

Town of
Shaftsbury, Vermont

ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025
PROPOSED BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2027

2026 Town Meeting and Election

Town Meeting

Monday, March 2, 2026, 6:00pm at Shaftsbury Elementary School

Balloting

Tuesday, March 3, 2026, 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. at the Town Garage

This year's annual report is dedicated to an outstanding citizen who is important in the life of Shaftsbury. *We thank you for your service to our town. . .*

Ben Benedict



This year we dedicate the town report to Ben Benedict who has volunteered hundreds of hours for Shaftsbury. Ben is an architect who has spent many hours developing the plans for our new town office building and working as general contractor for the project at no cost to the town, saving Shaftsbury thousands of dollars on this project. This is the third project that Ben has given his talents to for our town in the last several years.

Ben grew up in Bethany, Connecticut, a small town not dissimilar from Shaftsbury, and went to the local public elementary school, then high school at Hopkins Grammar in New Haven. He attended Yale College (where he met his future wife Heidi Humphrey) and received a M.Arch from the Yale School of Architecture. In 1978, Ben and Heidi moved from New Haven to New York City where he established his own architectural firm. Ben and Heidi bought an old farm in Shaftsbury in 1983 and in 1995 moved there full-time with their young children, Lincoln and Margot Benedict, who were then in elementary school. Ben established a small architectural practice based in Shaftsbury and soon started teaching at Williams College, where he remained on the faculty for 25 years. Ben is now retired from teaching and semi-retired from professional practice, mostly donating his services to local non profits.

Ben's volunteer activities have included serving on the Board of the Bennington County Regional Affordable Housing and serving on the facilities committee for the Town of Shaftsbury from 2007–2015. When Lincoln and Margot were at Shaftsbury Elementary, he also coached Shaftsbury girls and boys soccer teams. He has been very active in many programs at Bromley Mountain, including the Race Crew and the Junior Instructional Ski Program (JISP), where for many years he has taught local “never-evers” to ski and enjoy the outdoors.

His favorite activities include skiing, hiking, running, traveling, doing outside chores, and spending time with his growing family (two granddaughters to date).

Town of

Shaftsbury, Vermont

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year Ending June 30, 2025

Southwest Tech, MAU & SVUESD
Boards Annual Meetings

Please visit www.svsu.org for more information

Town Meeting
6:00 p.m. Monday, March 2, 2026 - Town Meeting
at Shaftsbury Elementary School

Balloting
7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 3, 2026
at the Town Garage

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This year's town report was produced by Town Clerk, Marlene Hall. Cover Photography by Jen Holley.

HELPFUL NAMES AND NUMBERS

Emergency Dial 911 Fire — Medical — Police

Town Officials

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Gina Jenks, Assessor's Clerk (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 103
Email assessors@shaftsburyvt.gov
Hours Monday - Thursday – 9:00 am - Noon and by appointment

BOARD OF AUDITORS

Michael Caslin, Chair (Home) 802-442-3936
Meetings As needed

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Jen Holley, Cemetery Superintendent 802-442-4038 x106
Kathy Cardiff, Chair
Meetings First Wednesday, 9:00 am, April - December

CONSTABLES

Robert "Bob" Perry, First Constable (Cell) 802-688-6118
Francis Buck, Second Constable (Home) 802-558-1948

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

Michael Day, Chair (Home) 315-283-4547
Meetings First & Third Wednesdays of each month, 6:00 pm

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Rick Bennett, Chair (Cell) 201-654-5248
Meetings Fourth Thursday, 8:00 am as needed

FIRE DEPARTMENT (VOLUNTEER)

Joe Vadakin, Fire Chief (Cell) 802-384-0061
Fire Station #1: 166 Buck Hill Road (non-emergency) 802-442-4226
Fire Station #2: 364 Old Depot Road (non-emergency) 802-375-9308

State Fire Warden (Burning Ordinance is in effect: please call 24 hours in advance to obtain permit)
Eric Bushee 518-836-7639
Deputy Fire Warden Ed Shewell 802-379-0441

Glastenbury Fire Warden (Burn permits for Glastenbury) Jerry Mattison 802-379-4487

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT / DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Mike Yannotti (Office) 802-681-7240

PLANNING COMMISSION

Tim Scoggins, Chair planning1@shaftsburyvt.gov
Meetings Second and Fourth Wednesdays of each month, 6:00 pm

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Deena Ruege, Chair (Home) 802-447-4741
Meetings Fourth Friday of each month, 10:00 am

SELECTBOARD

Zoe Contros Kearn, Chair zcontros@shaftsburyvt.gov
Naomi Miller, Vice Chair naomimiller@shaftsburyvt.gov
Tony Krulikowski tonyk0307@gmail.com
Mike Cichanowski mcichanowski@shaftsburyvt.gov
Brad Peacock brad.peacock@shaftsburyvt.gov
Meetings First and third Monday of each month, 6:00pm

TOWN ADMINISTRATION

Paula Iken, Town Administrator (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 102
Email administrator@shaftsburyvt.gov
Hours Monday - Thursday 8am-4pm, Friday by Appointment
Jen Holley, Operations Coordinator (802)442-4038 Ext. 106
Email operations@shaftsburyvt.gov

TOWN CLERK

Marlene Hall, Town Clerk (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 100
Email townclerk@shaftsburyvt.gov
Hours Mon. - Thurs. 9am-4pm, Fri. and evenings by appointment

FINANCE

Melanie Dexter, Treasurer (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 101
Email treasurer@shaftsburyvt.gov
Hours Monday - Thursday 9am - Noon & by appointment
Tiffany Mays, Bookkeeper, HR & Payroll (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 105
Email accounting@shaftsburyvt.gov
Hours Monday - Thursday 8:30 - 2:30 and by Appointment

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS

Rob Steuer, Chair (Home) 802-447-3137
Maggie Royle
Bill Hession (Home) 802-442-8919
Meetings As needed

VETERANS COMMITTEE

Meetings As needed

ZONING

Carlyn Mickle, Zoning Administrator (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 107
Email zoning@shaftsburyvt.gov
Hours Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am-2pm

Hours subject to change. Please check our website for the most up-to-date information.

STATE OFFICIALS

(www.vermont.gov)

BENNINGTON-3

Representative David Durfee 802-491-7832
Email ddurfee@leg.state.vt.us

BENNINGTON COUNTY

Senator Seth Bongartz 802-598-3477
Email sbongartz@leg.state.vt.us
Senator Rob Plunkett 802-440-2649
Email rplunkett@leg.state.vt.us

VERMONT STATE CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Governor Phil Scott 802-828-3333
Lt. Governor John Rodgers 802-828-2226
Attorney General Charity Clark 802-828-3171
Treasurer Mike Pieciak 802-828-2301
Secretary of State Sarah Copeland Hanzas 802-828-2363
Auditor Doug Hoffer 802-864-2281

FEDERAL OFFICIALS

(www.usa.gov)

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS

Senator Peter Welch 802-652-2450
Senator Bernie Sanders 802-862-0697
Representative Becca Balint 202-225-4115

Additional Helpful Names and Numbers

Animal Control Officer, Bob Perry 802-681-6118
Arlington Rescue Squad - non emergency 802-375-6589
Bennington Area Chamber of Commerce 802-447-3311
Bennington County Clerk and Bennington County Superior Court, Bennington 802-447-2700
Bennington County Industrial Corporation (BCIC) 802-442-0713
Bennington County Probate Court 802-447-2700
Bennington County Regional Commission (BCRC) 802-442-0713
Bennington County Sheriff's Department 802-442-4900
Bennington Free Library 802-442-9051
Bennington Rescue Squad 802-442-5817
Delinquent Tax Collector, Holly Bahan (Home) 802-379-2299
Emergency Management Director, Paul Dansereau (Home) 802-430-3266
..... emergencymanagement@shaftsburyvt.gov
Health Officer, Jackie Myers (Cell) 802-688-9570
John G. McCullough Free Library, North Bennington 802-447-7121
Mount Anthony Union High School, 301 Park Street, Bennington 802-447-7511
Mount Anthony Union Middle School, 747 East Road, Bennington 802-447-7541

North Bennington Treasurer's Office	802-442-5547
Post Office, North Bennington (05257), 52 Main Street, North Bennington	802-442-4884
Post Office, Shaftsbury (05262), 56 Church Street, Shaftsbury	802-442-2142
Regional Technical School District.....	802-447-0220
Second Chance Animal Shelter.....	802-375-2898
Shaftsbury Elementary School, 150 Buck Hill Road, Shaftsbury.....	802-442-4373
Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union	802-447-7501
Town of Shaftsbury, Fax Number.....	802-442-0955
Town Service Officer, Jackie Myers	(Cell) 802-688-9570
Tree Warden, David Mance III	802-375-6454
Vermont Agency of Transportation, Bennington District #1 Office	802-447-2790
Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife, Game Warden (police barracks)	802-442-5421
Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT)	802-229-9111
Vermont State Police Barracks, Shaftsbury Troop D (non-emergency).....	802-442-5421
Village School of North Bennington, 9 School Street, North Bennington	802-442-5955

PUBLIC WORKS EMERGENCIES

Shaftsbury Highway

Nights/weekends/holidays - notify State Police 802-442-5421

Shaftsbury Water System (for public water in Shaftsbury Village)

Joshua Brace, Water Superintendent(Cell) 802-375-5621
..... water@shaftsburyvt.gov
Mike Yannotti, Department of Public Works Superintendent(Cell) 802-379-1547

North Bennington Water Systems (for public water outside Shaftsbury Village)

Zach Bull..... 802-379-2858
Truck Cell 802-688-9005

SOLID WASTE FACILITY

(Transfer Station) 510 North Road

Shelly Boardman, Manager

Hours of Operation – Year-round

Tuesday	7:00am - 12:00 Noon
Thursday	11:00am - 4:00pm
Saturday	7:00am - 4:00pm

Transfer Station Holiday Closings 2026 - Please check website at shaftsburyvt.gov

Electronics can be dropped off at the Bennington Transfer Station during their regular business hours.
Located on Houghton Lane in Bennington

Visit our Website
www.shaftsburyvt.gov

Until we move to our new location (677 VT Route 7A), all meetings are held at the Town Office Building, Cole Hall (upstairs), 61 Buck Hill Road, unless otherwise posted

TOWN OFFICERS - ELECTED

Selectboard

Zoe Contros Kearn, Chair	3-year term expires 2028
Naomi Miller, Vice Chair	2-year term expires 2027
Mike Cichanowski.....	3-year term expires 2027
Tony Krulikowski	3-year term expires 2026
Brad Peacock.....	2-year term expires 2026

Town Clerk

Marlene Hall	3-year term expires 2027
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Treasurer

Melanie Dexter	3-year term expires 2027
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Auditors

Michael Caslin	3-year term expires 2028
Lisa Lent	3-year term expires 2026
Vacant	3-year term expires 2027

Trustees of Public Funds

Rob Steuer, Chair	3-year term expires 2027
Maggie Royle	3-year term expires 2028
Bill Hession	3-year term expires 2026

Delinquent Tax Collector

Holly S. Bahan	3-year term expires 2026
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Town Moderator

Thomas Dailey.....	1-year term expires 2026
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Constables

Robert "Bob" Perry, First Constable.....	2-year term expires 2026
Francis Buck, Second Constable	2-year term expires 2026

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE (2-YEAR TERM EXPIRES 2027)

Michael Caslin, Democrat	802-442-3936
Abigail Chaloux, Democrat	802-430-0104
Joseph Coonradt, Independent	802-442-2243
Marna Whitman Dailey, Independent	802-442-6582
Joan Dornhoefer, Democrat	802-442-6411
Dave Mance, Independent	802-688-3506
Anne Mele, Democrat	802-447-3859
Karen Mellinger, Democrat	802-447-1950
Alice Miller, Democrat	802-430-1615
Linda I. Morris, Democrat	802-442-3504
Katie Seaton, Democrat	904-479-5470
Joan Vargo, Democrat	802-442-5646

BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY CONSISTS OF:

Justices of the Peace – Selectboard – Town Clerk

BOARD OF ABATEMENT CONSISTS OF:

Justices of the Peace – Selectboard – Town Clerk – Town Treasurer

TOWN OFFICERS - APPOINTED

CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT

Jen Holley	Term length at discretion of the Selectboard
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ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Carlyn Mickle	3-year term expires 2026
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DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

Michael Day, Chair	3-year term expires 2028
Ted Habberfield, Vice Chair	3-year term expires 2028
Denny Browe	3-year term expires 2028
vacant	3-year term expires 2028
Sarah Costin	3-year term expires 2028

PLANNING COMMISSION

Tim Scoggins, Chair	3-year term expires 2028
Michael Alguus	3-year term expires 2028
Emily Cowperthwaite	3-year term expires 2027
Prescilia Sacks	3-year term expires 2026
Michael Foley	3-year term expires 2028

ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS

Animal Control Officer	Bob Perry
Bennington County Regional Commissioner	Cinda Morse
Emergency Coordinator	Paul Dansereau
Energy Coordinator	Ben Hulett
Fire Chief	Joe Vadakin
1 st Asst. Chief	Mike Taylor
2 nd Asst. Chief	Ed Shewell
Fire Warden	Eric Bushee
Deputy Fire Warden	Ed Shewell
Health Officer	Jackie Myers
Deputy Health Officer	Vacant
Town Service Officer	Jackie Myers
Tree Warden	David Mance III

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Kathy Cardiff, Chair | Peggy Wilson, Vice Chair | Betsy Habberfield
Abbie Dansereau | Rosemary Lindsey | Jen Holley, Superintendent

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Rick Bennett, Chair | Kate Seaton
John Verocchi

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Deena Ruege, Chair | Marie Watson | Liz Duffy | Sarah Costin | Kate OKlein

SHAFTSBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Jeffrey Johnson, Principal
802-442-4373



Town of Shaftsbury

Municipal Offices at Cole Hall

Meeting Minutes

PO Box 409
61 Buck Hill Road
Shaftsbury, VT
05262-0409
(802) 442-4038

Select Board

Date of Meeting: Monday, March 3, 2025, at the Shaftsbury Elementary School and remotely via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:15 PM by Mr. Thomas Dailey, moderator. Mr. Dailey reminded those present to check in with the Town Clerk. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, fire exits noted, and reminded non-residents present that they could not speak unless the assembly voted that they be allowed. Mr. Dailey then asked if it was the will of the assembly to allow State Senator Seth Bongartz, a non-resident, to speak when it was time for him to give his report. The assembly agreed. Mr. Dailey then recognized the Select Board and asked for a round of applause for all others working for the town, on boards, as advisors, in the schools etc. He then asked for a motion to dispense with reading the warning. This was moved, seconded, and approved by voice vote. Mr. Dailey asked Ms. Naomi Miller, Select Board Chair, to introduce the Select Board. This complete, he continued with a synopsis of the evening's proceedings: the moderator will state the article, ask for a motion and second and then open the floor for discussion, debate etc. on the article. Articles may be amended by vote.

The first article was to hear the reports of the town officers and take action thereon. This was motioned and seconded. Mr. Dailey noted that there were some reports of importance that would be highlighted with verbal reports. He asked State Representative David Durfee to speak. Rep. Durfee spoke about education reform and the consensus in administration and the state legislature that "we need to make some fundamental changes to the way that we deliver education, how we govern education and how we pay for it." Rep. Durfee went on to ask for citizen feedback. He then spoke about the legislature's concern about the impact on state funding of the possible loss of Federal funds. Vermont receives approximately 3 billion dollars in federal funding for Medicaid, roads & bridges, education, and other smaller categories.

State Senator Seth Bongartz was next to give a report. Sen. Bongartz note that he serves on 2 committees in the legislature: the Natural Resources Committee and as Chair of the Senate Education Committee. He reported that the governor has 2 big concepts: to shrink or collapse the number of supervisory unions and districts from 52 supervisory unions in 119 districts to a lot smaller than that. The governor has proposed 5 districts, but Sen. Bongartz said that was not going to happen. The other is to shift funding to a per weighted pupil formula. Sen. Bongartz assured the assembly that the legislature was being very careful and deliberate with changes and that it was a multi-year process. He ended by saying that we have to think very carefully and not rush because "the only thing worse than doing nothing is to get it wrong."

Next to speak was Tim Scoggins, Shaftsbury's representative to the Southern Vermont Communication Unions district. He reported on the history and continuing work of the CUD to provide internet throughout the district. He concluded with "there is a CUD, and it is functioning. And it is in a position to be governing the network that it's built well into the future."

The moderator then introduced David Mance, Shaftsbury tree warden. Mr. Mance discussed the emerald ashborer. He presented slides of the insect and damage it does. He noted that many of the trees by roads in Shaftsbury were

ash and would be affected by the emerald ash borer and likely fall. Mr. Mance asked for help from townspeople with identifying ash trees before the trees leaf out this year to get an inventory and identify trouble spots. Planning Commission Chair Nancy Burns gave her report, discussing the enhanced energy plan that was formulated to give the town time to take a look at the type of power it wants to meet state energy goals. She concluded with saying that the Planning Commission was now working on subdivision regulations. Select Board Chair Naomi Miller then recognized new and recently retired town employees and their contributions. The purchase of the new town office building was announced along with the discovery of funds for the vault. Article 1 was then voted on and approved.

Article 2 A, B, and C and Article 3 were introduced, discussed, voted on and approved.

Article 4 "Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$2,972,493 to defray the town's general and highway expenses for fiscal year 2026, the amount of such sum to be raised by property taxes, and to be reduced by non-tax revenues and reserve funds?" was introduced, discussed at length, and the amount found to be inconsistent with line-item totals. There was a motion and second to amend, the amendment passed by voice vote. More inconsistencies were found and there was further discussion, but another amendment was not deemed necessary as the budget with the first amendment covered expenses and would be voted on the following day. Article 4 was moved and seconded for approval and was approved by voice vote.

In non-binding business, several representatives of groups with appropriations on the ballot spoke about their organizations.

The meeting was adjourned just after 8:00 PM.

BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING SHAFTSBURY, VERMONT
MARCH 4, 2025
Total Votes Cast 533

SELECTMAN

<u>3 Years</u>	<u>Vote for not more than ONE</u>
Zoe Contros Kearn.....	407
Write-In.....	12
Spoiled	1
Blank.....	113
Total	533

SELECTMAN

<u>2 Years</u>	<u>Vote for not more than ONE</u>
Naomi Miller.....	414
Write-In.....	16
Spoiled	1
Blank.....	102
Total	533

MODERATOR

<u>1 Year</u>	<u>Vote for not more than ONE</u>
Thomas J. Dailey	446
Write-In.....	3
Spoiled	0
Blank.....	84
Total	533

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR

<u>1 Year</u>	<u>Vote for not more than ONE</u>
Holly Snow Bahan	428
Write-In.....	2
Spoiled	0
Blank.....	103
Total	533

AUDITOR

<u>3 Years</u>	<u>Vote for not more than ONE</u>
Michael J. Caslin.....	416
Write-In.....	1
Spoiled	0
Blank.....	116
Total	533

TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS

<u>3 Years</u>	<u>Vote for not more than ONE</u>
Write-In.....	17
Spoiled	1
Blank.....	515
Total	533

1ST CONSTABLE

<u>1 Year</u>	<u>Vote for not more than ONE</u>
Robert Perry	406
Write-In.....	5
Spoiled	0
Blank.....	122
Total	533

2ND CONSTABLE

<u>1 Year</u>	<u>Vote for not more than ONE</u>
Francis Buck	395
Write-In.....	2
Spoiled	0
Blank.....	136
Total	533

ARTICLES

1) Shall the Town approve the term of the Delinquent Tax Collector to be changed from one year to three years?

YES 407 NO 100

2) Shall the Town approve the terms of the First and Second Constables to be changed from one year to two years?

YES 425 NO 77

Community Appropriations to Determine:

1) Shall the Town appropriate **\$5,225** to Bennington Area Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice?

YES 458 NO 58

2) Shall the Town appropriate **\$5,000** to the Bennington Coalition for the Homeless?

YES 415 NO 98

3) Shall the town appropriate **\$1,850** to Bennington County Habitat for Humanity?

YES 424 NO 93

4) Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,000** to the Bennington Free Clinic?

YES 423 NO 85

5) Shall the Town appropriate **\$600** to Bennington Little League?

YES 412 NO 95

6) Shall the Town appropriate **\$4,500** to the Bennington Project Independence, Inc.?

YES 420 NO 85

7) Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,700** to the Bennington Rutland Opportunity Council?

YES 339 NO 162

8) Shall the Town appropriate **\$600** to the Center for Restorative Justice?

YES 366 NO 138

9) Shall the Town appropriate **\$200** to Green-Up Vermont?

YES 447 NO 66

10) Shall the Town appropriate **\$2,500** to the Paran Recreations, Inc.?
YES 402 NO 107

11) Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,500** to the Park McCullough House
YES 360 NO 152

12) Shall the Town appropriate **\$450** to the Project Against Violent Encounters?
YES 414 NO 97

13) Shall the Town appropriate **\$950** to the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program?
YES 426 NO 83

14) Shall the Town appropriate **\$2,500** to the Shaftsbury Historical Society, Inc.?
YES 376 NO 131

15) Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,000** to the Sunrise Family Resource Center?
YES 374 NO 131

16) Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,100** to the SW Vermont Council on Aging?
YES 421 NO 86

17) Shall the Town appropriate **\$900** to the Tutorial Center?
YES 399 NO 106

18) Shall the Town appropriate **\$300** to the VT Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired?
YES 450 NO 62

19) Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,000** to the VT Center for Independent Living?
YES 422 NO 84

20) Shall the Town appropriate **\$5,000** to Shires Media Partnership (WBTN)?
YES 279 NO 215

21) Shall the Town appropriate **\$475** to Bennington County Conservation District?
YES 395 NO 112

22) Shall the Town Appropriate **\$1,000** to Monty's House Wildlife Rehabilitations?
YES 372 NO 133

**STATE OF VERMONT
Bennington County, SS:
TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY**

March 2026 Annual Town Meeting Warning

Shaftsbury residents, qualified to vote at the Annual Town Meeting, are hereby notified and warned to meet in person at the Shaftsbury Elementary School 150 Buck Hill Road or virtually via Zoom on **Monday, March 2nd, 2026, at 6:00 PM** to hold a public information hearing. Upon completion of the information session, the Meeting will stand adjourned until **Tuesday, March 3rd, 2026, from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM** when voting by Australian ballot will commence at the Town Garage on North Road for the election of town officers and consideration of ballot articles.

