00	\$1,350.00	\$1,500.00	11.11%
4312.54 Utilities	\$11,000.00	\$7,486.66	\$11,000.00	46.93%
4312.55 Building Fuel - Pellets	\$9,000.00	\$2,128.67	\$5,000.00	134.89%
4312.63 Building Maintenance	\$3,000.00	\$2,038.00	\$3,000.00	47.20%
4312.65 Road Signs	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	0.00%
4312.66 Bridge Repair & Maintenance *Note 17	\$5,000.00	\$20,069.58	\$50,000.00	149.13%
4312.70 Vehicle Fuel	\$52,000.00	\$25,679.65	\$30,000.00	16.82%
4312.71 Vehicle Maintenance & Repair	\$35,000.00	\$52,665.11	\$40,000.00	-24.05%
4312.80 Road Maintenance Materials *Note 18	\$50,000.00	\$81,642.93	\$50,000.00	-38.76%
4312.81 Unemployment Insurance	\$1,000.00	\$574.00	\$750.00	30.66%
4312.84 Tools	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	0.00%
4312.85 Equipment Rental	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	0.00%
4312.90 Subcontracted Services *Note 19	\$8,000.00	\$45,620.50	\$15,000.00	-87.17%
4312.91 Roadside Mowing	\$5,000.00	\$5,800.00	\$6,000.00	3.45%
4312.95 Paving Material	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	0.00%
4312.96 Paving Equipment	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	0.00%
4315.87 Transfer to Highway Vehicle Replacement	\$40,000.00	\$51,768.24	\$40,000.00	-23.73%
4300 Highway Total:	\$476,258.00	\$520,814.80	\$584,600.00	12.25%

	2024 Budgeted	2024 Actual Expense	2025 Anticipated Expense	% Change
4324 Transfer Station				
4324.10 Transfer Station Salaries	\$30,001.60	\$30,000.00	\$31,000.00	3.33%
4324.40 Transfer Station Utilities	\$5,000.00	\$2,751.62	\$4,500.00	63.64%
4324.50 Transfer Station Office Supplies	\$100.00	\$562.46	\$100.00	-83.22%
4324.63 Building & Grounds Maintenance	\$1,000.00	\$4,696.19	\$3,000.00	-35.12%
4324.64 Equipment Maintenance	\$10,000.00	\$7,346.98	\$5,000.00	-31.94%
4324.70 State Tax (6.00/ton paid to the State)	\$1,000.00	\$2,558.10	\$2,800.00	9.46%
4324.80 Tipping Fees C&D (construction & demo)	\$34,000.00	\$8,246.16	\$10,000.00	21.27%
4324.81 Tipping Fees MSW (general trash)	\$17,000.00	\$22,451.04	\$24,000.00	6.90%
4324.82 NEKWMD	\$15,818.09	\$8,292.16	\$10,000.00	20.60%
4324.83 Transportation Fee *Note 20	\$20,000.00	\$18,559.45	\$25,000.00	34.70%
4324.87 Bags *Note 21	\$9,000.00	\$9,900.00	\$0.00	-100.00%
4324.88 Transfer Station Uniforms	\$1,000.00	\$3,330.36	\$3,855.28	15.76%
4324 Transfer Station Total:	\$143,919.69	\$118,694.52	\$119,255.28	0.47%
4415 Health				
4415.05 Green Up	\$100.00	\$200.00	\$100.00	-50.00%
4415.10 Health Agencies *Note 22	\$5,600.00	\$2,917.00	\$6,505.00	123.00%
4415.20 Health Officer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
4415 Health Total:	\$5,700.00	\$3,117.00	\$6,605.00	111.90%
4520 Culture & Recreation				
4520.20 Old Home Day	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$800.00	0.00%
4520.30 Adult Basic Education	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$250.00	25.00%
4520.40 - Fairbanks Museum *Note 23	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,264.00	0.00%
4520 Culture & Recreation Total:	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,314.00	131.40%
4652 Economic Development				
4652.10 Economic Development Agencies	\$1,010.00	\$1,010.00	\$1,010.00	0.00%
4652.20 NRCD Essex County Nature Resource Cons.	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	0.00%
4652 Economic Development Total:	\$2,010.00	\$2,010.00	\$2,010.00	0.00%
4912 Special Revenue Funds				
4912.10 Transfer to Alden Balch Memorial Library	\$25,000.00	\$28,695.85	\$25,750.00	-10.27%
4912.50 Transfer to Town Owned Cemeteries	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$5,650.00	25.56%
4912.55 Transfer to Riverside Cemetary	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	0.00%
4912.60 Trans to Fire District 1 - Lunenburg - Water	\$1,200.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	0.00%
4912.65 Trans to Fire District 2 - Gilman - Water & Sev	\$1,200.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	0.00%
4912.7 Transfer to Senior center	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	0.00%
4912 Special Revenue Funds Total:	\$46,400.00	\$48,895.85	\$47,100.00	-3.67%
4915 Trust & Capital Reserves Fund				
4915.15 Vehicle Loan Payments	\$26,768.24	\$26,768.24	\$19,820.32	-25.96%
4915 Trust & Capital Reserves Total:	\$130,000.00	\$26,768.24	\$19,820.32	-25.96%

