

Town of Mendon

Vermont



2024

Annual Report

Financial Reports

July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

Budget Proposal

July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

Town of Mendon, Vermont

www.mendonvt.gov

Town Office Staff

Town Office: Mon. - Thurs. 9AM - 4PM or by appointment, closed Fri.

Updated office hours are posted at www.mendonvt.gov

Phone: 802-775-1662

Animal Control Officer – Rod MacCuaig		802-775-1545
Bookkeeper/Assistant Clerk – Joy Hatfield	assistantclerk@mendonvt.gov	802-775-1662
Collector of Delinquent Taxes-Nancy Merrill		802-775-4689
Constable – Lema Carter	*in an emergency dial 911	802-236-2605
Dir. Emergency Management - Lema Carter	Lema.Carter@vermont.gov	802-236-2605
Fire Warden – Seth Bridge	mendonbridge10@gmail.com	802-342-0757
Health Officer – Trish Molloy	tmolloy3896@gmail.com	860-508-2113
Planning Commission – Therese Corsones	corsonesct@aol.com	802-773-3413
Road Commissioner – Chris Baird	roads@mendonvt.gov	802-773-4402
Selectboard: Megan Smith	selectboardchair@mendonvt.gov	802-505-5800
Sarah Buxton	Sarah@tarrantgillies.com	802-234-1513
Seth Bridge	mendonbridge10@gmail.com	802-342-0757
Tax Assessor – Spencer Potter	vtassessor@gmail.com	802-496-9689
Town Administrator – Sara Hebert Tully	administrator@mendonvt.gov	802-558-3935
Town Clerk/Treasurer- Jesse Bridge	clerk@mendonvt.gov	802-775-1662
Zoning Administrator – Greg Smith	zoning@mendonvt.gov	802-712-4555

Meeting Schedule

Planning Commission	First Monday at 5:15 PM at Town Office/Remote, please see notices
Selectboard	Second and fourth Monday at 5:30 PM at Town Office/Remote please see notices
Zoning Board of Adjustment	Meets as required

Important Dates

February 25, 2025	Barstow Unified Union School District Meeting, 6:30 PM
March 3, 2025	Town Meeting at VTRANS Office Building, 61 Valley View, Mendon 6:00 PM
March 4, 2025	Town of Mendon Annual Meeting polls open 8:00 AM- 7:00 PM, Town Office
March 10, 2025	Taxes Due at the Town Office
April 1, 2025	Dog License registration due at the Town Office
September 8, 2025	Taxes Due at the Town Office

*Please check the website www.mendonvt.gov regularly for additions or changes to the above information.

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Cover: Photo of the new playground structures at the Mendon Recreation Area submitted by Liam Fracht-Monroe.

Barstow Graduating Class of 2024



The Town of Mendon is proud of all the students of the 2024 graduating class and wish them future success as they continue their education.

A special congratulations goes to:

Collin Bridge
 Son of Town Clerk & Treasurer
 Jesse Bridge and
 Selectboard Member & Fire Warden
 Seth Bridge

Elected Town Officers

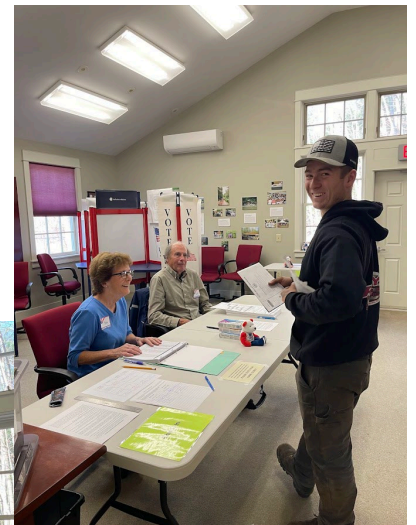
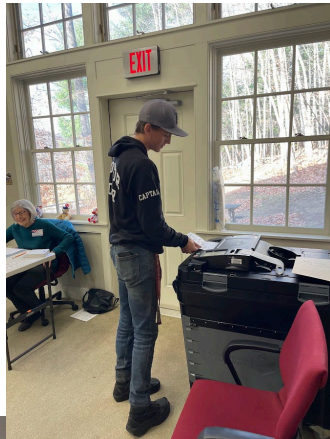
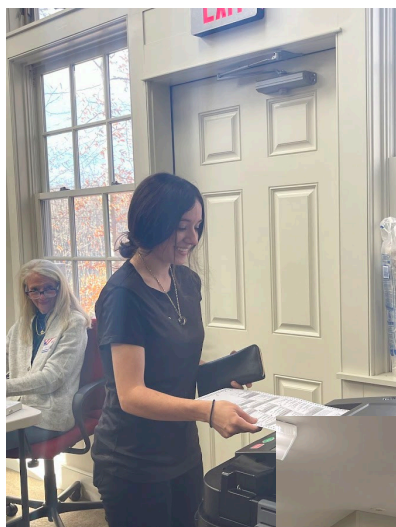
Office	Official	Term Ends
Moderator (one year)	Christopher Corsones	2025
Selectboard (three years)	Seth Bridge Sarah Buxton (appointed December 2024 until March 2025) Val Taylor (resigned October 2024) Lisa Brooks (resigned January 2024) Megan Smith	2026 2027 2025
Delinquent Tax Collector (three years)	Nancy Bridge Merrill	2025
Justice of the Peace (two years)	Rich Carlson Susannah Loffredo Lindsey MacCuaig Betsy Reddy Jim Reddy Megan Smith Al Wakefield	2027 2027 2027 2027 2027 2027 2027

Appointed Town Officers

Title	Name	Term Ends
Constable (two years)	Lema Carter	2026
Town Clerk (three years)	Nancy Gondella (resigned March 2024) Jesse Bridge	3/31/26
Town Treasurer (three years)	Nancy Gondella (resigned March 2024) Jesse Bridge	3/31/26
Assistant Clerk (Appointed by the Town Clerk)	Ann Singiser Joy Hatfield (hired April 2024)	3/31/26
Assistant Treasurer (Appointed by the Town Treasurer)	Ann Singiser	3/31/26
Road Commissioner (one year)	William Ellis (retired 1/31/24) Chris Baird	3/31/24 3/31/25
Road Commissioner Admin. (one year)	Sara Hebert Tully	3/31/25
Fire Warden (three years)	Seth Bridge	6/30/27

Town Service Officer (one year)	Mary Ann Gaherty-Reich	4/14/25
Planning Commission (four years) (7 member board)	Lisa Swett (resigned May 2024) Steve Ellerin Therese Corsones, Chair Justin Lindholm Dick Howe Dennis O'Connell Fred Bagley Sarah Buxton Phil Douglas (resigned January 2024)	3/31/27 3/31/28 3/31/28 3/31/28 3/31/26 3/31/25 3/31/25
Energy Committee (four years)	Therese Corsones Justin Lindholm Vacancy	3/31/27 3/31/28 3/31/25
Zoning Administrator (three years)	Fred Bagley Steve Ellerin Greg Smith	3/31/26
Zoning Board of Adjustment (three years)	Harvey Zara Jack Kennelly, Chair Therese Corsones Susannah Loffredo Vacancy	3/31/26 3/31/27 3/31/25 3/31/25 3/31/25
Town Recreation (four years)	Lisa Brooks Jesse Bridge Larry Courcelle Liam Fracht-Monroe Betsy Reddy (resigned January 2025) Jim Reddy (resigned January 2025) Vacancy Vacancy	3/31/27 3/31/28 3/31/25 3/31/25 3/31/27 3/31/28
Cemetery Commission (one year)	Val Taylor Chris Baird Dennis Charles William Ellis (resigned January 2024)	3/31/25 3/31/25 3/31/25
Rutland Regional Transportation Commission (three years)	Larry Courcelle	3/31/28
Emergency Management (two years)	Lema Carter	3/31/25
E911 Coordinator (two years)	Jesse Bridge	3/31/25

Rutland Regional Planning Commission (three years)	Larry Courcelle	3/31/27
Rutland Regional Emergency Management Committee (one year)	Lema Carter Val Taylor	3/31/25 3/31/25
Town Health Officer (three years)	Sara Hebert Tully (August 2024) Trish Molloy (appointed August 2024)	4/30/25
Deputy Town Health Officer (three years)	Mary Ann Gaherty-Reich	4/14/27
Regional Ambulance Service (three years)	Mary Ann Gaherty-Reich	3/31/27
Rutland County Solid Waste District Representative (three years)	Susannah Loffredo (resigned) Susan Feenick (appointed April 2024)	3/31/27
Otter Creek Communications Union District Representative	Larry Courcelle	3/31/25
Animal Control Officer/Poundkeeper (one year)	Rod MacCuaig	3/31/25
Tree Warden (one year)	William Ellis (resigned 1/31/24) Chris Baird	3/31/25
Route 4 Steering Committee (one year)	Seth Bridge Larry Courcelle Fred Bagley Patti Lancaster Sara Tully	3/31/25 3/31/25 3/31/25 3/31/25 3/31/25



First Time Voters: Laney Hussak, Audrey Beers, Luke English, Devon Newton, Riley Bates

Highlights and Objectives

Financial: The town ended FY24 with a surplus balance of \$58,691. The Selectboard rolled \$28,691 from FY24 of surplus funds into the amount to be collected in taxes for FY25. \$30,000 was retained as surplus highway funds. The proposed budget for 2025-2026 reflects a \$41,538 increase in operating expenses and a \$500 decrease in revenue over the 2024-2025 budget. The appropriation requests total \$7,000. The proposed budget reflects sizable increases in auditing, computer services for cybersecurity, winter sand and vehicle maintenance. There are moderate increases in legal fees, office supplies and maintenance, tax maps, law enforcement and salaries. The proposed budget reflects a significant decrease in the cost of health insurance. Although health insurance rates increased by 12%, the employee's eligible plans decreased the overall cost as well as the election to take buyout plans. The Town paid off the Town Office Bond and a portion of the budget savings was used to increase the contribution to the Town Office Maintenance Fund. The proposed budget reflects an increase of 2.99%.

Infrastructure Improvements: In the summer of 2024, the Road Crew completed work on multiple Hydrologically Connected Road Segments to meet standards of the Municipal Roads General Permit with \$22,500 from the FY23 & FY24 Grants in Aid program. This summer, the town plans to reconstruct the roadway and pave the dirt section of Journeys End to be paid for out of the Highway Improvement Fund along with a better Roads Program Grant. Notch Road will be reclaimed and resurfaced. The Town will seek Class 2 Roadway Grant Funds to help pay for this project and utilize the Highway Improvement Fund.

The **Highway Equipment Fund** will pay for the replacement of the 2015 Ford F550 with a 2025 Ford 600. The Town continues to evaluate when to replace equipment versus increase the cost of maintenance as equipment gets older. It is imperative to the safety of our roads to have reliable equipment.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA): The State of Vermont received \$1.25B from ARPA. The Town of Mendon received \$302,285 which was received in two installments. These funds have been deposited in an ARPA Fund as required by the Treasury Department. There are federally imposed project eligibility requirements for these funds. The Selectboard approved expending funds on municipal services. The town obligated the funds by December 2024 and all money will be spent by December 2026. The Selectboard worked diligently prioritizing the projects with the goal of using the funds in a way that would be the most benefit to the Town as a whole. A complete report of the ARPA Funds are included in the Town Report.

Transportation Alternatives Program Grant awarded \$36,000 with additional matching funds from the Town of \$9,000 to conduct a scoping study to create a comprehensive plan to reimagine and improve the Route 4 corridor in the Town of Mendon. Project management was contracted with the Rutland Regional Planning Commission. The Town contracted with VHB to develop a comprehensive vision and thoughtful recommendations for improvements to enhance safety for all users along and across the US Route 4 corridor, while enhancing access and aesthetics to the Village District and recreational resources. The need for this scoping study was driven by the deficiencies in the current transportation infrastructure and a need for comprehensive corridor planning. VHB completed the scoping report, which included cost estimates for planning, design, construction, and maintenance of the selected alternative. The final report can be found on the Town's website.

Public Safety Improvements are planned for this summer with the replacement of dry hydrants on Woodward Road and Journeys End. The Pond Road dry hydrant is also under consideration for

replacement. The Town is working with the Rutland City Fire Department and the VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force to prioritize and upgrade Mendon's dry hydrants. Grant funds and the Public Safety Reserve Fund will be utilized to complete these projects. Two Radar Speed Feedback signs will be installed on municipal roads to help travelers be aware of excessive speed. These signs were purchased with ARPA Funds. The Town is also pursuing installation of additional Radar Feedback Signs on US Route 4. This requires approval from the Vermont Agency of Transportation. The Town has allocated \$10,000 in the Public Safety Fund for this project.

Homeland Security Grant Program supports state, tribal, territorial, and local preparedness activities that address high priority gaps across all core capabilities that support terrorism preparedness. The Town was awarded \$14,158 to purchase equipment to respond to emergencies, acts of terrorism, and increase cybersecurity.

Emergency Operations Center Grant awarded funds to provide backup power to the Town Office to serve as the Emergency Operation Center if activated during emergency response. The Town installed a Generac 24KW generator and automatic transfer switch at the Town Office. The total project cost was \$17,400. The Emergency Operations Center Grant paid \$8,700 and the American Rescue Plan Act paid \$8,700.

Municipal Planning Grant awarded \$9,027 to revise the Zoning Bylaws to reflect statewide goals and address the community goals developed in the Town Plan. The Town Plan, adopted in 2022, set goals and action items which identified areas of the Zoning Bylaws to be considered for updates and modernization amendments. The passage of Act 74 in 2023 outlined statewide goals to increase housing. The VCRD Mendon on the Move Community Visit identified two town priorities to boost outdoor recreation and revitalize US Route 4 in Mendon. The Zoning Bylaws will be amended to meet these identified goals both at a state and local level. The Zoning Re-write Committee is actively meeting to amend the bylaws and expect to have public hearings in the Fall of 2025. Please reach out to the Planning Commission with questions and comments on this process.

Office Security The Selectboard adopted a Visitor Code of Conduct Policy in June 2023. It states the Town's commitment to providing a positive experience for those working, conducting business, and visiting Town facilities, including the town office, and other public spaces, is of the highest importance. The Town supports a workplace that is conducive to personal safety, security and is free from intimidation, threats, or violent acts. The Town will not tolerate workplace violence, including the threat of violence by anyone who conducts business with the Town. The Town will not tolerate harassing conduct that affects employment conditions, that interferes unreasonably with an individual's performance or that creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment. Complying with this Visitor Code of Conduct is required by all people doing business with Town employees. The Town Office Vestibule Reconstruction Project is complete. The Town Office is open to the public Monday-Thursday from 9 AM to 4 PM. The public can also make appointments to conduct vault research or meet with public officials.

Mendon Town Website, Facebook Page and Front Porch Forum: The Town is utilizing the Mendon Town Website, Facebook Page and Front Porch Forum as primary sources to distribute information. The website provides new news in town and information on important dates, minutes and agendas of meetings, town contact information, permits and forms and emergency information. Please go to the website at www.mendonvt.gov for the most up to date information. Current events, due dates for taxes,

dog registrations and emergency information will also be posted on the Town of Mendon, VT Facebook Page and Front Porch Forum. Please follow our page or sign up for Front Porch Forum.

Otter Creek Communication Union District: The Selectboard continued to support the OCCUD through the appointment of Larry Courcelle to represent Mendon. The Otter Creek CUD (OCCUD) serves 18 towns in the Rutland region, and they are working to provide a fiber optic internet connection of at least 100Mbps (download and upload) to each and every on-grid premise that is classified by the state as being Underserved (below 25/3 to 4/1) or Unserved (less than 4/1).