Shaftsbury residents may submit an application to the Town Clerk to have their names added to the voter checklist no later than **12:00 PM on Monday, March 2nd, 2026 or at the Town Garage on Tuesday, March 3rd, 2026 from 7am to 7pm** to be eligible to vote on Tuesday, March 3rd, 2026, at the polls. Any voter unable to come to the polls may apply for an early voter ballot with the Town Clerk until **12:00 PM on Monday, March 2nd, 2026**. Registration to vote can be done online by going to **MVP.VERMONT.gov**. Residents registering on Election Day must do so only at the polling place of their physical residence.

BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED FROM THE FLOOR ON MONDAY, MARCH 2nd, 2026 AT 6:00 PM IN THE SHAFTSBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 150 BUCK HILL ROAD.

- To hear reports of the Town Officers and take action thereon.
- Shall the Town authorize collection of taxes on real or personal property by its Treasurer, which are due in hand on or before **Tuesday, November 10th at 5:00 PM** or likewise postmarked no later than **November 10th**?
- Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$3,221,460.25 to defray the Town's general and highway expenses for Fiscal Year 2027, the amount of such sum to be raised by property taxes and to be reduced by non-tax revenues and reserve funds?
- To transact any other non-binding business as legally may come before said meeting at this time.

AGENDA

The agenda items will be discussed but not voted on. Voting will be by Australian ballot on Tuesday March 3, 2026.

1. Review and discuss Articles 1, 2, and 3.
 - o Public Comments
2. Review and discuss Article 4: Community Appropriations
 - o Public comments
3. Discussion of other non-binding business
 - o Public comment

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026

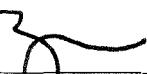
7:00 AM TO 7:00 PM

Town Garage North Road

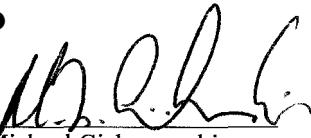
- 1) Voting for Town Officials
- 2) Shall the Town vote to change the status of the position of Treasurer from elected to appointed?
- 3) Shall the Town vote to exempt Shaftsbury Community Hall from payment of property tax for a period of five years?
- 4) Community Appropriations to Determine:
 - 1) Shall the Town appropriate \$5,225 to Bennington Area Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice?
 - 2) Shall the Town appropriate \$5,000 to the Bennington Coalition for the Homeless?
 - 3) Shall the Town appropriate \$1,000 to the Bennington Free Clinic?
 - 4) Shall the Town appropriate \$600 to Bennington Little League?
 - 5) Shall the Town appropriate \$4,500 to the Bennington Project Independence, Inc.?
 - 6) Shall the Town appropriate \$1,700 to the Bennington Rutland Opportunity Council?
 - 7) Shall the Town appropriate \$600 to the Center for Restorative Justice?
 - 8) Shall the Town appropriate \$200 to the Green-Up Vermont?
 - 9) Shall the Town appropriate \$2,500 to the Paran Recreations, Inc.?
 - 10) Shall the Town appropriate \$1,500 to the Park McCullough House
 - 11) Shall the Town appropriate \$450 to the Project Against Violent Encounters?
 - 12) Shall the Town appropriate \$950 to the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program?
 - 13) Shall the Town appropriate \$2,500 to the Shaftsbury Historical Society, Inc.?
 - 14) Shall the Town appropriate \$1,000 to the Sunrise Family Resource Center?
 - 15) Shall the Town appropriate \$1,100 to the SW Vermont Council on Aging?
 - 16) Shall the Town appropriate \$900 to the Tutorial Center?
 - 17) Shall the Town appropriate \$300 to the VT Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired?
 - 18) Shall the Town appropriate \$1,000 to the VT Center for Independent Living?
 - 19) Shall the Town appropriate \$5,000 to Shires Media Partnership (WBTN)
 - 20) Shall the Town appropriate \$450 to Bennington County Conservation District?
 - 21) Shall the Town Appropriate \$1,000 to Monty's House Wildlife Rehabilitations?
 - 22) Shall the Town Appropriate \$1,850 to Bennington County Habitat for Humanity?
 - 23) Shall the Town Appropriate \$500 to the Bennington County Association Against Child Abuse?
 - 24) Shall the Town Appropriate \$750 to the Bennington County Senior Center?
 - 25) Shall the Town Appropriate \$5,000 to Turning Point Recovery Center?

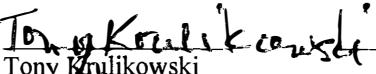
DATED at Shaftsbury, Vermont this 20th day of **January 2026**.

TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY SELECTBOARD


Zoe Centros Kearn, Chair


Naomi Miller, Vice Chair


Michael Cichanowski


Tony Krulikowski

Brad Peacock

Remote Only Public Informational Hearing Handout Town of Shaftsbury

Public Informational Hearing

The process for using the Australian ballot system at town meeting requires a public informational hearing as a precursor to the vote. The Selectboard must hold an informational hearing when a town uses this system of voting on any public or budget question. The informational hearing, which is administered by the Selectboard, must be held within the 10 days immediately preceding the town meeting at which the Australian ballot system of voting is to be used. The purpose of the informational hearing is to afford the electorate an opportunity to discuss the article(s) on which they will be voting. The hearing serves as the debate component that would otherwise accompany voting when conducted from the floor.

The Selectboard of the town of Shaftsbury will offer in person and remote access via electronic means to its public informational hearing. Whenever feasible, the public should, at minimum, be able to access and participate in the remote hearing by dialing in through telephone.

Accessing a Meeting

Please refer to the remote only public informational hearing notice and agenda for information on how to access the hearing remotely. Please note that whether you join by telephone, computer, or device, you may be put on hold or in a waiting “room” until granted access to the hearing. You also may be muted or restricted from using any chat function until the public comment portion of the hearing.

Participation

All meetings will be conducted in accordance with the Selectboard’s Rules of Procedure , to the extent practicable. The moderator will follow the public informational hearing agenda and, when feasible, allow members of the public attending remotely to participate through voice (audio) means or alternatively using any chat function during the designated public comment periods on the agenda and at other applicable times as needed.

While the moderator will attempt to provide those attending remotely the same reasonable opportunity to comment, please be aware that technical and other issues may interfere or possibly even prevent that opportunity from occurring.

Initially, the meeting’s host/organizer will mute all remote attendees. This is necessary to control background noise. The host/organizer will then unmute remote participants or allow participants to unmute themselves when invited to speak by the moderator.

Please review the following guidelines:

- ▶ The moderator will invite comment:
 - during the public comment period as designated on the agenda; and
 - other times as determined by the moderator.
- ▶ When a remote participant/attendee is unmuted, they must state

their name before commenting.

When the Selectboard adjourns the hearing, the host/organizer will end the electronic meeting by turning off/closing the remote meeting software.

Remote attendees will be automatically disconnected.

The hearing will be recorded unless unusual circumstances make it impossible to do so. Minutes and other public records that are part of the hearing will be made available in accordance with VT's Open Meeting and Public Records Laws.

TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY

IN PERSON and REMOTE PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING

NOTICE and AGENDA

The Selectboard for the Town of Shaftsbury will hold a public informational hearing in person at the Shaftsbury Elementary School, 150 Buck Hill Road and by electronic means on March 2nd, 2026, at 6:00pm to discuss the Australian ballot articles on the 2026 Town Meeting Warning.

Information on how to access the remote hearing:

Shaftsbury Town is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Town Meeting 2026

Time: Mar 2, 2026 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3141923081?omn=82246863354>

Meeting ID: 314 192 3081

One tap mobile

+13052241968,,3141923081# US

+13092053325,,3141923081# US

Join instructions

https://us06web.zoom.us/meetings/82246863354/invitations?signature=NycAN_BVEycio4fHh1oUmnfODp70Cfw7z1b41L7TQ

Please review our "Informational Handout for Remote Public Hearings" to understand how these electronic hearing will be managed.

To ensure smooth access, we recommend that you test your remote hearing software in advance of the meeting. If you have difficulty accessing the hearing, email webmaster@shaftsburyvt.gov.

Notice on hybrid public meetings

This meeting is a hybrid meeting, which means that some or all of the public body is meeting remotely and some are meeting physically in a previously noticed location where the public may attend to observe, listen, and participate contemporaneously. One member of this public body or other staff is present at the location to ensure the public can participate, if desired.

Please note that while we will strive to provide means for those attending remotely to participate in the public comment period, there may be technical difficulties or reasons that otherwise prevent or interrupt remote public participation. Therefore, it is important to note that the Open Meeting Law only ensures the public's right to participate and comment at a public meeting by attending at the designated physical location as posted in the notice and agenda.

YOU CANNOT VOTE AT TOWN MEETING VIA ZOOM

You must be logged in to Zoom to attend the Town Meeting Online.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Overview of the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2025 (FY2025):

In FY2025, the Town of Shaftsbury, with the explicit approval of its residents, dedicated the remainder of what had originally been ARPA funds to the purchase of a new Town Office Building at 677 Route 7A. This action was not anticipated when the budget was developed, which makes it tricky to draw straightforward conclusions about actual performance versus budget.

Leaving aside this cash transfer, revenues were fairly close to budget. Interest revenue was again much higher than budgeted, higher Transfer Station revenue reflects the recent rate increase, and we received an unbudgeted planning grant. These counterbalanced a shortfall in current tax revenue and Town Clerk fees. (Part of the latter two are, in part, a reflection of our change from accrual to cash-based accounting.)

Expenditures unrelated to the property purchase were higher than budgeted in several areas. The biggest expense variances were in the Highway department, where road maintenance supplies (chloride, and winter sand and salt) exceeded budget by a combined total of \$83,440. An unbudgeted vehicle lease added a further deficit of \$24,927. Variances in Administration and Accounting/Payroll were attributable to unbudgeted changes in personnel, as well as job titles, responsibilities, and hours.

The effect on the General Fund Balance is as follows:

	Budget	Actual	Actual % of Budget	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Total Revenue	2,746,971	3,054,829	111.21%	307,858
Total Expenditures	2,746,971	3,313,699	120.63%	(566,728)
 Excess/(Deficit) of Receipts Over Expenditure				
				(258,870)
 Unbudgeted:				
Transfer from former ARPA fund				274,411
Purchase of 677 Route 7A				(384,602)
Fund Balance EOY FY24				671,080
Fund Balance EOY FY25				382,247
Fund Balance Increase/(Decrease)				(288,833)

These numbers are drawn from the Sullivan Powers Town of Shaftsbury Audit Report, which can be found on the Shaftsbury website and the Town Offices. The report provides a great deal of detail and explanation.

In FY2025, several Shaftsbury residents once again paid more than they should have in property taxes, because they failed to file their Homestead Declaration (HS122) on time. Even if you receive an extension on your State Income Taxes, you will be penalized if you file your HS122 after April 15. If you file after October 15, you will receive no benefit.

Taxes are due at 5 PM on November 10, 2026. Online payments made by the due date will be counted as on time, even if they take longer to clear the bank. On-time postmark is also accepted. If you are mailing a payment within three days of the due date, you are **strongly encouraged** to have your envelope hand-canceled by a USPS employee.

Melanie Dexter, Shaftsbury Town Treasurer

AUDITORS REPORT

During Fiscal year 2025, the Auditors' met monthly to reconcile the town's bank statement, audit the Reserve Fund, review the General Journal Entries, and review Transfer Station Receipts.

At the close of Fiscal year 2025 the Auditor's completed examinations of the Town Treasurer's Records including purchase orders, invoices, and checks, comparing these items with the Selectboard Warrants and the Detailed Transaction Report. This examination was based on an estimated 35% sample of records.

The Auditors' have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of the Town of Shaftsbury as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. These financial statements are based on information supplied by the Town Treasurer and were prepared by the outside auditor, Sullivan and Powers. The Auditors' responsibility is to express an opinion concerning these financial statements based on our review. In our opinion the financial statements referred to above present the financial position and changes in financial position of the Town of Shaftsbury as of June 30, 2025, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Caslin

Lisa Lent

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

This report summarizes the activity of the town funds for which the Trustees of Public Funds have responsibility. The Trustees manage these funds for the purpose of providing income for fund purposes while protecting the purchasing power of the funds through capital appreciation.

In Sept. 2024, the town received \$59,154.62 as an estate settlement through probate that resulted in the establishment of the Mercer Fund.

In December 2025, the town received \$12,378 as a transfer of income generated from individual accounts between July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024, as follows:

Cemetery Perpetual Trust	4,408
Recreation	4,410
School	842
Library - Restricted	337
Library - Unrestricted	295
Grandview Cemetery	<u>2,086</u>
	\$12,378

The funds were established for the benefit of the Town and local townsfolk. The Trustees recognize the fund purposes as they strive to make certain the funds are used as they were intended.

Robert Steuer

William Hession

CEMETERY TRUST FUND

The Cemetery Trust Fund was dissolved in 2022.

CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE

These funds result from payments made to the Town of Shaftsbury to provide for the perpetual care of cemetery lots. An amount for this purpose is included in the price of each lot sold. Monies received by the Town from this source become part of the principal of the fund and may not be used for any other purpose but to produce income for perpetual care. This income is used by the town for cemetery care under the supervision of the Selectboard. The annual net income from this fund is remitted to the Town of Shaftsbury after the close of the fiscal year.

HUNTINGTON CEMETERY FUND

An 1890 gift in trust by Calvin Huntington established the Huntington Cemetery Fund to provide income “to keep in repair the family gravestones of his relations in the town graveyard.” The Bennington Probate Court in 2000 appointed the Selectmen of the Town of Shaftsbury as successor trustees to the Huntington Cemetery Trust. The Select Board voted “to turn management of the Huntington Cemetery Fund over to the Trustees of Public Funds” at its June 20, 2005, meeting. The Trustees received the Huntington Fund in July 2005.

The Huntington Fund principal may not be expended for any purpose. Income from the Huntington Fund may only be used for the stated purpose of the Fund.

SCHOOL FUND

The School Fund, derived from any payments or bequests to the Town of Shaftsbury School District, provides that the net income from the fund be paid annually to the school district.

LIBRARY FUND-RESTRICTED

All net income is paid annually upon request to the Mary Monroe Hawkins Memorial Library Association to purchase books for the library at the Shaftsbury Elementary School.

LIBRARY FUND-UNRESTRICTED

In June 1994 the trustees received a check for \$10,000 from the estate of Tirzah J. Sweet as an unrestricted bequest to the Mary Monroe Hawkins Memorial Library, located in the Shaftsbury Elementary School. Net income is credited to the fund. Monies from this fund are requested and disbursed at the discretion of the Mary Monroe Hawkins Memorial Library Association.

HEALTH FUND

The Health Fund was dissolved in 2022. All investments were transferred to the Recreation Fund, per the Selectboard.

RECREATION FUND

The Selectboard established this fund to function as an endowment providing income for use in supporting recreation projects in the Town of Shaftsbury. Prior town recreation saving accounts together with Howard Park contributions were either transferred or deposited into this fund to make up its principal. The annual net income from this fund is remitted to the Town of Shaftsbury after the close of the fiscal year for use by the recreation committee.

JULIA MATTISON FUND

A 1919 will of Julia E. Mattison, a Shaftsbury resident established this fund. The Bennington Probate Court distributed the funds to the Town in a 1926 order following Ms. Mattison's death. Fund income provides care, comfort and maintenance of any aged and needful women who are residents of the Town of Shaftsbury under the terms of Ms. Mattison's will. The Selectboard determines recipients of assistance from this fund at its discretion.

GEORGE W. HAWKINS FUND

A generous legacy from a former resident, George W. Hawkins, established this fund in 1976. Net income is credited to the fund. The fund is unrestricted as to use and monies are disbursed at the discretion of the Selectboard. It has been the Selectboard's policy to maintain a minimum principal of \$80,000.

HOWARD PARK FUND

Florence Howard kindly bequeathed half of her estate to the town in 2017. The funds are to be earmarked for any use relating to Howard Park. The funds are invested to protect the principle while net income is reinvested back into the fund. The Selectboard has discretion over the use of the funds as they relate to Howard Park.

MERCER FUND

The Mercer fund was established in 2024 as the result of an estate settlement through Probate court.

GRANDVIEW CEMETERY

Land was conveyed to the North Bennington Cemetery Association in 1911 "...for the purpose of purchasing, acquiring and holding real and personal property to be used for and in connection with a cemetery or burial ground in Shaftsbury, Vermont; of selling and conveying lots therein; erecting of the necessary structures; soliciting and holding trust funds and making contracts for the perpetual care of burial lots therein, with authority to do all things requisite and proper to accomplish said purpose." Since assuming responsibility for the cemetery in 2018, the annual net income from this fund is remitted to the Town of Shaftsbury after the close of the fiscal year.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

Fund	Raymond James Starting Balance				Mkt Valuation				RJ Ending Balance				M&T Bank Ending Balance				RJ & M&T's Ending Balance				Allocation of Investment Fees			
	30-Jun-24	Cap Gains	Int & Div	Gains or (Losses)	Additions	Withdrawals	Investment Fees	Rounding	30-Jun-25	30-Jun-25	Int & Div Income	Mkt Gains	Valuation to Income	Income	Net Income	2025	2025 Percent	2025 Mkt	Fees to	2025 Percent	Fees to	Net		
Cemetery Perp Trust	148,618	6,773	4,790	5,444	-	(5,138)	(922)	(3)	159,561	67	159,629	4,790	5,444	41%	382	4,408								
Huntington Cemetery	81,593	3,792	2,730	3,066	-	-	(528)	90,653	24	90,677	2,730	3,066												
School	32,249	1,558	922	1,112	-	(1,076)	(215)	34,549	11	34,560	922	1,112	37%	80	842									
Library - Restricted	13,610	630	375	420	-	(444)	(102)	14,489	5	14,494	375	420	37%	38	337									
Library - Unrestricted	11,498	554	329	390	-	(380)	(90)	12,300	4	12,304	329	390	37%	34	295									
Mercer	2,606	1,317	(1,665)	59,155	(225)	(275)	(275)	60,913	-	60,913	1,317	(1,665)												
Recreation	147,645	6,672	4,793	5,480	-	(5,174)	(915)	158,501	49	158,550	4,793	5,480	42%	383	4,410									
Julia Mattison	46,481	2,188	1,420	1,513	-	-	(309)	51,293	14	51,307	1,420	1,513												
G.W. Hawkins	136,429	6,384	4,425	5,247	-	-	(869)	151,616	50	151,666	4,425	5,247												
Grandview Cemetery	69,769	3,224	2,269	2,587	-	(2,577)	(443)	74,829	-	74,829	2,269	2,587	41%	183	2,086									
Total Public Funds	<u>687,891</u>	<u>34,381</u>	<u>23,370</u>	<u>23,594</u>	<u>59,155</u>	<u>(15,014)</u>	<u>(4,668)</u>	<u>808,705</u>	<u>225</u>	<u>808,929</u>	<u>23,370</u>	<u>23,594</u>	<u>1,100</u>	<u>12,378</u>										

This report summarizes the activity of the town funds for which the Trustees of Public Funds have responsibility. The Trustees manage the funds of the purpose for providing income while protecting the purchasing power of funds through capital investment. D.B. McKenna & Co., Inc. provides investment advice to the Trustees.

Shaftsbury Public Funds were invested as follows at June 30, 2025

Money Market Funds and Bank Deposits	\$ 72,440
Certificates of Deposit	0
Bonds	0
Equity Mutual Funds	<u>736,488</u>
	<u><u>\$808,930</u></u>

Distributions of FY Income			
Cemetery Perpetual Trust	4,408		
Recreation	4,410		
School	842		
Library - Restricted	337		
Library - Unrestricted	295		
Grandview Cemetery	<u>2,086</u>		
	<u><u>\$12,378</u></u>		

Respectfully submitted
Robert Steuer
Bill Hession

We have restructured our accounting for a clearer picture of the prior years budgets and how it has affected each department as well as our cashflow and operating status. In doing this, we found that we were slightly over anticipating revenues and under budgeting for necessary expenses. We have included fiscal year 2024 to help you, the resident, see the history of expenses that lead us to the changes you see in the proposed budget for fiscal year 2027.