	2024 Budgeted	2024 Actual Expense	2025 Anticipated Expense	% Change
<i>4931 Payments to other Governments</i>				
4931.10 County *Note 24	\$42,000.00	\$58,700.64	\$51,877.50	-11.62%
4931 Payments to other Gov Total:	\$42,000.00	\$58,700.64	\$51,877.50	-11.62%
Total Expenses	\$1,290,230.49	\$1,181,382.56	\$1,300,757.35	10.10%
For Your Reference:				
		2024 Year End	2025 Proposed	
Total Income		\$1,322,941.77	\$1,414,170.00	
Total Expenses		\$1,181,382.56	\$1,300,757.35	
End of Year Remainder		\$141,559.21	\$113,412.65	
Estimated 2025-2026 School Tax Payment *Note 25		\$1,975,000.00	\$2,000,000.00	



Tombstones and Autumn Leaves, Baptist Hill Cemetery - Gary Fournier photo

NOTES & DETAILS ON SPECIFIC BUDGET ITEMS

Note 1 - We have removed School tax estimates as these are unpredictable, and our leadership & citizens cannot actually change or vote to change these within the scope of Town Meeting. This is a tough decision that we made, but it was ultimately decided that including unreliable estimates would create unnecessary and unproductive contention over the report on an issue that is out of our control.

Note 2 - In 2024 the State Grants were misclassified due to the receipt of incorrect information. The \$100,000 awarded for A.O.T Highway Aid was also reflected in the "State Grants & Reimbursements" line item. This year the figure seems drastically lower because we have correctly separated these awarded funds and reflected them in the appropriate categories.

Note 3 - We planned to have delinquent tax sales in 2024. Originally, these sales were slated for September, however the previous Tax Collector resigned in August, and the new Tax Collector was not appointed until October. There will be a delinquent tax sale this year, 2025. The reduction in anticipated expenses for 2025 is to first utilize the funds that were budgeted last year.

Note 4 - Same rationale as for the Advertising budget.

Note 5 - This role is being fulfilled by the Town Clerk, as is typical for a town our size. So no funds need to be budgeted at this time.

Note 6 - We allocated funds to this line item last year, and now with our new account management processes, we will reserve these funds for this purpose. No new funds will be allocated until these are used.

Note 7 - Due to the difficulty to allocate exact payroll processing fees to each department, all expenses incurred to process our weekly payroll with ADP has been included in this line item. These responsibilities are handled by the Town Clerk position. This distinction will be made more clear going forward.

Note 8 - This number fluctuated, as a new Tax Collector was appointed in October 2024. The new Tax Collector has a new process and was extremely effective with November and December Collections, resulting in the Tax Collector fees surpassing what was budgeted from last year.

Note 9 - The over budgeted amount in the line item reflects unexpected Quickbook Training that was provided to the Town Clerk/Treasurer. We do not anticipate the need to do this training in 2025.

Note 10 - In 2024, we printed far more books than we realized was necessary and had several color pages in the report. This year we have adjusted that and are printing a more appropriate amount of books and with significantly less color pages.

Note 11 - These funds are for structural and fixture improvements for the Town Clerk Office which has not seen any significant updates for over a decade.

Note 12 - The actual shows as \$43,122, because the sheriff billing cycle is different from the cycle we currently operate on. However, at last year's Town meeting, Sheriff Trevor did present great rationale as to why we should consider adopting that fiscal year operation instead of the current Year end operating budget. This was not discounted, and we will continue to look into potentially adopting this.

Note 13 - Prior to 2025, Riverside Rescue has charged the Town for stray dog boarding and healthcare on a per case basis. Beginning in 2025, Riverside Rescue has changed to a contracted service fee for each Town that will cover all services. Although we budgeted for case-by-case boarding and healthcare fees for 2024, Riverside Rescue did not submit any invoices for those services.