Elected Officials, Appointed Officials and Staff: In March 2024, Megan Smith was elected to serve on the Selectboard for the remaining 1 year of a three-year term. A seat that was left vacant by the resignation of Lisa Brooks from the Selectboard in February 2024. Val Taylor resigned from the Selectboard and Sarah Buxton was appointed until Town Meeting 2025. The voters will elect two seats on the Selectboard at Town Meeting 2025 for a 2-year seat and a 3-year seat. Nancy Gondella resigned as Town Clerk and Treasurer after 22 years of service. Jesse Bridge left her role as Bookkeeper and Assistant Clerk to be appointed Town Clerk and Treasurer. Joy Hatfield was hired as Bookkeeper and Assistant Clerk.

Steve Ellerin resigned as the Zoning Administrator and Greg Smith was appointed to the position. Lisa Swett resigned from the Planning Commission and was replaced by the appointment of Steve Ellerin. Phil Douglas resigned from the Planning Commission in January 2024. Dennis O'Connell was appointed to the Planning Commission.

Bill Ellis formally retired from the Road Crew in January 2024. Although you may see him from time to time as he continues to assist the Road Crew sharing his 40 years of knowledge of our roads. The Town welcomed Gabriel Moore to the Road Crew in September 2024. The Selectboard wishes to thank all officials and employees for their dedication to the Town.

****WE ARE ALWAYS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS**** Please contact the Town Office!



Mendon Town Office vestibule with window



Lucy Bridge showing off the Town Office's new rug



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Selectmen
Town of Mendon
Mendon, Vermont

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Mendon, Vermont as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town of Mendon, Vermont's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Mendon, Vermont, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position, for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Town of Mendon, Vermont and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Town of Mendon, Vermont's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve (12) months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Mendon, Vermont's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Town of Mendon, Vermont's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison on pages 3-9 and 37, respectively, the Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Position Liability on Schedule 1 and the Schedule of Contributions on Schedule 2 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Mendon, Vermont's basic financial statements. The accompanying combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements are presented for the purpose of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises the introductory and statistical sections but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 2, 2024, on our consideration of the Town of Mendon, Vermont's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Mendon, Vermont's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Town of Mendon, Vermont's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Batchelder Associates, PC

Batchelder Associates, P.C.
 License #945
 Barre, Vermont
 December 2, 2024

TOWN OF MENDON, VERMONT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

As management of the Town of Mendon, Vermont ("Town") we offer readers of the Town's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town for the year ended June 30, 2024. We encourage readers to consider the information presented here in conjunction with additional information that we have furnished in our letter of transmittal, which can be found at the beginning of this report.

Financial Highlights

The assets of the Town exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$7,768,854 (*net position*). Of this amount, \$471,983 (*unrestricted net position*) may be used by the various funds of the Town to meet the Town's ongoing obligations to its citizens and creditors.

The Town's total net position for governmental activities decreased by \$45,046.

As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Town's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$3,088,870, an increase of \$208,585 from the prior year end. Of the total ending fund balances, \$3,088,870 is available for spending at the government's discretion. Of this amount, \$2,575,918 is assigned and \$512,952 is unassigned.

The Reserve Funds reported a surplus this year of \$316,672 which resulted in a fund balance of \$2,662,549 as of June 30, 2024.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to the Town's basic financial statements. The Town's basic financial statements comprise three components: 1) Government-wide financial statements, 2) Fund financial statements, and 3) Notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

1. Government-wide Financial Statements

The *government-wide financial statements* are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Town's finances, in a manner similar to a private sector business.

The *statement of net position* presents information on all of the Town's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two (2) reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Town is improving or deteriorating.

The *statement of activities* presents information showing how the government's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., uncollected taxes and earned but unused vacation leave).

Both of the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions of the Town that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (*governmental activities*) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (*business-type activities*). The governmental activities of the Town include general government, public safety, public works, health and social services, conservation, and development.

The government-wide financial statements are designed to include not only the Town itself (*known as the primary government*), but also any legally separate entities for which the Town is financially accountable (*known as component units*). The Town has no such entities that qualify as component units.

The government-wide financial statements can be found in Exhibits A and B of this report.

TOWN OF MENDON, VERMONT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

2. Fund Financial Statements

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Town, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the Town can be classified as governmental funds.

A. Governmental Funds

Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The Town maintains one (1) individual governmental funds, the General Fund and fifteen (15) Reserve Funds and (1) Grant Fund. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for the General Fund and Reserve Funds. Data from the other governmental funds are combined into a single, aggregated presentation.

The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found in Exhibits C through E of this report.

B. Proprietary Funds

The Town has no Proprietary Funds.

C. Fiduciary Funds

The Town has no Fiduciary Funds.

3. Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found immediately following the basic financial statements in this report.

4. Other Information

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain supplementary information to provide additional financial information not included in the basic financial statements. This supplementary information includes combining statements for various funds, and budgetary comparison statements. The supplementary information can be found immediately following the notes to the financial statements in this report.

TOWN OF MENDON, VERMONT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

The Town as a Whole – Net Position

Governmental Activities - As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of the Town, assets exceeded liabilities by \$7,768,854 at the close of the fiscal year end.

By far the largest portion of the Town's net position, reflective of 60.7% of the balance, is the investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, equipment, and infrastructure) less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. The Town uses these capital assets to provide services to its citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending.

The remaining balance of unrestricted net position of \$471,983 may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors. Included in unrestricted net position are amounts that management has assigned for particular purposes, such as special revenue funds, capital project funds and reserves for expenditures in subsequent years.

At the end of the current fiscal year, the Town is able to report positive balances in both categories of net position for the government as a whole.

	Governmental Activities		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
ASSETS				
Current and other assets	\$ 3,449,566	\$ 3,213,614	\$ 3,449,566	\$ 3,213,614
Capital assets, non-depreciable	265,934	265,934	265,934	265,934
Capital assets, depreciable	4,617,018	4,917,449	4,617,018	4,917,449
Total assets	8,332,518	8,396,997	8,332,518	8,396,997
DEFERRED OUTFLOW OF RESOURCES	40,625	44,561	40,625	44,561
LIABILITIES				
Other liabilities	355,288	342,501	355,288	342,501
Long-term liabilities outstanding	238,493	272,028	238,493	272,028
Total liabilities	593,781	614,529	593,781	614,529
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	10,508	13,128	10,508	13,128
NET POSITION				
Unavailable for spending	-	12,494	-	12,494
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	4,720,952	4,992,383	4,720,952	4,992,383
Assigned	2,575,919	2,357,334	2,575,919	2,357,334
Unrestricted	471,983	451,688	471,983	451,688
Total net position	\$ 7,768,854	\$ 7,813,900	\$ 7,768,854	\$ 7,813,900

TOWN OF MENDON, VERMONT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

The Town as a Whole – Changes in Net Position

Governmental activities decreased the Town's net position by \$45,046 during the current fiscal year.

REVENUES	Governmental Activities		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Program revenues				
Charges for services	\$ 24,802	\$ 20,052	\$ 24,802	\$ 20,052
Operating grants and contributions	106,171	151,179	106,171	151,179
Capital grants and contributions	-	-	-	-
General revenues				
Property taxes	1,071,986	927,952	1,071,986	927,952
Unrestricted investment earnings	124,086	80,949	124,086	80,949
Fees and licenses	11,289	15,016	11,289	15,016
Other revenues	14,343	12,235	14,343	12,235
Total Revenues	1,352,677	1,207,383	1,352,677	1,207,383
EXPENSES				
Governmental activities				
General government	520,488	470,926	520,488	470,926
Public safety	245,963	182,439	245,963	182,439
Public works	577,664	566,388	577,664	566,388
Cultural and recreation	5,578	3,470	5,578	3,470
Cemetery	3,000	1,000	3,000	1,000
Health and social services	-	1,408	-	1,408
Conservation and development	40,967	42,012	40,967	42,012
Interest on long-term debt	4,064	4,534	4,064	4,534
Total Expenses	1,397,723	1,272,177	1,397,723	1,272,177
Change in net assets	(45,046)	(64,793)	(45,046)	(64,793)
Net position-beginning of year	7,813,900	7,878,693	7,813,900	7,878,693
Net position - end of year	\$ 7,768,854	\$ 7,813,900	\$ 7,768,854	\$ 7,813,900

TOWN OF MENDON, VERMONT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Below is a table showing cost of each of the Town's six (6) largest programs – general government, public safety, public works, health & social services, conservation, and development, and cultural and recreation – as well as each program's net cost (total cost less revenue generated by the activities). The net cost shows the financial burden that was placed on the Town's taxpayers by each of these functions:

	2024		2023	
	Total Cost of Services	Net Cost of Services	Total Cost of Services	Net Cost of Services
General government	\$ 520,488	\$ 451,620	\$ 470,926	\$ 360,836
Public safety	245,963	232,498	182,439	168,587
Public works	577,664	529,024	566,388	519,098
Cultural and recreation	5,578	5,578	3,470	3,470
Cemetery	3,000	3,000	1,000	1,000
Health and social services	-	-	1,408	1,408
Conservation and development	40,967	40,967	42,012	42,012
Interest	4,064	4,064	4,534	4,534
	<u>\$ 1,397,723</u>	<u>\$ 1,266,750</u>	<u>\$ 1,272,177</u>	<u>\$ 1,100,945</u>

Financial Analysis of the Government's Funds

As noted earlier, the Town uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

1. Governmental Funds

The focus of the Town's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Town's financing requirements. In particular, unassigned fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

At the end of the current fiscal year, the Town's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$3,088,870 an increase of \$208,585 in comparison to the prior year.

a. General Fund

The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the Town. At the end of the current fiscal year the General Fund unrestricted balance was a surplus of \$512,952. As a measure of the General Fund's liquidity, it would be useful to compare total fund balance to total general fund expenditures and operating transfers. The general fund balance represents 39.2% of the total general fund expenditures and operating transfers for the year ended June 30, 2024.

The General Fund balance decreased by \$18,699 during the fiscal year.

b. Reserve Funds

Reserve funds include Town Office Maintenance, Garage Maintenance, Shop Maintenance, Recreation, New Office Equipment, Reappraisal, Preservation, Cemetery, Truck and Other Road Equipment, Highway Improvement, Bridge Improvement, Law Enforcement, Mendon Economic Development Committee, and Irene Funds.

Total Reserve Fund balances are \$2,662,459.

TOWN OF MENDON, VERMONT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

The table below compares actual to budget for the General Fund. The most significant variances of actual to budget is as follows:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)</u>
REVENUES			
General Government	\$ 1,315,802	\$ 1,290,631	\$ (25,171)
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 1,315,802</u>	<u>\$ 1,290,631</u>	<u>\$ (25,171)</u>
EXPENDITURES			
General Government	\$ 1,315,802	\$ 1,309,331	\$ 6,471
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 1,315,802</u>	<u>\$ 1,309,331</u>	<u>\$ 6,471</u>

Capital Asset and Debt Administration

1. Capital Assets

The Town's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities for the year ended, amounted to \$4,882,952 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes land, buildings and improvements, infrastructure, furniture, vehicles, and equipment.

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Capital assets				
Land	\$ 265,934	\$ 265,934	\$ 265,934	\$ 265,934
Buildings and improvements	447,417	475,952	447,417	475,952
Equipment and furnishings	27,206	37,457	27,206	37,457
Vehicles	257,634	320,258	257,634	320,258
Infrastructure	<u>3,884,761</u>	<u>4,083,782</u>	<u>3,884,761</u>	<u>4,083,782</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 4,882,952</u>	<u>\$ 5,183,383</u>	<u>\$ 4,882,952</u>	<u>\$ 5,183,383</u>

Additional information on the Town's capital assets can be found on page 25 of the notes to financial statements.

TOWN OF MENDON, VERMONT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Capital Asset and Debt Administration (continued)

2. Long-term Debt

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Notes payable, bank	\$ 162,000	\$ 191,000	\$ 162,000	\$ 191,000
Net pension liability	103,855	101,355	103,855	101,355
Uncompensated balances	<u>1,638</u>	<u>8,673</u>	<u>1,638</u>	<u>8,673</u>
Totals	<u>\$ 267,493</u>	<u>\$ 301,028</u>	<u>\$ 267,493</u>	<u>\$ 301,028</u>

At the end of the current year, the Town had total long-term debt outstanding of \$162,000. This debt was a result of the building improvement bonds for both the Town Offices and Garage.

The Town's total debt decreased by \$33,535, primarily due to the increase in pension liability during the year.

State statutes limit the amount of bonded debt any governmental entity may issue to ten (10) times its total assessed valuation. The current debt limit for the Town is significantly in excess of the Town's outstanding bonded debt.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates

Recent data on Vermont economic conditions indicate that the performance of the Vermont economy has generally outperformed the developments in the U.S. economy overall during the past twelve (12) to eighteen (18) months.

All of these factors were considered in preparing the Town's budget for the year ended June 30, 2024, and fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

The Town approved a general fund budget for the year ended June 30, 2024, in the amount of \$1,315,802 and for the fiscal year 2025 in the amount of \$1,378,303. This represents an annualized increase of \$62,501 (4.7%) from the approved budget for the prior fiscal year.

Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Town's finances for all those with an interest in the Town's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the Town Treasurer, 2282, US Route 4, Mendon, VT 05764 (802)775-1662 or by email: Jesse Bridge Town Clerk/Treasurer at clerk@mendonvt.gov.

Budget History

Budget History Summary	2022-2023 Actual	2023-2024 Budget	2023-2024 Actual	2024-2025 Budget
Cash Balance Forward	188000	90000	90000	28691
Total Property Taxes Collected				
On-Time	925783	1050157	1029665	1168609
Delinquent	14687			
Non-Property Tax Revenue				
Revenue Allocated to Administration	133107	101645	184052	117345
Revenue Allocated to Infrastructure	46914	47000	48310	47000
Revenue Allocated to Public Safety	12484	27000	13468	27000
Total Revenue	1320975	1315802	1365495	1388645
Total Expenses				
Expenses Allocated to Administration	383210	459865	515818	540702
Expenses Allocated to Infrastructure	565827	668664	598482	652257
Expenses Allocated to Public Safety	178142	187273	172132	195687
Total Expenses	1127179	1315802	1286432	1388645

Administration Budget History	2022-2023 Actual	2023-2024 Budget	2023-2024 Actual	2024-2025 Budget
Revenue Allocated to Administration				
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	60247	55000	60438	55000
Interest Late Taxes 1%	10490	11000	9856	12000
Delinquent Tax 8%	13228	15000	16048	15000
Investment Interest	26520	2600	42722	13000
Grant Income			33010	
Licenses & Fees				
Recording Fees	13993	10000	9419	13000
Marriage Licenses	90	125	175	125
Dog Licenses	703	900	761	900
Zoning and Building Permits	4542	4000	8925	5000
Site Plan Review and Warning Fees	112	300	330	300
Truck Permits	375	400	330	400
Copying Fees	2508	2000	1618	2300
Liquor Licenses	230	230	230	230
Miscellaneous	69	90	190	90
Total Revenue Allocated to Administration	133107	101645	184052	117345