Revenue Description	FY24 Est Rev	FY24 Actual	FY25 Est Rev	FY25 Actual	FY26 Est Rev	FY26 Actual	FY27 Est Rev
					12/31/25		
Tax Revenue							
Current Tax Revenue	\$2,104,226.00	\$2,137,623.90	\$2,323,229.00	\$2,378,038.34	\$2,486,937.57	\$2,125,364.88	\$2,851,085.25
Taxpayer Premiums - State	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$543.71	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Late Filed HS Dec Penalty	\$5,340.00	\$6,153.94	\$5,250.00	\$5,226.39	\$5,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Delinquent Tax Revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$36,826.53	\$0.00	\$0.00
Delinquent Tax Interest	\$10,000.00	\$20,950.93	\$10,000.00	\$11,218.68	\$10,000.00	\$6,146.94	\$10,000.00
Education Billing Fee	\$9,750.00	\$9,735.68	\$9,750.00	\$10,374.39	\$9,750.00	\$0.00	\$9,750.00
Total Tax Revenue:	\$25,090.00	\$36,840.55	\$25,000.00	\$27,363.17	\$25,000.00	\$42,973.47	\$19,750.00
Intergovernmental Rev							
Railroad Tax	\$950.00	\$992.47	\$950.00	\$992.47	\$950.00	\$0.00	\$950.00
State Land Use	\$46,000.00	\$49,933.50	\$48,000.00	\$56,305.50	\$48,000.00	\$54,478.00	\$53,000.00
VT Forests & Parks	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
State PILOT Payment in lieu of taxes	\$11,000.00	\$11,598.57	\$11,000.00	\$11,742.57	\$11,000.00	\$11,898.57	\$11,000.00
Fed Land PILOT Program	\$3,750.00	\$4,268.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,409.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
Government Grants	\$0.00	\$510.27	\$0.00	\$17,454.23	\$0.00	\$156.80	\$0.00
Total Inter'gov Revenue:	\$61,700.00	\$67,302.81	\$63,950.00	\$90,903.77	\$63,950.00	\$66,533.37	\$68,950.00
Transfer Station Revenue							
Transfer Station Grants	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Brush Fees	\$100.00	\$1,060.00	\$700.00	\$560.00	\$700.00	\$117.00	\$500.00
Freon Appliances	\$400.00	\$1,118.00	\$900.00	\$930.00	\$900.00	\$405.00	\$700.00
Transfer Station Misc	\$300.00	\$662.00	\$400.00	\$534.00	\$400.00	\$95.00	\$400.00
Non-Freon Appliances	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$80.00	\$0.00
Tires	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$186.00	\$0.00	\$360.00	\$150.00
Access Permits	\$9,000.00	\$7,980.00	\$9,000.00	\$12,530.00	\$9,000.00	\$5,130.00	\$9,000.00
Trash Revenue	\$64,000.00	\$73,287.50	\$66,000.00	\$78,350.00	\$66,000.00	\$38,303.00	\$66,000.00
Transfer Station Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Transfer Station Rev.:	\$73,800.00	\$84,107.50	\$77,000.00	\$93,100.00	\$77,000.00	\$44,490.00	\$75,150.00

Revenue Description	FY24 Est Rev	FY24 Actual	FY25 Est Rev	FY25 Actual	FY26 Est Rev	FY26 Actual	FY27 Est Rev
					12/31/25		
Highway Revenue							
Hwy Grant Revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$42,750.00	
VT State Hwy - Class 2 Rds	\$180,000.00	\$175,050.94	\$175,000.00	\$93,042.26	\$93,042.26	\$47,838.04	\$96,000.00
VT State Hwy - Class 3 Rds	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$87,273.44	\$87,273.44	\$44,972.08	\$88,000.00
VT State Hwy - Glastenbury	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Highway Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hwy Misc Revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,962.00	\$0.00
Total Highway Revenue:	\$180,000.00	\$175,050.94	\$175,000.00	\$180,315.70	\$180,315.70	\$137,522.12	\$184,000.00
Fines and Forfeits							
Dog Fines	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Civil Fines	\$2,500.00	\$473.17	\$2,500.00	\$1,700.50	\$2,500.00	\$1,256.05	\$1,250.00
Total Fines & Forfeits Rev.:	\$2,900.00	\$473.17	\$2,500.00	\$1,700.50	\$2,500.00	\$1,256.05	\$1,250.00
Banking Interest Revenue							
Bank Interest Earnings	\$1,500.00	\$27,615.59	\$2,000.00	\$28,684.21	\$23,178.00	\$19,943.55	\$8,250.00
Total Bank Interest Rev.:	\$1,500.00	\$27,615.59	\$2,000.00	\$28,684.21	\$23,178.00	\$19,943.55	\$8,250.00
Zoning Revenue							
Zoning and Bldg Permits	\$6,000.00	\$7,240.00	\$6,000.00	\$5,200.00	\$6,855.00	\$3,015.00	\$2,000.00
Zoning Grants	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Zoning Fines and Penaltie	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Zoning Misc Revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$160.00	\$0.00	\$370.00	\$0.00
Total Zoning Revenue:	\$6,000.00	\$7,240.00	\$6,000.00	\$5,360.00	\$6,855.00	\$3,385.00	\$2,000.00
Howard Park Revenue							
Park Grants	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Trustees Public Funds	\$4,500.00	\$5,017.30	\$4,500.00	\$5,174.23	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Park Reservation Fees	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$300.00	\$100.00	\$150.00
Park Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Misc Park Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
Total Howard Park Revenue:	\$4,600.00	\$5,167.30	\$4,600.00	\$5,482.23	\$4,600.00	\$743.00	\$5,100.00

Revenue Description	FY24 Est Rev	FY24 Actual	FY25 Est Rev	FY25 Actual	FY26 Est Rev	FY26 Actual 12/31/25	FY27 Est Rev
Cemetery Revenue							
Burial Fees	\$2,500.00	\$1,600.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,200.00	\$2,500.00	\$900.00	\$2,000.00
Cemetery Grants	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lot Fees	\$5,000.00	\$6,300.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,400.00	\$5,000.00	\$900.00	\$4,000.00
Cemetery Trusts-perp	\$6,000.00	\$4,986.41	\$6,000.00	\$5,138.39	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Grandview lot fees	\$0.00	\$1,950.00	\$0.00	\$900.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grandview Trust - perp	\$3,000.00	\$2,500.46	\$3,000.00	\$2,576.77	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
Misc Cem Revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$0.00
Corner Markers	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grandview N Benn contribution	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Cemetery Donations	\$0.00	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Cemetery Revenue:	\$18,700.00	\$19,411.87	\$18,700.00	\$18,325.16	\$18,700.00	\$1,810.00	\$15,500.00
Town Clerk Revenue							
Town Clerk Grants	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Land Records Recording	\$45,000.00	\$30,414.00	\$38,000.00	\$21,519.00	\$38,000.00	\$12,764.00	\$25,000.00
Certified Copies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,847.00	\$0.00	\$2,970.00	\$1,800.00
Vault Copies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$662.00	\$0.00	\$520.00	\$500.00
Green Mt Passports	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$46.00	\$0.00	\$54.00	\$100.00
Land Postings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$170.00	\$100.00
Misc revenue	\$300.00	\$2,550.00	\$300.00	\$475.00	\$300.00	\$10.00	\$100.00
Dog Licenses	\$3,000.00	\$3,723.00	\$3,500.00	\$1,345.00	\$3,500.00	\$350.00	\$3,000.00
Beer and Liquor Licenses	\$130.00	\$0.00	\$130.00	\$300.00	\$130.00	\$105.00	\$100.00
Marriage Licenses	\$100.00	\$475.00	\$100.00	\$365.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Total Clerk Revenue:	\$48,530.00	\$37,162.00	\$42,030.00	\$26,589.00	\$42,030.00	\$16,943.00	\$31,000.00
Other Revenue							
Insurance claims & refund	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$743.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sale of Equipment non-HW	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,935.79	\$0.00	\$58,424.01	\$0.00
Total Other Revenue:	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$7,678.79	\$0.00	\$58,424.01	\$0.00

Revenue Description	FY24 Est Rev	FY24 Actual	FY25 Est Rev	FY25 Actual	FY26 Est Rev	FY26 Actual	FY27 Est Rev
Operating Transfers In							
ARPA Transfers	\$0.00	\$279,074.66	\$0.00	\$274,411.42	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Operating Transfers Total:	\$0.00	\$279,074.66	\$0.00	\$274,411.42	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Revenue (excludes current tax):	\$422,820.00	\$739,546.39	\$416,780.00	\$759,913.95	\$444,128.70	\$394,023.57	\$410,950.00
Totals w/o ARPA Funds:		\$460,471.73		\$485,502.53			

Expense Description	FY24 Budget	FY24 Expense	FY25 Budget	FY25 Expense	FY26 Budget	FY26 Expense	FY27 Budget
* General Government							
Administration							
Select Board Stipend	\$3,750.00	\$8,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,333.33	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Meeting Recording Clerk	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$481.00	\$0.00	\$771.75	\$3,000.00
Town Administrator	\$84,363.00	\$94,290.75	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.18	\$84,000.00	\$42,000.01	\$86,520.00
Operations Coordinator	\$0.00	\$2,884.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$39,494.00	\$19,736.99	\$43,622.00
Administration Health Ins	\$0.00	\$3,496.08	\$21,942.00	\$15,999.56	\$23,111.00	\$10,944.00	\$31,860.00
Health Plan Administration Fees	\$1,000.00	\$709.80	\$1,000.00	\$6,754.24	\$1,000.00	\$421.20	\$1,000.00
Administration HRA Funding	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	\$1,240.70	\$4,000.00	\$405.56	\$7,500.00
Aflac Admin	\$973.00	\$463.32	\$750.00	\$770.12	\$750.00	\$387.66	\$800.00
FICA	\$6,327.00	\$7,528.15	\$6,986.00	\$8,658.26	\$9,447.00	\$4,661.15	\$11,742.07
Insurance & Bond	\$72,685.00	\$79,390.75	\$79,326.00	\$85,628.97	\$80,000.00	\$23,700.58	\$85,000.00
State Childcare Contribution	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,954.92	\$3,330.00	\$1,538.31	\$4,056.22
Admin Retirement Match	\$5,694.00	\$8,060.45	\$2,726.00	\$9,359.48	\$9,130.00	\$5,089.24	\$10,930.00
Dental Plan	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,127.00	\$1,187.04	\$1,910.00	\$628.59	\$2,005.00
Vision Plan	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$104.00	\$130.50	\$170.00	\$52.20	\$170.00
Unemployment - Town	\$2,712.00	\$946.00	\$2,712.00	\$826.00	\$2,712.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Professional Services	\$21,000.00	\$41,281.25	\$26,000.00	\$58,276.37	\$20,000.00	\$18,948.27	\$25,000.00
Postage	\$1,200.00	\$2,126.66	\$1,800.00	\$129.62	\$0.00	\$469.00	\$150.00

Expense Description	FY24 Budget	FY24 Expense	FY25 Budget	FY25 Expense	FY26 Budget	FY26 Expense	FY27 Budget
Administration Continued							
Meetings/Training	\$500.00	\$734.00	\$500.00	\$849.00	\$500.00	\$149.00	\$500.00
Video/Web Site	\$4,800.00	\$9,161.50	\$4,800.00	\$3,752.92	\$4,800.00	\$1,833.01	\$4,000.00
Website Management	\$9,181.00	\$0.00	\$5,244.00	\$21,391.32	\$5,244.00	\$5,888.18	\$6,000.00
Advertising & Legals	\$1,500.00	\$298.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,795.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Dues & Subscriptions	\$14,000.00	\$15,081.00	\$14,000.00	\$27,879.82	\$14,000.00	\$852.00	\$14,000.00
Office Supplies	\$2,500.00	\$2,955.05	\$3,500.00	\$3,399.21	\$3,000.00	\$1,376.69	\$3,000.00
Office Equipment	\$3,000.00	\$4,545.66	\$5,000.00	\$6,484.46	\$3,000.00	\$2,520.41	\$3,000.00
Administrative Grant Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$229.90	\$0.00
Misc Expenses	\$1,200.00	\$3,800.26	\$1,200.00	\$744.69	\$0.00	\$1.06	\$1,000.00
Administration Totals:	\$236,385.00	\$285,753.41	\$269,217.00	\$344,026.71	\$316,098.00	\$142,604.76	\$352,855.29
Cole Hall							
CH Contract Services	\$6,900.00	\$5,372.00	\$6,900.00	\$7,053.60	\$7,500.00	\$1,028.04	\$0.00
CH Repairs & Maintenance	\$2,000.00	\$6,945.83	\$1,500.00	\$1,634.24	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
CH Operating Supplies	\$2,300.00	\$1,982.66	\$2,300.00	\$1,597.76	\$2,300.00	\$2,782.98	\$0.00
CH Utilities	\$9,000.00	\$11,359.54	\$10,000.00	\$15,900.44	\$10,000.00	\$5,088.80	\$3,000.00
CH Heating Fuel	\$4,000.00	\$3,167.47	\$4,000.00	\$3,573.03	\$4,000.00	\$2,559.99	\$1,500.00
Cole Hall Totals:	\$24,200.00	\$28,827.50	\$24,700.00	\$29,759.07	\$25,300.00	\$11,459.81	\$4,500.00
677 Muni Office							
677 Contract Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,153.50	\$0.00	\$124,616.15	\$10,000.00
677 Repairs & Maint	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
677 Operating Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
677 Utilities	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$696.40	\$0.00	\$1,744.95	\$12,000.00
677 Heating Fuel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,136.16	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
677 Muni Office Totals:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,986.06	\$0.00	\$126,361.10	\$31,000.00
Town Clerk- Elections & Vital Statistics							
Assistant Town Clerk	\$9,181.00	\$9,351.89	\$20,974.00	\$18,070.26	\$16,000.00	\$3,269.70	\$23,391.00
Town Clerk Salary	\$48,968.00	\$53,019.98	\$56,898.00	\$56,898.14	\$59,743.00	\$29,871.53	\$62,730.00
Poll Workers Wages	\$4,200.00	\$1,190.00	\$5,000.00	\$6,979.01	\$3,200.00	\$892.50	\$3,200.00

Expense Description	FY24 Budget	FY24 Expense	FY25 Budget	FY25 Expense	FY26 Budget	FY26 Expense	FY27 Budget
Town Clerk - Elections & Vital Statistics Cont.							
Clerk Health Ins Premium	\$19,946.00	\$16,880.69	\$18,689.00	\$22,811.20	\$23,949.00	\$10,431.90	\$45,840.00
Clerk HRA Funding	\$2,000.00	\$3,051.12	\$2,000.00	\$5,264.40	\$4,000.00	\$2,898.02	\$11,000.00
AFLACTC Short-Term Dis	\$420.00	\$435.00	\$420.00	\$1,145.30	\$1,100.00	\$593.71	\$2,000.00
FICA	\$4,662.00	\$5,343.11	\$6,630.00	\$6,022.15	\$5,828.00	\$2,565.24	\$7,592.29
Clerk Retirement Match	\$3,305.00	\$6,884.64	\$3,698.00	\$4,109.48	\$4,332.00	\$2,165.67	\$8,008.00
Dental Plan	\$628.00	\$1,033.89	\$1,034.00	\$1,863.13	\$1,250.00	\$961.96	\$1,310.00
Vision Plan	\$59.00	\$95.70	\$120.00	\$173.03	\$110.00	\$79.86	\$110.00
Professional Services	\$0.00	\$1,601.25	\$500.00	\$2,192.95	\$500.00	\$1,750.45	\$500.00
Travel & Meetings - Elect	\$650.00	\$0.00	\$650.00	\$650.00	\$650.00	\$0.00	\$650.00
Travel & Meetings - Town Cl	\$650.00	\$280.00	\$650.00	\$962.75	\$650.00	\$560.56	\$650.00
Oper Equip & Suppl - Elect	\$3,150.00	\$5,471.69	\$5,000.00	\$5,652.68	\$5,000.00	\$176.48	\$5,000.00
Mach&Equip/Supplies-TClk	\$4,500.00	\$248.44	\$4,500.00	\$1,001.66	\$4,500.00	\$1,731.92	\$4,500.00
TC - Elec. & Vital Stats Totals:	\$102,319.00	\$104,887.40	\$126,763.00	\$133,796.14	\$130,812.00	\$57,949.50	\$176,481.29
*General Government Totals:	\$362,904.00	\$419,468.31	\$420,680.00	\$512,567.98	\$472,210.00	\$338,375.17	\$564,836.53
** Finance							
Accounting/Payroll							
Bookkeeping Wages	\$9,820.00	\$6,385.08	\$10,125.00	\$25,299.00	\$22,113.00	\$13,735.58	\$37,141.00
FICA	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,018.76	\$3,156.99
Finance Retirement Match	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,786.00
Payroll Services	\$3,500.00	\$4,252.37	\$4,500.00	\$635.84	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Accounting/Payroll Totals:	\$13,320.00	\$10,637.45	\$14,625.00	\$25,934.84	\$23,113.00	\$14,754.34	\$43,083.99
Auditing							
Auditors Wages	\$1,900.00	\$1,048.50	\$1,200.00	\$960.00	\$1,200.00	\$708.75	\$1,200.00
FICA	\$148.00	\$80.24	\$90.00	\$73.45	\$90.00	\$54.22	\$102.00
Professional Audit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,000.00	\$20,213.00	\$18,000.00	\$13,410.00	\$20,000.00
Travel & Meetings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Town Report	\$955.00	\$981.20	\$2,500.00	\$2,521.98	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
Auditing Totals:	\$3,003.00	\$2,109.94	\$21,790.00	\$23,768.43	\$21,790.00	\$14,172.97	\$23,802.00

Expense Description	FY24 Budget	FY24 Expense	FY25 Budget	FY25 Expense	FY26 Budget	FY26 Expense	FY27 Budget
					12/31/25	12/31/25	
Delinquent Tax Collection							
FICA	\$1,300.00	\$1,042.00	\$1,300.00	\$648.37	\$1,300.00	\$555.12	\$1,000.00
DTC Supplies	\$500.00	\$3,059.70	\$500.00	\$853.20	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Del. Tax Collection Totals:	\$1,800.00	\$4,101.70	\$1,800.00	\$1,501.57	\$1,800.00	\$555.12	\$1,800.00
 Treasurer Services							
Treasurer's Salary	\$26,989.00	\$30,497.22	\$36,652.00	\$36,652.20	\$38,485.00	\$19,260.67	\$40,448.00
Other Services	\$250.00	\$228.00	\$100.00	\$115.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
PUB Bank Service Charge	\$660.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$3,600.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Billing Supplies	\$2,000.00	\$806.77	\$2,000.00	\$2,433.78	\$2,000.00	\$2,579.58	\$2,000.00
Travel and Meetings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.40	\$0.00
FICA	\$2,105.00	\$2,332.98	\$2,877.00	\$2,803.84	\$2,945.00	\$1,473.42	\$3,438.08
Treasurer's Services Totals:	\$32,004.00	\$33,864.97	\$41,779.00	\$42,004.82	\$47,130.00	\$23,464.07	\$46,136.08
 Assessor's Office							
Assessor Wages	\$36,358.00	\$29,164.67	\$43,062.00	\$42,874.62	\$45,211.00	\$22,783.66	\$59,364.00
Assessor AFLAC	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$51.168	\$0.00	\$255.84	\$750.00
FICA	\$2,726.00	\$2,231.14	\$3,380.00	\$3,189.30	\$3,458.00	\$1,694.61	\$5,045.94
Assessor Retirement Match	\$0.00	\$11,244.54	\$0.00	\$6,312.85	\$3,280.00	\$1,719.82	\$4,453.00
Professional Services	\$18,260.00	\$7,660.43	\$18,260.00	\$10,488.34	\$18,500.00	\$766.25	\$10,000.00
Tax Maps	\$2,500.00	\$7,075.07	\$3,000.00	\$7,637.80	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$7,000.00
Computer Maintenance	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Travel & Meetings	\$250.00	\$608.09	\$250.00	\$548.44	\$250.00	\$623.90	\$600.00
Dues & Subscriptions	\$700.00	\$50.00	\$700.00	\$1,138.41	\$700.00	\$235.00	\$700.00
Operating Supplies	\$200.00	\$958.48	\$200.00	\$39.13	\$150.00	\$114.38	\$200.00
Assessor's Office Totals:	\$61,494.00	\$58,992.42	\$69,352.00	\$72,740.57	\$74,949.00	\$31,193.46	\$88,112.94
* * Finance Totals:	\$79,617.00	\$75,841.51	\$107,567.00	\$123,945.41	\$121,652.00	\$60,675.89	\$202,935.01
 # Public Safety							
Animal Control							
Animal Control Officer Wages	\$6,615.00	\$7,384.53	\$6,813.00	\$6,813.04	\$7,154.00	\$3,576.82	\$7,512.00
FICA	\$506.00	\$564.95	\$545.00	\$521.30	\$547.00	\$273.65	\$638.52
Veterinary Expense	\$750.00	\$250.00	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00

Expense Description	FY24 Budget	FY24 Expense	FY25 Budget	FY25 Expense	FY26 Budget	FY26 Expense	FY27 Budget
					12/31/25		
Animal Control Continued							
Kennel Expense	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tags/Misc.	\$500.00	\$343.55	\$500.00	\$280.32	\$400.00	\$272.15	\$400.00
Animal Control Totals:	\$9,171.00	\$8,543.03	\$9,008.00	\$7,614.66	\$9,001.00	\$4,122.62	\$9,150.52
Emergency Management							
Equipment Maintenance	\$800.00	\$1,328.00	\$800.00	\$1,152.34	\$800.00	\$595.00	\$1,500.00
Travel & Meetings	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Operating Supplies	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$562.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Emergency Shelter Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Emergency Mngmnt Totals:	\$1,400.00	\$1,328.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,714.34	\$800.00	\$595.00	\$3,000.00
Fire Department							
Fire Department Stipends	\$2,600.00	\$2,600.00	\$2,600.00	\$2,600.00	\$2,600.00	\$0.00	\$2,600.00
FICA	\$199.00	\$0.00	\$199.00	\$198.90	\$199.00	\$0.00	\$221.00
Insurance & Bond	\$2,550.00	\$1,765.00	\$2,550.00	\$1,545.00	\$2,550.00	\$0.00	\$2,550.00
Firehouse Maintenance	\$5,000.00	\$3,851.25	\$5,000.00	\$6,066.90	\$5,000.00	\$655.51	\$5,000.00
Fire Truck Maintenance	\$8,000.00	\$9,624.16	\$8,000.00	\$21,714.27	\$8,000.00	\$9,033.02	\$10,000.00
Communications	\$4,500.00	\$5,744.92	\$4,500.00	\$2,497.02	\$4,500.00	\$106.34	\$4,500.00
Training	\$2,000.00	\$1,593.54	\$2,000.00	\$2,218.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,324.65	\$2,500.00
Operating Supplies	\$750.00	\$1,809.29	\$750.00	\$495.00	\$750.00	\$479.99	\$1,000.00
Utilities .	\$10,000.00	\$15,313.24	\$10,000.00	\$14,515.12	\$10,000.00	\$7,548.21	\$14,000.00
Firehouse Heating Fuel	\$11,016.00	\$3,385.27	\$11,000.00	\$8,281.26	\$11,000.00	\$2,681.72	\$9,000.00
Gas, Oil & Diesel	\$4,000.00	\$72.88	\$4,000.00	\$894.49	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Extrication Equipment	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,720.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Equipment Expenses	\$20,000.00	\$22,707.94	\$22,500.00	\$17,942.29	\$32,500.00	\$14,652.85	\$30,000.00
Fire Department Totals:	\$72,615.00	\$68,467.49	\$75,099.00	\$80,688.25	\$85,099.00	\$36,482.29	\$85,371.00
Libraries							
Bennington Free Library	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$19,282.00	\$19,282.00	\$19,282.00
McCullough Free Library	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$26,000.00	\$26,000.00	\$26,000.00
Martha Canfield Library	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00	\$2,310.00
Libraries Totals:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$47,482.00	\$47,482.00	\$47,592.00

Expense Description	FY24 Budget	FY24 Expense	FY25 Budget	FY25 Expense	FY26 Budget	FY26 Expense	12/31/25	FY27 Budget
Fire Warden								
Operating Supplies	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$813.00	\$250.00	\$831.70	\$250.00	
Vehicle & Equip	\$1,500.00	\$87.39	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	
Fire Warden Totals:	\$1,750.00	\$87.39	\$1,750.00	\$813.00	\$1,750.00	\$831.70	\$1,750.00	
Law Enforcement								
Constable Wages	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,237.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
FICA Constable	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$94.67	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Sheriff Services	\$40,000.00	\$44,457.50	\$80,000.00	\$84,531.43	\$90,000.00	\$48,258.75	\$90,000.00	
Law Enforcement Totals:	\$40,000.00	\$44,457.50	\$80,000.00	\$85,863.60	\$90,000.00	\$48,258.75	\$90,000.00	
Emergency Medical								
Bennington Rescue	\$27,500.00	\$27,500.00	\$30,250.00	\$30,250.00	\$30,250.00	\$30,250.00	\$30,250.00	
Arlington Rescue	\$10,388.00	\$0.00	\$11,427.00	\$11,427.00	\$11,427.00	\$11,427.00	\$11,427.00	
Emergency Medical Totals:	\$37,388.00	\$27,500.00	\$41,677.00	\$41,677.00	\$41,677.00	\$41,677.00	\$41,677.00	
# Public Safety Totals:	\$162,824.00	\$150,383.41	\$208,934.00	\$218,370.85	\$275,809.00	\$179,449.36	\$278,540.52	
^ Public Works								
Highway Administration								
Highway Crew Wages	\$312,628.00	\$326,106.77	\$318,906.00	\$326,442.20	\$337,886.00	\$176,369.20	\$416,875.00	
Highway Wages - Overtime	\$29,820.00	\$17,792.48	\$30,419.00	\$13,123.56	\$30,000.00	\$3,459.47	\$25,000.00	
P/T Summer HW Wages	\$9,236.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$9,690.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Highway Health Ins Prem	\$98,309.00	\$79,447.12	\$97,914.00	\$114,846.30	\$117,474.00	\$64,834.29	\$148,500.00	
Highway HRA Funding	\$16,000.00	\$10,436.60	\$16,000.00	\$11,442.65	\$18,000.00	\$7,707.67	\$30,500.00	
AFLAC HW Short-term Dis	\$3,000.00	\$3,436.31	\$3,500.00	\$2,887.74	\$3,800.00	\$1,580.67	\$4,250.00	
Dental Plan	\$3,769.00	\$3,489.50	\$3,882.00	\$6,287.28	\$4,000.00	\$3,713.06	\$5,800.00	
Vision Plan	\$350.00	\$546.53	\$375.00	\$521.69	\$502.00	\$280.18	\$510.00	
CDL Physicals	\$0.00	\$420.00	\$1,200.00	\$420.00	\$1,200.00	\$210.00	\$600.00	
FICA	\$26,844.00	\$26,017.78	\$27,422.00	\$23,962.97	\$28,908.00	\$12,961.60	\$37,559.38	
Highway Retirement Match	\$22,912.00	\$22,850.50	\$24,452.00	\$23,549.63	\$26,680.00	\$12,991.94	\$33,140.00	
FT DPW Clothing Allowance	\$3,307.00	\$0.00	\$3,600.00	\$3,600.00	\$3,600.00	\$0.00	\$4,200.00	
Travel & Meetings	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Steel Toe Footwear	\$750.00	\$886.23	\$750.00	\$598.99	\$750.00	\$234.99	\$1,050.00	

Expense Description	FY24 Budget	FY24 Expense	FY25 Budget	FY25 Expense	FY26 Budget	FY26 Expense	FY27 Budget
					12/31/25		
Highway Admin. Continued							
CDL Drug Testing	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Highway Admin. Totals:	\$528,025.00	\$491,429.82	\$538,720.00	\$537,373.01	\$572,800.00	\$287,943.07	\$707,984.38
Highway Construction & Maintenance							
Highway Grant Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$221,630.73	\$0.00
Subcontractor Costs	\$0.00	\$1,483.38	\$0.00	\$11,550.00	\$30,000.00	\$4,125.00	\$10,000.00
Signs	\$4,000.00	\$8,122.41	\$6,000.00	\$12,119.38	\$6,000.00	\$4,039.85	\$7,500.00
Tree Removal	\$22,500.00	\$12,210.00	\$22,500.00	\$3,400.00	\$22,500.00	\$6,819.00	\$40,000.00
Paving	\$0.00	\$397.62	\$2,000.00	\$6,964.36	\$2,250.00	\$5,500.00	\$5,000.00
Operating Supplies	\$8,000.00	\$14,187.81	\$13,000.00	\$13,361.13	\$13,000.00	\$5,234.85	\$13,000.00
Gravel	\$90,000.00	\$82,993.85	\$115,000.00	\$108,628.64	\$115,000.00	\$50,227.95	\$115,000.00
Calcium Chloride	\$60,000.00	\$71,128.50	\$62,500.00	\$71,145.08	\$63,000.00	\$48,964.98	\$72,000.00
Salt	\$51,000.00	\$36,855.70	\$51,000.00	\$67,675.47	\$51,000.00	\$4,370.26	\$60,000.00
Winter Sand	\$52,000.00	\$42,920.16	\$58,000.00	\$110,667.80	\$58,000.00	\$11,056.16	\$75,000.00
Level & Sealing	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$1,004.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Rentals	\$3,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$5,500.00	\$6,932.21	\$5,500.00	\$4,550.00	\$5,500.00
Culverts	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,505.00	\$10,000.00	\$2,820.00	\$5,000.00
Capital Improvement Proj.	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$356.00	\$0.00
State MRGP Fees	\$1,600.00	\$396.80	\$2,200.00	\$0.00	\$2,200.00	\$401.25	\$1,000.00
Sidewalk Construction Maint	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,400.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
Hwy Constr. & Maint. Totals:	\$297,100.00	\$271,696.23	\$342,700.00	\$424,353.07	\$385,950.00	\$370,096.03	\$416,500.00
Hwy Equipment Maintenance							
Trk #1 - '21 Intl HV507	\$3,700.00	\$4,552.51	\$4,000.00	\$3,883.51	\$3,700.00	\$9,456.82	\$5,000.00
Trk #2 - '24 Intl HV507	\$3,700.00	\$3,431.01	\$4,000.00	\$1,830.51	\$4,000.00	\$39.30	\$5,000.00
Trk #3 - '15 Intl 7600	\$3,700.00	\$31,396.40	\$4,000.00	\$10,021.29	\$4,000.00	\$8,588.12	\$5,000.00
Trk #4 - '13 Intl 7600	\$3,700.00	\$24,478.01	\$4,000.00	\$14,256.48	\$4,000.00	\$6,590.13	\$5,000.00
Trk #5 - '24 F550	\$3,700.00	\$30,381.71	\$4,000.00	\$4,579.12	\$3,000.00	\$3,199.00	\$3,500.00
Trk #6 - '95 Chloride Truck	\$3,700.00	\$45.38	\$4,000.00	\$6,198.70	\$3,000.00	\$225.00	\$2,500.00
Trk #7 - '19 Chevy 5500	\$3,700.00	\$273.24	\$4,000.00	\$7,398.89	\$3,000.00	\$356.34	\$3,500.00
Trk #8 - Ford F350	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,580.62	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
Trk #9 - A.M. General	\$3,700.00	\$62.47	\$4,000.00	\$1,259.86	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00

Expense Description	FY24 Budget	FY24 Expense	FY25 Budget	FY25 Expense	FY26 Budget	FY26 Expense 12/31/25	FY27 Budget
Hwy Equipment Maint. Cont.							
Trk #10 - 17 Dodge 3500	\$3,700.00	\$838.76	\$4,000.00	\$3,343.64	\$3,700.00	\$236.40	\$2,500.00
24 CAT Backhoe	\$3,700.00	\$2,745.88	\$4,000.00	\$2,498.69	\$3,700.00	\$153.65	\$2,500.00
J.D. Loader 1991	\$3,700.00	\$299.90	\$4,000.00	\$1,424.56	\$3,700.00	\$225.57	\$2,500.00
CAT 307.5 Excavator	\$3,700.00	\$1,233.05	\$4,000.00	\$161.67	\$3,700.00	\$1,565.56	\$2,500.00
Cat Grader 1987	\$3,700.00	\$909.14	\$4,000.00	\$1,672.09	\$3,700.00	\$773.83	\$2,500.00
22 Case 115	\$3,700.00	\$12,919.81	\$4,000.00	\$3,811.23	\$3,700.00	\$4,094.49	\$4,000.00
Plows & Sanders	\$3,700.00	\$4,579.96	\$4,000.00	\$11,329.01	\$3,700.00	\$1,816.25	\$3,700.00
Sidewalk Machine	\$3,700.00	\$1,518.90	\$4,000.00	\$436.28	\$3,700.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
J.D. Grader 2010	\$0.00	\$2,926.43	\$4,000.00	\$6,971.48	\$3,700.00	\$1,884.40	\$3,700.00
Trailers	\$1,000.00	\$1,137.25	\$1,500.00	\$230.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Toro	\$800.00	\$2,919.34	\$1,500.00	\$1,099.70	\$1,500.00	\$452.16	\$1,000.00
Cat Traxcavator	\$3,700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Communications	\$500.00	\$579.28	\$750.00	\$3,238.79	\$500.00	\$932.43	\$1,000.00
Gas, Oil & Diesel	\$70,000.00	\$63,160.66	\$70,000.00	\$57,034.37	\$70,000.00	\$23,148.26	\$60,000.00
Machinery & Equipment	\$14,000.00	\$12,901.89	\$20,000.00	\$13,379.68	\$14,000.00	\$7,570.03	\$15,000.00
Hwy Equipment Maint. Totals:	\$149,200.00	\$203,290.98	\$161,750.00	\$157,640.17	\$149,500.00	\$71,307.74	\$138,900.00
Highway Garage							
Professional Services	\$2,500.00	\$3,036.50	\$5,000.00	\$9,097.63	\$2,500.00	\$2,975.85	\$7,500.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$1,000.00	\$1,537.62	\$1,500.00	\$2,376.06	\$2,000.00	\$356.76	\$2,000.00
Operating Supplies	\$4,000.00	\$4,937.03	\$4,000.00	\$4,537.51	\$4,000.00	\$2,937.01	\$4,500.00
Utilities	\$5,1200.00	\$9,837.72	\$8,000.00	\$9,066.50	\$8,000.00	\$3,076.41	\$9,000.00
Heating Fuel	\$2,500.00	\$4,248.38	\$3,000.00	\$3,442.08	\$3,000.00	\$337.84	\$3,500.00
Machinery & Equipment	\$3,000.00	\$3,310.86	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,400.16	\$0.00
Highway Garage Totals:	\$18,200.00	\$26,908.11	\$21,500.00	\$28,519.78	\$19,500.00	\$13,084.03	\$26,500.00
Transfer Station							
Attendant Wages	\$36,649.00	\$37,313.34	\$38,511.00	\$41,385.36	\$41,692.00	\$21,591.33	\$43,780.00
FICA	\$2,749.00	\$2,854.53	\$3,023.00	\$3,153.62	\$3,189.00	\$1,651.78	\$3,721.30
Professional Services	\$4,000.00	\$6,587.75	\$5,000.00	\$9,320.50	\$4,000.00	\$145.00	\$5,000.00
Methane Well Monitoring	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00

Expense Description	FY24 Budget	FY24 Expense	FY25 Budget	FY25 Expense	FY26 Budget	FY26 Expense	FY27 Budget
					12/31/25	12/31/25	
Transfer Station Continued							
Solid Waste Implement Plan	\$30,000.00	\$18,171.51	\$35,000.00	\$26,681.67	\$30,000.00	\$12,394.17	\$30,000.00
Groundwater Monitoring	\$25,000.00	\$22,849.15	\$27,500.00	\$29,951.30	\$25,000.00	\$14,953.57	\$25,000.00
Tire Removal	\$0.00	\$687.50	\$0.00	\$194.00	\$0.00	\$824.75	\$0.00
Casella Services Waste Pick up	\$104,838.00	\$118,918.10	\$110,000.00	\$112,358.17	\$115,000.00	\$58,245.22	\$115,000.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$1,000.00	\$654.66	\$1,200.00	\$310.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Operating Supplies	\$1,000.00	\$360.12	\$1,000.00	\$2,091.53	\$1,000.00	\$853.98	\$1,000.00
Sticker Costs	\$1,500.00	\$865.00	\$750.00	\$198.50	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
TS Steel Toe Footwear	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$111.99	\$150.00
Transfer Station Utilities	\$400.00	\$355.26	\$400.00	\$1,164.97	\$400.00	\$781.10	\$1,000.00
Landfill Utilities	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$320.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Gas, Oil & Diesel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$89.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transfer Station Totals:	\$207,736.00	\$209,616.92	\$222,984.00	\$227,344.56	\$222,681.00	\$111,552.89	\$227,101.30
Street Lights							
Hawks Avenue	\$500.00	\$187.76	\$500.00	\$257.82	\$500.00	\$86.88	\$300.00
S Shaftsbury Village	\$11,750.00	\$12,354.77	\$12,000.00	\$14,557.48	\$12,000.00	\$5,594.83	\$12,500.00
Street Light Totals:	\$12,250.00	\$12,542.53	\$12,500.00	\$14,815.30	\$12,500.00	\$5,681.71	\$12,800.00
Park							
Professional Services	\$3,000.00	\$882.69	\$3,250.00	\$6,565.52	\$3,000.00	\$8,150.00	\$5,000.00
Building Maintenance & Repair	\$2,000.00	\$7,965.33	\$2,500.00	\$2,202.07	\$2,000.00	\$2,144.67	\$2,000.00
Equip Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$69.98	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Operating Supplies	\$500.00	\$350.01	\$500.00	\$978.43	\$500.00	\$4,743.82	\$500.00
Utilities	\$550.00	\$686.20	\$500.00	\$582.58	\$500.00	\$31.89	\$500.00
Capital Improvements	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Park Totals:	\$6,050.00	\$9,884.23	\$6,750.00	\$10,398.58	\$6,000.00	\$15,070.38	\$8,000.00
Cemetery							
Superintendent Salary	\$9,181.00	\$11,118.15	\$15,731.00	\$17,902.04	\$13,125.00	\$8,459.10	\$15,580.00
Cemetery Asst	\$4,056.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
FICA	\$937.00	\$835.22	\$1,258.00	\$1,347.84	\$1,000.00	\$634.28	\$1,324.30
Cemetery Retirement Expense	\$0.00	\$3,353.49	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Expense Description	FY24 Budget	FY24 Expense	FY25 Budget	FY25 Expense	FY26 Budget	FY26 Expense	FY27 Budget
					12/31/25		
Cemetery Continued							
Contract Services	\$31,200.00	\$32,195.00	\$31,200.00	\$36,598.00	\$38,500.00	\$16,087.38	\$38,500.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$3,000.00	\$3,267.45	\$3,000.00	\$3,599.48	\$1,000.00	\$1,582.47	\$1,000.00
Travel & Meetings	\$400.00	\$755.39	\$400.00	\$394.86	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Misc Cemetery Exp	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12.59	\$0.00
Corner Markers Installation	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Corner Markers	\$1,300.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,300.00	\$532.31	\$1,300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cemify Maintenance	\$1,359.00	\$0.00	\$9,240.00	\$2,436.75	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Buy Back Lots	\$0.00	\$1,400.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cemetery Totals:	\$51,633.00	\$54,124.70	\$62,329.00	\$64,011.28	\$56,825.00	\$26,775.82	\$58,304.30
^ Public Works Totals:	\$1,270,194.00	\$1,279,493.52	\$1,369,233.00	\$1,464,455.75	\$1,425,756.00	\$901,511.67	\$1,596,089.98
 ~ Planning & Development							
Development Review Board							
Board Members Stipend	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
FICA	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$191.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Professional Services	\$500.00	\$6,800.00	\$1,500.00	\$100.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Travel & Meetings	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Advertising & Legals	\$1,000.00	\$2,656.90	\$1,750.00	\$158.00	\$1,000.00	\$170.00	\$500.00
Dev. Review Board Totals:	\$4,250.00	\$11,956.90	\$6,250.00	\$2,949.25	\$5,000.00	\$170.00	\$3,400.00
 Planning							
Board Members Stipend	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
Zoning Admin Wage	\$12,740.00	\$10,966.26	\$11,162.00	\$11,679.20	\$11,232.00	\$6,111.09	\$20,640.00
FICA	\$975.00	\$838.92	\$876.00	\$1,084.71	\$876.00	\$467.50	\$1,966.90
Professional Services	\$750.00	\$38,698.97	\$1,000.00	\$185.97	\$750.00	\$725.00	\$500.00
Travel & Meetings	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$82.67	\$0.00
Advertising & Legals	\$500.00	\$318.00	\$500.00	\$930.00	\$500.00	\$160.00	\$500.00
Planning Totals:	\$17,665.00	\$53,322.15	\$16,238.00	\$16,379.88	\$16,058.00	\$7,546.26	\$26,106.90
 County Tax							
County Tax	\$34,299.00	\$73,454.74	\$36,238.00	\$0.00	\$38,412.00	\$40,613.33	\$40,000.00
County Tax Totals:	\$34,299.00	\$73,454.74	\$36,238.00	\$0.00	\$38,412.00	\$40,613.33	\$40,000.00

Expense Description	FY24 Budget	FY24 Expense	FY25 Budget	FY25 Expense	FY26 Budget	FY26 Expense	FY27 Budget
Debt Service Expenditures							
Interest Expense	\$1,000.00	\$2,015.83	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
CAT Excavator	\$11,932.00	\$11,932.87	\$11,932.00	\$11,932.87	\$11,932.00	\$11,932.87	\$1.00
Garage Bond Payment	\$77,577.00	\$77,577.50	\$76,310.00	\$76,310.00	\$76,310.00	\$0.00	\$94,123.00
Mower State Loan	\$23,320.00	\$23,320.00	\$23,320.00	\$22,880.00	\$23,320.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ford F550	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$24,927.27	\$24,927.27	\$24,927.27
Debt Service Exp. Totals:	\$113,829.00	\$114,846.20	\$112,562.00	\$111,122.87	\$137,489.27	\$36,860.14	\$119,551.27
Transfer to Reserves							
Equip Reserve Fund	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$130,000.00	\$130,000.00	\$140,000.00	\$140,000.00	\$150,000.00
Fire Warden Trk Reserve	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$5,000.00
Fire Truck Reserve Fund	\$95,000.00	\$95,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$105,000.00	\$105,000.00	\$110,000.00
Airpack Reserve Fund	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Paving Reserve Fund	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$50,000.00
Sidewalk Reserve Fund	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Cemetery Reserve Fund	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Park Reserve Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
Culvert Reserve	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Audit Reserve	\$16,000.00	\$37,464.35	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Class 3 Rd Reserve	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00
Purchase of 677 7A	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$374,602.47	\$374,602.47	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transfer to Reserves Totals:	\$360,000.00	\$381,464.35	\$337,000.00	\$711,602.47	\$352,000.00	\$390,000.00	
~ Planning & Dev. Totals:	\$530,043.00	\$635,044.34	\$508,288.00	\$842,054.47	\$548,959.27	\$437,189.73	\$579,058.17
Total Budgeted Expenditures:	\$2,437,586.00	\$2,594,096.06	\$2,656,481.00	\$3,203,399.28	\$2,891,516.27	\$1,940,665.89	\$3,221,460.25
FY 27 Net Calculation of Budget by Department			Expense	Ant Rev		Net to be raised by taxes	
* General Government totals			\$564,836.58	\$119,700.00		\$445,136.58	
** Finance			\$202,935.01	\$8,250.00		\$194,685.01	
# Public Safety			\$278,540.52	\$1,250.00		\$277,290.52	
^ Department of Public Works			\$1,596,089.98	\$279,750.00		\$1,316,339.98	
~ Planning and Development			\$579,058.17	\$2,000.00		\$577,058.17	
Voted appropriations total (see next page)			\$40,575.00	N/A		\$2,851,085.25	

The following items will be individual articles on your ballot. These are organizations that have followed our guidelines and requested donations. They do affect the tax rate but they are not already calculated into the total budget or budgeted increase because they are each individually voted on and thus not guaranteed.

Community Appropriations	FY24 Budget	FY24 Expense	FY25 Budget	FY25 Expense	FY26 Expense		FY27 Budget
					FY26 Budget	12/31/25	
Benn Coalition Homeless	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Benn City Assoc Agnst Chld Abuse	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Benn City Conservation Dis	\$3,740.00	\$3,740.00	\$3,740.00	\$475.00	\$475.00	\$475.00	\$450.00
Benn Proj Independence	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
BROC	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00
Ctr Restorative Justice	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00
Green Up Vermont	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Habitat for Humanity	\$1,850.00	\$1,850.00	\$1,850.00	\$1,850.00	\$1,850.00	\$1,850.00	\$1,850.00
Monty's House Wildlife Resque	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Little League	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00
Paran Recreations Inc	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Park McCullough House	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
PAVE	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$450.00
RSVP	\$950.00	\$950.00	\$950.00	\$950.00	\$950.00	\$950.00	\$950.00
Bennington Senior Center	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$750.00
Shaftsbury Historical Soc	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Sunrise Family Resource	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
SWVT Agency on Aging	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00
Tutorial Center	\$900.00	\$900.00	\$900.00	\$900.00	\$900.00	\$900.00	\$900.00
VNA/Hospice SVHC	\$5,225.00	\$5,225.00	\$5,225.00	\$5,225.00	\$5,225.00	\$5,225.00	\$5,225.00
Vt Assoc Blind/Vis Imp	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
VT Center Independent Living	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
WBTN	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Benn Free Clinic	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
	\$42,365.00	\$42,365.00	\$43,365.00	\$40,100.00	\$39,350.00	\$39,350.00	\$40,575.00

Select Board Report – Annual Town Meeting 2025

This year was a big one! In the world of staff and committees, the Town welcomed a new Zoning Administrator, Carlyn Mickle, saw the establishment of the Emerald Ash Borer Committee, and completed its first full year with Town Administrator, Paula Iken, at the helm. The entire Town of Shaftsbury staff worked with diligence and skill, as ever, in increasingly complicated times.

NEW MUNICIPAL OFFICES & COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

At a Special Town Meeting on February 11, 2025, the Town of Shaftsbury voted to purchase the former Shaftsbury Medical Associates building, located at 677 Route 7A, using the remaining funds allocated to the Town under the American Rescue Act of 2021. In the near year since the purchase, the building has been under renovation, using only the former ARPA funds allocated to this project by the vote. Renovations have been overseen by the Town, as opposed to a Contractor, to keep costs down. Nearly all the work performed on the building has been completed by tradespeople who call Shaftsbury home, and Shaftsbury architect Ben Benedict has donated graciously and amply of his time and expertise. The Town hopes to move its municipal offices into the building following this coming March's election and be fully settled in by late spring 2026. Discussions are underway regarding the possibilities of a small free medical clinic, as well as other services, to be hosted within the space in off-hours. More details on this will come forth in the next few months. This new building will serve the community for decades to come in an array of various purposes.

INCREASED COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Town of Shaftsbury saw several new events over the past year, planned by the Recreation Committee and residents alike. The first annual Holiday Tractor Parade took place on December 4, 2025, and was a tremendous hit. The well-attended parade drew a crowd of several hundred and hosted 25+ tractors and vehicles, decked out in festive holiday lights. A big thanks goes out to Art Whitman, Charlie Jenks, and all those involved. The first Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume and Parade was held on Saturday, October 18, at the Town Green near Cole Hall. The purpose of the event was to serve as a fundraiser for the Shaftsbury Dog Park, which will likely see construction in the upcoming fiscal year at Howard Park. Shaftsbury also saw its first ever movie night, August 22, 2025, on the Town Green. More fun is sure to come this year, and in those ahead.

SHAFTSBURY SOLAR

The proposed Shaftsbury Solar Project's interconnection application was approved by the Vermont Public Utility Commission following a series of appeals from Town residents. After the PUC's approval, a group of Town residents appealed the approval to the State Supreme Court. As of today, it is unclear whether the project will break ground or when construction would begin. The Town will remain aware of updates as they come forward and keep citizens looped in.

Select Board Report – Continued

PFOA WATER CONTAMINATION

Concern surrounding the contamination of Shaftsbury's water has increased amongst residents over the past year. It has been clear that the presence of PFOA is more widespread than originally thought, and several meetings have been held for Shaftsbury residents including on February 3, 2025, April 14, 2025, and September 8, 2025. The Town is working to explore alternative options for water systems in the future to meet increased demand for municipal water, as well as the possibility of a class action lawsuit against the company responsible for the contamination, Saint-Gobain, which is a French multinational corporation. Saint-Gobain settled in an earlier case with the Town of Bennington, and Shaftsbury is working with the lawyer who assisted in that suit. A letter was sent by the Town of Shaftsbury to the Governor and other Vermont officials regarding the issue with a plea for help, along with a petition signed by many Town residents.

BUDGET

Looking forward, the Selectboard proposes an approximately 9% increase in spending for the upcoming fiscal year. This reflects the rising cost of everyday goods and services including staffing, the rectification of long overdue upgrades, and more. This increase is in keeping with other towns in Southern Vermont, as we all work to meet the costly undertaking that is effective municipal governance.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

As I write this, the town offices are still located at Cole Hall, but that is promised to change soon. The new town vault is in, our electrician, Ben Hulett, has been hard at work rewiring the building, the floors are being installed, painting will be done soon and with the completion of other smaller projects, we will be moving to our new location sometime this Spring. I am very excited to have the entire building on one floor and easily accessible to all.

In other exciting news, I have a new assistant, Carolyn Mickle. Carolyn is also our new Zoning Administrator and is doing a terrific job in both positions. Stop in and say hello to Carolyn, I know you will like her as much as I do.

I want to give a huge shout-out to our HR/Accounts Payable/Payroll person, Tiffany Mays. Tiffany has been a wonderful addition to the staff at Town Hall. She is always there to help each of us and has taken on many new roles since joining the team here. Thanks to Tiffany, we have begun using a new financial program which streamlines all of the departments depositing their fees to the general ledger and makes the process more accurate. She is also the reason the budget looks so good in this report this year. Thank you, Tiffany, for all that you do.

Below is a report of various fees collected in 2025 at the Clerk's Office. This number has been down the last couple of years due to high interest rates and not having as many mortgages to record. It is up from last year and when interest rates go down, we should see this number increase quite a bit. These fees are collected by the town and help offset the Clerk's salary.

Calendar Year	Dog Licenses \$4,514.00	Certified Copies \$3,410.00	Vault Copies \$1,688.00	Marriage Licenses \$1050.00
	Recording \$31,056.00	Miscellaneous \$445.00	- Fees to State (\$3,679.00)	Total \$38,484.00

If you are over the age of 62 or a veteran stop by and see me about a Green Mountain Passport. For \$2 you can get into all Vermont State Parks for life! Day pass only.

Marlene Hall, CVC
Town Clerk

VITALS REPORT

Births 16	Marriages 16	Deaths 25
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SHAFTSBURY ASSESSOR'S OFFICE REPORT



Wow, this year went by fast. The Town Assessor's Office has been busy as usual with the everyday workload and all the reappraisal work. As of now, we are still upstairs at Cole Hall, but we will be moving over to the new building soon. We are finishing up with the reappraisal. The Assessors have collected the data. Now they start crunching the numbers. The booklet with the appraisal value will be mailed out in the middle of May to every resident. It will also be located on the Town's website. We will then have a meet & greet with the Assessors sometime at the end of May, if you have concerns or questions about your reappraisal. After you receive the booklet with the appraisal value, you can call me. We can see if I can help answer your questions, if not, we can schedule a time for you to talk with an Assessor. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.

The Assessor's office is still working with CAI to update our property tax maps. They can be viewed on our town webpage, shaftsburyvt.gov, under the Information tab, Grand List, then, Interactive GIS property database. You may search for your property information. If you believe there is an error, please contact the Assessor's office so we can look at it for you.

Please remember to file your **HS-122 Homestead Declaration** each year when you file your State taxes. Even if someone does your taxes for you, they sometimes don't know they have to do it. Be sure to check with them that they are filing it for you. Also, if you do not file State taxes each year, you still must file your Homestead Declaration form. For more information:
<https://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners/homestead-declaration>.

The Vermont State Tax Advocate phone # 802-828-6848

Listers Cards online: You are now able to get a copy of the "As Billed" Grand List Listers Cards online at the Town webpage: shaftsburyvt.gov

Gina Jenks, VPA1

Assessor's Clerk



Town of Shaftsbury

153 Twitchell Hill Rd.
Shaftsbury, VT 05262
(802) 379-2299

Office of the
Delinquent Tax Collector
Holly Bahan
hollybahan@shaftsburyvt.gov

Fiscal year 24/25 Delinquent Tax Collectors Report

The following is the breakdown of delinquent taxes collected during fiscal year 2025.

07/01/2024	Fiscal Year Beginning Balance	\$ 66,352.42
11/01/2024	Payments collected to date	<u>- \$ 20,787.07</u>
11/01/2024	Balance prior to 2024 Due date	\$ 45,565.35
11/22/2024	2024 Delinquencies added	<u>+ \$ 290,892.93</u>
	Balance to be collected	\$ 336,458.28
06/30/2025	Payments and adjustments made	<u>- \$ 233,278.07</u>
06/30/2025	Fiscal Year End Balance	\$ 103,180.21

Year	# of Parcels	Amount Due
2017	2	\$60.14
2018	2	\$61.43
2019	2	\$62.97
2020	2	\$64.92
2021	3	\$577.85
2022	5	\$2573.41
2023	16	\$17,336.97
2024	44	\$82,442.52
Total Delinquencies as of 6/30/2025		\$103,180.21

Many on the above chart have set up payment plans, which are appreciated. I have made sure to include a payment plan document with each statement to make it easier to set up. This can also be done under Delinquent Tax Collector on the Town of Shaftsbury website, either digitally, or with the same printed form. It is important that a payment plan is in place to avoid a tax sale or a lien being placed on your property. Contact is necessary, as further collection action will be taking place this Spring. Please reach out with any questions you may have.

Thank you for letting me serve you,
Holly Bahan

Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance

Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland, and Woodford

The Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance (BCSWA) is a partnership of 13 towns working together to reduce the amount of waste disposed in landfills through recycling, reuse, repair, and resource conservation. Since 2015, BCSWA has followed a solid waste implementation plan (SWIP) to assist residents, schools, businesses, and other organizations meet the requirements of Vermont's Universal Recycling Law. A 2025 update to the SWIP was adopted this summer. Reviews for the SWIP included two public meetings and a ratification of the plan by each of the 13 Selectboards in the Alliance. To see the updated plan you can visit bcswa.org/swip.

Local support for the Alliance in Fiscal Year 2025 (7/1/24 through 6/30/25) was \$225,509.05. Program costs are shared by the thirteen member towns of the alliance, and divided proportionally by each town based on their population. Additional funds are provided by grants from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and the Agency of Agriculture and Markets. Members of the public may visit bcswa.org, or reach out to the Program Manager at sgrimmlyon@bcrcvt.org for budget details.

From May through October of 2025, BCSWA operated a Household Hazardous Waste depot at the Bennington Transfer Station to collect paint, pesticides, cleaning products, flammable liquids, and other over the counter items that are banned from landfill disposal. The facility collected approximately 48 tons of hazardous waste from 357 households and 6 small businesses during its 2024 season.

During 2025 the Alliance provided training and/or assistance to 41 businesses, 10 event organizers, and 4 schools. BCSWA also led composting and recycling events at local libraries, produced regular content for public access television stations, and hosted tables at several farmers markets.

The Alliance hosts a website at www.bcswa.org, sends out quarterly newsletters, and is present on social media at facebook.com/solidwastealliance, instagram.com/bcswa_vt, and youtube.com/@bcswa. Outreach on these channels provide resources and information to residents about:

- Scheduling a household hazardous waste drop off appointment
- Battery recycling through the Call2Recycle program
- Disposal of used motor oil at retail establishments and select transfer stations
- Recycling of paint through the PaintCare program, including retail stores that accept paint
- Prescription drug disposal including drop-off locations
- Recycling of textiles by the Apparel Impact, Goodwill, and others
- Disposing of fluorescent bulbs, compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and other mercury items at transfer stations and retail establishments
- Disposal of E-Waste at area transfer stations, Goodwill, Staples, and retail establishments
- Diverting food scraps by composting and annual sales of compost bins and kitchen containers
- Waste reduction resources for businesses, schools, events, institutions, and residents



Town of Shaftsbury

Municipal Offices at Cole Hall
Cemetery Department

PO Box 409
61 Buck Hill Road
Shaftsbury, VT
05262-0409
(802) 442-4038

www.shaftsburyvt.gov

For the year ending June 30, 2025 the Cemetery Department brought in \$11,260.00. The breakdown of this is \$260. in donations. \$9,000.00 in lot sales and \$2,000.00 in administrative burial fees.

Burials in the Town cemeteries were as follows: Center (9), Grandview (5), Maple Hill (2), Village (4), and Waite (1).

This year, the 4th Sunday for Veterans program successfully completed the cleaning and restoration of all veterans' headstones in Village Cemetery. This ongoing initiative focuses on our active cemeteries; work began at Village Cemetery and has now moved to Center Cemetery. I would like to extend sincere thanks to the dedicated volunteers of this program; Beth Pelczar, Ron and Debbie Jennings, Tim Scoggins, and Sarah Costin - whose commitment and hard work honor our Veterans with care and respect. We welcome anyone interested in joining us when the program resumes in the spring. It is truly a rewarding experience.

Over the course of this fiscal year, we have made substantial progress in our cemetery restoration efforts, including the repair and leveling of a significant number of headstones at Grandview Cemetery by myself and the DPW crew. Divisions 2 and 4 have now been successfully restored. In the coming year, our focus will shift to continued work at both Maple Hill and Grandview Cemeteries.

These accomplishments would not have been possible without the dedication and collaboration of everyone involved. I would like to extend sincere appreciation to Jay Coonradt, our cemetery lawn maintenance service provider, as well as our outstanding Department of Public Works crew. Together, we work as a strong and committed team, and the results of that teamwork are clearly reflected in the care and condition of our cemeteries.

Once again, I would like to extend my deepest appreciation to Ron and Debbie Jennings for their unwavering commitment and year-after-year dedication to helping place and remove our Veterans' memorial flags and assisting with headstone cleaning. Their consistent presence, care, and reliability exemplify the true spirit of service and respect our Veterans deserve. Without the hard work, time, and generosity of these volunteers, the significant improvements seen throughout our cemeteries simply would not have been possible. Their efforts have helped preserve the dignity, beauty, of our sacred spaces. I offer my sincere and heartfelt thanks to each of them.

Warmest Regards,

Jen Holley, Cemetery Superintendent

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Year-end summary: January 1st, 2025-December 31st, 2025

Official actions

The table below quantifies zoning administrator actions over the last several years.

Permit Type	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	Jan-Dec 2025
Single Family Houses	8	0	11	5	5	5
Accessory Dwelling Unit					2	0
Additions	13	15	5	7	10	3
Subdivision + Boundary Line Adjustments	1	3	2	7	4	2
Home Occupation	1	0	0	2	2	1
Signs	0	0	0	1	1	3
Accessory Structures	22	31	37	26	22	27
Violation Warnings	0		0	7	6	37
Curb Cut	3	0	8	8	4	3
Letters of Compliance	55	63	39	37	43	16
Variance			3	2	1	1
Other	3	1	3	2	1	10
Totals	116	113	109	109	95	108

Applications

This year, the application format was shifted to include more information about the application process and allow for an easier-to-read document.

Meetings

Meetings were held in person and/or remotely. The Planning Commission welcomed Tim Scoggins as our new chair this year, as well as Pricilla Sachs as a new member. The PC is seeking one more new member. We have had a couple of meetings halted this year due to a lack of quorum.

Violations

The zoning department worked closely with our assessors' office to identify and address outstanding violations. All violation warnings were quickly and fully addressed by the property owners to whom they were issued.

Notes from the Year

Hello from the Zoning Department! My name is Carlyn Mickle, and I am so happy to have joined the town team this past year. Please note that all structures on a property must be permitted. This includes any structure that covers square footage on your property (decks, sheds, chicken coops). You do not need a permit for basic home repair, such as siding, roofing, and windows. You do not need a permit for a standard fence under 6 feet tall. You do not need a permit to demolish, but we do ask that you let us know so we can include that in the assessment of your property taxes- some demo projects will reduce your cost!

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

ALL THE ROAD PROJECTS COMPLETED IN FY 2025 REPRESENTED IMPROVEMENTS REQUIRED BY THE STATE'S MUNICIPAL ROADS GENERAL PERMIT (MRGP). THIS STATEWIDE PROGRAM WAS PUT IN PLACE TO REDUCE THE IMPACT OF ROADS ON WATER QUALITY.

MOST OF THESE PROJECTS WERE COMPLETED WITH SUBSTANTIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE STATE-SPONSORED GRANT PROGRAMS CALLED BETTER ROADS, GRANTS IN AID AND VTRANS STRUCTURES OR PAVING GRANTS. PROJECTS WERE COMPLETED BY CONTRACTORS WITH ASSISTANCE FROM DPW.

- ROAD MAINTENANCE, GRADING, DITCHING, HAZARD TREE REMOVAL AND CULVERT WORK DONE BY DPW CREW TO MEET THE MUNICIPAL ROADS GENERAL PERMIT WAS COMPLETED. ALL COMPLETED ROAD SECTIONS WERE CLASSIFIED AS HIGH PRIORITY'S AND NEEDED DRAINAGE WORK TO BE BROUGHT BACK UP TO THE MRGP STANDARDS PER STATE OF VERMONT. ROAD DRAINAGE AND CULVERT REPLACEMENTS WILL CONTINUE THROUGHOUT THE TOWN DURING SUMMER MONTHS EVERY YEAR, FOR ROUTINE MAINTENANCE.
- VTRANS CLASS 2 ROADWAYS GRANT PROGRAM, AWARDED THE TOWN WITH A PAVING GRANT FOR WHITE CREEK ROAD IN FISCAL YEAR 24. OUR DPW CREW REPLACED 12 CULVERTS ON WHITE CREEK RD AND EXCAVATED ALL THE DRAINAGE DITCHES AHEAD OF THE PAVING PROJECT. PAVING WAS AWARDED TO CONTRACTOR SPRINGFIELD PAVING IN SPRING OF 2024 AND WAS PAVED IN THE FALL OF 2024. ASPHALT PAVEMENT WAS SUPPLIED BY PECKHAM INDUSTRIES AT THE SHAFTSBURY PLANT.
- DPW WAS AWARDED A GRANT FROM THE VERMONT BETTER ROADS PROGRAM FOR A SECTION ON DANIELS ROAD AND GLASTONVIEW DRIVE. THIS PROJECT WAS IDENTIFIED AS A HIGH PRIORITY PROJECT IN THE SHAFTSBURY STORM WATER MASTER PLAN. THE 24-INCH DRAINAGE CULVERT AT THE INTERSECTION OF DANIELS AND GLASTONVIEW WAS UPGRADED TO A 36-INCH CULVERT TO BETTER HANDLE THE STORMWATER FLOWS. A DAMAGED 18-INCH CULVERT WITH COLLAPSED HEADERS ON DANIELS ROAD WAS UPGRADED TO A 24-INCH CULVERT. ONE UNDERSIZED DRIVEWAY CULVERT IN POOR CONDITION ON GLASTONVIEW DRIVE WAS UPGRADED TO AN 18-INCH CULVERT. 1500 EXISTING DITCHES WERE RESHAPED AND STABILIZED WITH 12-INCH MINUS STONE TO SLOW THE WATER DOWN AND CONTROL EROSION. THIS PROJECT WAS COMPLETED IN HOUSE BY THE DPW CREW.
- VTRANS MUNICIPAL ROADS GRANT IN AID ALSO HELPS FUND ANOTHER SECTION ON DANIELS ROAD AND MOUNTAINVIEW DRIVE. REPLACING 3 CULVERTS ON DANIELS ROAD AND 2 CULVERTS ON MOUNTAIN VIEW DRIVE. 1000FT OF STONE LINE DITCHING, AND 6-INCHES OF NEW 3/4IN GRAVEL TO ALL ROAD SECTIONS. THIS PROJECT WAS COMPLETED THE DPW.
- A TEN-YEAR EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT PLAN WAS APPROVED BY THE SELECT BOARD DURING FISCAL YEAR 2025 AND IS AVAILABLE AT THE TOWN OFFICES FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO SEE IT. DUE TO THE TIME OF MOTHER NATURE'S LATEST WINTER STORMS, I WAS UNABLE TO GET IT PREPARED FOR THE BOOK THIS YEAR, BUT I PLAN TO HAVE IT AVAILABLE IN THE REPORT FOR THE COMING YEARS.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
MICHAEL YANNOTTI, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS FOREMAN

Shaftsbury Fire Department Report for Fiscal year 2025

The Shaftsbury Fire Department responded to 109 calls this year.

This coming year, summer of 2026, we will take ownership of a new piece of Fire Apparatus. It will be a 2,500-gallon Tanker Engine that will replace our current Engine 1. The truck it is replacing will be more than 20 years old and has served us well.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of my Firefighters and their families for the support they give the fire department, Shaftsbury community and myself. These dedicated First Responders give countless hours, not only responding to emergency calls in the worst possible conditions, but also to numerus special events throughout the year. They volunteer their time teaching Fire Safety in our schools and supporting Big Truck Night in the spring as well as fundraisers to help support the community in purchasing much needed equipment. Each year we spend numerous hours applying for grants to help support the Shaftsbury community. All of this work helps to keep taxes lower. They participate in special events like marching in the Bennington Battle Day parade and our own Memorial Day parade. This year we strung Christmas lights on our engine and paraded around town in the holiday tractor parade. There are several hours a week that our volunteers spend training, and in some cases on the weekend. These are just a few examples of their dedication because there is so much more that they do. These First Responders are a very special group of people, and we are blessed to have them.

This year we were able to get a ten-year capital equipment replacement plan put together. This is an important piece of information to make sure that we are anticipating the future needs of our fire department and planning for the future. On the next four pages you will see each fiscal year tallied individually to show our equipment replacement needs as well as the amount to be requested each tax year for transfer to our reserves in order to meet those needs.

Emergency call 2025

Structure Fires – **9**

Car accidents/extrication – **31**

Vehicle Fires – **1**

Hazardous Materials – **6**

Wildland Fires – **10**

Weather related – **6**

Search and rescue – **3**

Chimney/Pellet stove – **4**

Good intent – **20**

Assist EMS – **6**

Mutual Aid – **13**

Total Calls – 109

Respectfully Submitted

Chief Joseph Vadakin

TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY FIRE DEPT
CAPITAL EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT PLAN
FISCAL YEARS 2026 - 2035

Description	Proposed* Warden Tuck	Proposed* Fire Truck	Proposed* air- packs	Notes
FY 26 Beginning Bal 2025/2026	\$15,783.55	\$251,499.59	\$5,322.72	
Expense description:				
Revenue description:				
Budgeted to Reserve	\$2,000.00	\$105,000.00	\$10,000.00	
Fiscal 26 YE Total:	\$17,783.55	\$356,499.59	\$15,322.72	

FY 27 Beginning Bal 2026/2027	\$17,783.55	\$356,499.59	\$15,322.72	
Expense description:				
New fire engine delivery		-\$521,703.36		\$125,300 down in FY24; 20 year life expectancy
Revenue description:				
Sale of old fire engine		\$75,000.00		Anticipated income
Budgeted to Reserve	\$5,000.00	\$110,000.00	\$10,000.00	
Fiscal 27 YE Total:	\$22,783.55	\$19,796.23	\$25,322.72	

FY 28 Beginning Bal 2027/2028	\$22,783.55	\$19,796.23	\$25,322.72	
Expense description:				
Fire Warden Truck replacement down payment - Proposed \$175,000 total	-\$20,000.00			20 year life expectancy, 10 year finance if available
Revenue description:				
Sale of old Fire Warden truck	\$10,000.00			Est income from transfer of truck to DPW
Budgeted to Reserve	\$15,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$12,000.00	
Fiscal 28 YE Total:	\$27,783.55	\$144,796.23	\$37,322.72	

*Transactions will stay proposed until fiscal year end and then actuals will be entered.

TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY FIRE DEPT
CAPITAL EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT PLAN
FISCAL YEARS 2026 - 2035

Description	Proposed* Warden Tuck	Proposed* Fire Truck	Proposed* air- packs	Notes
FY 29 Beginning Bal 2028/2029	\$27,783.55	\$144,796.23	\$37,322.72	
Expense description:				
Fire Warden Truck payment	-\$20,000.00			
Revenue description:				
Budgeted to Reserve	\$15,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$12,000.00	
Fiscal 29 YE Total:	\$22,783.55	\$269,796.23	\$49,322.72	

FY 30 Beginning Bal 2029/2030	\$22,783.55	\$269,796.23	\$49,322.72	
Expense description:				
Fire Warden Truck payment	-\$20,000.00			
Revenue description:				
Budgeted to Reserve	\$15,000.00	\$140,000.00	\$12,000.00	
Fiscal 30 YE Total:	\$17,783.55	\$409,796.23	\$61,322.72	

FY 31 Beginning Bal 2030/2031	\$17,783.55	\$409,796.23	\$61,322.72	
Expense description:				
Fire Warden Truck payment	-\$20,000.00			
Revenue description:				
1 Aripack plus spare bottle			-\$13,700.00	
Budgeted to Reserve	\$17,500.00	\$140,000.00	\$14,000.00	
Fiscal 30 YE Total:	\$15,283.55	\$549,796.23	\$61,622.72	

*Transactions will stay proposed until fiscal year end and then actuals will be entered.

TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY FIRE DEPT
CAPITAL EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT PLAN
FISCAL YEARS 2026 - 2035

Description	Proposed* Warden Tuck	Proposed* Fire Truck	Proposed* air- packs	Notes
FY 32 Beginning Bal 2031/2032	\$15,283.55	\$549,796.23	\$61,622.72	
Expense description:				
Fire Warden Truck payment	-\$20,000.00			
Revenue description:				
Budgeted to Reserve	\$17,500.00	\$155,000.00	\$14,000.00	
Fiscal 32 YE Total:	\$12,783.55	\$704,796.23	\$75,622.72	

FY 33 Beginning Bal 2032/2033	\$12,783.55	\$704,796.23	\$75,622.72	
Expense description:				
Fire Warden Truck payment	-\$20,000.00			
Estimated next Fire engine purchase		-\$1,000,000.00		
Revenue description:				
Budgeted to Reserve	\$20,000.00	\$155,000.00	\$14,000.00	
Fiscal 33 YE Total:	\$12,783.55	-\$140,203.77	\$89,622.72	

FY 34 Beginning Bal 2033/2034	\$12,783.55	-\$140,203.77	\$89,622.72	
Expense description:				
Fire Warden Truck payment	-\$20,000.00			
Revenue description:				
4 air-pack pairs (air-pack & spare bottle)			-\$60,800.00	
Budgeted to Reserve	\$20,000.00	\$155,000.00	\$16,000.00	
Fiscal 34 YE Total:	\$12,783.55	\$14,796.23	\$44,822.72	

*Transactions will stay proposed until fiscal year end and then actuals will be entered.

**TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY FIRE DEPT
CAPITAL EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT PLAN
FISCAL YEARS 2026 - 2035**

Description	Proposed* Warden Tuck	Proposed* Fire Truck	Proposed* air- packs	Notes
FY 35 Beginning Bal 2034/2035	\$12,783.55	\$14,796.23	\$44,822.72	
Expense description:				
Fire Warden Truck payment	-\$20,000.00			
Revenue description:				
Budgeted to Reserve	\$22,000.00	\$155,000.00	\$16,000.00	
Fiscal 35 YE Total:	\$14,783.55	\$169,796.23	\$60,822.72	

Fire Warden truck principal balance after \$55,000.00

FY35 pmnt:

Notes: \$55,000 minus approx \$15,000 in reserve equals last two \$20,000 payments paying truck off in 10 years. This leaves ten years (of 20 year life expectancy) to save for replacement.

Shaftsbury Fire Department Air-pack Bottle Replacement Schedule

Bottle Exp Year	Notes:	Number of Individual bottles	Estimated Cost Per Pack and Spare Bottle *	Total Estimated Annual Cost
2031		2	\$13,700.00	\$13,700.00
2034	4 air-packs and 4 spares includes 2035 needs	7	\$15,200.00	\$60,800.00
2035	Included in 2034	1	\$15,700.00	\$0.00
2036		8	\$16,200.00	\$64,800.00
2037	Bottle and no air-pack is less	1	\$16,700.00	\$3,400.00
2038		2	\$17,200.00	\$17,200.00
2039		2	\$17,700.00	\$17,700.00
2040		2	\$18,200.00	\$18,200.00

*Transactions will stay proposed until fiscal year end and then actuals will be entered.

Legislative Report

The 2025 session of the Vermont General Assembly enacted new legislation to reform the state's education system and rein in property tax growth, passed a significant package of new and expanded tax credits, took steps to address growing food insecurity, created new incentives to incentivize housing growth in town centers, and passed a balanced, bipartisan budget.

Spending on K-12 education has jumped by 36% over the last five years, putting the state 2nd in the country on spending per pupil, and sparking new calls to reform how schools are paid for. Act 73, which passed with bipartisan support, aims to consolidate the state's smaller school districts and create a new, more consistent funding formula with spending growth tied to inflation. Our local school budgets have historically been more conservative than many Vermont districts, and Shaftsbury's tax rates have been remarkably stable over the last dozen years. But our spending has recently increased as well, which combined with the coming townwide reappraisal is expected to lead to a bigger increase next year.

The Legislature expanded the popular child tax credit first adapted four years ago so that it now covers children up to age six. The tax bill also expands the Earned Income Tax Credit for individuals without dependents, so that working people can keep a larger share of their earnings. Social security recipients, veterans, and military retirees also saw new or expanded exemptions beginning in 2025.

Vermont has not been immune from the national housing shortage, and in recent years the state has made substantial investments, overhauled restrictive zoning, and loosened permitting requirements in town centers. In 2025 the legislature approved new CHIP (Community Housing Investment Program) incentives that are expected to jumpstart housing projects by building water and wastewater infrastructure and forgiving property taxes on new private investment.

Other legislation banned harmful PFAS chemicals from household cleaning products, phased out cell phone use in schools, lowered driver's license fees for social security recipients, and strengthened protections on water quality.

The House and Senate both affirmed previous votes on two proposed amendments to the state constitution. Changing the constitution requires approval in consecutive legislative bienniums as well as voter ratification at the ballot box. Proposal 3 would protect the right of Vermonters to form a union, while Proposal 4 would add an equal rights clause to Vermont's constitution. Both amendments will be on the ballot this November.

After a string of consecutive years with revenue surpluses, Vermont's tax receipts have leveled off. For the first time in recent memory the state's economists have made a modest (0.3%) downward projection in revenue for the balance of the fiscal year, along with reductions for the five years looking forward.

The legislature meets in Montpelier from January to May, with a break during Town Meeting week. I am often home on weekends during the session, and can be reached by email at ddurfee@leg.state.vt.us, or by phone at 802 828-2228 (Montpelier) or 802 442-4414 (home). Please reach out at any time.

Respectfully submitted,

David Durfee, State Representative, Bennington 3

SHAFTSBURY RECREATION COMMITTEE

Town of Shaftsbury Update for 2025

As always, the Recreation Committee strives to offer recreational opportunities for residents and neighbors by developing its facilities for active community use. We gained one new member, but also mourned the loss of founding member, Helen Olney, who passed away this year. A memorial for her is being discussed. A memorial plaque for former committee member Barb Marino, who passed in 2024, is being installed on the Art in the Park gallery wall. Sarah Beebe and Julie Robertson donated a bench in memory of their friend. It can be enjoyed while walking Tilgner Trail.

This past year the Art in the Park gallery, set up near the pavilion, featured seasonal themed artwork by students from SES, adding a colorful visual for the park. Keep a lookout for changing themes. Sarah Case continues to provide nature themed books for the storyboard walk along Tilgner Trail, enhancing a pleasant stroll through the woods.

Mike Becker was instrumental in improving the Little League baseball field to accommodate the Elite Baseball group, a travel team. This regulation size conversion field has increased activity at the park.

The replacement HOWARD PARK sign was installed by our DPW at the park entrance. They also added safety mulch in the play areas of Howard and Cleveland Ave Parks. Security cameras are now active on site and motion sensor lights are in the works. Resurfacing tennis/pickleball courts and other upgrades are targeted for Spring 2026. Plans for the dog park are progressing. We have organized the following events during this year: Moonlight Walk, our 1st Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Parade and Costume Contest which highlighted our ongoing work creating the dog park, and our 1st Annual Holiday Tractor Parade, spearheaded by Art Whitman and Charlie Jenks.

We continue to participate in Vermont “Green Up Day.” This occurs on the first Saturday in May. If you are interested in taking an active part, please give our Town Administrator a call at (802-442-4043 x 102).

Howard Park’s Pavilion and Fields can be reserved through the Recreation Committee online at <http://shaftsburyvt.gov>. The Recreation Committee meets on the 4th Friday of the month at 10 a.m. in person at Cole Hall or on Zoom. All are welcome!

Respectfully submitted,

Chairperson: Deena Ruege, rec1@shaftsburyvt.gov
Members: Sarah Costin, Liz Duffy, Marie Watson

2025 TOWN TREE WARDEN REPORT

As I write this, a significant percentage of all the ash trees in town are either dead or dying. They're being killed by an invasive insect called the emerald ash borer. You can go to the town's website to learn more and find links to relevant information.

Town roads are assumed to have a 50-foot-right of way, and the dead and dying ash trees in this right of way are a hazard. There's no easy solution to this problem – we have over 70 miles of road, thousands of problem trees, and finite financial resources. Steps are being taken, though, to address the problem. Last spring a group of volunteers fanned out across town and tallied ash trees growing in the right of way. A special thanks to the following people who participated in this work: Alan Baker, Dave Bushee, Carol Duffy, Ron and Debbie Jennings, John Karath, David Mellinger, Lars Severance, Jim and Cathy White, Art Whitman. (If I missed a name or names here I'm terribly sorry for the oversight.) This inventory work will help determine what roads the town prioritizes.

This past summer an Emerald Ash Borer committee was formed – a special thanks to Denny Browe, Charlie Jenks, Naomi Miller, Cinda Morse, and co-chair Art Whitman for volunteering to be a part of this. The committee created a management plan which was approved by the Select Board – you can see it on the town's website. The committee also organized a pilot tree-removal project on Maple Hill Road, where we hope ash trees will start coming down this winter. The location was chosen because of its high number of ash trees. The first jag of cutting will be done by the town highway department (officially the Department of Public Works), and we'll all learn a lot from the logistics of the experience. The Select Board is budgeting money for ash tree removal in FY26 and 27, and I suspect at least some of this work will be put out to bid. If you've got thoughts or ideas related to any of this, get in touch with one of the members of the committee.

I hate that this report is, and has been for a number of years, dominated by doom and gloom related to dying ash trees. And I'm tempted to go on and say something about my worry for beech trees, as another invasive malady is affecting this species. (Do an internet search for "Beech Leaf Disease" if you're interested.) It's a bit too soon at this point to make any definitive declarations about the extent of that problem. If there's a silver lining in any of this, it's that it gives us the opportunity to appreciate living trees. I'm writing this on the tail end of that lovely January snowstorm that dappled every tree limb and twig with white – what a gorgeous winter scene outside the window. As you read this you might be sitting by a wood fire or working on a wooden table – what a blessing that we live in a rural state where the forest provides. What a responsibility we have to be good stewards to these trees and these forests.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Mance III

WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

Town of Shaftsbury Water Department: 2025 Town Report

As we enter 2026, we look back on a year filled with both challenges and significant progress. Despite various obstacles, the Water Department remains dedicated to the continuous improvement of our infrastructure and the reliability of our services.

Upcoming 2026 Initiatives

- **Lead Service Line Inventory:** Our discovery of pipe materials continues. Last spring and summer, MSK Engineering conducted lead tests at each home throughout the Shaftsbury water system. This remains part of our ongoing commitment to complete the state-mandated lead line inventory.
- **Meter Reading and Billing Restructuring:** The Water Board is evaluating a shift to quarterly meter readings (4 times per year) rather than the current biannual schedule. We are also looking to restructure the current billing format to keep pace with water rate increases and general system maintenance.
- **Booster Pump Station Replacement:** Following a leak detection a few months ago, it was determined that both booster pumps and the electrical system require full replacement. This project will be contracted out and is expected to take place during the spring or summer of 2026.
- **Phase 1 Pipe Replacement:** We continue to work toward the first phase of pipe replacement for the Town of Shaftsbury. The implementation of the new rate structure and billing cycle is a key step in securing our forgivable loan to begin construction.

Closing

These projects represent just a fraction of our daily efforts to maintain and modernize our infrastructure. It remains my privilege to serve as the Water Superintendent for the Town of Shaftsbury. Our department is committed to providing the safest possible drinking water for every resident. As always, please do not hesitate to call or stop in with any questions or concerns you may have!

Respectfully submitted,

Water Superintendent

Town of Shaftsbury Water Department

Town of Shaftsbury 2025 holiday lighted parade

On November 29, 2025, Shaftsbury experienced our very own first ever Holiday Lighted Parade. Throngs of Shaftsbury residents braved the chilly temperatures and crowded the streets to witness a display like none we have ever seen before in Shaftsbury!! A total of 33 entries paraded around town - including 3 fire trucks, two town tractors and everything from a lighted lawn mower, or a single tractor, to massive farm equipment pulling wagons with Christmas themes on them all decorated with hundreds upon hundreds of strings of lights! All of this could not have happened without the help and work of co-chairs Art Whitman and Charlie Jenks (and his wife, Gina), the Shaftsbury Fire Department, and Bennington County Sheriff for traffic control. Special thanks to Dailey-Peckham LLC for the use of their property to stage this massive gathering and to our official display counter, Ron Jennings. Already people are talking about how to make this new event bigger and better! See you next year!

Holiday Lighted Parade Committee.



ARLINGTON RESCUE SQUAD

For nearly 60 years Arlington Rescue Squad (ARS) has been providing exceptional pre-hospital care and transportation for the residents of Arlington, Sunderland, Sandgate, and North Shaftsbury. As well, we provide mutual aid support for our northern neighbors--Northshire Rescue--and our southern neighbors--Bennington Rescue. Our dedicated staff and volunteers complete countless hours of training to retain certification and remain up-to-date on the latest medical protocols and procedures. We respond to nearly 600 emergency calls a year.

The members of Arlington Fire Department continue to provide support to us during critical medical calls, lift assists, or driving the ambulance. We sincerely thank you! Thank you to the residents of Arlington, Sunderland, Sandgate and North Shaftsbury for their continued financial support through the generous town appropriations. The financial support of these towns helps ARS remain financially solvent in order to respond to emergencies with a dedicated crew. We are not seeking an increase in appropriations this year.

Community involvement is a focus for us at Arlington Rescue. Participating in Norman's Attic, standing by at the John Werner Soccer Tournament, AMHS Trunk-or-Treat, the Lighted Tractor Parade, and participation in a joint Mass Casualty Incident in Sandgate with the Arlington Fire Department have been highlights for us. We are looking forward to collaborating with the Martha Canfield Library on an Advance Directive program scheduled for January 2026 and our annual Open House in May 2026.

Looking forward, we will continue to offer training to those in our community who would like to become involved; and we will continue to provide exceptional emergency medical care to those in our community. In 2027, we are expecting delivery of a new ambulance. Our ambulances accrue significant wear-and-tear between mileage, weather, and daily use. We plan to fundraise to offset the significant cost of this necessary vehicle.

Volunteers are always welcome at Arlington Rescue! There is nothing more satisfying than helping those in your own community. If you are interested in becoming involved or would like to learn more about us, please reach out to us. Our non-emergency number is (802) 375-6589. We would love to hear from you!

Finally, please remember to post your house number clearly in order to find you in an emergency. For your continued steadfast support, we thank you. We could not do the good work we do without you.

Respectfully submitted,
The Arlington Rescue Squad Board of Directors

Bennington Local Health Office Annual Report: 2025

Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the Vermont Department of Health. The Bennington Local Health Office provides essential services and resources to towns in Bennington County. Some highlights of our work in 2025 are below. For more information, visit HealthVermont.gov/local/bennington

If you need help accessing or understanding this information, contact Kathleen.oreilly@vermont.gov

Improve Family and Child Health



- Our WIC staff completed 1,673 total appointments and served 1,017 WIC participants.
- WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselors provided information and hands on support for 30 prenatal and breastfeeding families.
- 55 infant sleep sacks and 10 Pack and Plays were distributed to families through 7 community partners including DCF, Early Intervention, Sunrise Family Resource Center, Head Start, and SVMC.
- Our office supported and served 65% of the Medicaid eligible population in Bennington County.

Protecting Community Health



Our team investigates reports of infectious diseases and outbreaks and works closely with long-term and residential care facilities to keep residents safe and healthy.

We vaccinated uninsured or underinsured individuals with COVID, Flu, Tdap, Meningococcal, HPV and other important immunizations. We provided 80 vaccines to individuals through our office clinic times and off-site Equity clinics.

Creating Resilient Communities

- Our EP coordinator led Stop the Bleed (STB) in-person training with the teachers and staff in 12 schools and provided them with STB kits, covering over 3,000 students. All public schools in Bennington have completed the training.
- Our MRC Unit has trained 12 MRC members and 38 community members in Heartsaver and CPR.
- Senior Preparedness is a new focus of our MRC unit. We distributed over 165 Go-Bag starter kits to seniors and a senior event is in the planning stage for November-December of 2025.
- Be Bright at Night reflectors were distributed to all elementary schools in Bennington County.
- In 2025, our MRC unit received the highest award from the National MRC Office.



HealthVermont.gov/local/bennington
802-447-3531

 **VERMONT**
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



BENNINGTON COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER & SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT



October 30, 2025

The Bennington County Association Against Child Abuse, doing business as the Bennington County Child Advocacy Center (BCCAC) & Special Investigations Unit (SIU), is a nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing the trauma experienced by children and adults who have been victims of sexual abuse, severe physical abuse of children resulting in serious injury, or other serious crimes involving children. Our mission is to provide a safe, child-friendly environment where investigations, advocacy, and prevention efforts come together in a coordinated, compassionate, and effective response.

Serving all of Bennington County, including the residents of Shaftsbury, the BCCAC brings together a multidisciplinary team of professionals from law enforcement, the Department for Children and Families, the State's Attorney's Office, medical providers, mental health clinicians, and victim advocates. This collaborative approach ensures that victims and their families receive comprehensive support from the first report through the entire investigative and healing process. By reducing the number of times a child must retell their story, we help protect their emotional well-being while also strengthening the quality and integrity of investigations.

In the past year, the BCCAC has provided direct services to numerous Shaftsbury children and families, offering forensic interviews, crisis intervention, advocacy, and case coordination. Our prevention and outreach programs, including community education on child abuse awareness, mandated reporting, and online safety, extend our impact by empowering adults and protecting children throughout the region.

Support from the Town of Shaftsbury through appropriations directly sustains these critical services, which are provided at no cost to victims or their families. Your contribution helps ensure that children have access to compassionate, trauma-informed care and that our community continues to work together to promote healing, safety, and justice for all.

With Gratitude

Jenna Caslin
Executive Director

129 Elm Street Bennington, VT 05201 Phone (802) 442-5107 Fax (802) 447-6975

BENNINGTON COUNTY
COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS
"WORKING TOGETHER  MAKING A DIFFERENCE"

P.O. Box 4736 Bennington, VT 05201

(802) 440-2487

<http://www.bcchvt.org>

The Bennington County Coalition for the Homeless (BCCH) continues its mission 24 hours a day, 365 days a year—serving individuals and families throughout Bennington County who are experiencing homelessness. We are deeply grateful for the Town of Shaftsbury's ongoing support, which directly helps our neighbors in need find safety, stability, and hope.

As we move through another year, both of our shelter locations remain consistently full, with waiting lists for families seeking emergency housing. Beyond providing shelter, BCCH offers vital day services for individuals who are unhoused or at risk, including access to showers, laundry, kitchen facilities, and a warm, safe space during the day. We also supply essentials such as toiletries, clothing, blankets, and meals. Importantly, every person who walks through our doors has the opportunity to connect with a case manager for assistance with housing applications, employment support, and other critical services.

Over the past year, BCCH provided shelter and services to hundreds of adults and children throughout Bennington County. In addition to offering shelter beds, case management, and housing navigation, we assisted adults and children through our day programs and community outreach initiatives. These numbers reflect both the continuing need in our county and the dedication of our staff and partners in meeting that need.

Our partnerships remain a cornerstone of our success. This past year, we strengthened collaboration with organizations including Cornerstone Housing, Turning Point, Greater Bennington Community Services, Economic Services, the Department for Children and Families, Sunrise, Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union, Bennington Police Department, Southwestern Vermont Medical Center, CRM, Hales Resources, and United Counseling Services. Together, we work not only to respond to homelessness but to prevent it.

With increased support from the Housing Opportunity Program (HOP) grant through the Office of Economic Opportunity, BCCH now employs three full-time case managers across both shelters and two full-time Community Outreach Coordinators serving those not currently sheltered by BCCH. These positions have strengthened our ability to help clients secure employment, housing, and long-term stability.

Revenue from Municipalities (2025):

- Shaftsbury – \$5,000 • Bennington – \$25,000 • Arlington – \$500 • Peru – \$500 • Dorset – \$1,000
- Rupert – \$500

While BCCH has accomplished much this past year, demand for our services continues to grow, and operational costs—food, utilities, staffing, and essential supplies—have all increased. Grants and donations help, but they do not cover every expense. Your continued support is vital to sustaining these life-saving programs and ensuring that every individual in Bennington County has a safe place to turn when they need it most.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you would like additional information or updates about our work.

With sincere appreciation for your partnership and commitment,



Roxanne M Carelli, Executive Director of Operational Development and Shelter Services.
roxanne.carelli@bcchvt.org • 518-577-4177



ANNUAL REPORT- November 2025

Cindy Luce, Executive Director

Bennington County Habitat for Humanity is proud to be an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, which has helped more than 40 million people around the world gain strength, stability, and self-reliance through safe, decent, and affordable housing. Locally, our affiliate has had the privilege of helping 38 Bennington County families achieve homeownership, with four additional families currently working toward that same goal.

We partner with local residents who would not otherwise be able to own a home or afford essential home repairs. Applicants must demonstrate a need for better housing, an ability to make affordable payments, and a willingness to partner with us, as we build *with* families, not *for* them. Each adult in the program contributes 200 hours of sweat equity, at least half of which is completed on the construction site. Homebuyers then purchase their homes through an affordable mortgage, with monthly payments that include property taxes, insurance, and any homeowners association fees, and that never exceed 30% of their income.

Bennington County Habitat is entirely community-driven and almost exclusively locally funded. With the exception of specialized contract work such as roofing, electrical, and plumbing, Habitat homes are built by volunteers. Local businesses, subcontractors, and individuals contribute time, materials, and financial resources to make our work possible. Town appropriations are a vital part of this effort, helping us purchase essential building materials for our construction programs. As housing and material costs continue to rise, support from our towns has become more important than ever.

In Fiscal Year 2025 (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025), two families in Bennington moved into their new Habitat homes. Four additional homes are now under construction, with two scheduled for completion in the coming months—providing safe, stable housing for 14 more individuals. At the time of writing this report, applications for our homebuyer program are open, and we are excited to see where this coming build season will take us.

Beyond homebuilding, our home repair program continues to meet critical local needs. In FY2025, we completed another ramp project in Bennington, and we plan to continue expanding this much-needed program in FY2026. The home repair program remains open to income-qualified homeowners who need minor repairs or accessibility improvements, such as ramps, to safely remain in or return to their homes.

Our ReStore in Manchester also remains a vibrant part of the community—offering affordable, high-quality furniture, building supplies, housewares, tools, art, and home improvement products donated by individuals and businesses. The ReStore not only helps local residents furnish their homes sustainably, but also diverts countless items from the landfill. Every purchase directly supports our homebuilding and repair programs.

Two Shaftsbury residents are homeowners through our Habitat Homeowner program, and we have completed a number of repair projects in the past. Additionally, our Executive Director is a resident of Shaftsbury.

None of our projects would be possible without the support we receive from the local community. Together, we make a difference in the lives of hard working people in Bennington County. For more information please visit our website at www.BenningtonCountyHabitat.org

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Luce, Executive Director, Bennington County Habitat for Humanity



Bennington Little League

P.O. Box 4603, Bennington, Vermont 05201



To the Shaftsbury Community Appropriations Committee,

The Bennington Little League program has been in continuous operation since 1957 offering a quality youth sports opportunity to Bennington County. We pride ourselves in providing a safe and educational environment for all of the 280 plus children we serve. We provide opportunities for players ranging from age 5 through 12 to play on one of 4 different divisions to ensure both safety and progression for each child, customizing our approach for the success of the individual as well as the team.

As many of you know, Baseball fields require more work than most youth playing fields. Our program currently manages 5 fields, 3 in Bennington, 1 in North Bennington and of course, Howard Park. This requires many hours of volunteer labor, but also a decent amount of outgoing funds to keep up. This facility is very important to our operations and we are excited to continue our partnership with Shaftsbury. As with every other year, our plan is to utilize this location for both practices and games from early April through mid July and sometimes beyond depending on post season needs.

On behalf of the board, I would like to thank Shaftsbury for their past and hopefully continued support. The money we receive goes directly to the maintenance and improvements necessary each season. We look forward to another great year in 2026

Sincerely,

Geoffrey M. Metcalfe
President
Bennington Little League

Bennington Project Independence, Adult Day Service
Shaftsbury Community Impact Report 2025

Bennington Project Independence is dedicated to assisting Shaftsbury to be a wonderful place to grow older by providing a safe, sensitive and supportive day program for adults age 18 and older. As our community is growing older, BPI can provide an innovative, person-centered, vital community resource for Shaftsbury individuals and families.

In 2025, we were able to renovate our building's lower level and add additional program space to our first floor. With our new memory-care suite, specialized jetted tub for expanded personal care, creative arts studio, fitness center and orchard café space, BPI is able to provide even more opportunities for a greater range of services and opportunities for Shaftsbury members, family caregivers and community.

This allowed BPI to serve even more persons with delicate or chronic medical conditions who benefit from personal care or comprehensive healthcare and monitoring, people struggling with the mental and physical effects of isolation and loneliness as well as persons dealing with bereavement or other emotional issues such as anxiety or depression. We also serve persons facing end-of-life challenges, younger persons with acquired brain injury and persons in all stages of Alzheimer's Disease and other cognitive impairments who need compassionate, specialized assistance.

BPI was able to provide a wide range of individually-tailored services including meaningful, life-enriching adult activities, educational presentations and mentally stimulating activities, nursing, wellness and personal care, social work support, delicious and healthy meals, opportunities for socialization, intergenerational experiences, pet visits, fitness groups, art therapy, as well as community trips and tours. Our program is based on the needs, interests and the abilities of our Members and their Families.

Bennington Project Independence is here to help Shaftsbury family caregivers "share the care". BPI helps make it possible for them to balance being able to care for their loved ones, raise their own families and continue to be able to maintain a job or career. Knowing that their loved one is safe, well-cared for and enjoying their day, gives the caregiver the break they need to recharge and can bring great peace of mind to families as well as special care for their loved ones.

For 2026, BPI is again committed to providing the best possible care and range of Adult Day Services for our Members and their Family Caregivers in Shaftsbury

We have kept our request as modest as possible and only requested the same level of support that we have requested for many years. BPI is respectfully requesting that the Voters and Members of the Selectboard support an allocation of \$4,500 for our Adult Day Services.

We hope that the voters and members of the Selectboard will look positively upon our request and support an allocation to Bennington Project Independence, Adult Day Service as we look to proudly serve Shaftsbury residents for another 47 years.

BENNINGTON SENIOR CENTER

This is to explain what the Bennington Senior Center offers all Senior Citizens (age 50 and up) including Shaftsbury Residents.

- The Senior Center is opened Monday through Friday.
- It is a warm place for Seniors to gather, have a cup of coffee, visit with friends or not yet friends.
- There are many organized activities and some monthly or one-time activities.
- There are Shaftsbury residents to take advantage of the painting room on a scheduled day and it is opened any time that they choose.
- There are 4 Bone Builder classes opened to all.
- There is an afternoon that many seniors get together to play different card games.
- There is a group of Seniors who come in once a week to do sewing. There are sewing machines, irons and iron boards available.
- Bingo is a very popular activity attended by many
- There are Pot Luck lunches
- Periodically there are crafts offered.
- Speakers with different topics.
- There is a book room with computers available to all.
- There is a Tag Sale Room from donated items.
- There are many other possibilities for other programs as the interest arises.

I hope that this encourages Seniors Citizens to visit and participate at the

Bennington Senior Center(upstairs)

124 Pleasant Street

Bennington, Vermont



December 10, 2025

To the Citizens of the Town of Shaftsbury,

On behalf of BROC Community Action and the thousands of people with low-income or living in poverty that we serve throughout Rutland and Bennington Counties, we want to express our thanks and gratitude for supporting us over the years on Town Meeting Day. BROC Community Action assists families and individuals in crisis and help provide a sustainable path forward.

Over the past year, BROC Community Action has assisted **19 households** with weatherization services as well as **66 residents** with other services in the Town of Shaftsbury. Whether your residents need food at the BROC Community Food Shelf, senior commodities, housing counseling, homelessness assistance, heating and utility assistance, forms assistance for benefits such as 3SqVT, budget and credit counseling and resources and referrals; we are here.

People come to us cold, hungry, homeless, jobless or facing major health conditions every day. Your town appropriation helps ease the struggle for nearly 10,000 people who seek assistance from us each year as we meet the basic needs of their families and provide a path forward whenever possible.

Respectfully, our appropriation request for the upcoming fiscal year remains \$1,700.00.

We truly value our collaboration with Shaftsbury as we assist those most in need.

Sincerely,

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

Thomas L. Donahue, CEO
tdonahue@broc.org

Center for Restorative Justice 2025 Annual Report

Serving Bennington County as its community justice agency for over 40 years, the Center for Restorative Justice (CRJ) helped approximately 1,400 individuals this past year to make positive changes in their lives, the lives of others and their community.

CRJ programs play an essential role in building strong communities, reducing the burden on a strapped court system, empowering victims to have a voice in the justice process, and providing individuals with resources and skills to become positive, contributing members of the community.

CRJ offers over 15 different programs for youth and adults throughout Bennington County. Programs include school-based programs such as truancy support and Restorative Alternative Program (RAP); Court Diversion Programs including adult, juvenile and treatment diversion; Youth Substance Awareness Safety Program (YSASP) for civil underage drinking and marijuana violations; various juvenile and adult restorative programs for court referred individuals; community reentry programs for people reentering the community from incarceration; The Lounge teen afterschool program; and Threads – a unique teen free clothing shop. For a full listing of CRJ programs visit our website www.bcrj.org.

Two of CRJ's newest programs focus on prevention and early intervention. Jump on Board for Success (JOBS) focuses on helping at-risk youth to succeed in securing and retaining meaningful employment. CRJ's new Pre-Charge programs (for both youth and adults) utilize restorative justice as an option to address wrong doings in lieu of charges being filed in the traditional court system.

CRJ receives support through state grants, local contracts, foundation grants, private donations and funding from towns such as yours. Your continued support has helped individuals to get their lives on the right track, helped empower victims to have a voice in the justice process, and helped restore and strengthen our communities.

Thank you very much for your continued partnership and support.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leitha Cipriano, Executive Director
Center for Restorative Justice



Greater Bennington Community Services/GBCS (gee-bix) is a local non-profit organization that helps individuals and families living in or near poverty access basic needs such as health care, food, and financial assistance. GBCS coordinates 3 programs: the Dr. G. Richard Dundas Free Clinic that provides free medical care to uninsured and underinsured individuals 16+, the Kitchen Cupboard food pantry, which includes Grateful Hearts Bennington which produces 1,200 prepared meals/week for the community, and the Emergency Needs Fund.

The Dr. G. Richard Dundas free clinic serves primarily adults (16+) who are uninsured or underinsured for medical needs. We have 12 dedicated volunteer doctors and a handful of volunteer nurses who staff our weekly (Thursday evenings 6-9p), monthly (3rd Monday 10a-12n) and quarterly women's health clinics (Last Monday in January, April, July, October usually from 4-6pm). Below are our yearly numbers of patients seen and patient interactions.

CLINIC NUMBERS			
Year	Unique Patients	New Patients	Patient Interactions
2020	146	62	324
2021	145	62	372
2022	200	98	448
2023	225	113	546
2024	227	98	629
2025*	200	94	500

*as of 10/31/2025

Additionally, for the past 3 years in August we have hosted the Remote Area Medical (RAM) clinic at the Mt. Anthony Union Middle School. This 2-day event offers free dental, vision and medical services to any individual who needs it. Patients can receive cleanings, fillings and extractions on our dental floor and vision patients can receive a new pair of glasses - completely free of cost. Our team recruits volunteer providers and general support volunteers to staff the clinic. Last year, we saw 237 individuals, of which 10% were children, for these services. Our 4th annual RAM clinic will happen on Saturday, August 8 and Sunday, August 9, 2026, and we anticipate seeing more families this year and we would welcome anyone interested to volunteer!

Our Kitchen Cupboard food pantry is open 3 days a week on Tuesdays from 3:30-6:30p, Thursdays from 10a-6p and Saturdays from 10a-12n. The Kitchen Cupboard is a free-choice, grocery store style pantry where households can select what they need and want from our shelves rather than pre-prepared food boxes. We are serving more households and they are shopping more often - which is reflective of what we see in the community - more people need help accessing food and needing it more often. Below are number from our Kitchen Cupboard program:

	Shopper Visits	Unique Households	Unique Individuals	Visits per Household	Individuals per Visit
Year Average					
2020	365	192	743	1.91	2.13
2021	297	140	442	2.13	1.56
2022	383	192	497	2.00	1.30
2023	623	308	808	2.02	1.30
2024	863	410	1,091	2.10	1.26
2025*	940	451	1,176	2.09	1.25

As of 10/31/25

Our Emergency Needs Fund provides financial assistance for households who find themselves in urgent need such as heating fuel, electricity (to avoid disconnect) or rent assistance (to avoid eviction). This program is 100% community funded and provides over \$30,000/yearly to households in the greater Bennington area.



Forest Service

Green Mountain and Finger Lakes
National Forests
Supervisor's Office

4387 U.S. Route 4 East
Mendon, VT 05701
802-747-6700

Date: January 9, 2026

Subject: 2026 Town Report Update

Dear Town Clerks, Selectboard Members and local residents:

Each year the employees of the Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) depend heavily on support from many municipalities, volunteers, partners, and contractors. The Forest would like to take this time to thank you and your community for the support and interest that you have shown in helping with the management of the approximately 400,000-acre GMNF. The GMNF is truly one of Vermont's treasures and the largest contiguous public land area in the state. Forest staff work hard to achieve quality public land management under a sustainable multiple-use management concept to meet the diverse needs of all people -- people in your town as well as all of the visitors who come to Vermont every year. This has been another exciting year for us, and we have worked hard to support new opportunities on the National Forest that benefit the people and communities that we serve. The following is a brief summary of a few things that happened on your National Forest throughout the past year:

On June 13, 2025, Chris Mattrick, Rochester / Middlebury District Ranger signed the Final Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact for the Telephone Gap Integrated Resource Project. The project area is located on the Green Mountain National Forest, Rochester and Middlebury Ranger Districts within Rutland, Windsor, and Addison Counties, Vermont including the towns of Brandon, Chittenden, Goshen, Killington, Mendon, Pittsfield, Pittsford, and Stockbridge. The project proposal includes management activities on National Forest System lands to achieve multiple resource benefits as provided by direction in the 2006 Green Mountain National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan. Alternative C was selected for implementation after considering the analysis documented in the Telephone Gap project final environmental assessment, public feedback received during project development and analysis, and supporting information found in the project record. It was determined that this alternative will best move the forest landscape toward desired resource conditions within the project area while addressing concerns identified through public involvement. Alternative C includes management activities to provide resource and public benefits. These include improved wildlife habitat, restored soils and wetlands, a sustained network of roads and trails, increased recreation opportunities, and timber harvesting to provide wood products for the local and regional economy while enhancing forest health and diversity.

In 2025 the U.S. Forest Service approved the designation of approximately 72 miles of National Forest System roads and trails on the Manchester Ranger District within the Green Mountain National Forest as part of the Velomont Trail -- a future, state-wide, hut-supported mountain bike and multi-use trail running from Massachusetts to Canada. This work will be accomplished and coordinated with Vermont Huts & Trails (VHT) and the Vermont Mountain Bike Association (VMBA). The designated section will include a mix of new trail construction, upgrades to existing routes, and targeted relocations to improve sustainability and user experience. Once complete, it will expand mountain bike access to areas where limited or no opportunities currently exist, increase connectivity between rural towns, and open new points of entry to the outdoors -- designed to be adaptive-friendly wherever possible.



America's Working Forests – Caring Every Day in Every Way

Printed on Recycled Paper



Vermont suffered moderate to severe drought conditions last fall. In response to these conditions, the Green Mountain National Forest issued fire restrictions on the national forest beginning on September 22, 2025. The decision to implement fire restrictions was based on various factors, including the prevalence of unattended fires, unfavorable weather conditions and the availability of firefighting resources. At the time, moisture level of forest trees and other vegetation was deceptively low with autumn leaves falling which added to dry fuels on the forest floor. We are extremely thankful to each and every local, state and federal partner who supported our outreach and response efforts to these abnormal conditions.

Over the past year, we have worked diligently to keep our social media accounts and website up-to-date with substantive content. We encourage members of the public to visit our website (www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl) which can be used as an on-line tool for up-to-date information. In addition, we strive to collaborate with towns, schools and other organizations to provide issue-based content for Forest Service presentations. If you know of an event that is happening in your town and would like to invite the Forest Service to participate, please reach out. Again, thank you for your support of your National Forest. Together, we will continue to maintain and improve this valuable resource for generations to come.

Sincerely,



Digitally signed by JOHN
SINCLAIR
Date: 2025.12.04 10:05:14 -05'00'

JOHN A. SINCLAIR
Forest Supervisor
Green Mountain and Finger Lakes National Forests
802-747-6700

MARTINA BARNES

Digitally signed by MARTINA
BARNES
Date: 2025.12.04 10:22:47 -05'00'

MARTINA BARNES
District Ranger
Manchester Ranger District
802-362-2307

CHRISTOPHER
MATTRICK

Digitally signed by CHRISTOPHER
MATTRICK
Date: 2025.12.04 10:13:38 -05'00'

CHRISTOPHER MATTRICK
District Ranger
Rochester / Middlebury Ranger Districts
802-767-4261



Matching people aged 55+ with service opportunities in Bennington, Windham & Windsor Counties
Green Mountain RSVP 160 Benmont Ave Ste 90 (South Entrance, Flr 2R), Bennington, VT 05201
www.rsvpvt.org • (802) 447-1546

Dear Shaftsbury Voters,

Thank you for approving \$950 in funding to Green Mountain RSVP at the 2025 Town Meeting.

Green Mountain RSVP is an AmeriCorps Seniors program that matches people aged 55+ with volunteer opportunities in non-profit organizations and also coordinates free, volunteer-led Bone Builder classes and the Sunshine Cards project, which distributes cheerful, hand-written notes to homebound seniors.

During the period funded, 11 Shaftsbury residents were active Green Mountain RSVP volunteers, serving in the areas of:

- Bone Builders Exercise Leader
- Knitting items to donate to children and isolated seniors
- Food pantry helpers at HIS Pantry
- Tax Preparers at AARP Tax Aide
- Helping at Habitat for Humanity store
- Sunshine Card makers
- Red Cross blood drive ambassadors

Much of the Shaftsbury residents' volunteering takes place in Bennington at partner non-profits. The non-profits gather information (such as town of residence) about the people who benefit from the service of the volunteers, so we are unable to say with precision how many Shaftsbury residents are served by our volunteers.

Free, volunteer-led Bone Builders classes meet twice a week year-round and help participants improve their balance and muscle strength, which leads to fewer falls and improved bone density. These positive outcomes help people age in place and live independently for longer. At least 5 Shaftsbury residents attend class in North Bennington (and one teaches there),

If any Shaftsbury residents who would like to get involved with RSVP, as a volunteer or as a Bone Builders attendee, please contact us at 802-447-1546



GREEN UP VERMONT
www.greenupvermont.org

Success on
Green Up Day
May 3, 2025



Green Up Day was a resounding success because your community joined the statewide clean-up effort. As you can see by the stats graphic the entire State got a wonderful spring cleaning with nearly all our city and town roads covered. Businesses are more successful with clean streetscapes, our real estate more valued, and our healthy way of life cherished. As one of Vermont's favorite traditions, it is imperative for today and for future generations to keep building pride, awareness, and stewardship for a clean Vermont, and keep residents civically engaged.

Green Up initiatives are year-round and further our environmental impact with waste reduction programs, additional clean-up efforts, and educational initiatives. We've been able to rally thousands of volunteers for special projects and flood clean-up across the State.

Support from your municipality is essential to our program. Funds help pay for Green Up Day supplies, promotional outreach, educational resources, contests for kids, and a \$1,000 scholarship. We are also incorporating an innovation challenge fair called *greenSTEM* in 2026 for students in grades 7-12. Our goal is to engage more students in finding environmental solutions and connect them to community service.

We are requesting level funding for 2026.

Thank you for supporting this crucial program that takes care of where we all get to live, work and play. Be an Environmental Hero – Donate on Line 23 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form or at www.greenupvermont.org.

2026 Green Up Day is May 2nd.

Green Up Vermont is a 501c3 nonprofit.



Here's the recap for Monty's House's 2025 season, but first, for any new folks, my name is Karen E. Rose and I run Monty's House Wildlife Rehabilitation right here in Shaftsbury, VT. I have been licensed for wildlife rehab since October 2018, and Monty's House Wildlife Rehabilitation has been an exempt organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code since October 2020.

I have been licensed for non-rabies vector small mammals since October 2018 and federally permitted for songbirds since March 2024.

As the only rehabber of any type in southwestern VT, injured and orphaned wildlife certainly keeps me busy. In 2025, Monty's House had 120 intake incidents, and from Shaftsbury specifically, I had 15 intake incidents that resulted in 18 critter intakes. The 2025 release numbers are listed below by species along with the current overwinters at the time of this writing. Overwinters are those critters that were either too small to meet proper release protocol prior to winter setting in, or, arrived injured over the winter and required time to heal from those injuries.

2025 Releases

Grey squirrels – 17
Red squirrels – 12
Cottontail rabbits – 19
Opossums – 13
Porcupines - 1
Woodchucks – 3
Songbirds - 13

2025/2026 Overwinters

Opossums - 5
Red squirrels - 5
Grey squirrels - 1
Southern flying squirrels - 1
Chipmunks -1
Chipping sparrow - 1

Monty's House Wildlife Rehabilitation is once again seeking \$1,000.00 in town appropriation funding to offset the cost of running the rehab operation, specifically the food cost of feeding the intakes during the height of the season. While all wildlife rehabbers are licensed by the state of Vermont, through the Department of Fish & Wildlife, there is no stipend, reimbursement, or financial support that comes from the state or the department to service the needs of the wildlife in rehab care. On behalf of all the critters at Monty's House, and myself, we thank you in advance for your consideration of our funding request.

Checked for accuracy and approved by current overwinters The Golden Girls and Mary Lyon the opossums, Gomez the grey squirrel, Jack O'Lantern and Pumpkin, Pecan, Apple and Mince (The Eyes on the Pies Crew) the red squirrels, Rosie the southern flying squirrel, Dale the chipmunk, and Speck the chipping sparrow. Respectfully submitted by Karen E. Rose, Licensed VT Wildlife Rehabber.



Jack O'Lantern



Rosie



The Golden Girls

PARK MCCULLOUGH HOUSE ASSOCIATION

The Park- McCullough House Association is a 5013(c) created in 1968 to protect and preserve the house and grounds for the enjoyment of the surrounding communities. The House has served many roles during its 160-year history: home to governors, host to a president, working farm, wedding venue, concert hall, and museum, to name just a few. But the identity that resonates most with us right now is: *front porch for the community*. For generations, this place has been a beautiful house and a historic site, but also a vital community gathering place.

Our cultural programming happens in (almost) every season. On our grounds and in our structures, we host a classical music series, a summer croquet league, membership meetings, theater productions, readings, dinners, music camps, and other public events.

Describe how the organization serves the residents of the Town of Shaftsbury

The residents of Shaftsbury often attend our events - Community Block Party, Tree Lighting, Numerous cultural events, utilize the gardens and grounds, and are volunteers. Additionally we employ vendors who are Shaftsbury residents providing economic opportunity. Out of town visitors also provide economic opportunity to Shaftsbury.

If your organization receives an appropriation, how will the money be used

As in the past the funding we receive supports our ongoing operations including; maintenance of house and grounds, expenses related to public/free events, staffing, and collections preservation.



**PO Box 393,
North Bennington VT 05257
(802) 442-8457**

**www.LakeParanVT.org
www.facebook.com/lakeparan**

Residents of Shaftsbury receive so many benefits from the programming and events at the lake, they enjoy fishing, boating and swimming. Residents attend our free MeNU meals, Stone Skipping Festival, Fireworks and Winterfest events. We offer regular programming for anyone to attend- activities like daily walks, weekly yoga, sound healing, a nature based book club, gardening group, and hands on educational workshops and lectures. Our Weedo boat and removal of aquatic nuisance species and advocacy for the health of the lake and its watershed with partnerships and collaborations with area organizations like the Hoosick Watershed Alliance and Bennington County Conservation District and municipalities helps maintain the environmental health and infrastructure needed for the surrounding communities. Lake Paran and the Community Center is a community asset for Shaftsbury residents in so many ways.

We use community appropriation dollars for our operating expenses to keep the Lake house electricity on, maintain the grounds, and heated. and to help offset costs for programming to keep our activities, programs and events affordable for most people in the community.



Promoting a world where all peoples can experience relationships free from violence.

PAVE

November 6, 2025

Town of Shaftsbury Select Board,

In the last fiscal year, PAVE has been attempting to diversify our funding streams to prepare for funding cuts and loss of funding entirely.

We have been able to navigate the loss of approximately \$12,000 from our Supervised Visitation program, Family Time, and keep the program intact. Unfortunately, our Legal Advocate position will be eliminated for the time being starting Nov, 1 2025. The State of Vermont choose to not fund out STOP grant application, sighting the existence of a victim's Advocate embedded in the Bennington Police Department. This position has since, to my knowledge, been eliminated. PAVE applied for two separate Federal Grants to support our Legal Advocate position and were notified we were not awarded for one, while the other is still being reviewed.

Our Legal Advocate has been a core part of our services at PAVE, attending 58 court hearings and aiding in approximately 45 protection orders. This Advocate also fielded over 175 referrals from Law Enforcement in the County in the past year.

Despite this position being eliminated, PAVE will still strive to continue provide legal support to Survivors. We will continue to provide aide with Protection Orders as staffing and time allow, and will train and utilize our Volunteer base for Court Accompaniment. Our Advocate Initiated Response System with local Law Enforcement will be taken over by our Health Advocate, whose position is funded by the Office of Violence Against Women's Rural Grant. This is a new 3 year grant we were awarded in hopes we can improve the health outcomes for Survivors of Sexual Assault.

Even with the funding challenges we have faced this year, PAVE was able to provide 1184 support services to Survivors, provide shelter to 59 Survivors, Safety Plan with 170 Survivors and provide 1908 Supervised Visits. With only three full time Advocates, we have been busy!

We look forward to the coming year and finding new and creative ways to support Survivors in our community, while exploring new funding sources. We are requesting level funding from the Town of Shaftsbury of \$450.00 to support our Advocacy work with Survivors.

On behalf of PAVE staff, Board Members and the Survivors we support I express gratitude to the Town of Shaftsbury for continuing to support this important work.

Lindsay Brillon, M.Ed LSW
Executive Director
P.A.V.E



802 442 2370



pave@pavebennington.com

SHAFTSBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Shaftsbury Historical Society (SHS) would first like to thank all members, volunteers and the Town for allowing us to be the stewards of Shaftsbury's history. Secondly, we would like to express our gratitude to the residents of Shaftsbury who attended the many events held during the 2025 calendar year. Their participation and enthusiastic response made our events as successful as they were.

In March we hosted a National Genealogy Day Open House at the Governor Galusha house. The SHS is home to many family history records and related ephemera and we are currently in the process of digitizing these documents in order to make them more accessible to the public.

On April 4th we again held a Living History Day Program for the 4th graders from the Shaftsbury Elementary School and their teachers. The response from the students was extremely positive and we plan on making this an annual event.

On May 3rd the SHS hosted a portion of the Expedition to Ticonderoga celebration at the Galusha House. Organized by Jonah Spivak and the 250th committee, the event commemorated the 250th anniversary of the start of the Revolutionary War and the capture of Fort Ticonderoga. Attended by hundreds of visitors, the event featured historical re-enactments, food and craft demonstrations as well as an overnight encampment. Volunteers from the local Boy Scout troop and high-school students pitched in to help make the day a great success.

On June 7th the SHS again held its Ordinary Heroes Day event, this year presenting the annual award to Ron Loomis for his extensive service to the community. We would like to thank Representative David Durfee for his efforts in obtaining Ron's resolution from the Secretary of State's office.

The Historical Society on August 23rd invited the community to celebrate the Shaftsbury Green Mountain Boys with a flag marker ceremony at the Center Shaftsbury Cemetery. Markers were placed at several graves to honor our past military heroes. Historical reenactors representing both Governor Galusha and Ethan Allen recited period speeches in honor of the event.

We continue to hold monthly open houses at the Governor Galusha Homestead, providing tours of the house and property. The public is always welcome to attend and volunteers from the SHS board will be on hand to answer questions and assist with genealogical inquiries.

The exterior of the Galusha House was repaired and painted in the summer of 2025. We continue to work with the Vermont Preservation Trust in order to insure that any work done to the house is done according to accurate historical standards.

We are grateful and honored to be the stewards of Shaftsbury's history and remain open to new ideas and volunteers in the coming years.

Respectfully submitted,

James W. Cassidy, President for the Board

SHAFTSBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY P.O. BOX 401 SHAFTSBURY, VT 05262

SHIRES MEDIA (WBTN)

WBTN is a non-profit community radio station that is solely run by volunteers. We provide emergency alert communications for the Shaftsbury community. We can be on the air during a natural disaster due to our generator that can keep us running.

Residents can come take a tour of the historic station and learn what the different equipment is used for. Residents can also have their own live show at the station if they are interested. Our longest running show is hosted by a Shaftsbury resident.

Thank you,
Jodie Lillie
Treasurer and Board Member



Southern Vermont
Communications
Union District
sovtcud.net

January 2026

To our Member Towns and their Residents:

The Southern Vermont Communications Union District (SoVT CUD) has had another busy and successful year.

It has now been more than two years since Fidium, formerly Consolidated Communications, Inc. (CCI), completed construction of the fiber network, which continues to perform well and provide Southern Vermonters with fast, reliable broadband service. SoVT CUD continues to play an oversight role, meeting with Fidium on a regular basis to discuss quarterly network performance reports, and issues that occasionally arise, of which there have been very few.

This year, SoVT CUD successfully completed its FY24 audit which included a Federal Single Audit as required by state and federal regulations. The audit was performed by Mudgett, Jennett, & Krogh-Wisner, a Vermont accounting firm that was selected via a competitive RFP process. The audit was completed and accepted by the governing board in July 2025 and the fee for auditing services came in under budget. The audit report is available on the CUD's website.

Sustainability planning with Otter Creek and Lamoille CUDs was temporarily paused this year while the other two CUDs completed their network construction in partnership with Fidium. During this pause, SoVT CUD completed individual strategic planning for 2026 and beyond.

SoVT CUD secured a \$220,000 Preconstruction Grant in 2024 to support the operation of SoVT CUD over the following several years, until a longer-term funding arrangement (through at least 2034) is expected to be put in place via a sustainability agreement with Otter Creek and Lamoille CUDs, and Fidium.

Beginning in 2026, the SoVT CUD governing board will meet on the fourth Wednesday of the following months at 6:00 PM: February, May, August, October, November. Please join us and learn more at sovtcud.net. Public documents can be accessed at public.sovtcud.net.

Sincerely,

Terrence Dorsey, Chair
Southern Vermont Communications Union District



Rutland Office
143 Maple St
Rutland VT, 05701
(802) 786-5990

Bennington Office
160 Benmont Ave, Suite #90
Bennington VT, 05201
(802) 442-5436

Report to the Citizens of Shaftsbury

This report describes the services that the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging (SVCOA) provided to older residents in Shaftsbury during SVCOA's most recent annual reporting period of **10/1/2024 through 9/30/2025**.

Nutrition Support

In 2025 SVCOA supported **88 older residents in Shaftsbury** through both our home delivered meal program known as **“Meals on Wheels”** as well as through monthly in-person luncheon gatherings. A total of **2,223 meals were delivered and served** this past year directly to Shaftsbury residents. Additionally, SVCOA provided **24 hours** of one-on-one nutrition support, including nutrition assessments, resource connections and referrals to residents of Shaftsbury.

Case Management Assistance:

SVCOA Case Management and Outreach staff directly supported older residents in Shaftsbury for a total of **425.75 hours**. Case managers meet with an older resident privately in their home or at another agreed upon location and assess their individual situation. They will work with the older resident to identify needs and talk about possible If the older resident desires, the case manager will link them to appropriate services, coordinate and monitor services as necessary, and provide information and assistance to caregivers. services available to address those needs. If the older resident desires, the case manager will link them to appropriate services, coordinate and monitor services as necessary, and provide information and assistance to caregivers. Case managers also help older residents connect with in-home assistance programs, including a program called Choices for Care. This program is especially helpful to frail older Vermonters facing long term care placement who still wish to remain at home.

Other Services and Support:

- Toll-free and Confidential Helpline assistance at **1-800-642-5119**. Our Helpline staff provide telephone support to older Vermonters and others who need information on available programs and community resources.
- Medicare and health benefit counseling information and assistance through our State Health Insurance Program.
- Legal service assistance through the Vermont Senior Citizens Law Project.
- Information about issues and opportunities directly affecting older Vermonters via various agency articles and publications.
- Nutrition education and counseling services provided by SVCOA's Registered Dietician.
- Senior Companion support for frail, homebound older Vermonters.
- Outreach services to older Vermonters dealing with mental health issues through our Elder Care Clinician. This service is provided in cooperation with Rutland Mental Health.
- Transportation assistance.
- Caregiver support, information and respite to family members and others who are providing much needed help to older Vermonters in need of assistance.
- Money Management programs that offer either a volunteer bill payer or representative payee services to older Vermonters and younger disabled individuals.

Sunrise Family Resource Center

Narrative for Shaftsbury Town Funding

Mission

The mission of Sunrise Family Resource Center is to Strengthen Families throughout Bennington County. We partner with individuals, families, and community members to support growth, resilience, and stability, with a strong focus on building family strengths and offering assistance during times of stress.

Narrative

Sunrise continues to operate ten long-standing programs, including our Early Care and Education Program and our on-site alternative high school for pregnant and parenting youth—programs deeply valued across the community. As one student shared, “This is the most amazing group of people I have ever met... I’m so very happy I decided to attend Sunrise. It is one of the best decisions I’ve ever made.” Community partners echo this sentiment, describing Sunrise as “the most respected, trusted, and human-centered organization in the community.”

In response to evolving needs, Sunrise has expanded services to include additional home visiting programs and parent-centered supports such as education classes, playgroups, Dad & Kids groups, art workshops, Warm the Children, and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library (DPIL). We also participate actively in the Unaccompanied Youth Task Force, securing grants to meet the basic needs of vulnerable youth.

Since assuming local administration of DPIL, Sunrise has taken on all fundraising and grant-writing to ensure that every enrolled child from birth to age five receives a free monthly book. We also provide DPIL playgroups and story times to promote early literacy. In Shaftsbury, 58 children currently receive monthly books at an annual cost of \$1,823.52, and enrollment continues to grow.

This past year, Sunrise provided more than 100 home visits to Shaftsbury families and youth. One student was enrolled in our high school program, and 10 families received concrete supports such as food, diapers, and gas cards. Families also participated in playgroups-19 families , support groups-9 families, and community events, including our free annual Summer Jam, which welcomed nearly 300 attendees from across the county. Sunrise additionally employs two Shaftsbury residents, offering livable wages, health insurance, and strong benefits.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Main, Executive Director

TURNING POINT CENTER OF BENNINGTON ORGANIZATION REPORT

About the Turning Point Center of Bennington

Turning Point Center of Bennington is the only peer recovery center in the greater Bennington area, and we run the only men's transitional housing facility in the county. For 26 years we have been focused on helping clients who are struggling with Alcohol and Substance Use Disorder map out an achievable recovery plan, and then provide them with the coaching and resources they need to make progress. We have been the lead distributor of harm reduction supplies and information in the area.

The Areas We Serve

Our clients come from Shaftsbury, Arlington, Bennington, Manchester, Pownal, and Sunderland.

The Community Need We Address

Bennington County continues to face one of the highest per capita rates of alcohol and substance use disorder in Vermont. The demand for free, non-clinical, peer-based recovery support is urgent and growing.

- Over the past 3 years, Bennington County has averaged 12 opioid-related deaths per year. 2025 data from January through October shows 8 fatalities for the first 10 months of the year (32 death certificates are pending).
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/stats/data-reporting-topic/opioid-overdose-dashboard>
- Fentanyl is the primary driver of overdose deaths, involved in over 90% of cases. Cocaine is number two.
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/stats/data-reporting-topic/opioid-overdose-dashboard>
- Among people with at least one nonfatal opioid overdose ED visit, residents of Bennington County are more likely to experience a repeat overdose visit (23%) than Vermonters overall.
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/DSU-RepeatODVisits.pdf>
- Vermont's alcohol use rates (61%) are higher than the US average for all age groups.
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/alcohol-drugs/substance-use-information/alcohol>
- The percentage of Vermonters who reported binge drinking in the past 30 days was 18.7%
<https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/measures/ExcessDrink>

As the only peer-led recovery center in the county, Turning Point serves as a frontline resource for individuals in crisis, in recovery, or seeking connection.

The Principal Programs Turning Point Provides

- **Recovery Coaching:** Individualized support from trained peer recovery coaches who walk alongside participants on their recovery journeys.
- **Support Groups:** Peer-led meetings open to all pathways of recovery, including All-Recovery, NA, AA, Wellness, and more.
- **Recovery Housing:** Paradise House, opened in 2025, provides safe transitional housing for individuals in early recovery.
- **Community Outreach:** Staff and volunteers offer harm reduction. We help our clients achieve and maintain their recovery through multiple support programs and access to harm-reduction resources.
- **Emergency Department Response:** Coaches meet individuals at the local ED following overdoses or substance-related crises.
- **Probation and Parole:** Our groups provide a judgment-free place to openly discuss struggles, and find the support needed to change one's life path.

Our Partnerships

In the service of our clients, we partner with other agencies such as the Department of Children and Families (DCF), Bennington County Coalition for the Homeless, the AIDS Project, Sunrise Family Center, and others.

Fiscal Responsibility

Turning Point has a Certified Public Account on our Board of Directors, and a bookkeeper.

For Additional Information

Please contact, Laura Jarrett, our Executive Director, for more information:

Laura Jarret, laura@tpcbennington.org • Cell: (976) 705-8902 • Office: (802) 442-9700



VERMONT ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED
HELPING ACHIEVE INDEPENDENCE IN A VISUAL WORLD SINCE 1926

Report of Services for Town of Shaftsbury

During the 2025 Fiscal Year, The Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired saw continued success in client services, innovative programs, and community outreach initiatives. Moving forward, it is exciting to imagine the strides we will make in enabling blind and visually impaired Vermonters to be more independent, develop adaptive skills, and improve their quality of life.

SMART Device Training Program: 627 Vermont residents received SMART training in FY25, the highest number in the program's seven-year history. In order to fully fund SMART, VABVI has launched the several-year Second Century Endowment Campaign.

PALS (Peer-Assisted Learning and Support) Group: PALS Groups, held throughout Vermont, are monthly meetings where members share coping strategies and discuss the practical, social and emotional challenges of vision loss. While many clients have been pleased with the reintroduction of in-person meetings in FY24, opportunities to join virtually remain available for maximum flexibility. 91 clients attended PALS meetings in FY25.

HAPI (Helping Adolescents Prepare for Independence): The HAPI program enables Teachers of the Visually Impaired and Certified Vision Rehabilitation Therapists to work one-on-one with students to practice daily living skills.

IRLE Summer Camp (Intensive Residential Life Experience): IRLE camp helps VABVI students develop social skills, meet fellow visually impaired peers, learn independent living skills, and improve self-advocacy skills. This June, IRLE brought 9 visually impaired students to Okemo Mountain Resort. Activities included swimming, mini golf, and a ropes course. Fun was had by all!

Community Outreach

VABVI continues to innovate new projects which will connect the local community to our services and cause. After more than two years of development, an accessible tactile sign was installed in Burlington's Waterfront Park in June of 2024. Additionally, VABVI's New Americans Project has offered free vision screenings for local refugee community members.

In Fiscal Year 2025, the agency provided services to a total of 1,061 Vermont residents. This total includes 2 adults in Shaftsbury, and 35 adults and 15 children in Bennington County.

For more information about VABVI's services or volunteer opportunities, please contact Damaris Jacques, Development Associate, at djacques@vabvi.org. Thank you very much for your support!

60 Kimball Avenue
So. Burlington, VT 05403
(802) 863-1358
(FAX) 863-1481

13 Overlook Drive, Ste. 1
Berlin, VT 05641
(802) 505-4006
(FAX) 505-4039

80 West Street, Ste. 202
Rutland, VT 05701
(802) 775-6452
(FAX) 775-4669

www.vabvi.org

130 Austine Drive, Ste. 280
Brattleboro, VT 05301
(802) 254-8761
(FAX) 254-4802

So. Burl (800) 639-5861
Berlin (877) 350-8838
Rutland (877) 350-8839
Bratt (877) 350-8840



**Vermont Center for
Independent Living**

People with disabilities working together for dignity, independence, and civil rights

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

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

We are requesting \$1000.00 from the Town of Shaftsbury to continue supporting people with disabilities in the coming year. Enclosed you will find a summary of VCIL's programs and services for the town and a copy of our FY'25 budget.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Launderville".

Sarah Launderville
Executive Director
slaunderville@vcil.org

11 East State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602
802-229-0501, 800-639-1522 (voice & TTY), fax: 802-229-0503
email: info@vcil.org • website: www.vcil.org

VNA & HOSPICE

of the Southwest Region

Serving Bennington, Franklin, & Rutland Counties

October 31, 2025

Town of Shaftsbury
Town Administrator Paula Iken
PO Box 409
Shaftsbury, VT 05262-0409

Dear Town of Shaftsbury,

The VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region (VNAHSR) respectfully requests town funds of \$5,225.00 to assist in providing much-needed home health care and hospice services to all those in need in our community.

Since 1946, we have cared for those in our community who need help to heal at home, are experiencing a serious or end-of-life illness or suffered the loss of a loved one. Together, we ensure that on any given day hundreds of patients, from the most medically fragile infants, to individuals over 100, and their family members, are cared for by our team of talented and committed caregivers.

We are a **cornerstone** in the community, an **integral partner** with healthcare providers and a **leader** in home health and hospice care in Vermont. Residents in our areas of designation also receive services such as weekly bereavement support groups for adults and children, flu clinics and community education on end-of-life issues - all at no cost to participants.

In 2024 alone, the VNAHSR provided over \$2 million in charitable care to our patients who were either undersinsured or without the insurance required for the home care they desired and deserved. We are dedicated to our mission of providing care, regardless of the location of residence, complexity of health issues or financial circumstances of the patient.

Town funds and charitable contributions help close the gap between reimbursement for services provided and the true costs of those services. With adequate town funding, an affordable option for home healthcare is available to all in need. To continue meeting these needs, we urge you to consider the importance and cost-effectiveness of the work that the VNAHSR does to ensure the health and well-being of our community.

We are filled with gratitude for Shaftsbury's many years of support to help the VNAHSR fulfill our mission to serve our community. Please do not hesitate to contact 802-775-0568 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Jessica Boutin
Chief Executive Officer

Main Office: 7 Albert Cree Drive | Rutland, VT 05701 | 1.800.244.0568 | vermontvisitingnurses.org
Locations in Bennington, Dorset, Manchester and St. Albans

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

The VT Spay Neuter Incentive Program (VSNIP), a statewide program, is currently administered by VT Economic Services. Income challenged Vermonters can print an application from their website (VSNIP) or call for an application: 802-241-0589

In October 2025, the state began a wait list for vouchers, lacking funds. Vouchers issued for VSNIP is now determined according to the funds appropriated for the program for that fiscal year. Vermonters called Governor Scott asking for \$300,000.00. As one senator said, “that was a pittance amount”. When our (VT Volunteer Services for Animals; VVSA) statewide program was moved to the state to assure viability, a \$4.00 fee added to the registration of dogs funded VSNIP. Currently, if there are no available VSNIP vouchers at the time the Department receives an application, the applicant is placed on a waitlist. However, our animals can’t wait.

PLEASE CONSIDER: LOW COST SPAY NEUTER CLINICS IN VT & NH

Feline & Friends Foundation 802-323-4793: Schedule on FFFVT.org

Community Pet Clinic: Humane Society of Chittenden County 802-923-9028

Feline & Friends Foundation 802-323-4793 Schedule on FFFVT.org

Homeward Bound: Addison County Humane Society “Taxi Cat” 802-388-1100

Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society: in West Windsor: 802-484-5829

Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter Orleans: 802-754-2228 Cats only

Riverside Rescue, Lunenburg: 802-524-9550

Rutland CTY Humane Society: 802-483-6700; Spay the “Mom” for free, kittens adopted.

Second Chance Animal Center: Shaftsbury 802-375-2898

Second Chance Animal Rescue Inc: Littleton, NH 603-259-3244

Springfield Humane Society: Springfield 802-885-3997

Sullivan CTY Humane Society: Claremont, NH 603-542-3277

Upper Valley Humane Society: Enfield NH 603-448-6888

Windham CTY Humane Society: Brattleboro 802-254-2232

VT-CAN: Middlesex 802-223-0034

N.E. Kingdom Spay Neuter Program: Orleans Essex CTY 802-334-7393

** Community Animal Aid Wellness Clinic: (No surgeries) Exams, vaccinations, parasite treatment, minor illnesses, wounds & injuries. 1X monthly: E. Barre Fire Station 2nd Saturday of the month. 10 AM – Noon animalaidvt@gmail.com 802-734-025

VVSA drafted modifications to help serve VSNIP applicants: adding rabbits, slightly increasing the co-payment and the dog registration fee to VSNIP running. We now know there was never an intention of passing this bill. One senator said, very frankly, “no one was going to support this bill, that they were telling us to your face they would, but would not”.

Economic Services Commissioner: Miranda Gray, VT-CAN: Pamela Krauz, owner, and Dept of Agriculture spoke to the Committee objecting to these changes, supported by applicants and VSNIP veterinarians. Senators Alison Clarkson, Joe Major and Becca White knew the bill Clarkson “sponsored” was pre-determined to die. Politics at its worst. Hopefully VSNIP will survive. VVSA Humane Society, former administrator and originator, thanks to Lynn Murrell, DVM and the 80 initial participating offices that changed the euthanasia “solution” to the overpopulation in our state. You are the backbone of this program. Thank you all, sincerely.

FROM:

TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY

Municipal Offices at Cole Hall
61 Buck Hill Road, P.O. Box 409
Shaftsbury, VT 05262

Please bring this report to Town Meeting. When finished with report, please recycle by depositing in designated receptacle at Landfill.