Note 14 - Steve Jones has been appointed the new Coordinator for Gilman Fire Rescue and will use these funds to revive this program.

Note 15 - Prior to 2025, Emergency Vehicle Replacement funds were intermixed with General Fund money making it difficult to track these reserve fees over time. Going forward, approved Emergency Vehicle Replacement funds will be deposited in a separate Town account ensuring these funds will accrue from year to year and be available when a replacement vehicle is purchased.

*Note 16 - This is because we were utilizing reserves we had available for most of 2024. These reserves are depleted, and need to be replenished.

Note 17 - This includes the culvert repair costs from the floods, This **WILL** be reimbursed from FEMA.

Note 18 - Due to the road damage from the July 2024 storms, the road crew required significantly more road materials than expected. We do expect the overage in expenses to be reimbursed by FEMA in 2025.

Note 19 - Increase is for the same reason as Note 18 for the Road Materials. Related to July 2024 Storms.

Note 20 - There are several charges incurred to dispose of trash at the Carberry Landfill in Berlin, NH. We have 2 dumpsters that are transported to Berlin: The compactor that contains household trash (MSW) and the open top dumpster adjacent to the free table (C&D). Carberry Landfill charges us based on the tonnage deposited. In addition to that charge, because our Transfer Station is a member of the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District (NEKWMD), we also pay them a fee for total tonnage deposited. Lastly, we pay a transportation fee to the trucking company that hauls the dumpsters to and from Berlin. This used to be

hauled by Beattie Enterprises and the Town received a very favorable rate. Beattie Enterprises has opted to stop all trash hauling as of 12/31/24 so we have switched our hauling contract to Normandeau Trucking and are experiencing significantly higher fees. The budgeted expense for transportation for 2025 reflects those increased fees.

Note 21 - We now have a stockpile of bags, and do not anticipate the need to purchase more this year.

Note 22 - In past years, the various agencies supported by this funding were not clearly delineated to voters. These funds are dispersed among the the following agencies: *Vermont Association of the Blind; Northeast Kingdom Youth Services; Umbrella; Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging; Northeast Kingdom Learning Services; Vermont Center for Independent Living; Vermont Family Network; CaledoniaHome Health; Rural Community Transportation,inc; Northeast Kingdom Human Services & Essex County Natural Resources District.* These organizations play a vital role in serving community residents, collectively serving 254 residents in 2024. As part of the National Opioid Settlement Fund, the Town of Lunenburg has received \$1,889 to date and those funds will combine with this budget amount to support these agencies in 2025.

Note 23 - This support to the Fairbanks Museum provides free entry to the Museum throughout 2025 for all Lunenburg and Gilman residents.

Note 24 - This includes a late fee of \$6,289.36 which was incurred by the town in Quarter 2 & Quarter 4 of 2024 for a late payment on our County Tax Payment in 2024. Late fees are a waste of taxpayer dollars and should be avoided at all cost. Measures are in place in 2025 to avoid paying late fees.

Note 25 - Unfortunately this information is not divulged by the School Board until Summer time. This makes this line item inherently difficult to accurately project or even to account for. Because of this, and the fact the Selecbord/citizens cannot vote or change what the obligatory payment is, it was decided to have this value listed separately from the rest of the report; and from items which our community can actually vote and have a voice on.