Administration Budget History Continued	2022-2023 Actual	2023-2024 Budget	2023-2024 Actual	2024-2025 Budget
Administration Expenses				
Wages and Salaries				
Administrative Staff	0	0	0	5000
Town Clerk/Treasurer	52665	56879	65518	58585
Bookkeeper/Asst Clerk	31442	34553	32615	35590
Selectboard	6499	7000	5000	7000
Town Administrator	44482	47803	49688	51041
Zoning Administrator	6302	8000	9313	8000
Tax Collector	1500	1500	1500	1500
Fees Paid				
Tax Collector	8957	6300	6900	6300
Office Expenses				
Advertising and Warning	756	1000	473	1000
Animal Control	592	800	586	800
Appraisal Services	19620	18000	19760	20000
Auditing	11500	11000	12000	11500
Computer Services	9200	9040	9252	15000
Continuing Education	3497	3500	6805	5000
Copier Service	518	600	152	600
Election Expenses	852	500	206	2000
Grant Expense	0	0	56676	0
Insurance	26950	36000	25284	30000
Landscaping	62	200	83	200
Legal	5067	3000	11734	4000
Mendon Economic Development	1408	2000	0	2000
Office Supplies and Maintenance	4754	5000	5653	5000
Planning and Zoning Expense	108	1000	983	1000
Postage and Printing	3601	3500	3851	4000
Street Lights	4347	5500	4509	4600
CAI/Tax Maps	3950	2400	4750	2400
Town Office Utilities	7393	7000	6383	9700
Miscellaneous	2387	2500	1446	2500
Payroll Taxes and Benefits				
Health Insurance	72741	109013	98117	179413
Disability Insurance	1890	1900	1727	1900
Payroll Taxes	22198	24648	26816	25700
Retirement Fund	14972	16429	20038	16373
Unemployment Insurance	0	5300	0	5000
Reserve Funds				
Community Center		10000	10000	0
Town Office Maintenance	4000	4000	4000	4000
Recreation Fund	5000	5000	5000	5000
New Office Equipment	500	5000	5000	5000
Contingency	0	500	500	500
Reappraisal	0	0	0	0
Preservation	1000	1000	1000	1000
Cemetery	500	500	500	500
Mendon Economic Development	2000	2000	2000	2000
Total Administration Expenses	383210	459865	515818	540702
Percent of Total Expenditures	29%	35%	38%	39%

Infrastructure Budget History	2022-2023 Actual	2023-2024 Budget	2023-2024 Actual	2024-2025 Budget
Revenue Allocated to Community Infrastructure				
State Aid to Highways	46914	40000	48310	40000
Road Maintenance Revenue	0	7000	0	7000
Grant Income Infrastructure	0	0	0	0
Total Revenue Allocated to Community Infrastructure	46914	47000	48310	47000
Community Infrastructure Expenses				
Salaries				
Winter	61586	97835	80869	93766
Summer	42133	61623	50685	60262
Road Commissioner	3250	3250	4825	0
Administrative Road Commissioner	1749	1750	1817	0
Winter Roads				
Fuel	13338	18000	11899	18000
Salt	42123	48500	22684	48500
Liquid Chloride	0	5000	0	5000
Sand	16100	18000	23481	18000
Repairs and Supplies	1584	3500	3489	3500
Equipment Hire	1800	4300	0	4300
Summer Roads				
Fuel	4539	8650	4642	8650
Gravel	4779	17600	5376	17600
Repairs and Supplies	1093	3500	3704	3500
Equipment Hire	8132	2500	3020	2500
Miscellaneous Road Expenses				
VT DEC Municipal Roads General Permit	1557	1000	500	1000
Robinwood Roads	0	5000	4000	5000
Garage Utilities	14249	10500	12378	12200
Grant Expense	0	0	14250	0
Sign Replacement	1392	1500	917	1500
Vehicle Maintenance	32334	30000	47404	30000
Reserve Funds				
Garage Maintenance	10000	8000	8000	8000
Highway Equipment	50000	50000	50000	50000
Highway Improvement	110000	100000	100000	100000
Bridge & Culvert	50000	50000	50000	50000
Buildings and Grounds	1755	19219	855	15201
Field Maintenance	90	1200	743	1200
Other Community Infrastructure Expense				
Recreation Programs & Barstow Youth Club	3000	3500	3000	3500
Library	25174	26432	26432	27490
Rutland Regional Planning Commission	1000	1000	1000	1000
Vermont League of Cities and Towns	2612	2612	2693	2693
Mendon Historical Society	500	500	500	500
Rutland County Tax	16082	20589	15913	17395
Appropriations				
ARC	1500	1500	1500	1500
Marble Valley Regional Transit	1200	1200	1200	1200
Retired & Senior Volunteers	700	700	700	700
Rutland Area Visiting Nurse	2600	2600	2600	2600
Rutland Mental Health	1242	1242	1242	1242
Southwest Council Aging	600	600	600	600
Wonder Feet	2500	2500	2500	2500

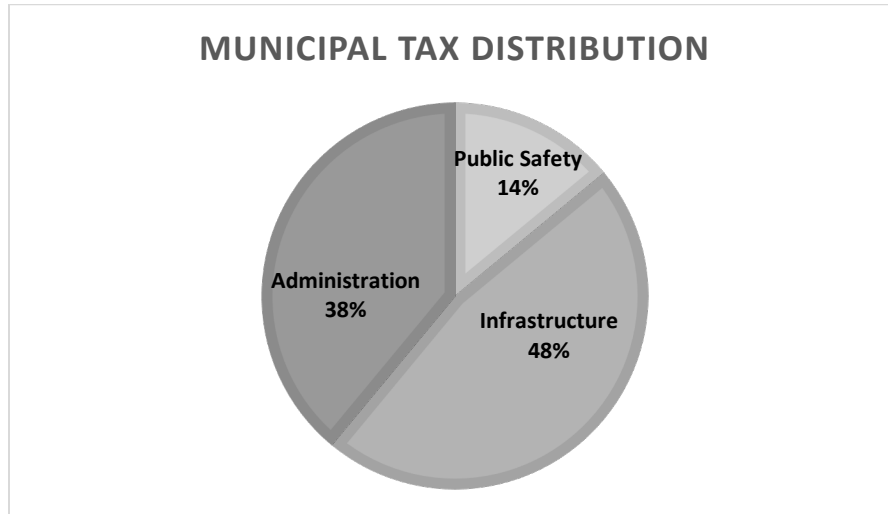
Infrastructure Budget History Continued	2022-2023 Actual	2023-2024 Budget	2023-2024 Actual	2024-2025 Budget
Town Office Bond				
Principal	9801	9785	9785	8861
Interest	108	255	57	0
Garage Bond				
Principal	19000	19000	19000	19000
Interest	4625	4222	4222	3797
Total Community Infrastructure Expenses	565827	668664	598482	652257
Percent of Total Expenditures	43%	51%	44%	47%

Public Safety Budget History	2022-2023 Actual	2023-2024 Budget	2023-2024 Actual	2024-2025 Budget
Revenue Allocated to Public Safety				
Law Enforcement Income	12484	27000	13468	27000
Grant Income	0	0	0	0
Total Revenue Allocated to Public Safety	12484	27000	13468	27000
Public Safety Expenses				
Wages and Salaries				
Constable	1500	1500	1500	1500
Director of Public Safety	5000	5000	5000	5000
Law Enforcement Staff	66888	80537	61272	88591
Constable Training	500	500	0	500
Fire Protection				
Rutland Fire Department Equipment	60000	60000	60000	60000
Rutland Fire Department Variable	37523	30000	36886	30000
Fire Warden - Salary	1200	1200	1200	1200
Fire Warden - Expenses	78	100	0	100
Law Enforcement Expenses				
Vehicle #1 Expense	0	1000	37	1000
Vehicle #1 Fuel	45	1200	0	1200
Equipment Replacement & Repairs	622	500	144	500
Barstow Shelter	50	500	497	500
Rutland Regional Ambulance	4236	4236	4596	4596
Law Enforcement Reserve Fund	500	1000	1000	1000
Total Public Safety Expense	178142	187273	172132	195687
Percent Total Expense	13%	14%	13%	14%



Wanda and Larry Courcelle checking in voters at the General Election

2025/2026 Estimated Municipal Tax Rate



- (a) Amount to be raised by taxes \$1,235,996*
- (b) Estimated Grand List/100 \$2,428,207
- (c) Estimated Tax Rate \$.5091

* Assumes the voters pass all appropriation articles totaling \$7,000.

Calculation of Municipal Tax Rate

The *Municipal Tax Rate* is expressed as the amount of tax to be paid for each \$100 of assessed value.

Tax Rate = Amount to be raised by taxes / (Grand List / 100)

Amount to be raised by taxes = total expenditures for general government and roads, reduced by other sources of revenue.

Grand List = the total value of all taxable real estate and personal estate taxable to the town.

2024/2025 Tax Rate:

Homestead = \$1.9060
 (\$.4321+\$1.4729+\$0.0010)

Non-Residential = \$1.9826
 (\$.4321+\$1.5495+\$0.0010)

Municipal Tax Rate: \$.4321

2024-2025 Amount to be raised by taxes \$1,168,609 (cash forward \$28,691)

2024-2025 Municipal Grand List \$2,428,207

Education Tax Rate:

Homestead = \$1.4729

Non-Residential = \$1.5495

Local Agreement Tax: \$.0010

2024-2025 Summary:

Municipal Tax Rate= \$.0007 decrease or .2% decrease

Education Tax Rate:

Homestead = \$.2724 increase or 22.7% increase

Non-Residential = \$.1691 increase or 12.3% increase

Total Homestead = \$.0219 increase or 16.6% increase

Total Non-Residential = \$.1686 increase or 9.3% increase

2024-2025 Total Taxes Billed \$4,722,171

2025-2026 Municipal Budget

Budget Summary	2025-2026 Budget
Cash Balance Forward	0
Total Property Taxes Collected	
On-Time	1228996
Delinquent	
Non-Property Tax Revenue	
Revenue Allocated to Administration	116845
Revenue Allocated to Infrastructure	47000
Revenue Allocated to Public Safety	27000
Total Revenue	1419841
Total Expenses	
Expenses Allocated to Administration	535867
Expenses Allocated to Infrastructure	682479
Expenses Allocated to Public Safety	201495
Total Expenses	1419841

Administration Budget	2025-2026 Budget
Revenue Allocated to Administration	
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	55000
Interest Late Taxes 1%	12000
Delinquent Tax 8%	15000
Investment Interest	13000
Grant Income	
Licenses & Fees	
Recording Fees	13000
Marriage Licenses	125
Dog Licenses	900
Zoning and Building Permits	5000
Site Plan Review and Warning Fees	300
Truck Permits	400
Copying Fees	1800
Liquor Licenses	230
Miscellaneous	90
Total Revenue Allocated to Administration	116845

Administration Budget Continued	2025-2026 Budget
Administration Expenses	
Wages and Salaries	
Administrative Staff	5000
Town Clerk/Treasurer	55724
Bookkeeper/Asst Clerk	35992
Selectboard	7000
Town Administrator	52566
Zoning Administrator	13000
Tax Collector	1500
Fees Paid	
Tax Collector	6300
Office Expenses	
Advertising and Warning	1000
Animal Control	800
Appraisal Services	20400
Auditing	20000
Computer Services	22000
Continuing Education	5000
Copier Service	600
Election Expenses	2000
Insurance	30000
Landscaping	200
Legal	8000
Mendon Economic Development	2000
Office Supplies and Maintenance	9000
Planning and Zoning Expense	1000
Postage and Printing	4000
Street Lights	4600
CAI/Tax Maps	4750
Town Office Utilities	10000
Miscellaneous	3500
Payroll Taxes and Benefits	
Health Insurance	136700
Disability Insurance	1900
Payroll Taxes	26471
Retirement Fund	16864
Unemployment Insurance	5000
Reserve Funds	
Community Center	0
Town Office Maintenance	9000
Recreation Fund	5000
New Office Equipment	5000
Contingency	500
Reappraisal	0
Preservation	1000
Cemetery	500
Mendon Economic Development	2000
Total Administration Expenses	535867
Percent of Total Expenditures	38%

Infrastructure Budget	2025-2026 Budget
Revenue Allocated to Community Infrastructure	
State Aid to Highways	40000
Road Maintenance Revenue	7000
Grant Income Infrastructure	0
Total Revenue Allocated to Community Infrastructure	47000
Community Infrastructure Expenses	
Salaries	
Winter	106485
Summer	70990
Winter Roads	
Fuel	18000
Salt	48500
Liquid Chloride	5000
Sand	28000
Repairs and Supplies	4000
Equipment Hire	4300
Summer Roads	
Fuel	8650
Gravel	17600
Repairs and Supplies	4000
Equipment Hire	2500
Miscellaneous Road Expenses	
VT DEC Municipal Roads General Permit	1000
Robinwood Roads	5000
Garage Utilities	12200
Grant Expense	
Sign Replacement	1500
Vehicle Maintenance	56000
Reserve Funds	
Garage Maintenance	8000
Highway Equipment	50000
Highway Improvement	100000
Bridge & Culvert	50000
Buildings and Grounds	
Field Maintenance	1200
Other Community Infrastructure Expense	
Recreation Programs & Barstow Youth Club	3500
Library	28315
Rutland Regional Planning Commission	1149
Vermont League of Cities and Towns	2752
Mendon Historical Society	3000
Rutland County Tax	18489
Garage Bond	
Principal	19000
Interest	3349
Total Community Infrastructure Expenses	682479
Percent of Total Expenditures	48%

Public Safety Budget	2025-2026 Budget
Revenue Allocated to Public Safety	
Law Enforcement Income	27000
Grant Income	0
Total Revenue Allocated to Public Safety	27000
Public Safety Expenses	
Wages and Salaries	
Constable	1500
Director of Public Safety	5000
Law Enforcement Staff	93899
Constable Training	500
Fire Protection	
Rutland Fire Department Equipment	60000
Rutland Fire Department Variable	30000
Fire Warden - Salary	1200
Fire Warden - Expenses	600
Law Enforcement Expenses	
Vehicle #1 Expense	1000
Vehicle #1 Fuel	1200
Equipment Replacement & Repairs	500
Barstow Shelter	500
Rutland Regional Ambulance	4596
Law Enforcement Reserve Fund	1000
Total Public Safety Expenses	201495
Percent Total Expenditures	14%



Carol Robbins and Justin Lindholm checking in voters at Mendon Town Meeting Day



Susannah Loffredo and Chris Gandin checking in voters at Mendon Town Meeting Day

Schedule of Outstanding Bond Payments

Town of Mendon Office

Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Total
2024-2025	8,860.87	0.00	8,860.87
Totals	8,860.87	0.00	\$8,860.87

** The FY25 budget will pay off the bond for the construction of the Mendon Town Office.

Town of Mendon Garage Improvement

Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Total
2024-2025	19,000.00	3,796.75	22,796.75
2025-2026	19,000.00	3,349.10	22,349.10
2026-2027	19,000.00	2,874.85	21,874.85
2027-2028	19,000.00	2,375.90	21,375.90
2028-2029	19,000.00	1,862.70	20,862.70
2029-2030	19,000.00	1,340.95	20,340.95
2030-2031	19,000.00	810.65	19,810.65
2031-2032	19,000.00	271.80	19,271.80
Totals	152,000.00	16,682.70	\$168,682.70



Welcome, Gabriel Moore, to the Mendon Road Crew

Reserve Funds 2023-2024

Office Maintenance	21-7-30-803.00		Restoration/Preservation	21-7-20-802.00
Opening Bal. 07/01/23	\$21,967		Opening Bal. 07/01/23	\$57,272
Income: Interest	\$713		Income: Interest	\$1,895
Annual Appropriation	\$4,000		Annual Appropriation	\$1,000
Expense: Powerwash	\$450		Recording Fees	\$3,614
Alarm	\$299		Ending Balance 06/30/24	\$63,781
Carpet Cleaning	\$520			
Ending Balance 06/30/24	\$25,411			
New Office Equipment	21-7-20-801.00		Reappraisal	21-7-70-811.10
Opening Bal. 07/01/23	\$26,599		Opening Bal. 07/01/23	\$96,889
Income: Interest	\$891		Income: Interest	\$3,201
Annual Appropriation	\$5,000		Annual Appropriation	\$0
Ending Balance 06/30/24	\$32,490		State Payment	\$7,251
			Ending Balance 06/30/24	\$107,340
MEDC	21-7-70-813.10		Contingency	21-7-70-810.10
Opening Bal. 07/01/23	\$17,594		Opening Bal. 07/01/23	\$100,047
Income: Interest	\$586		Income: Interest	\$3,306
Annual Appropriation	\$2,000		Annual Appropriation	\$500
Ending Balance 06/30/24	\$20,180		Ending Balance 06/30/24	\$103,853
Recreation	21-7-70-809.10		Public Safety	21-7-50-807.20
Opening Bal. 07/01/23	\$20,128		Opening Bal. 07/01/23	\$53,677
Income: Interest	\$711		Income: Interest	\$1,776
Annual Appropriation	\$5,000		Annual Appropriation	\$1,000
Playground Donation	\$2,500		Ending Balance 06/30/24	\$56,453
Ending Balance 06/30/24	\$28,339			
Cemetery	21-7-70-808.10		Community Center*	21-7-70-814.10
Opening Bal. 07/01/23	\$13,861		Opening Bal. 07/01/23	\$397
Income: Interest	\$377		Income: Interest	\$65
Annual Appropriation	\$500		Annual Appropriation	\$10,000
Expense: Plot Reimb	\$3,000		Ending Balance 06/30/24	\$10,462
Ending Balance 06/30/24	\$11,738			

Reserve Funds 2023-2024

Highway Equipment	21-7-40-811.10		Highway Improvement	21-7-40-805.10
Opening Bal. 07/01/23	\$361,811		Opening Bal. 07/01/23	\$1,064,846
Income: Interest	\$12,079		Income: Interest	\$35,431
Annual Appropriation	\$50,000		Annual Appropriation	\$100,000
Ending Balance 06/30/24	\$423,890		Ending Balance 06/30/24	\$1,200,277
Bridges and Culverts	21-7-40-806.10		Garage Maintenance	21-7-30-804.10
Opening Bal. 07/01/23	\$483,132		Opening Bal. 07/01/23	\$128,495
Income: Interest	\$16,066		Income: Interest	\$4,265
Annual Appropriation	\$50,000		Annual Appropriation	\$8,000
Expense:	\$788		Ending Balance 06/30/24	\$140,760
Ending Balance 06/30/24	\$548,410			



Nancy Gondella swearing in Megan Smith after her win for Selectboard



Hazel Taylor enjoying cake on Town Meeting Day



Collin Bridge, Philip Ramage and Lacey Mate-Ramage working at Barstow 8th grade bake sale fundraiser during Town Meeting Day

ARPA Projects

\$ 302,285.00

Project Name	Vendor	Description	Estimate	Actual
Digitization		<i>digitization of land records</i>	\$ 50,000.00	
Digitization	Canon	Canon Scanner/Printer		\$ 7,348.24
Digitization	Cott	digitization of land records		\$ 25,745.47
Digitization	Cott	indexing of land records		\$ 15,000.00
TOTAL				\$ 48,093.71
Office Upgrades		<i>upgrades to office</i>	\$ 30,000.00	
Doors	Gondella	counter doors		\$ 800.00
vestibule	Dutton	Expand entryway/Window		\$ 33,912.14
vestibule	VDFS - permit	Expand entryway/Window		\$ 256.00
Cameras	Royal	Additional cameras		\$ 2,643.40
TOTAL				\$ 37,611.54
Vault Upgrades			\$ 15,000.00	
Map Cabinet	Easifile	Map Cabinet		\$ 3,547.20
Roller Sheving	Dupont	Additional Roller Shelving		\$ 9,150.00
TOTAL				\$ 12,697.20
Town Office Generator			\$ 15,000.00	
Generator	Stubbins	Office Generator		\$ 8,700.00
		* Grant Paid 50%		
New Playground Structures			\$ 60,000.00	
Playground	Pettinelli	New Playground Structures		\$ 57,564.00
	Durgin	Woodchips		\$ 2,420.00
TOTAL				\$ 59,984.00
Folding Chairs			\$ 1,200.00	
Folding Chairs	LOWES	100 Folding chairs & storage racks		\$ 1,955.96
Structure Over Diesel Tank			\$ 5,000.00	
Structure over diesel tank	Home Depot	Structure built over diesel tank		\$ 3,026.67
Hybrid Meeting Software	Owl Software		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,049.00
Truck Replacement			\$ 150,000.00	
Truck	Formula Ford	2025 Ford F600		\$ 70,395.00
Dump Body	Viking			\$ 79,200.00
		*partial funding from Equipment Replacement Fund		
TOTAL				\$ 149,595.00
Radar Speed Feedback Signs			\$ 10,000.00	
2 radar speed feedback signs	WorkSafe	Signs for municipal roads		\$ 13,436.20
		* partial funding from Public Safety Fund		
		PROJECTS GRAND TOTAL		\$ 336,149.28

The Town of Mendon received \$302,285 as a result of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The Town is able to use these funds for normal expenditures of the Town. All monies must be allocated by the end of 2024 and expended by the end of 2026. Annual reporting is required to let the federal government know how funds are being spent. It is the Town's goal to use these funds in a way that would be of the most benefit to the Town as a whole. The Town combined ARPA funding with grant funding and the Town's Reserve Funds in order to get the largest benefit possible.

Mendon Office Maintenance Fund

Fiscal Year 2026

Assumptions:		Life Expectancy:		Facts:	
Paint		10 years		Paint	2019 \$7,750
Carpeting		15 years		Carpeting	2005 \$5,000
Drainage		30 years		Drainage	2005 \$10,000
Water Pump		25 years		Water Pump	2005 \$7,500
Grinder Pump #1 & #2		12 years		Water Treatment	2014 \$1,650
Boiler		25 years		Grinder Pump #1	2015 \$2,200
Interest rate	2.80%	percent		Grinder Pump #2	2020 \$2,535
Inflation rate	5.0%	percent		Boiler	2005 \$2,200

Fiscal Year	Opening Balance	Annual Contribn	Available Cash	Project	Cost (inflation adj)	Interest Earned	Maint	Closing Balance	Bond	Total Annual
2025	\$26,240	\$4,000	\$30,240	Vinyl Floor Replacement	\$1,509	\$735	\$500	\$28,966	\$8,861	\$12,861
2026	\$28,966	\$9,000	\$37,966		\$0	\$811	\$1,500	\$37,277	\$0	\$9,000
2027	\$37,277	\$9,000	\$46,277	Grinder Pump #1	\$3,520	\$1,044	\$1,500	\$42,301	\$0	\$9,000
2028	\$42,301	\$9,000	\$51,301	Carpeting	\$10,750	\$1,184	\$1,500	\$40,235	\$0	\$9,000
2029	\$40,235	\$9,000	\$49,235	Boiler	\$4,840	\$1,127	\$1,500	\$44,022	\$0	\$9,000
2030	\$44,022	\$9,000	\$53,022	Paint	\$12,013	\$1,233	\$1,500	\$40,742	\$0	\$9,000
2031	\$40,742	\$9,000	\$49,742	WaterPump	\$17,250	\$1,141	\$1,500	\$32,132	\$0	\$9,000
2032	\$32,132	\$9,000	\$41,132	Grinder Pump #2	\$4,070	\$900	\$1,500	\$36,462	\$0	\$9,000
2033	\$36,462	\$9,000	\$45,462		\$0	\$1,021	\$1,500	\$44,983	\$0	\$9,000
2034	\$44,983	\$9,000	\$53,983	Drainage	\$24,500	\$1,260	\$1,500	\$29,243	\$0	\$9,000
2035	\$29,243	\$9,000	\$38,243		\$0	\$819	\$1,500	\$37,561	\$0	\$9,000
2036	\$37,561	\$9,000	\$46,561		\$0	\$1,052	\$1,500	\$46,113	\$0	\$9,000
2037	\$46,113	\$9,000	\$55,113		\$0	\$1,291	\$1,500	\$54,904	\$0	\$9,000
2038	\$54,904	\$9,000	\$63,904		\$0	\$1,537	\$1,500	\$63,942	\$0	\$9,000
2039	\$63,942	\$9,000	\$72,942	Grinder Pump #1	\$4,840	\$1,790	\$1,500	\$68,392	\$0	\$9,000
2040	\$68,392	\$9,000	\$77,392	Paint	\$15,888	\$1,915	\$1,500	\$61,919	\$0	\$9,000
2041	\$61,919	\$9,000	\$70,919		\$0	\$1,734	\$1,500	\$71,153	\$0	\$9,000
2042	\$71,153	\$9,000	\$80,153		\$0	\$1,992	\$1,500	\$80,645	\$0	\$9,000
2043	\$80,645	\$9,000	\$89,645	Carpeting	\$14,500	\$2,258	\$1,500	\$75,903	\$0	\$9,000
2044	\$75,903	\$9,000	\$84,903	Grinder Pump #2	\$5,390	\$2,125	\$1,500	\$80,139	\$0	\$9,000
2045	\$80,139	\$9,000	\$89,139		\$0	\$2,244	\$1,500	\$89,883	\$0	\$9,000
2046	\$89,883	\$9,000	\$98,883		\$0	\$2,517	\$1,500	\$99,899	\$0	\$9,000



Lindsey MacCuaig checking out voters on Mendon Town Meeting Day

Mendon Preservation Fund

Fiscal Year 2026

Projects			ARPA funded 2024:		
Book Preservation	\$4,000	annually	Digitization	50000	
			Vault Upgrades	15000	
Land Records Computers (2)	2025	\$5,650	(roller shelving, map cabinet)		
Humidifier Vault	2022	\$1,500			
Interest rate	2.80%	percent			

Fiscal Year	Opening Balance	Annual Contribn	Recording Fees & Grant Income	Available Cash	Books Preservation	Projects	Interest Earned	Closing Balance
2024	\$57,272	\$1,000	\$3,614	\$61,886	\$0		\$1,894	\$63,780
2025	\$63,780	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$68,280	\$4,000	Land Records Computers	\$6,215	\$59,851
2026	\$59,851	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$64,351	\$4,000		\$1,676	\$62,027
2027	\$62,027	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$66,527	\$4,000	Humidity Control	\$5,000	\$59,263
2028	\$59,263	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$63,763	\$4,000		\$1,659	\$61,423
2029	\$61,423	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$65,923	\$4,000		\$1,720	\$63,643
2030	\$63,643	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$68,143	\$4,000	Land Records Computers	\$6,837	\$59,088
2031	\$59,088	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$63,588	\$4,000		\$1,654	\$61,243
2032	\$61,243	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$65,743	\$4,000		\$1,715	\$56,621
2033	\$56,621	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$61,121	\$4,000		\$1,585	\$58,706
2034	\$58,706	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$63,206	\$4,000		\$1,644	\$60,850
2035	\$60,850	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$65,350	\$4,000	Land Records Computers	\$7,520	\$55,534
2036	\$55,534	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$60,034	\$4,000		\$1,555	\$57,589
2037	\$57,589	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$62,089	\$4,000		\$1,612	\$59,701
2038	\$59,701	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$64,201	\$4,000		\$1,672	\$61,873
2039	\$61,873	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$66,373	\$4,000		\$1,732	\$64,105
2040	\$64,105	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$68,605	\$4,000	Land Records Computers	\$8,272	\$58,128
2041	\$58,128	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$62,628	\$4,000		\$1,628	\$60,256
2042	\$60,256	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$64,756	\$4,000		\$1,687	\$62,443
2043	\$62,443	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$66,943	\$4,000		\$1,748	\$64,691
2044	\$64,691	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$69,191	\$4,000		\$1,811	\$67,002
2045	\$67,002	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$71,502	\$4,000	Land Records Computers	\$9,099	\$60,279
2046	\$60,279	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$64,779	\$4,000		\$1,688	\$62,467

Mendon Office Equipment Fund

Fiscal Year 2026

Assumptions:	Life Expectancy:	Facts:	Year	Cost
Server Computer (1)	4 years	Server Computer	2017	\$2,000
Computers (4)	4 years	Computer (replace 2 per year)		\$1,600
Photocopier	10 years	Photocopier (Canon)	2020	\$5,220
Laptop Computers (7)	5 years	Printer	2010	\$800
Large Format Printer	10 years	Laptops (3)	2020	\$1,800
		Laptops (4) (grant funded)	2023	\$9,900
Interest rate	2.80%	Large Print Printer (grant funded)	2023	\$7,348

Fiscal Year	Opening Balance	Annual Contribn	Available Cash	Project	Computer Replacement	Interest Earned	Closing Balance
2024	\$26,599	\$5,000	\$31,599		\$0	\$891	\$32,490
2025	\$32,490	\$5,000	\$37,490		\$3,200	\$910	\$35,200
2026	\$35,200	\$5,000	\$40,200		\$3,200	\$986	\$37,985
2027	\$37,985	\$5,000	\$42,985	Laptops	\$3,200	\$1,064	\$37,649
2028	\$37,649	\$5,000	\$42,649	Photocopier	\$6,003	\$1,054	\$34,500
2029	\$34,500	\$5,000	\$39,500		\$3,200	\$966	\$37,266
2030	\$37,266	\$5,000	\$42,266		\$3,200	\$1,043	\$40,110
2031	\$40,110	\$5,000	\$45,110		\$3,200	\$1,123	\$43,033
2032	\$43,033	\$5,000	\$48,033	Laptops	\$3,360	\$1,205	\$42,678
2033	\$42,678	\$5,000	\$47,678	Large Format Printe	\$8,818	\$1,195	\$36,855
2034	\$36,855	\$5,000	\$41,855		\$3,200	\$1,032	\$39,687
2035	\$39,687	\$5,000	\$44,687		\$3,200	\$1,111	\$42,598
2036	\$42,598	\$5,000	\$47,598		\$3,200	\$1,193	\$45,591
2037	\$45,591	\$5,000	\$50,591	Laptops	\$3,528	\$1,277	\$45,139
2038	\$45,139	\$5,000	\$50,139	Photocopier	\$7,204	\$1,264	\$41,000
2039	\$41,000	\$5,000	\$46,000		\$3,200	\$1,148	\$43,948
2040	\$43,948	\$5,000	\$48,948		\$3,200	\$1,231	\$46,978
2041	\$46,978	\$5,000	\$51,978		\$3,200	\$1,315	\$50,094
2042	\$50,094	\$5,000	\$55,094	Laptops	\$3,704	\$1,403	\$49,592
2043	\$49,592	\$5,000	\$54,592	Large Format Printe	\$10,581	\$1,389	\$42,199
2044	\$42,199	\$5,000	\$47,199		\$3,200	\$1,182	\$45,181
2045	\$45,181	\$5,000	\$50,181		\$3,200	\$1,265	\$48,246
2046	\$48,246	\$5,000	\$53,246		\$3,200	\$1,351	\$51,397

Mendon Highway Equipment Fund

Fiscal Year 2026

The Highway Equipment Fund combines the Truck Fund, Backhoe Fund, Grader Fund and New Road Equipment Fund as approved by the voters at Town Meeting 2014

Assumptions:		Facts:			
Big Trucks have a life expectancy of	15 years	Big Truck #1	Mack	2014	\$168,000
Small Truck has a life expectancy of	10 years	Big Truck #2	Freightliner	2020	\$175,333
Grader has a life expectancy of	30 years	Small Truck	Ford	2015	\$86,000
Backhoe has a life expectancy of	20 years	Grader	CAT	1993	\$100,000
Pickup Truck has a life expectancy of	12 years	Backhoe	JCB	2018	\$149,600
Roadside Mower	25 years	Pickup	Ford F150	2021	\$33,836
Lawnmowers	12 years	Roadside Mower	John Deere	2016	\$79,300
Walk Behind Mower	10 years	Lawnmower	John Deere	2021	\$6,099
		Lawnmower	John Deere	2023	\$5,750
Interest rate	2.80% percent				

Fiscal Year	Opening Balance	Annual Contribn	Available Cash	Equipment Replaced	Cost (inflation adj)	Trade In/Grant	Net Expend	Interest Earned	Closing Balance
2025	\$423,890	\$50,000	\$473,890	Small Truck	\$122,000	\$29,920	\$92,080	\$11,869	\$393,679
2026	\$393,679	\$50,000	\$443,679					\$11,023	\$454,702
2027	\$454,702	\$100,000	\$554,702					\$12,732	\$567,434
2028	\$567,434	\$100,000	\$667,434					\$15,888	\$683,322
2029	\$683,322	\$100,000	\$783,322	Big Truck # 1	\$504,000	\$33,600	\$470,400	\$19,133	\$332,055
2030	\$332,055	\$100,000	\$432,055					\$9,298	\$441,352
2031	\$441,352	\$100,000	\$541,352					\$12,358	\$553,710
2032	\$553,710	\$200,000	\$753,710					\$15,504	\$769,214
2033	\$769,214	\$200,000	\$969,214	Pickup	\$101,508	\$20,302	\$81,206	\$21,538	\$909,546
2034	\$909,546	\$200,000	\$1,109,546	Lawnmower	\$7,014	\$500	\$6,514	\$25,467	\$1,128,499
2035	\$1,128,499	\$200,000	\$1,328,499	Big Truck #2	\$525,999	\$35,067	\$490,932	\$31,598	\$869,165
2036	\$869,165	\$200,000	\$1,069,165	Small Truck	\$170,800	\$24,400	\$146,400	\$24,337	\$947,101
2037	\$947,101	\$200,000	\$1,147,101	Lawnmower	\$8,417		\$8,417	\$26,519	\$1,165,203
2038	\$1,165,203	\$200,000	\$1,365,203	Backhoe	\$598,400	\$29,920	\$568,480	\$32,626	\$829,349
2039	\$829,349	\$200,000	\$1,029,349	Grader	\$1,000,000	\$20,000	\$980,000	\$23,222	\$72,571
2040	\$72,571	\$200,000	\$272,571					\$2,032	\$274,603
2041	\$274,603	\$200,000	\$474,603					\$7,689	\$482,292
2042	\$482,292	\$200,000	\$682,292					\$13,504	\$695,796
2043	\$695,796	\$200,000	\$895,796					\$19,482	\$915,278
2044	\$915,278	\$200,000	\$1,115,278	Big Truck # 1	\$683,799	\$113,487	\$570,312	\$25,628	\$570,594
2045	\$570,594	\$200,000	\$770,594	Pickup	\$116,734	\$23,347	\$93,387	\$15,977	\$693,183
2046	\$693,183	\$200,000	\$893,183	Small Truck	\$239,120	\$47,824	\$191,296	\$19,409	\$721,296
2047	\$721,296	\$200,000	\$921,296	Lawnmower	\$10,100		\$10,100	\$20,196	\$931,393
2048	\$931,393	\$200,000	\$1,131,393					\$26,079	\$1,157,472
2049	\$1,157,472	\$200,000	\$1,357,472					\$32,409	\$1,389,881
2050	\$1,389,881	\$200,000	\$1,589,881	Big Truck #2	\$888,938	\$136,664	\$752,274	\$38,917	\$876,524

2020 Mendon and Rutland Town jointly purchased a 2016 John Deere Tractor with Tiger Boom to do roadside mowing. Mendon paid for 1/3 of the purchase price.

The cost of equipment has dramatically increased over the past two years and will have a drasatic effect on the future of this replacement fund. The Town is evaluating whether we can purchase smaller trucks to net the same result in maintaining our roads. The Town is also increasing vehicle maintenance in the General Fund as we may be forced to keep equipment longer. ARPA Funds will pay for a majority of the small truck replacement in 2025 which will elevate the demand on this Equipment Replacement Fund

Highway Improvement Fund

Fiscal Year 2026

Town Roads:						
	Last Paved	Cost		Last Paved	Cost	
Townline Road	2013	100,000		Cream Hill	2018	66,387
Brookwood	2014	50,000		Old Turnpike Road	2010	122,521
Eastridge	2014	60,000		Woodward Road	2014	59,000
Pond Road	2014	6,300		Journey's End	2013	56,000
Mountain Road	2014	11,620		Meadowlake Drive	2019	200,296
Garage Pavement	2014	15,500		Sherwood Drive	2022	239,828
Cedar Lane	2018	31,175		Terra Lane	2022	25,000
Park Lane	2018	98,271		Medway	2008	13,000
South Mendon Road	2014	54,000		Falls Road		225,000
Notch Road	2010	119,400		Town Office	2022	13,086

Beginning Balance	Fund Contribution	Interest Earned	Other Income	Planned Projects: Road	Road	Road	Road	Normal Maintenance	Total Cost	Ending Balance
2025 1,200,277	100,000	33,608		Journeys End 235,000 (60K paving+175K end of road)	Notch Road 339,000			30,000	604,000	729,885
2026 729,885	100,000	20,437		Townline Road 110,000	Medway 28,000	Falls Road 275,000		30,000	443,000	407,322
2027 407,322	100,000	11,405		South Mendon Road 59,400				30,000	89,400	429,327
2028 429,327	100,000	12,021		Brookwood 55,000	Eastridge 55,000	Pond Road 6,930	Mountain Road 12,782	30,000	159,712	381,636
2029 381,636	100,000	10,686		Woodward Road 64,900				30,000	94,900	397,421
2030 397,421	100,000	11,128		Park Lane 65,000	Cream Hill 73,026	Cedar Lane 30,000		30,000	198,026	310,524
2031 310,524	100,000	8,695		Meadowlake Drive 125,000	Garage 20,000			30,000	175,000	244,218
2032 244,218	100,000	6,838						30,000	30,000	321,056
2033 321,056	100,000	8,990		Old Turnpike 134,773				30,000	164,773	265,273
2034 265,273	110,000	7,428		Sherwood 125,000	Terra Lane 12,000			30,000	167,000	215,700
2035 215,700	110,000	6,040		Journeys End 67,200				30,000	97,200	234,540
2036 234,540	110,000	6,567		Townline Road 120,000	Notch Road 130,000	Medway 30,800		30,000	310,800	40,307
2037 40,307	110,000	1,129						30,000	30,000	121,436
2038 121,436	110,000	3,400		Brookwood 60,500	60,500	Pond Road 7,623	Mountain Road 14,060	30,000	172,183	62,653
2039 62,653	110,000	1,754		Woodward Road 71,390	South Mendon Road 65,340			30,000	166,730	7,677
2040 7,677	110,000	215						30,000	30,000	87,892
2041 87,892	110,000	2,461		Park Lane 71,500	Cedar Lane 33,000			30,000	134,500	65,853
2042 65,853	110,000	1,844		Cream Hill 80,328				30,000	110,328	67,369
2043 67,369	110,000	1,886		Meadowlake Drive 137,500				30,000	167,500	11,755
2044 11,755	110,000	329						30,000	30,000	92,084
2045 92,084	110,000	2,578		Old Turnpike 148,250				30,000	178,250	26,412

Bridge & Culvert Fund

FY 2026

Year	Beginning Balance	Fund Contribution	Interest Earned	Grant Income	Available Balance	Projects	Cost	Ending Balance
2025	\$548,410	\$50,000	\$15,355		\$613,765	culverts culvert upsizing	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$533,765
2026	\$533,765	\$50,000	\$5,000		\$588,765	culverts culvert upsizing	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$508,765
2027	\$508,765	\$50,000	\$14,245		\$573,011	culverts culvert upsizing	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$493,011
2028	\$493,011	\$50,000	\$13,804		\$556,815	culverts bridge maintenance	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$476,815
2029	\$476,815	\$50,000	\$13,351		\$540,166	culverts culvert upsizing	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$460,166
2030	\$460,166	\$50,000	\$12,885		\$523,051	culverts culvert upsizing	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$443,051
2031	\$443,051	\$50,000	\$12,405		\$505,456	culverts culvert upsizing	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$425,456
2032	\$425,456	\$50,000	\$11,913		\$487,369	culverts bridge maintenance	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$407,369
2033	\$407,369	\$50,000	\$11,406		\$468,775	culverts culvert upsizing	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$388,775
2034	\$388,775	\$50,000	\$10,886		\$449,661	culverts culvert upsizing	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$369,661
2035	\$369,661	\$50,000	\$10,351		\$430,011	culverts culvert upsizing	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$350,011
2036	\$350,011	\$50,000	\$9,800		\$409,812	culverts bridge maintenance	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$329,812
2037	\$329,812	\$50,000	\$9,235		\$389,046	culverts culvert upsizing	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$309,046
2038	\$309,046	\$50,000	\$8,653		\$367,700	culverts culvert upsizing	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$287,700
2039	\$287,700	\$50,000	\$8,056		\$345,755	culverts culvert upsizing	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$265,755
2040	\$265,755	\$50,000	\$7,441		\$323,197	culverts bridge maintenance	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$243,197
2041	\$243,197	\$50,000	\$6,810		\$300,006	culverts culvert upsizing	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$220,006
2042	\$220,006	\$50,000	\$6,160		\$276,166	culverts culvert upsizing	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$196,166
2043	\$196,166	\$50,000	\$5,493		\$251,659	culverts culvert upsizing	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$171,659
2044	\$171,659	\$50,000	\$4,806		\$226,465	culverts culvert upsizing	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$146,465
2045	\$146,465	\$50,000	\$4,101		\$200,566	culverts culvert upsizing	\$10,000 \$70,000	\$120,566

* A comprehensive capital improvement plan is annually evaluated based on meeting the State of Vermont's Codes and Standards as well as requirements of the Municipal Roads General Permit. Projects receive priority based on the condition of a bridge, culvert and/or roadway as well as if they are located on a hydrologically connected road segment.

Mendon Public Safety Fund

Fiscal Year 2026

Assumptions:				Facts:			
Vehicle #1 has a life expectancy of	15	years		Vehicle #1: Ford Explorer	2016	\$29,700	
Interest rate	2.8%	percent		Town Office Generator (Grant&ARPA)	2023	\$15,000	
Inflation rate	3.0%	percent		Barstow Generator		\$50,000	
trade in value	15.0%	percent		(total cost \$100K split with Chittenden)			
				AED Heart Defibrillator	2020	\$1,180	

Fiscal Year	Opening Balance	Annual Contribn	Law Fines	Fine Split	Available Cash	Equipment Replaced	Cost (inflation adj)	Trade In	Net Expend	Interest Earned	Barstow Generator	Closing Balance
2024	\$53,677	\$1,000	\$0	80/20	\$54,677					\$1,775	\$3,500	\$52,952
2025	\$52,952	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$59,352	Dry Hydrant Replacement (3)	\$45,000		\$45,000	\$223	\$500	\$14,075
2026	\$14,075	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$20,475	Speed Feedback Signs Rte 4	\$10,000		\$10,000	\$114	\$500	\$10,089
2027	\$10,089	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$16,489					\$282	\$500	\$16,271
2028	\$16,271	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$22,671					\$456	\$500	\$22,627
2029	\$22,627	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$29,027					\$634	\$500	\$29,160
2030	\$29,160	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$35,560					\$816	\$500	\$35,877
2031	\$35,877	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$42,277	Vehicle #1	\$43,065	\$4,455	\$38,610	\$0	\$500	\$3,167
2032	\$3,167	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$9,567					\$89	\$500	\$9,156
2033	\$9,156	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$15,556					\$256	\$500	\$15,312
2034	\$15,312	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$21,712					\$429	\$500	\$21,641
2035	\$21,641	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$28,041					\$606	\$500	\$28,147
2036	\$28,147	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$34,547					\$788	\$500	\$34,835
2037	\$34,835	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$41,235					\$975	\$500	\$41,710
2038	\$41,710	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$48,110	Dry Hydrant Replacement (2)	\$35,000		\$35,000	\$188	\$500	\$12,798
2039	\$12,798	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$19,198					\$358	\$500	\$19,056
2040	\$19,056	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$25,456					\$534	\$500	\$25,490
2041	\$25,490	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$31,890					\$714	\$500	\$32,104
2042	\$32,104	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$38,504					\$899	\$500	\$38,902
2043	\$38,902	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$45,302					\$1,089	\$500	\$45,892
2044	\$45,892	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$52,292					\$1,285	\$500	\$53,077
2045	\$53,077	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$59,477					\$1,486	\$500	\$60,463
2046	\$60,463	\$1,000	\$5,400	80/20	\$66,863	Vehicle #1	\$56,430	\$6,460	\$49,970	\$294	\$500	\$16,686

Notes:

Effective 7/1/23: 80%/20% split of fine revenue deposited in the General Fund to the Reserve Fund

Barstow Generator:

2018-2025	3500	The Town of Mendon is setting aside \$500 per year
2025-2026	500	earmarked for the replacement of the generator at Barstow.
Total	4000	

Dry hydrant replacement qualifies for grant funding through the Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force.



Snow capped Blue Ridge Mountain

2024 Town Clerk Report

Greetings from the Town Clerk's Office! 2024 proved to be a year full of transitions and challenges. Nancy Gondella, long-time clerk and treasurer, resigned and I was appointed to the Town Clerk and Treasurer position. I had served as the Assistant Clerk & Bookkeeper since 2018. The Town hired a new Assistant Clerk and Bookkeeper, Joy Hatfield. The Clerk's office executed three elections with Town Meeting, the Primary Election and the General Election as well as two additional school budget revotes. The Town Office Vestibule project was completed. We appreciate your patience as we worked through the hurdles.

I want to thank Nancy for serving 22 years with the Town. She is a wealth of knowledge and has continued to provide guidance and support. I also want to thank Ann Singiser for helping me through the transition and her support while looking for a new assistant. Lastly, I want to thank Joy Hatfield for stepping into a little chaos with grace and providing insight and new ideas for the office. You will see a new look at the office, please stop by and say hello!



Ann Singiser



Jesse Bridge at NEMCI&A

In July 2024 I was able to attend NEMCI (New England Municipal Clerks Institute) at Plymouth State College. This is a three-year commitment of one week during July. The New England Municipal Clerks' Institute & Academy (NEMCI&A) is an intensive program of continuing professional education to assist Clerks in developing and maintaining the high level of administrative expertise needed for the successful operation of increasingly complex municipal governments. Over 500 cities and towns have sent Clerks to the New England Municipal Clerks' Institute and Academy. I am looking forward to this opportunity for continued education.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds were used to complete the Office Vestibule project and on October 8 the Office opened full time Monday – Thursday 9am – 4pm with service from the vestibule window. We have various town forms available to pick up in the vestibule for your convenience. If you need access to the vault, we ask you to please make an appointment by calling the office at 802-775-1662 or emailing clerk@mendonvt.gov.



Lucy Bridge and Joy Hatfield

Please plan on attending the annual Town Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 3rd at the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTRANS) building located at 61 Valley View Drive. Voting will be the following day, Tuesday March 4th, from 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Mendon Town Office. If you'd like, you can also request an early ballot.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jesse Bridge, Town Clerk & Treasurer

Assessor's 2024 Annual Report

The State of Vermont has determined that Mendon's 2021 reappraisal is already out of date based on recent property sales in Mendon. The State has ordered Mendon to complete a new reappraisal. The Town has started the process, however it will take several years to fulfill the State's order.

Assessment data can be found at <https://www.axisgis.com/mendonvt/>

My email is vtassessor@gmail.com My Waitsfield Vermont office phone is 802-496-9689. If you want to schedule a telephone call from me (instead of playing telephone tag) you can use <https://VermontAssessor.as.me/Telephone> and I will call you at the scheduled time.

If you are a Vermont resident and you own your residence, you are required by the State to file a Homestead Declaration. The State has a website <https://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners/homestead-declaration>

That can get you started. Please note that this is not an optional filing. If you meet the requirements, you must file. Also note that there is no extension for filing this declaration. If you get an extension to file your Vermont taxes the extension does not apply to the Homestead declaration.

Sincerely,
Spencer B. Potter
Assessor

Cemetery Report

This year the Mendon Cemetery committee report two crematory burials at Tenny cemetery.

We would like to recognize the work of Bruce Peacock again this year. For the last two seasons Bruce has voluntarily cleaned the faces of stones, straightened stones, and has also redone the foundations of monuments from the ground up. His work thus far can be seen at Parker's cemetery on the north end of Wheelerville Road and on Cream Hill Road where you will find the Eggleston family cemetery.

There is a brochure with a map of all seven cemeteries here in Mendon that can be found at the Town Office, thanks to the Mendon Historical Society.

We would like to thank the Mendon Road Crew and local volunteers for the upkeep of our cemeteries.

Respectfully submitted,
Val Taylor

Delinquent Tax Collector Report

Turned over for collection on March 27, 2024 were 104 delinquent taxes some for multiple years totaling \$242,360.02.

On January 6, 2025 there are 13 delinquent tax totaling \$ 27,031.68.

Beattie, Thane	\$4,350.70
Bisceglia, Paul	4,795.98
Bourassa, Mark	5,149.06
Bridge, Seth	1,486.61
Bridgeco LLC	576.88
Gowan, Paige, Greer, Donald, Gowan, Christopher, and Sicillian, Victoria	2,963.56
Lewis, David	849.69
MDLG Consultants	1,281.41
Notch Holdings	357.46
Parillo, Michael	46.08
Snitker, Darren	5,115.70
Suker, Stephan	58.55

There were no tax sales this year. The list of delinquent taxes is longer than any other year I have been tax collector. State legislation passed an amendment that no tax sales can occur until taxes are more than 1 year has passed. This means I couldn't start any sales until September 2024. I decided to wait until March taxes are turned over to me to be able to collect entire amounts.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Bridge Merrill
Delinquent Tax Collector



Double rainbow over Blue Ridge Mountain

2024 Dog License Report

Neutered males or spayed females	\$1,282
Males not neutered	\$60
Females not spayed	\$144
Late fees	\$85
Total	\$1,571

State of Vermont Rabies Control	\$610
Total to General Fund	\$961

In the 2024 session, the Vermont Legislature increased the fee to be collected for the State of Vermont Rabies Control Program from \$1 to \$3 effective January 1, 2025. See Act 167 (2024) [https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2024/Docs/ACTS/ACT167/ACT167 As Enacted.pdf](https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2024/Docs/ACTS/ACT167/ACT167%20As%20Enacted.pdf) This raises the total that clerks must collect to \$11 for neutered or spayed dogs and \$15 for unneutered ones registered by April 1, of which \$7 must be remitted to the state. The law also expanded the use to which the money collected may be spent to include the administration of the State's animal welfare laws.

Please register your dog on or before April 1, 2025 to avoid a late charge. The fee to register Spayed or Neutered dogs in Mendon is \$13.00, while the fee for unaltered dogs is \$17.00. The State of Vermont requires a current rabies vaccination certificate to be on file at the Town Clerk's Office.

Failure to register your dog is a VIOLATION of the Mendon Animal Control Ordinance.

Respectfully submitted,
Jesse Bridge
Town Clerk



Lucy, Marvin & Daisy Bridge



Callie McLaughlin and Tucker Merrill

From the same litter, both have obtained their good citizenship certificate and are certified therapy dogs

Emergency Management Director Report

2024 was another tragic year on Mendon roadways, extending beyond US Route 4. US 4 continues to be listed as one of the most dangerous roads in the county. This is despite increasing efforts from the Rutland County Sheriff's Department, the Vermont State Police, and the State Office of Highway Safety. Speed remains the number one factor in motor vehicle crashes. We ask everyone do their part to help increase the safety of our roadways as increased enforcement alone is not solving the issue. It's something everyone can help with as Mendon residents continue to be among those stopped for speed. Please also enhance your own safety by always wearing your seatbelt.

We are maintaining our contract with the Rutland County Sheriff's Department for 32 hours per week. Deputy Paskevich did a fantastic job last year trying to keep the roadways and residents safe. He unfortunately won't be around town anymore as he has made a change to the Rutland City PD. Deputy Frasier has only been assigned to Mendon since the beginning of January but has already shown how committed he is to motor vehicle enforcement. In just over a month, Deputy Frasier has conducted well over 100 traffic stops with the focus being on speed violations.

Mendon continues to update their Local Emergency Management Plan yearly and work with other towns to maintain Mutual Aid agreements to help others when we're fortunate and to also receive assistance when we're not.

As a reminder, residents are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the Town Ordinances which can all be found on the Town website. Burn permits can be applied for from the Mendon Fire Warden. Fireworks permits can be applied for from the Fire Warden or Constable. These permits are crucial as the Town coordinates activities with the Rutland City Fire Department. Properly filed and followed permits help eliminate unnecessary responses from the Fire Department. Per the ordinances, responses due to lack of proper permit can be charged to the owner via a municipal ticket to recover the charge to the Town. Valid fire calls are not charged. Please test in-home smoke/CO detectors and make sure to replace the batteries. There was an increase in false alarm responses this year, violations are being issued per the ordinance, so the town doesn't have to bear the financial impact of faulty systems.

Mendon continues to be involved with the Barstow School, both in the way of working with Chittenden to ensure a proper emergency shelter is available to the residents of both towns and has also been working with the school to ensure a safe environment for the children.

As always, a huge thank you to the dedicated town employees who keep everything running smoothly.

Respectfully submitted,
Lema Carter
Emergency Management Director

Record of Vital Statistics – Mendon, VT 2024

Births

March	Apollo Calvin Reed Son of Molly Anne Austin
March	Miles James Potter Son of Catherine Elizabeth Young and Corey Stephen Potter
March	Ramsey Aspen Welch-Gibbud Son of Camille Turco Welch and Benjamin Wing Gibbud
November	Greyson Graeme Butler Son of Claire Elizabeth Kershko and Graeme Michael Butler

Deaths

January	Leo Elbert Lawrence	95 years
February	Stephen Troy Carr	45 years
February	Leonard F. Treat III	53 years
June	Michal Wiktor Sroga	37 years
June	Gavin Michael Barmore	17 years
July	Donald D. Williams	85 years
September	Philip Daniel Moore	83 years
October	Nancy Carol Cooper	83 years
October	Judith Lertola	84 years
November	Christopher M. Black	42 years

Marriages

May 9	Raul Eli Morales and Aury Maya both of Mendon, VT
June 1	Laura Beth Friedman and Joshua Adam Steeves both of North Chelmsford, MA
June 23	Lindsey Marie O'Connell and David Asher Gold both of Glendale, AZ

September 17 Tyler Drake **Bridges** and Fatima Isabel **Ramos**

both of Mendon, VT

September 28 Stephanie Lynn **St. Lawrence** and Zachary Michael Jordan **Patch**

both of Mendon, VT

October 5 Scott Allen **Carmichael** and Heidi Anne **Jeromin**

Both of Mendon, VT

October 5 Ali Sarah **Warhaftig** and David Wolfe **Pierce**

both of Mendon, VT

October 5 Liam Joseph **Donovan** and Mikala Norbert **Smith**

both of Mendon, VT

October 24 Camille Turco **Welch** and Benjamin Wing **Gibbud**

both of Mendon, VT



Ramsey Aspen Welch-Gibbud



Wedding of Heidi Jeromin and Scott Carmichael in Mendon



Camille Welch and Benjamin Gibbud

Mendon Planning Commission

The Mendon Planning Commission includes members Justin Lindholm, Fred Bagley, Dick Howe, Teri Corsones, new members Sarah Buxton and Dennis O’Connell and recently returned member Steve Ellerin. We would like to acknowledge and thank Elizabeth Swett for her past service on the Mendon Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission has jurisdiction over subdivision permit applications and applications for building development for other than one or two-family residences. It meets on the first Monday of each month at 5:15 p.m. at the Mendon Town Offices. If a monthly meeting falls on a state or federal holiday, the meeting for that month is typically held on the next ensuing Monday.

Thanks to the Municipal Planning Grant awarded us last year, we continue to work with the Rutland Regional Planning Commission on updating the Mendon Zoning Regulations. We welcome your input in the zoning update process. Please contact the Mendon Planning Commission regarding any questions or suggestions you have otherwise about the planning process, or if we can be of assistance to you.

Respectfully submitted,
Teri Corsones

2024 Zoning Administrator Report

A handful of Mendon people chipped in to help with the zoning administrator duties in 2024 to keep the process moving along. Steve Ellerin carried most of the workload, and was assisted by Fred Bagley, Susannah Loffredo and Greg Smith at various points during the last half of the year.

There continues to be a fairly steady volume of zoning permit requests, and for certificates of occupancy / zoning compliance for projects that are finishing up. It is nice to see the new homes and additions being planned for various parcels of land in town.

The breakdown of permits issued in 2024 was as follows:

Single Family Dwelling	3	Accessory Dwelling Units	1
Accessory Structures	6	Renovation/addition	5
Certificates of Occupancy/Compliance	4		

There were six (6) Zoning Board of Adjustment hearings during 2024, and two (2) zoning violation letters issued as well.

The Mendon Zoning regulations and other forms for starting or completing projects can be accessed on the town website at <https://www.mendonvt.gov/town-departments/zoning/> and clicking the links at the bottom of the page. Submit questions you have by email to zoning@mendonvt.gov.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Ellerin, Zoning Administrator
Greg Smith, Acting Zoning Administrator (appointed November 2024)

Mendon Zoning Board of Adjustment

In the year 2024 the Mendon Zoning Board of Adjustment had six matters come before it:

- A. Two appeals of Permits which had been issued by the Zoning Administrative Officer;
 - i- The first appeal was filed on a permit issued to the property located at 100 Terra Lane (also known as 0 Terra Lane). After a hearing, the appeal was granted and the permit was voided (July 2, 2024).
 - ii- The second Appeal was filed concerning a permit issued to property at 237 Black Bear Path, to renovate the existing Residence. A hearing was held on Nov. 4, 2024. The appeal was denied and the Permit affirmed.

- B. One appeal of a notice of violation issued by the Zoning Administrative Officer on property located at 3348 Wheelerville Road. A settlement was reached, and the appeal was withdrawn.

- C. Three conditional use permits were requested:
 - i. The first request for a conditional use was on property located at 193 Heather Lane to operate a Bed & Breakfast (Airbnb) at the existing residence. The property is located in the Rural Zone, which permits a Bed & Breakfast as a conditional use. A hearing was held on March 21, 2024. The permit was granted with conditions which were set out in the ZBA's decision dated April 9, 2024.
 - ii. A request for a conditional use to construct a residence in the Wheelerville district (435 South Mendon Rd.). A hearing was held on July 11, 2024 and a conditional use permit was granted on August 1, 2024.
 - iii. The last request for a conditional use to construct a residence in the Wheelerville district (127 Top Ridge.). A hearing was held on June 17, 2024 and a conditional use permit was granted on August 2, 2024.

The Board is still one member low. Anyone interested to be considered to be appointed to the ZBA please contact Sara Tully, Town Administrator at Administrator@mendonvt.gov.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Kennelly



Amanda O'Connell and her daughter Isabella

Mendon Recreation Report

The Mendon Recreation Area saw another great project completed this year. The playground structure has been replaced and two sets of swings added. ARPA funds were used for this project along with some private donations. A big thank you goes out to everyone involved in seeing this project to fruition.

You will find a great array of activities for all ages at the Mendon Recreation Area located on South Mendon Road. There is a baseball field, a half basketball court with additional pickle ball lines, hiking trails entrance beyond right field, and a level area that can be used to play any number of outdoor games. There are picnic tables to enjoy a meal, take a break or chat with friends. In the winter months the public can enjoy snowshoeing or cross-country skiing.

The Rutland County Little League used the ball field once again for many games and practices.

The Mendon Road Crew did a tremendous job maintaining the Recreation Area this year. We want to thank them for their work to remove the wooden play structure and return the mulched area to grass.

Future plans include the replacement of the sign at the entrance to the parking area and upgrading the bulletin board used for posting recreation information and official town notices.

We have a few long-time members of the Recreation Committee that have decided to pass the torch and step away from the committee. A sincere thank you to Liam Fracht-Monroe, Betsy & Jim Reddy and Larry Courcelle for their years of hard work maintaining and planning activities at the Recreation Area. Anyone interested in joining the Mendon Recreation Committee can contact Sara Tully, Town Administrator at administrator@mendonvt.gov or 802-558-3935.

The Town would like to remember a great neighbor, friend and supporter of Mendon Recreation, Leo Lawrence. Leo spent many years on the Recreation Committee and could be found frequently watching children play his beloved sport of baseball. Leo passed away in January 2024 and he is remembered as a cherished member of our community.



Respectfully submitted,
Sara Tully, Mendon Town Administrator

Recreation Committee Members: Liam Fracht-Monroe, Jesse Bridge, Lisa Brooks, Larry Courcelle, Betsy Reddy, Jim Reddy

Highway Report

A storm in August 2023 caused significant flood damage to Wheelerville Road from Bridge 15 at the intersection of Falls Road to Notch Road. Falls Road and Notch Road experienced multiple washouts of culverts and ditches. Repairs to these locations continued through the construction season of 2024. Unfortunately, Rutland County did not reach the necessary thresholds to qualify for any assistance from FEMA.

In accordance with the Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP), the Town continues to update road segments and culvert inventories to plan for future projects. The Town is in compliance with the MRGP. The MRGP requires municipalities to keep all segments that meet compliance up to standards. The flooding in August 2023 affected multiple road segments that no longer met standards and the Road Crew addressed these issues in 2024. The next deadline to upgrade all categorized high priority segments is at the end of 2025. The Road Crew is on schedule to meet this deadline. The Grants in Aid funding helps financially bring non-compliant sections into compliance. The remaining cost is incurred by the General Fund Infrastructure Budget.

The Road Crew was extremely busy this summer ditching over 11 miles of our roads. They worked diligently on cleaning out and reorganizing the Town Garage to meet OSHA standards. Policies and Procedures were reviewed and updated when needed to meet OSHA compliance with recommendations from the Vermont League of Cities and Towns PACIF. The Road Crew also built a structure covering the diesel tank at the Town Garage. The supplies were paid for with ARPA Funds.

Chris Baird, Mendon Road Commissioner, was accepted into the Vermont Local Roads Leadership Academy. This is a year long program covering 8 training modules that include Leadership Skills, Communication, Managing People, Dealing with Challenging People/Conflict Resolution/Customer Service, Change Management/Creative Problem Solving, Working with Budgets, Effective Presentations, and Personal Development. Chris received a scholarship to attend the Leadership Academy.

The Town hired Gabriel Moore in September 2024. Gabriel joins Thane Beattie and Chris Baird to complete our 3-person full-time Road Crew.

Chris and Thane successfully completed the Casella Commercial Driver's License Training School. The Town greatly appreciates Casella Waste Systems for hosting this school and allowing municipalities to take advantage of their program alongside Casella employees. Congratulations to Chris and Thane for this accomplishment.

Please be aware that any construction within the town's right of way requires a permit. Please contact Chris Baird at 802-773-4402 to discuss your project and he will provide guidance to execute your permit.

The Town received a Better Backroads Grant to update our culvert inventory which will be completed in 2025. There are projects planned for reconstruction and paving the end of Journeys End and culvert replacement as well as reclaiming and paving the Notch Road.

Mailboxes Missing?

The Town of Mendon Highway Protection and Specifications Ordinance, "Section 9: Mailboxes, the Town of Mendon is not responsible for mailboxes in the rights-of-way damaged by snowplows or other municipal equipment." The Mendon Highway Department is careful not to damage structures in the town's right of way, however there are times unintentional damage does occur to mailboxes and other structures. It is the ordinance of the town not to replace these structures.

Snow in the Right-Of-Way

The Mendon Selectboard would like to remind residents that pushing excess snow from private walks and driveways onto the roadside is prohibited by Vermont law. It is also illegal to plow snow across a town road. The excess snow in the roadway may obstruct traffic or create safety hazards for drivers. Please remember when removing snow that under 19 VSA §1105, violators can be held personally liable for any damage caused and are subject to a fine of up to \$1,000. Please help keep our roads safe and clear. We thank you for your cooperation.

Residential Sand Shed Policy

In February 2019, the Selectboard adopted a Residential Sand Shed Policy. The Town of Mendon makes sand available to Mendon residents to help with icy sidewalks and driveways. The Residential Sand Shed is located outside the Town Garage gate on Park Lane for 24/7 access. You may fill, by shovel, up to **three** 5-gallon pails with sand in anticipation of or response to a storm event or weather pattern that creates icy and slippery conditions. The complete policy is posted on the Residential Sand Shed and the town's website. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara Tully
Mendon Town Administrator



Bill Ellis and Chris Baird

Bill Ellis officially retired from full-time employment in January 2024.

Bill continued to work in the Spring 2024 on an as needed basis to share his wealth of knowledge about our roads and equipment with the current Road Crew.

The Town of Mendon thank him for his dedicated service to the Town for decades!

2025-2026 Appropriation Requests TOTAL \$7,000

In September 2024, the Selectboard updated the Town of Mendon Social Services Agency Appropriation Policy to require “All Social Service Agencies must obtain petition signatures from 5% of the voting population. Petitions must be received in the Town Clerk’s office not less than 47 days before the day of the annual meeting. Any Social Service Agency requesting funds must also submit a written request for funding, which includes, what services the Agency provides to Town of Mendon residents, and if possible, the number of Mendon residents utilizing the services of the Agency.”

Marble Valley Regional Transportation District “The Bus”

158 Spruce St., Rutland, VT 05701 www.thebus.com 802-773-3244

Marble Valley Regional Transportation District “The Bus” requests \$1,200 to provide safe, reliable, accessible and coordinated public transit service to enhance economic, social and environmental quality of life throughout Rutland County and surrounding communities. The Bus has been providing transportation for over 45 years.

MVRTD provided over 13,100 rides in Mendon on the Killington service with stops at Town Line Road, Mendon Mountain Orchards, Meadowlake Drive, Old Turnpike Road and Mendon Mountainview Lodge this past year to visitors, commuters and the general public. The Rutland Killington Commuter runs seven days a week year round to serve summer and winter activities in the resort community and maintain employee commute options throughout the year.

RSVP & The Volunteer Center

6 Court St., Rutland, VT 05701 www.volunteersinvt.org 802-775-8220

Retired Senior Volunteer Program requests \$700 to provide a volunteer management program for people of all ages who want to meet community needs through volunteer service.

In fiscal year 2024 Mendon residents took advantage of RSVP programs such as free income tax return preparation and our free osteoporosis prevention classes. Currently in Mendon RSVP volunteers donated their services to the following non-profit organizations: AARP Tax Program, Bridges & Beyond, RSVP Operation Dolls and More, Community Cupboard and RSVP Bone Builders.

Rutland Area Visiting Nurses Association & Hospice

7 Albert Cree Dr., Rutland, VT 05701 www.vermontvisitingnurses.org 802-775-0568

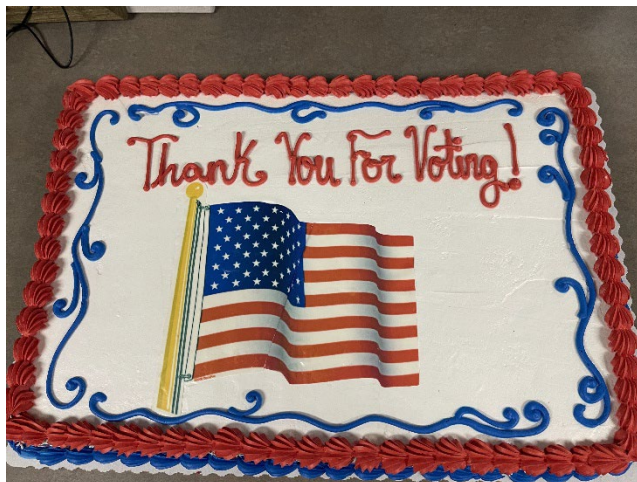
The Rutland Area Visiting Nurses Association and Hospice requests \$2,600 to provide Rutland County residents with exceptional home care, hospice and community health services. RAVNAH's mission is to provide medically necessary healthcare wherever it is needed, regardless of a client's ability to pay, location of residence, or complexity of health issues.

Wonderfeet Kids' Museum

PO Box 6243 Rutland, VT 05702 www.wonderfeetkidsmuseum.org 802-282-2678

Wonderfeet Kids' Museum is a gem in the heart of Downtown Rutland. Wonderfeet serves families in our community, and lives by its mission to foster curiosity and exploration, inspire creativity and ignite the imagination of every child through the power of play. Wonderfeet requests \$2,500 from the voters of Mendon to continue providing services to the families of Rutland.

2024 has been a record setting year for Wonderfeet Kids' Museum. Not only did we complete renovations of our new location on Merchants Row in the Green Mountain Power Energy Innovation Center, but we have had the opportunity to serve more children and families than ever before! We totaled over 30,000 visits, almost 400 member families, over 200 families receiving access memberships based on economic need, and over 1000 attendees at our free postpartum play group and support group. In addition, we provided academic and social enrichment for over 800 students attending programs and field trips and eight weeks of specialized preschool day camps.



Mendon Historical Society Report for 2024

2024 was a year all about stone for the Mendon Historical Society.

On June 5, 2024, we met with Bruce Peacock, who gave a presentation of his extensive restoration of gravestones at both the Parker and Eggleston Cemeteries in town. Accompanied by excellent visuals, Bruce explained how he had restored marble, slate and granite headstones badly in need of repair. He recommended a biocide, "D2," for best cleaning. (We later bought two gallons of it, giving one to Bruce and used the other to clean the marble benches by the town office entrance.) Bruce told us many of the stories behind those gravestones, and that we could find out more about our ancestors by using Findagrave.com or Ancestry.com



At our next meeting on September 19th, we decided on the location of the Carving Studio stone bench, which had been partially funded by the Historical Society and created over the summer by four local students, under the guidance of a professional sculptor. We decided to install the bench next to the kiosk across from the town office. It will be the 15th bench in Rutland County, part of our Vermont Heritage and a good addition to our town's display. On October 25th, the bench was carefully transported from the Carving Studio in West Rutland to our town office site, with expert work by our town crew Thane Beatty and Gabe Moore. A plaque was installed on the east post of the kiosk.

The official unveiling of the bench took place on November 24th with Carol Driscoll of the Carving Studio, sculptor/Mentor Nora Valdez, student artist Jade Rivers and Historical Society members in attendance.





2024 Annual Summary Report and 2025 Budget

In 2024, Otter Creek Communications Union District (Otter Creek CUD) continued its mission to expand broadband accessibility in the Rutland County region.

This past year has been highly productive for Otter Creek CUD and our partner-providers, and it will continue to be so through the very end of December 2024.

The following describes what we have accomplished along with our partner-providers and the Vermont Community Broadband Board (VCBB) for the period starting just after the 2023 Annual Summary Report, which was issued in October 2023, through this week of October 14, 2024.

- At the end of 2023, a new development to Otter Creek CUD's Universal Service Plan arose. The incumbent telecommunications provider, GoNetspeed, serving Benson, Hubbardton and areas of Sudbury and North Castleton, received federal funding through another grant program which enabled them to build and offer high-speed fiber broadband service to every un/underserved address in their territory. This meant that Otter Creek CUD's grant funds were shifted from the GoNetspeed territory to enable complete fiber broadband build-out to every eligible address in the member towns and areas served by Otter Creek CUD's partner-provider, Consolidated Communications before the end of 2024. With this new plan, Otter Creek CUD revised our construction grant request to the VCBB, and we got to work developing final contracts and agreements.
- The Final Construction Grant agreement with VCBB was signed Jan 2024.
- A Final Master Services Contract with Consolidated Communications was signed in Feb 2024.
- A Final Network Construction & Operating Agreement with GoNetspeed was signed in Feb 2024.

- Construction Progress in 2024. While GoNetspeed had already been building fiber in and to the north of the Otter Creek CUD member towns, their construction schedule was now concentrated to complete fiber build-out in our member towns to meet the terms of our agreement. GoNetspeed is scheduled to have completed the fiber build-out to nearly all un- and under-served addresses in their territory by the end of 2024, with a few areas by Mar 2025. Consolidated Communications meanwhile, expanded their crews in the summer construction season and have now completed the fiber build-out to all un- and under-served addresses in the Otter Creek CUD territory of Brandon, Castleton, Chittenden, Fair Haven, Goshen, Mendon, Pawlet, Pittsford, Poultney, Rutland City, Rutland Town, Shrewsbury, Wells, West Haven, West Rutland, as well as several addresses in Hubbardton and Sudbury.
- Sustainability Planning. Otter Creek collaborated with Lamoille Fiber CUD and Southern Vermont CUD to develop a ten-year sustainability plan for our operations through 2034.
- In August, Otter Creek CUD Governing Board held its first in-person meeting and picnic event sponsored by our partner-providers.
- Throughout the year, the Otter Creek CUD chair, vice chair and some Otter Creek CUD executive committee members met monthly with our partner-providers to review and discuss construction progress, communications with member towns and with constituents, and other related business.
- In Sept 2024 Otter Creek CUD submitted an application to the VCBP requesting an amendment to our pre-construction grant for funding our operations through 2026. The grant was awarded.
- Otter Creek CUD officially relinquished its unused allocated funds to the VCBP in September 2024. Total allocated funds relinquished = \$1,610,431.00.
- This year, Otter Creek CUD expanded its public outreach with monthly Front Porch Forum postings, a new website designed to be more accessible and informative to our constituents. We continued to respond personally to our constituents' inquiries and requests for assistance related to all telecom construction and service issues.

2025 Budget:

Otter Creek CUD’s budget for year 2025 includes our operational costs, cost for our contractor (Vantage Point) who manages the required reporting and financial submittals to the VCBB, costs for the single audit of 2024, other accounting services, and expected legal services related to our sustainability plan. Other costs include VCUDA dues and we included an approximately 13% contingency.

Otter Creek Communications Union District 2025 Budget	
Operational Expenses (Google Workspace accounts, website, DNO and Business insurance, bank fees,)	\$20,000
Contracted Project Management (Reporting, Managing grants)	\$120,000
Legal Services	\$100,000
Single Audit	\$30,000
Accounting – Bookkeeper and Treasurer	\$25,000
Association Fees/Membership	\$15,000
Events & Conferences	\$2,000
Contingency	\$40,000
TOTAL:	\$352,000

Rutland Free Library

Rutland Free Library (RFL) had both a fulfilling and challenging year, largely around the building at 10 Court St. The United States Treasury granted some \$16.4 million for libraries around Vermont to improve readiness for another pandemic, flood, or other health or natural disaster. Rutland Free went through the process, including testing the building envelope for leaks, a hazardous materials survey, and a required historical analysis. but discovered the scope of work needed would be some \$9.5-\$10 million, which would likely require a \$5 million City bond. As the estimated costs escalated and at the City's suggestion, the Library put a great deal of time and effort into looking at co-locating in the Asa Bloomer building on Merchants Row, downtown. Ultimately, the Vermont Department of Libraries chose to give the money primarily to very small libraries with more basic needs (i.e. indoor plumbing); this leaves RFL having identified many significant building issues and no clear way forward to deal with them. These shortcomings call into question our ability to open our doors to the public in case of further public health crises. We will continue to look at all our options moving forward and invite public input in the process. It is important to note that zero tax dollars go into any capital expenditures, including major renovations or a potential purchase or lease of property. Any capital spending comes from long-term investments of donations and / or grants specifically targeted for the purpose. No Mendon tax dollars go into the city-owned building beyond basic repairs and daily maintenance.

Our day-to-day operations were much more successful. We continued to build on last year's hugely successful programming, especially for children. We added weekly programs in music, art, and movement for our youngest users, partnering with local providers, the Rutland County Parent Child Center, The Mint Makerspace, Come Alive Outside, Rutland Regional Medical Center, Rutland Rec, Rutland area schools, and many more. In total, we entertained, educated, and/or hosted 15,650 guests at more than 780 events in fiscal year 2024.

Borrowing was up for the third straight year following COVID, by 6 percent to 132,546 items. Our lending materials and programming are paid for by the bequest of Nella Grimm Fox, whose generosity continues to provide for the community 55 years after her gift.

Mendon usage was as follows:

488 active cards, up by 5.5 percent from the previous year. We issued 21 new cards to verified Mendon addresses in the fiscal year. That reflects some 5 percent of all RFL cardholders.

Although our consortium's software does not track circulation by town, 5 percent of our FY24 circulation is some 7,150 items. At an average of just more than \$20 per item, that makes the value of items loaned to Mendon residents about \$143,000. That's compared to tax support of \$26,432, or roughly \$5.40 in items loaned per dollar provided, not including the value of programs attended, services provided, & etc.

Respectfully submitted,
Randal Smathers, Director

2024/25 Board of Trustees

Clare Coppock – President (Rutland City)

Matthew Olewnik – Vice-President (Rutland City)

Joanne Pencak – Treasurer (Rutland City)

Allyn Kahle – Secretary (Ira)

Ann Bannister (Mendon)

Joe Bertelloni (Rutland Town)

Lenny DeLorenzo (Rutland City)

Carolyn Meub (Rutland City / mayoral appt)

Cathy Reynolds (Tinmouth)

John Skinner (Rutland City)

Cathy Solsaa (Rutland City)

Ken Watson (Rutland Town)

The Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC) is deeply grateful for the continued partnership and collaboration with the towns in our region. Our top priority remains supporting and empowering our municipalities to foster community and economic development. With 12 program areas, ranging from emergency management and economic development to transportation and water quality, FY24 was our most productive year yet. We look forward to continuing this momentum into the future. For a detailed overview of our work in FY24, visit www.vapda.org. To learn more about our programs and services, visit www.rutlandrpc.org.

Planning and Technical Assistance

With increasing demands on our towns, the RRPC is here to help lighten the load. As the go-to resource for all 27 municipalities in the Rutland Region, we are often the first call for regulatory, planning, and development questions. We help towns navigate state and federal regulations, share important updates on new rules and funding opportunities, and support the development and management of key projects. In addition, we assist in securing grant funding, creating town plans, zoning bylaws, feasibility studies, and designation areas. We also provide hands-on support and training to municipal officials and staff, helping ensure success across the region.

Economic Development

The RRPC is committed to fostering strong local economies through initiatives like Brownfields Redevelopment. In 2024, we supported assessments and redevelopment planning for 10 projects across five towns, including the former Berwick Hotel and Lynda Lee Factory in Rutland City. These efforts are driving transformative housing, mixed-use, and manufacturing developments while enhancing regional collaboration through an expanded Brownfields Steering Committee.

Energy Efficiency

The RRPC is working closely with towns across the region to implement the Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP), which is designed to reduce energy costs and improve the efficiency of town-owned buildings. In FY24, the RRPC secured \$2.5 million in funding for nine municipalities, supporting a range of energy-saving upgrades, weatherization efforts, and other essential improvements. These investments are helping towns lower their energy costs, reduce burdens for local taxpayers, and enhance the sustainability of municipal operations. MERP plays a crucial role in strengthening energy resilience, advancing climate goals, and creating long-term savings for communities throughout the region.

Housing

Recognizing the critical need for diverse and affordable housing options, the RRPC has been a driving force in addressing the Region's housing shortage. In 2024, the RRPC developed a comprehensive Housing Resource Guide featuring over 30 funding opportunities and 45 resources for developers. Widely regarded as a statewide model, this guide has played a pivotal role in helping local developers create new housing units and advance vital projects across the region.

Workforce Development

Workforce development is vital for retaining youth and rebuilding the trades sector in the Rutland Region. In 2024, the RRPC revitalized the Rutland Region Workforce Investment Board (RRWIB) to encourage regional collaboration. The RRPC also secured a \$1.25 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to create a bridge program for high schoolers in Rutland County, offering pathways to careers in the trades and addressing workforce needs in the region.

Regional Planning

In 2024, the RRPC began a comprehensive update of the Rutland Regional Plan. Recognizing the importance of community input, the RRPC focused on expanding public engagement to ensure the plan reflects the priorities and needs of all towns in the region. This effort included town presentations, pop-up events, open houses, and a public survey, all aimed at gathering diverse perspectives. The feedback received has been instrumental in shaping the first draft of the updated plan, which will continue to guide local planning and investment decisions for a more equitable, healthy, and resilient Rutland Region. To learn more about the 2026 Regional Plan and upcoming events, check out www.rutlandrpc.org/plan2026.

In closing, we thank the dedicated volunteers and civil servants whose commitment drives progress in our region. Your involvement ensures that diverse perspectives continue to shape our future. As we look ahead to 2025, we encourage all to get involved and help contribute to the success and growth of our Region!

Devon Neary, Executive Director

Rutland County Solid Waste District Annual Report 2024

The Rutland County Solid Waste District (RCSWD) offers a variety of solid waste, recycling, waste education, household hazardous waste, composting and administrative support programs for our eighteen member municipalities, residents, and businesses. Some services are also available to non-district communities on a fee for service basis. In addition, the District operates a regional drop-off center and full-service transfer station at 14 Gleason Road in Rutland City. District information on programs, facility, operations, rates, obtaining an annual permit, and many other resources to assist you in your recycling and diversion requirements can be located at our web site, www.rcswd.com. You can also call us at (802) 775-7209.

This year, The District has had many new challenges amid the post global pandemic. Being deemed essential by Governor Scott we remained on the job in full force. Each of our employees continue to raise for the occasion in implementing the guidelines from the CDC, VOSHA, and VBOH. The District also has developed many efficiencies. RCSWD annual permits can be obtained from the convenience of your home or business via www.rcswd.com/permits in about 4 minutes. Debit and credit cards are accepted as an added means of payment accepted at our facilities. A small convenience fee will be charged.

The RCSWD did complete the Districts Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP) for the 2020-2025. The State requires that all communities have a current SWIP in place that meets the requirements of the State's Material Management Plan and delineates how solid and hazardous waste will be managed in the District towns for a five-year period. Milestones will need to be reported back as required. The community's involvement in drafting and developing this document was encouraged. The District has also completed a major stormwater project required by Vermont's new 3-acre rules. Thus far this project has cost \$442,227.13

Our website has been updated! This is your virtual Solid Waste Administration Office. Appointments, permits, events, and so much information and detail at your fingertips 24 -hours a day. To keep up to date, do ensure you subscribe to our newsletter, and to your choice of e-mail events alerts. Please see our 2024 Annual Report Book which covers greater detail, and all our programs to include but not limited to:

Waste Disposal: During 2024, residents and businesses in our member municipalities disposed of approximately 37,970 tons of municipal solid waste which includes the construction and demolition activity along with a significant amount of bulky waste.

Recycling: The District owns a Material Recovery Facility (MRF), recycling center in Rutland City that is leased to Casella Waste Management for their operations. The MRF accepts Zero Sort recycling from transfer stations, commercial haulers and large generators for processing and sale for re-use. The facility currently receives approximately 265 tons of recyclables a year from a large geographical area. Since we began tracking material in 2013 the facility has processed over 260,108 tons of recyclables.

Household Hazardous Waste: Rutland County Solid Waste District operates an extensive Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program for district residents and small business generators. The program operates year-round from the Gleason Road facility by appointment. An additional 32 events are scheduled collections at twelve town transfer stations within eighteen member towns through the spring, summer, and fall. The HHW program collects and safely disposes of dozens of our most hazardous, flammable, and toxic materials. The RCSWD HHW also collects electronic waste and has collected over 51.96 tons of material.

Other Programs: The District also offered waste management education, and reduction programs, construction, demolition waste, clean wood, and composting. The District is continuing with its "Merry Mulch" program in collecting and processing over 1,200 Christmas trees annually. The District also has been working local organizations including the Rutland Master Gardener's Club, 350 Rutland County, the Rutland Dismas House, Rutland Neighborhood Program, and Vermont Southwestern Council on Aging, Rutland Hospital and Women's Network & Shelter and the Rutland County Humane Society and our valued haulers.

Thank you,
Mark S. Shea, District Manager

Minutes of Town Meeting

March 05, 2024

VTRANS Building

61 Voters Present

Moderator Chris Corsones called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, Chris went over the rules for the meeting.

With permission from the audience, State Representative Jim Harrison updated the voters on what is being discussed in Montpelier. Jim Discussed the bills that had already passed. The biggest issue being discussed currently is the education cap on homestead tax rates and the substantial tax increase this could entail. Some increases could be as high as twenty to thirty percent.

Other issues being discussed are allowing retailers to combine shoplifting crimes, looking at the court backlog, lack of housing in Vermont, the Family Leave Act, and the Baby Bond Act – which is not likely to pass.

- Larry Gold asked if a new high school were to be built in Woodstock, Mendon's taxes would go up. Jim responded that the costs are hard to measure but the short answer is yes as the costs are mainly taken together and divided amongst town.
- Lynn Sandage asked if the school budget could be voted on at last years level. This is not possible as the budget is already on the ballot.
- Tom Soriano asked for an update on short term rental regulations. Jim stated that conversations surrounding this topic are happening.

Chris thanked Jim.

Fred Bagley spoke regarding upcoming meetings. There will be two meetings in May or June regarding the Route 4 corridor. The Planning Commission is updating the Zoning Regulation for the first time in 13 years and there will be a series of public hearings over the next year and a half.

- Nicole Kesselring asked if more than just the pedestrian safety was being discussed. Fred stated that they would be trying to slow speed by narrowing traffic lanes.
- Neil Langer stated that he'd been on the road at the time some of the accidents happened and felt there was a lot of snow on the road.
- Nicole Kesselring asked for any updates on the blighted properties along the Route 4 corridor. Fred Bagley state that was a top priority to address during the zoning rewrite.

Article 1 – Shall the Town authorize the Selectboard to set the rate of compensation for non-salaried employees and Town Officers appointed mid-term? Jonathan Reynolds made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Gary Bannister. With no discussion, the motion **passed unanimously**.

Article 2 – Shall the Town vote to approve the 2024-2025 Municipal Budget at \$1,378,303? Bruce Peacock made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Patty Lancaster.

Chris Corsones invited Selectboard members to make whatever presentations they had regarding the budget to be voted on.

Val Taylor stated that there was a carryover from the prior year of \$172,000, of which \$96,000 was rolled over into the current budget and \$76,000 was rolled into surplus highway funds. She further stated that the

appropriations requests were the same as last year \$10,342 and the budget being voted on reflects an increase of 4.34% over last year.

Val also discussed the highlights and objectives of the past year and turned the presentation over to Seth Bridge for further discussion. Seth Bridge stated that he was happy to see such a large turnout and would like to see more participation in Selectboard meetings. Seth then mentioned some of the grants that the Town had received during the year.

Seth discussed the office being closed and said that the safety of employees and visitors would not be compromised. He asked residents to contact the Selectboard if they had suggestions. He also assured the audience that the board was working on the issue and would fix the problem.

Lastly, Seth commented on the "end of an era". Bill Ellis and Newt Jones were not at the meeting but Seth praised them for their hard work. Bill had worked for the Town for 33 years and done a fabulous job taking care of the roads. There was a round of applause for Bill and Newt.

- Al Wakefield said the office had been closed for a long time and asked when the issue would be resolved. Seth stated we are moving forward.
- Neil Langer questioned why the road crew salary line items were so high. Seth said there would be additional time required for training the new road crew. Val Taylor said the town was also anticipating the hiring of a third full time crew member.
- Larry Gold laughingly asked that they find someone who won't hit his mailbox.
- Jennifer Van Sciver asked if the town planned on finishing the repairs to Notch Road which was damaged in last summer's flooding. Val Taylor stated that is one of the Town's priorities for this year.
- William Hagar asked when the rest of Town Line Road would be paved. Val said she would get that information and get back to him.
- Lynn Sandage said that health care costs were rising.
- Fred Bagley wondered why Public Safety income was so far under budget. Constable Lema Carter responded saying the state is now collecting a higher percentage of the ticket revenue.
- Nicole Kesselring asked if the sheriff was spending more time at the Town Office than on the roads. Sue Feenick echoed that the sheriff was spending more time at the office. Val and Seth both said they would review this and get back to the residents.
- Ann Singiser said the upcoming year would mark the final payment on the Town Office bond.
- Lynn Sandage asked if the budget could be changed. Chris Corsones explained the process for budget amendments.
- John Rizk asked how to get a copy of the information the library sends. Val will check with Sara.
- Lisa Brooks asked if we receive information from agencies as to how they spend the money which the town appropriates. Val said no.
- Jennifer Bagley stated that Mendon is one of five towns that support the library. She stated the library had a small 4% increase and there are 462 active card holders. The library stayed open as much as possible during COVID and did whatever they could to keep the programs going. Further discussion regarding the library followed.

Lynn Sandage made a motion to amend article 1 and level fund the budget. Thomas Buzzell seconded the motion.

Discussion followed. Bruce Peacock called the question. John Rizk seconded. The motion **failed unanimously**.

Neil Langer questioned the actual tax increase amount. Val said she would check with Sara Tully who was not at the meeting.

Nicole Kesselring questioned the large jump in health insurance. Val stated that employees had the option of choosing Mendon's health care of staying on a spouse's health insurance. Chris VanSciver clarified with Val that the health insurance line item was the maximum amount that would be incurred and not necessarily the amount that would be spent based on employee health care choices. Discussion followed with clarifying the maximum employee buyout is approximately \$12,000.

Jamie Belchak made a motion to amend the health insurance line item of the budget to \$109,013 (level funding), which was seconded by Nicole Kesselring. Further discussion followed.

Bruce Peacock called the question. Patty Lancaster seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The motion to amend the budget failed.

With no further discussion, **Article 2 passed unanimously.**

Article 3 through 9 – Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$1,500 for the support of ARC Rutland Area Serving Citizens with Developmental Disabilities, \$1,200 for the support of Marble Valley Regional Transit District (The Bus), \$700 for the support of RSVP Retired Senior Volunteer Program, \$1,242 for the support of Rutland Mental Health Services, \$2,600 for the support of VNA and Hospice of the Southwest Region, \$600 for the support of Southwest Council on Aging, and \$2,500 for the support of Wonderfeet Kids' Museum? Steve Singiser made a motion to consolidate Articles 3 through 9, which was seconded by Al Wakefield. The motion **passed unanimously.**

Danielle Monroe stated she's the Executive Director of the Wonderfeet Kids Museum and spoke about the program. She said there will be a grand opening of the new facility on May 11th. There was no further discussion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Article 10 – To Elect the following town officers: Town Moderator – 1 year term, Selectboard Member – 1 year to complete a 3-year term, and Selectboard Member – 3-year term. This article will be voted on by Australian ballot on March 05, 2024 at the Town Office. Candidates running for these positions introduced themselves.

Chris Corsones asked if there was any other business the voters would like to discuss.

- Ann Singiser stated there were two write in candidates for the school board at large positions. Debbie Singiser is running for the two-year position and Tony Roberts is running for the three-year position.
- Fred Bagley asked that the board recognize retired Selectboard chair Dick Wilcox who in the spring of 2023 was inducted into the Vermont Principal's Association Sports Hall of Fame for a remarkable career coaching boys' basketball at Proctor High School. A round of applause followed.
- Justin Lindholm said he thinks we're getting to an answer regarding the shutdown of the town office. There is a law in State Statutes (13 V.S.A. §1026 & 1026a) against speaking badly. A person who speaks in a loud and nasty behavior can be told to stop. If they do not, they can be told to leave. If the problem still persists, they can be arrested, put in jail for up to 60 days or fined \$500. The longer we let it go on, the worse it gets. Discussion followed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Gondella, Town Clerk
Val Taylor, Selectboard Chair
Chris Corsones, Moderator

Warning
Town of Mendon Annual Meeting –March 3, 2025
VTRANS Building
61 Valley View, Mendon, Vermont

The legal voters of the Town of Mendon are hereby notified and warned to meet at the **VTRANS Office Building** on Monday, March 3, 2025 at 6:00 PM to transact all business except Article 6. The meeting will adjourn until March 4, 2025 at 8:00 AM, at the Mendon Town Office, to vote by Australian ballot on Article 6. Voting will close at 7:00 PM.

- Article 1 - Shall the Town vote to approve the 2025-2026 Municipal Budget at \$1,419,841?

- Article 2 - Shall the Town appropriate \$1,200 for the support of the Marble Valley Regional Transit District (The Bus) for public transportation for Mendon residents, visitors and surrounding communities?

- Article 3 - Shall the Town appropriate \$700 for the support of the RSVP Retired Senior Volunteer Program which allows older Americans the opportunity to apply their life experience to help meet community needs?

- Article 4 - Shall the Town appropriate \$2,600 for the support of VNA and Hospice of the Southwest Region to provide services when in-home care is needed?

- Article 5 - Shall the Town appropriate \$2,500 for the support of Wonderfeet Kids’ Museum to foster curiosity and exploration, inspiring creativity and igniting the imagination of children through the power of play?

- Article 6 - To elect the following town officers:
 - Delinquent Tax Collector for a 3 year term
 - Town Moderator for a 1 year term.
 - Selectboard Member for a 3 year term.
 - Selectboard Member for 2 years (to complete a 3 year term).

Dated at Mendon, Vermont on this 27th day of January, 2025

By the Selectboard members of the Town of Mendon:

/s/ Megan Smith

/s/ Seth Bridge

/s/ Sarah Buxton

Recognition of 22 years of service

Nancy Gondella



**Assistant Clerk & Treasurer
2002-2017**

**Town Clerk & Treasurer
2017-2024**

Certified Vermont Clerk & Treasurer 2008

Nancy was hired by the Town of Mendon in April 2002 to help through a staffing transition working alongside Ann Singiser. She was appointed by Ann in June 2002 as Assistant Town Clerk & Treasurer. She attended the New England Municipal Clerks Institute and earned the title of Certified Vermont Clerk and Treasurer in 2008.

In 2011 Tropical Storm Irene devastated Mendon and Nancy spent countless hours over the next 10 years working with FEMA and the State of Vermont to rebuild Mendon.

In 2017 she was appointed Town Clerk and Treasurer and continued in that position until her resignation in March 2024. In this capacity, she served on the Board of Abatement and the Board of Civil Authority.

Nancy took pride in running Elections, it was one of her favorite parts of the job. She was involved in 22 Town Meetings, 6 Presidential, and 6 Primary plus others in between for a total of at least 34 Elections.

We want to thank her for her dedication to Mendon throughout her 22 years and wish her well in her future endeavors.