	<u>Individual</u>	<u>Contact #</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Appointed/ Elected</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>	<u>Term Length</u>
OFFICE						
Town Clerk	Gary Briggs	802-892-5959	townclerk@lunenburg-gilmanvt.gov	A-2024	Town Meeting 2025	2 months
Assistant Town Clerk	Katelyn Walker	802-892-5959	lunenburgasstclerk@gmail.com	H-2024	NA	NA
Town Treasurer	Gary Briggs	802-892-5959	townclerk@lunenburg-gilmanvt.gov	A-2024	Town Meeting 2025	2 months
Assistant Town Treasurer	Katelyn Walker	802-892-5959	lunenburgasstclerk@gmail.com	H-2024	NA	NA
Delinquent Tax Collector	Cindy Wilmott	802-892-5218	delinquenttax@lunenburg-gilmanvt.gov	A-2024	NA	NA
SELECTBOARD (3)						
Board Member, Chair	Harry Williams	802-892-5959	selectboard@lunenburg-gilmanvt.gov	E-2022	2025	3 years
Select Board Member	Nancy Benoit	802-892-5959	selectboard@lunenburg-gilmanvt.gov	E-2024	2027	3 years
Select Board Member	Vacant		To fill Gary Briggs' vacant seat	E	2026	1 year
BOARD OF LISTERS						
Lister	Linda Magoni	802-892-1162	lunenburglisters@outlook.com	E-2023	2027	3 years
Lister	Karen Danforth	802-892-1162	lunenburglisters@outlook.com	E-2022	2025	3 years
Lister	Vacant		To fill Ian Parker's vacant seat	E	2026	1 year
AUDITORS						
Auditor	Luke Robinson		auditors@lunenburg-gilmanvt.gov	E-2023	2025	3 years
Auditor	Jim Moffitt		auditors@lunenburg-gilmanvt.gov	A-2024	2027	3 Years
Auditor	Vacant		To fill Karen Sargent's vacant seat	E-2023	2026	1 year
CONSTABLE						
	Dan Comeau	802-892-5966	Cell: 802-751-9278	E-2024	2025	1 year
HEALTH OFFICER						
	Luke Robinson	805-551-7732	lunenburg.tho@gmail.com	A-2023	NA	NA
FIRE CHIEF						
	Steve Colby	802-892-6611	lunenburgvfd@yahoo.com	A-2024	NA	NA
ROAD FOREMAN						
	Gregg Williams	802-892-1175	gregg6762@gmail.com	H-2024	NA	NA
TOWN MODERATOR						
	Jacob Fournier		jmfournier@gmx.net	E-2024	2025	1 year
BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY						
Justice of the Peace	Jim Peyton	802-535-9749	jimpeyton8@gmail.com	E-2024	2026	2 years
Justice of the Peace	Diane Peyton	802-535-9749	jimpeyton8@gmail.com	E-2024	2026	2 years
Justice of the Peace	Wyatt Peyton	802-535-9749	jimpeyton8@gmail.com	E-2024	2026	2 years
Select Board Member	Harry Williams	802-892-5959	selectboard@lunenburg-gilmanvt.gov	E-2022	2025	3 years
Select Board Member	Nancy Benoit	802-892-5959	selectboard@lunenburg-gilmanvt.gov	E-2024	2027	3 years
Select Board Member	Vacant					
Town Clerk	Gary Briggs	802-892-5959	townclerk@lunenburg-gilmanvt.gov	A-2024	2025	2 months
911 COORDINATOR						
	Jim Peyton	802-535-9749	jimpeyton8@gmail.com	A-2024	NA	NA
PLANNING COMMITTEE						
Chair	Tina Breault		luneburgtownplan@gmail.com	A-2024	2025	1 year
Member	Gary Briggs	802-892-5959	townclerk@lunenburg-gilmanvt.gov	A-2024	2025	1 year
Member	Isabella Mertens		luneburgtownplan@gmail.com	A-2024	2025	1 year
DOG OFFICER						
	Jeff Champine	603-858-2941	champinejeff@yahoo.com	A-2024	2025	1 year
LUNENBURG OLD CEMETERY ASSOC.						
Member	Carrol Macie	802-505-3396				
Member	Deborah Thomas	802-224-6274	debbiethomasvt@hotmail.com			
Member	Penny Nason			A-2024	2025	3 years
ALDEN BALCH MEMORIAL LIBRARY						
Librarian	Deborah Thomas	802-892-5365	aldenbalchlibrary@hotmail.com	A-2022	NA	NA
Assistant Librarian	Bonnie Van Horne	802-892-5365	aldenbalchlibrary@hotmail.com	A-2021	NA	NA
Board of Trustee Member	Angela Marchetti		aldenbalchlibrary@hotmail.com	E-2025	2028	5 years
Board of Trustee Member	Elaine Rentz		aldenbalchlibrary@hotmail.com	E-2022	2027	5 years
Board of Trustee Member	Monica Eastman		aldenbalchlibrary@hotmail.com	E-2021	2026	5 years
Board of Trustee Chair	Katie Carpenter	802-461-9027	aldenbalchlibrary@hotmail.com	E -2020	2025	5 years
Board of Trustee Member	Kelsey Wilkinson		aldenbalchlibrary@hotmail.com	E-2024	2029	5 years

KINGDOM EAST SCHOOL BOARD

Member	Jim Peyton	802-535-9749-	jimpeyton8@gmail.com	E-2023	2026	3 years
Member	Vacant					

VERMONT STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

Ethics Liaison	Gary Briggs	802-892-5959	townclerk@lunenburg-gilmanvt.gov	A-2025	NA	NA
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NOTE:

- E = Elected
- A = Appointed
- H = Hired

Updated February 10th, 2025

Town of Lunenburg Vermont
Post Office Box 54
Lunenburg, VT 05906-0054



ECRWSS

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER