

2025 Annual Report

Groton, Vermont



**Report of the Town Officers
for the year ending December 31, 2025**

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Select Board Chair	Larry Daniels	802-461-6070	ldaniels@grotonvt.com
Select Board	Thomas Page	802-535-8683	tpage@grotonvt.com
Select Board	Mike Nahmias	413-717-5507	mnahmias@grotonvt.com
Select Board Secretary	Harley Oliver	802-522-5007	secretary@grotonvt.com
Town Clerk	Carrie Peters	584-3276	townclerk@grotonvt.com
Town Treasurer	Lisa Hart	584-3131	treasurer@grotonvt.com
Highway Department	Harold Hatch	584-3209	grotonhwy@fairpoint.net
	Brandon Boyce		
Town Constable	Dan Webster	584-4108	danjacs@charter.net
Fire Chief	Aaron Smith	584-3855	firechief@grotonvt.com
Asst. Fire Chief	Philip Palmer		
Forest Fire Warden	Steven Batchelder	802-793-3071	batchelder81@gmail.com
Pound Keeper	Michele Boyer	802-439-5827	
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	Carrie Peters	584-3276	cdt@grotonvt.com
Assessor	Justin Mason	584-3155	assessor@grotonvt.com
Assistant Assessor	Dorothy Knott	584-3155	assistantassessor@grotonvt.com
Librarian	Sarah Spira	584-3358	grotonlibraryvt@gmail.com
Cemetery Commissioner	Brent Smith	584-3765	breann801@gmail.com
	Steven Batchelder	802-793-3071	batchelder81@gmail.com
	Sue Plant		susan.plant@vermont.gov
Tree Warden	Steve Murray	802-535-5643	
Emergency Mngmt. Coordinator	Brent Smith	584-3765	breann801@charter.net
Justice of the Peace	Linda Nunn	584-3881	Dorothy Knott 584-3243
	Tirone Dyer	584-3730	Deborah Jurist 584-3049
	Timothy Dailey, Sr.	584-3876	Carrie Peters 584-3341
	Brent Smith	584-3765	

Town Elected Officers

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>	<u>Term Length</u>
Moderator	Wayne Dyer	2026	1 Year
Road Commissioner	Harold Hatch	2027	3 Years
Town Clerk	Carrie Peters	2026	3 Years
Town Treasurer	Lisa Hart	2027	3 Years
Select Board	Tom Page	2026	3 Years
	Larry Daniels	2027	3 Years
	Mike Nahmias	2028	3 Years
BMU District #21 Director	Allison Ingerson	2026	3 Years
	Sasha Emerson	2027	3 Years
	Megan Foy	2028	3 Year
Library Trustee	Dawn Evans	2028	3 Years
	Jennifer Gaiss	2027	3 Years
	Donna Russo-Savage	2027	3 Years
	Wayne Knott	2028	3 Years
	Deborah Jurist	2026	3 Years
Cemetery Commissioner	Brent Smith	2028	3 Years
	Steven Batchelder	2026	3 Years
	Susan Plant	2027	3 Years
Town Constable	Dan Webster	2026	1 Year

Town Officers Appointed by Select Board

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>	<u>Length of Term</u>
911 Coordinator	Brent Smith	2026	1 Year
Agent to Convey Real Estate	Deborah Jurist	2026	1 Year
Animal Control Officer	Dan Webster	2026	3 Year
Assistant Assessor	Dorothy Knott	2026	1 Year
Church Clock Winder	Joseph Lorenzo	2026	1 Year
Health Officer	Daniel Webster	2026	1 Year
Emergency Mgmt. Coordinator	Brent Smith	2026	1 Year
FAST Head of Services	Derek Curtis	2026	1 Year
Fire Chief	Aaron Smith	2026	1 Year
Forest Fire Warden	Steven Batchelder	2026	5 Year
Green Up Coordinator	Mike Nahmias	2026	1 Year

Town Officers Appointed by Select Board, cont.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>	<u>Length of Term</u>
IT	Gary Lamberton	2026	1 Year
NEK CUD Representative	Michael Gaiss	2026	1 Year
NEK CUD Alternative	Martin Klein	2026	1 Year
NEK Solid Waste Supervisor	Mike Nahmais	2026	1 Year
NEK Solid Waste Alternate	Vacant	2026	1 Year
NVDA Representative	Brent Smith	2026	1 Year
NVDA Alternate	Mark Gleicher	2026	1 Year
Planning Commission	Michael Nahmais (Chairperson)	2027	3 Year
	Steve Hart(resigned)	2026	3 Year
	Michael Welch	2026	3 Year
	Brent Smith	2028	3 Year
	Emily Pratt	2027	3 Year
	Dawn Evans	2027	3 Year
	Walter Morse	2027	3 Year
	Terrence Curran	2028	3 Year
	Select Board Assistant	Lisa Hart	2026
Select Board Secretary	Harley Oliver	2026	1 Year
Town Report	Lisa Hart/Carrie Peters	2026	1 Year
Tree Warden	Steve Murray	2026	1 Year
Zoning Administrator	Daniel J. Webster	2026	1 Year
Zoning Board of Adjustment	Aaron Smith	2026	1 Year
	E. Charles Frost, Jr.	2026	1 Year
	Mark Gleicher	2026	1 Year
Board of Civil Authority is made up of:	Select Board Members	Larry Daniels, Tom Page, Mike Nahmias	
	Justices of the Peace	Linda Nunn	Brent Smith
		Tim Dailey Sr.	Tirone "Toni" Dyer
		Deborah Jurist	Carrie Peters
		Dorothy Knott	
Board of Abatement is made up of:	Town Clerk	Carrie Peters	
	Town Treasurer	Lisa Hart	
	Select Board Members	Larry Daniels, Tom Page, Mike Nahmias	
	Assessors	Dorothy Knott	
	Justices of the Peace	See above	

WARNING
TOWN OF GROTON, VT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026

The Legal Voters of the Town of Groton, are hereby warned and notified to meet in the Groton Community Building on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 10:00 am., to transact the following business from the floor:

ARTICLE 1 To elect the following Town Officers as provided for by the Public Laws of Vermont:

Moderator	One Year Term
Selectboard Member	Three Year Term
Town Clerk	Three Year Term
Cemetery Commissioner	Three Year Term
Constable	One Year Term
Library Trustee	Three Year Term
BMU School Board Director	Three Year Term

ARTICLE 2 To hear the reports of the Town Officers.

ARTICLE 3 Shall the voters authorize payment of property taxes on or before Friday, November 6th, 2026, by physical or electronic delivery to the tax collector before 5:00 PM est., as the deadline for the payment of taxes? (Postmarks are not accepted as a timely payment)

ARTICLE 4 Shall the voters appropriate a total of \$6,547 for the following requests to the Town of Groton?

- \$3,200 for the continued eradication of Japanese Knotweed along the Wells River
- \$3,347 for Rural Community Transportation (increased from \$800)

ARTICLE 5 Shall the town establish a reserve fund to be called the “Town Property Maintenance Fund” for the purpose of maintenance, upkeep and general renovations of town owned property, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2804?

WARNING
TOWN OF GROTON, VT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026

ARTICLE 6 Shall the town deposit \$20,000 from the General Fund surplus to fund the Town Property Maintenance Fund?

ARTICLE 7 Shall the voters authorize total fund expenditures for operating expenses of \$1,388,268 of which \$870,898 shall be raised by taxes and \$517,370 by non-tax revenues?

ARTICLE 8 To discuss any other business proper to come before this meeting, this does not include the expenditure of town funds or other business acted upon in the preceding articles.


Larry Daniels, Selectboard Chair Thomas Page, Selectboard Mike Nahmias, Selectboard

Dated this 20th day of January, 2026.
I hereby certify that the foregoing was recorded before posting.

Attest, Cassie Peters Town Clerk

Annual Town Meeting Minutes
Town of Groton, Vermont
Tuesday, March 4, 2025

Wayne Dyer, Moderator, made opening remarks announcing that the polls were open for the BMU Budget Vote from 10am-7pm. He stated that the BMU Student Council was selling food to raise money for various events at BMU. He listed off the available information on the back tables. The Town officers introduced themselves. Next, Wayne opened it up to anyone wanting to express words of encouragement. Deborah Jurist, Peter Lyon, Dawn Evans, Lawrence Daniels, Sr., and Mark Gleicher spoke. Wayne led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Wayne went over a few rules and called the meeting to order.

ARTICLE 1 To elect the following Town Officers as provided for by the Public Laws of Vermont:

Moderator- Wayne asked for nominations, Sue Gordon nominated Wayne Dyer. There were no other nominations. Clerk cast one ballot for Wayne Dyer for Moderator for a 1 year term. Aaron Smith moved the motion, Dawn Evans seconded.

Selectboard Member (1 year)-Dan Webster nominated Mike Nahmias, Mike declined. Gary Lamberton nominated Tom Page. There were no other nominations. Clerk cast one ballot for Tom Page for Selectboard member for a 1 year term. Sue Gordon moved the motion, Aaron Smith seconded.

Selectboard Member (3 year)-Dan Webster nominated Mike Nahmias. There were no other nominations. Clerk cast 1 ballot for Mike Nahmias for Selectboard member for a 3 year term. Aaron smith moved the motion, Dawn Evans seconded.

Cemetery Commissioner-Sue Plant nominated Brent Smith. There were no other nominations. Clerk cast 1 ballot for Brent Smith for Cemetery Commissioner for a 3 year term. Mark Gleicher moved the motion, Dawn Evans seconded.

Constable- Harold Hatch nominated Dan Webster, Sr.. There were no other nominations. Clerk cast 1 ballot for Dan Webster for Constable for 1 year term. Aaron Smith moved the motion, Chub Bruleigh seconded.

Library Trustee-Deborah Jurist nominated Dawn Evans. There were no other nominations. Clerk cast 1 ballot for Dawn Evans for Library Trustee for a 3 year term. Deborah Jurist moved the motion, Viola Emerson seconded.

Library Trustee-Dawn Evans nominated Wayne Knott. There were no other nominations. Clerk cast 1 ballot for Wayne Knott for Library Trustee for a 3 year term. Aaron Smith moved the motion, Martha Montague seconded.

BMU School Board Director (1 year)- Shelby Peters nominated Allison Ingerson, Jean Denson nominated David Pierce. No other nominations. David and Allison each spoke on their qualifications and reasons to be selected. A hand vote was conducted. Allison Ingerson received 41 votes, David Pierce received 0 votes.

BMU School Board Director (3 year term) – Allison Ingerson nominated Megan Foy, Jean Denson nominated David Pierce. No other nominations. Megan spoke to her qualifications and reasons to be selected. A hand vote was conducted. Megan Foy received 40 votes and David Pierce received 2 votes.

ARTICLE 2 To hear the reports of the Town Officers. Jean Denson moved the article, Sue Gordon seconded. Steven Batchelder spoke about the Groton Volunteer Fire Department fundraising. He also stated that the GVFD, Inc. has donated an AED to the Library in Memory of Jordan Smith. Phillip Palmer thanked previous Fire Chief Wayne Knott for his years of dedication and service. Wayne was given the title of Honorary Fire Chief. Wayne received a standing ovation and loud applause from all.

ARTICLE 3 Shall the voters authorize payment of property taxes on or before Friday, November 7, 2025, by physical or electronic delivery to the tax collector before 5:00 PM est., as the deadline for the payment of taxes? (Postmarks are not accepted as a timely payment) Sue Gordon moved the article, Chub Bruleigh seconded. Bill Patton had a question on daylight savings time. It was decided that it was irrelevant to the article. The motion was carried by voice vote.

ARTICLE 4 Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to appoint a collector of delinquent taxes pursuant to 17 V.S.A. 651d? Dan Webster moved the article, Viola Emerson seconded. Tom Page discussed the need for consistency and ease of having the information readily available and accurate in the Town office. Sue Gordon asked if it will stay this way from now on. Tom responded yes, or until brought to the voters again. The motion was carried by voice vote.

ARTICLE 5 Shall the voters authorize the Groton Cemetery Commissioners to use money from the Cemetery Developmental Funds to develop a cremation bank project in the Village Cemetery? (These funds were originally set aside for the development of the Riverside Cemetery)

Sue Plant moved the article, Aaron Smith seconded. Sue Plant explained the reasoning for the article that it makes sense to update the existing Village Cemetery and the importance and cost effectiveness of putting money into the established cemetery. Aaron Smith reiterated the points Sue made and the practicality of expanding the current cemetery. Butch Gandin asked about the sloping and what the mowing needs would be. Sue explained the design. Viola asked if there was enough money, and it was confirmed that the amount was

Wayne Dyer asked for a recess to support the BMU Student Council. Hearing no objections, the body took a break at 10:40 am for 10 minutes.

ARTICLE 6 Shall the voters appropriate a total of \$1,500 to the following new social service agencies, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 2691?

\$1,000 to the Groton Historical Society for preserving Groton's shared history and making it accessible for research.

Sue Plant moved this portion of the article, Jean Denson seconded. Deborah Jurist gave some background on the Historical Society. She spoke to the needs of funding and of the volunteer work going on. Phyllis Burke added how lucky the town is to have an actual house to have the Historical Society in.
The motion was carried by a voice vote.

\$500 to the Mentoring Project of the Upper Valley for fostering meaningful, long-lasting connections that nurture personal growth, academic success, and community involvement.

Dawn Evans moved this portion of the article, Viola Emerson seconded. Anne Hatch explained the program, giving its background and expanding services.
The motion was carried by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 7 Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to close the Community Building Property Expansion Reserve Fund (\$707.84) and the Constable Durable Equipment Reserve Fund (\$6,698.65) and move the balances into the Town Emergency Reserve Fund?

Dan Robinson moved the article, Aaron Smith seconded. No discussion.
The motion was carried by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 8 Shall the voters authorize total fund expenditures for operating expenses of \$1,292,830 of which \$1,034,080 shall be raised by taxes and \$258,750 by non-tax revenues?

Sue Gordon moved the article, Jean Denson seconded. It was discussed to amend the article with the 2 new appropriations. Phyllis Burke asked what the source was for the non tax revenue, Carrie Peters explained that those funds come from PILOT money from the State, Current Use money from the State, Town Clerk recording fees, zoning fees, permit fees, all shown on page 19 of the

Town Report. Vote to amend the article as written to the new amount with the 2 new appropriations added. The motion carried by voice vote.

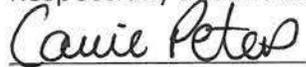
Amended Article 8 Shall the voters authorize total fund expenditures for operating expenses of \$1,294,330, of which \$1,035,580 shall be raised by taxes and \$258,750 by non-tax revenues? Sue Gordon moved the article, Jean Denson seconded. No discussion. The motion carried by voice vote.

ARTICLE 9 To discuss any other business proper to come before this meeting, this does not include the expenditure of town funds or other business acted upon in the preceding articles.

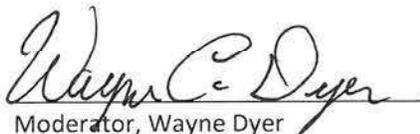
Martin Klein gave an update on the NEK Broadband in Groton. Aaron Smith thanked Bobbi Beck for stepping in and serving as Selectboard member this past year. Larry Daniels also thanked Bobbi and thanked Tom Page and the townspeople for their support. Larry stated, "We are a small town with a big heart!" Dennis Casey gave an update on the MERP grant. Mike Nahmias gave an update on the Planning Commission and the VOREC grant.

Wayne Dyer made a motion to adjourn, Sue Gordon moved the motion, Jean Denson seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carrie Peters, Town Clerk



Moderator, Wayne Dyer



Selectboard Member, Larry Daniels

Blue Mountain School District #21

The BMU Warning and Ballot were unavailable at time of printing the Town Report. Please go to <https://www.oesu.org/boards/blue-mountain-union-school-district-board> for school information. Or refer to the BMU Annual Report.

2025 Legislative Report

Education

There are ten public schools and one approved independent school in the Caledonia Senate District. Enrollment varies from less than 50 to 1,000; all play a vital role in their community and beyond. Vermont has lost 30% of its students, and current birth rates suggest that we will lose another 10-15%. Many Vermont schools have already lost over 50% of their students. The question confronting Montpelier is how to reform and transform our school districts and schools so that students will receive excellent educational opportunities and options at a price that property taxpayers can afford.

I don't have a crystal ball and can't predict what this reality will mean for our schools. I am committed to ensuring that local communities will have a say. Please attend school district meetings, especially budget meetings. Take the time to understand what is going on in your school district and help your school board members; they are making difficult decisions.

Housing Affordability

The legislature is committed to making housing more affordable and available. This is a monumental problem that has evolved into a crisis over the last 40 years. Efforts to slow development many decades ago were not revisited, and Vermont chronically underbuilt housing.

Vermont is now trying to catch up. Vermont Housing Improvement Program (VHIP) and Community and Housing Infrastructure Program (CHIP) are programs that will help, but the bigger problem to solve is how to reduce the cost to construct a home enough so that banks can lend without requiring very large downpayments that most Vermonters cannot afford. Smart deregulation, density, and competition are our allies.

Energy Affordability

The price of oil is down right now, thankfully. The cost of electricity is increasing too fast for Vermont family budgets. The best use of public assistance is efficiency, especially weatherization.

I continue to remain committed to repealing the Clean Heat Standard, which, if enacted, would add \$0.59 to a gallon of heating fuel. The acceleration of the Renewable Energy Standard is projected to increase Vermont's electric costs by \$1B over 10 years. Our electric utilities already receive 97% of their kilowatts from carbon-generation.

Our area generation plant in Ryegate produces 7% of all Vermont electricity and is undergoing an upgrade to increase efficiency. This is great news for ratepayers and our area economy, especially the forest industry.

Healthcare

Vermont healthcare and hospitals are transforming rapidly. The Oliver Wyman report issued in 2024 recommended that hospitals seek efficiencies and reduce their budgets by \$300M by 2030, combined. Our hospitals have stepped up and already trimmed costs by \$200M and are expected to meet the final goal two years early.

Hospitals are doing this through shared services and cooperation. The legislature invoked reference-based pricing and pharmaceutical cost controls in 2025. The Green Mountain Care Board took dramatic steps to reform the UVM Medical Center and replaced senior leadership.

There are many other important topics: mental health, addiction, public safety, transportation and many others.

Please reach out if you would like to discuss any of them. I can be reached at sbeck@leg.state.vt.us.

Sen. Scott Beck, Senate Minority Leader

2026 PROPOSED Town & Highway Budget & 2025 Budget vs Actual	Budget FY - 2025	Actual FY - 2025	Budget FY - 2026	Notes
GENERAL FUND EXPENSES				
SELECTBOARD				
Selectboard & Secretary Wages & Payroll Taxes	7,775	7,576.98	7,775	
Selectboard Assistant Stipend	1,200	1,200.00	1,200	
Advertising, Postage, Supplies, Training & Mileage	835	532.50	825	
1. SELECTBOARD TOTAL	9,810	9,309.48	9,800	
TOWN CLERK & TREASURER				
Clerk	45,780	48,083.76	48,760	
Treasurer	53,165	55,649.80	56,940	
Assistant Treasurer	7,385	7,611.20	8,180	
Unused Vacation	600	600.00	600	
Payroll Taxes & Retirement	14,400	15,008.36	15,830	
Health Insurance	72,720	70,735.66	74,630	
Training & Mileage	750	826.10	750	
2. CLERK & TREASURER TOTAL	194,800	198,514.88	205,690	
OFFICE EXPENSES - CLERK & TREAS				
Dues, Postage & Supplies	5,100	5,367.41	5,500	
Telephone/Internet	2,600	2,681.68	2,600	
Land Records Online	1,920	1,970.00	2,210	
NEMRC Disaster Recovery&Support,	3,380	3,380.58	3,485	
3. OFFICE EXPENSES	13,000	13,399.67	13,795	
DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION				
Del Tax Collector Wages	10,000	16,885.30	10,000	Wages off set by Delinquent Tax Penalty
Payroll Taxes/Retirement	1,324	2,250.68	1,387	Revenue (wages paid by penalty portion
Postage,Supplies,Telephone & Advertising	900	1,508.33	600	of delinquent tax payments)
NEMRC Disaster Recovery	705	705.00	730	
Training & Mileage	30	0.00	0	
4. DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION TOTAL	12,959	21,349.31	12,717	
TOWN REPORT				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	680	678.90	911	
Postage & Supplies	500	477.92	500	
Printing & Reproduction	1,700	1,727.96	1,890	
5. TOWN REPORT TOTAL	2,880	2,884.78	3,301	
ELECTIONS				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	846	878.50	3,045	
Postage, Supplies & Advertising	675	358.83	575	
Training & Mileage	75	16.30	0	
6. ELECTIONS TOTAL	1,596	1,253.63	3,620	
ASSESSORS				
Wages, NEMRC & Payroll Taxes	50,850	52,207.64	62,329	
Dues, Postage & Supplies	1,650	1,460.18	1,950	
Telephone/Internet	1,800	1,867.13	1,800	
Training & Mileage	700	469.80	900	
NEMRC, Cards, Disaster Recov & GIS Mapping	10,975	9,030.74	10,075	
7. ASSESSORS TOTAL	65,975	65,035.49	77,054	

2026 PROPOSED Town & Highway Budget & 2025 Budget vs Actual	Budget FY - 2025	Actual FY - 2025	Budget FY - 2026	Notes
TOWN GENERAL EXPENSES				
VLCT Pacif, Worker's Comp, Unemp Ins	8,040	8,040.00	8,084	
8. INSURANCE TOTAL	8,040	8,040.00	8,084	
Professional Audit/Services	400	0.00	0	
Attorney Fees	1,000	1,704.09	1,000	
IT Services & Tech Equipment	2,620	2,762.34	2,620	
9. IT, TECH, LEGAL & PROF. SERV. TOTAL	4,020	4,466.43	3,620	
NVDA Dues	935	935.00	1,040	
VLCT Dues	2,523	2,523.00	2,597	
Money Order Fee, Wire Fee & Interest Expense	4,240	323.80	300	
10. DUES, FEES & INTEREST TOTAL	7,698	3,781.80	3,937	
Caledonia County Tax	15,000	18,355.26	19,000	
11. COUNTY TAX TOTAL	15,000	18,355.26	19,000	
TOWN GENERAL EXPENSES TOTAL	34,758	34,643.49	34,641	
1-11 ADMINISTRATION TOTAL	335,778	346,390.73	360,618	
12. PLANNING COMMISSION				
Stipend & Payroll Taxes	810	817.28	818	
Advertising, Postage, Printing & Reproduction	1,020	1,184.40	695	
Training & Mileage	50	0.00	0	
PLANNING COMMISSION TOTAL	1,880	2,001.68	1,513	
13. ZONING				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	2,589	3,455.33	2,700	
Photo Wages	0	2,740.00	0	reimbursed from Res. Fund
Postage & Supplies	55	55.00	65	
Training & Mileage	200	0.00	125	
ZONING TOTAL	2,844	6,250.33	2,890	
12. & 13 PLANNING AND ZONING TOTAL	4,724	8,252.01	4,403	
PUBLIC WORKS				
14. TOWN CLOCK TOTAL	678	679.31	840	
Ryegate/Groton Recycling	12,500	8,947.35	11,500	
NEKWMD-Assessment	1,142	1,141.44	1,150	
Green Up Day	500	300.00	500	
15. SOLID WASTE TOTAL	14,142	10,388.79	13,150	
16. STREETLIGHTS TOTAL	9,500	10,132.38	10,000	
COMMUNITY BUILDING				
Building Repairs & Maintenance	3,500	3,471.57	3,000	
Rubbish Removal & Supplies	2,500	2,938.41	2,800	
Electricity & Fuel Oil	10,900	10,946.15	11,000	
17. COMMUNITY BUILDING TOTAL	16,900	17,356.13	16,800	
TOWN PROPERTY MAINTENANCE				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	3,237	2,507.29	3,240	
Cleaning	6,000	4,985.00	4,800	
Mowing	6,500	5,257.50	5,800	
Beautification	3,000	3,351.38	5,000	
Park Electricity	650	668.95	650	
Knotweed Removal	3,000	2,800.00	0	
Property Upkeep, Electronic Sign Warranty	7,000	1,631.22	3,060	
Supplies & Mileage	325	177.84	300	
18. TOWN PROPERTY MAINTENANCE TOTAL	29,712	21,379.18	22,850	

2026 PROPOSED Town & Highway Budget & 2025 Budget vs Actual	Budget FY - 2025	Actual FY - 2025	Budget FY - 2026	Notes
19. TREE WARDEN TOTAL	324	324.27	325	
Town Website	1,220	1,220.00	1,220	
Abatement	0	0.00	0	
Miscellaneous Expenses	0	1,004.16	0	
20. MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES TOTAL	1,220	2,224.16	1,220	
14-20 PUBLIC WORKS TOTAL	72,476	62,484.22	65,185	
COMMITTEES				
Recreation Committee	1,675	1,131.76	1,675	
COMMITTEES TOTAL	1,675	1,131.76	1,675	
PUBLIC SAFETY				
21. HEALTH OFFICER TOTAL	1,994	1,830.05	1,130	
22. EMER SERVS INSURANCE TOTAL	8,862	8,814.00	8,859	
EMER SERVS GENERAL EXPENSES				
Ambulance Contract	56,304	56,307.00	60,044	
Repairs-ES Building	1,300	1,460.94	1,300	
Rubbish Removal, Adv. & Supplies	1,350	1,782.56	1,350	
Telephone/Internet	1,300	1,163.91	1,300	
Electricity, Fuel Oil, Propane	4,500	3,573.75	4,500	
Dispatch Fees	2,400	2,331.00	2,400	
23. EMER SERVS GENERAL EXP TOTAL	67,154	66,619.16	70,894	
FAST				
Wages, Stipend & Payroll Taxes	15,320	15,106.76	15,660	
Supplies	4,500	1,378.81	4,500	
Training & Mileage	6,000	3,654.94	6,000	
24. FAST EXPENSES TOTAL	25,820	20,140.51	26,160	
FIRE DEPT				
Wages, Stipend & Taxes	9,710	6,998.92	9,710	
Dues	2,500	1,650.00	2,500	
Gasoline & Diesel	2,100	1,224.33	2,100	
Repairs & Maintenance	12,000	14,217.20	12,000	
Supplies	3,000	2,300.58	3,000	
Training & Mileage	5,750	2,175.00	5,750	
25. FIRE DEPT EXPENSES TOTAL	35,060	28,566.03	35,060	
26. FOREST FIRE EXPENSES TOTAL	5,030	4,657.82	5,580	
Town Constable Wages & Payroll	3,880	3,886.16	5,180	
Supplies	500	189.34	400	
Poundkeeper	300	0.00	0	
VLCT Pacif, Worker's Comp	1,627	1,626.00	1,602	
Sheriff's Contract	10,000	6,885.50	10,000	
27. LAW ENFORCEMENT TOTAL	16,307	12,587.00	17,182	
21-27 PUBLIC SAFETY TOTAL	160,227	143,214.57	164,865	

2026 PROPOSED Town & Highway Budget & 2025 Budget vs Actual	Budget FY - 2025	Actual FY - 2025	Budget FY - 2026	Notes
CEMETERY				
Contracted Work, Riverside Cemetery	3,000	1,760.00	3,000	
Mowing	12,500	10,500.00	13,400	
Dues & Supplies	1,300	501.62	1,841	
CEMETERY EXPENSES TOTAL	16,800	12,761.62	18,241	
LIBRARY				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	50,100	52,483.36	57,296	
VLCT PACIF-Insurance	1,661	1,661.00	1,703	
Building Rent	18,000	18,000.00	18,000	
Cleaning	2,000	3,175.00	3,200	
Books & Digital	4,950	5,018.84	2,525	
Supplies	2,200	2,488.12	2,500	
Telephone/Internet	1,800	1,821.68	1,800	
Software/Support & Misc.	1,880	1,869.38	1,910	
LIBRARY EXPENSES TOTAL	82,591	86,517.38	88,934	
AGENCY APPROPRIATIONS				
Caledonia Home Health	1,350	1,350.00	1,350	
NEK Learning Services	200	200.00	250	
NEK Human Services	920	920.00	920	
NEK Youth Services	200	200.00	200	
NEK Council on Aging	1,200	1,200.00	1,200	
Rural Community Transportation	800	800.00	0	
Little Rivers Health Care	2,000	2,000.00	2,000	
Community Restorative Justice	250	250.00	250	
Green Up Vermont	100	100.00	100	
Umbrella	650	650.00	650	
VT Family Network	250	250.00	250	
Groton Historical Society	1000	1000.00	1000	
Mentoring Project	500	500.00	500	
AGENCY APPROPRIATIONS TOTAL	9,420	9,420.00	8,670	
RESERVE FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS				
Computer & Office Equip Fund	2,000	2,000.00	1,000	
Comm Bldg Improvement Fund	0	0.00	5,000	
Emer Servs Bldg Improvement Fund	5,000	5,000.00	5,000	
Emer Servs Vehicles Fund	40,000	40,000.00	40,000	
Emer Servs Durable Equip Fund	20,000	20,000.00	20,000	
Reappraisal & Tax Maps Fund	5,000	5,000.00	5,000	
Recreation Fund	0	0.00	0	
Professional Services Fund	20,000	20,000.00	25,000	
Town Emergency Fund	0	0.00	3,000	
RESERVE FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS TOTAL	92,000	92,000.00	104,000	
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$ 775,691	\$ 762,172.29	\$ 816,591	

2026 PROPOSED Town & Highway Budget & 2025 Budget vs Actual	Budget FY - 2025	Actual FY - 2025	Budget FY - 2026	Notes
HIGHWAY FUND EXPENSES				
HIGHWAY EXPENDITURES				
HWY LABOR				
Road Commissioner Wages	63,050	61,646.91	66,600	
Equipment Operator Wages	55,980	62,824.43	58,600	
Overtime Wages & Unused Vacation	9,600	14,055.29	11,600	
Temporary Help Wages	3,500	958.50	3,500	
Health Insurance	40,800	45,713.76	65,260	
Retirement & Payroll Expenses	17,685	18,849.44	19,250	
HWY LABOR TOTAL	190,615	204,048.33	224,810	
HWY PACIF, WC INSURANCE TOTAL	20,660	21,819.50	20,767	
HWY CONTRACTED WORK				
Roadside Mowing	8,500	7,725.00	10,000	
HWY CONTRACTED WORK TOTAL	8,500	7,725.00	10,000	
HWY INFRASTRUCTURE				
Culverts	4,500	4,499.78	4,500	
Signs	500	0.00	5,500	
HWY INFRASTRUCTURE TOTAL	5,000	4,499.78	10,000	
HWY MATERIALS				
Sand	18,000	17,753.60	18,000	
Salt	12,000	15,276.58	15,000	
Chloride	12,000	10,947.60	12,000	
Gravel	30,000	24,522.32	30,000	
HWY MATERIALS TOTAL	72,000	68,500.10	75,000	
HWY OPERATING EXPENSES				
Gasoline & Diesel	29,200	18,557.61	29,000	
Rental Equipment	0	0.00	0	
Seeder & Material	2,000	498.80	2,000	
Supplies	1,000	1,339.57	1,000	
Uniforms	3,500	5,746.27	5,800	
Training	150	0.00	150	
Radios & Pagers	700	915.40	1,000	
HWY OPERATING EXP TOTAL	36,550	27,057.65	38,950	
EQUIPMENT REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE TOTAL	30,000	35,301.61	35,000	
HWY GARAGE REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE TOTAL	9,050	7,261.76	8,550	
SIDEWALK/TOWN PROPERTY MAINTENANCE				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	5,394	2,798.16	5,400	
Gasoline	0	97.50	0	
Propane	950	792.39	950	
Bldg-Tractor Garage	100	0.00	100	
Repairs-Tractor (2004 John Deere)	400	847.26	500	
SIDEWALK/TOWN PROPERTY TOTAL	6,844	4,535.31	6,950	
HIGHWAY EXPENDITURES TOTAL	379,219	380,749.04	430,027	
HWY RESERVE APPROPRIATION				
Hwy Equipment Reserve	74,420	74,420.00	76,650	
Hwy Infrastructure Reserve	10,000	10,000.00	10,000	
Hwy Paving Reserve	50,000	50,000.00	50,000	
Hwy Building Reserve	5000	5000.00	5000	
HWY RESERVE APPROPRIATION TOTAL	139,420	139,420.00	141,650	
HIGHWAY BUDGET TOTAL	518,639	520,169.04	571,677	
GENERAL FUND AND HIGHWAY BUDGET TOTALS				
	1,294,330	1,282,341.33	\$ 1,388,268	

2025 Actual Revenues & 2026 Estimated Revenues				
	2025 Estimated Revenues	2025 Actual Revenues	2026 Estimated Revenues	
TOWN REVENUES				
TAX REVENUES (no education taxes)				
Current Taxes	528,941.00	324,972.24	514,346.00	
DELINQUENT TAX REVENUES				
Delinquent Tax Principal	0.00	194,777.02	0.00	
Delinquent Tax Interest	9,000.00	16,620.46	9,000.00	
Delinquent Tax Penalty Revenue	10,000.00	16,965.84	10,000.00	
TOTAL TOWN TAX REVENUES	547,941.00	553,335.56	533,346.00	
STATE OF VERMONT REVENUES				
Current Use/Hold Harmless	50,000.00	65,147.00	55,000.00	
PILOT(Payment in lieu of taxes)	101,000.00	104,434.08	101,000.00	
TOTAL STATE OF VERMONT REVENUES	151,000.00	169,581.08	156,000.00	
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES				
Interest Earned	1,000.00	1,974.71	1,000.00	
Misc Revenue	0.00	1,760.90	0.00	
Workers Comp Insurance Refund	1,000.00	245.00	0.00	
TOTAL MISC REVENUES	2,000.00	3,980.61	1,000.00	
TOWN CLERK REVENUES				
Recordings, Vault Revenue	6,000.00	11,048.00	7,000.00	
Marriage & Dog Licenses	1,900.00	2,261.00	2,000.00	
Liquor/Tobacco/Cannabis Licenses	70.00	640.00	140.00	
Copies & Faxes Revenue	800.00	1,325.00	900.00	
Cott System Online Revenue	0.00	461.00	0.00	
Motor Vehicle Renewals	0.00	15.00	0.00	
TOTAL TOWN CLERK REVENUE	8,770.00	15,750.00	10,040.00	
ASSESSOR REVENUE	780.00	7,485.00	780.00	StVt\$ to move in 2026
ZONING REVENUE	800.00	4,626.68	800.00	photo reappr. Rev.
COMMUNITY BLDG USE REVENUE	2,100.00	2,726.00	2,100.00	
FAST REVENUE (from Town of Ryegate)	9,000.00	9,502.23	9,000.00	
SHERIFF TICKET REVENUE	1,200.00	727.24	1,000.00	
TOTAL TOWN REVENUES (Not including tax revenue)	194,650.00	247,965.14	199,720.00	
Proposed 2026 Town Budget				
Use of Fund Balance			816,591.00	
2026 Anticipated Revenues			104,000.00	
Difference to be raised by 2026 TOWN Taxes			199,720.00	
			512,871.00	
HIGHWAY REVENUES				
Hwy Current Tax Revenue	456,639.00	456,639.00	366,027.00	
Hwy Insurance Refund/Claim	0.00	8,572.99	0.00	
State Hwy Aid	32,000.00	37,945.87	72,000.00	
TOTAL HIGHWAY REVENUES(Not including tax revenue)	32,000.00	46,518.86	72,000.00	
Proposed 2026 Highway Budget				
Use of HWY Fund Balance			571,677.00	
2026 Anticipated HWY Revenues			141,650.00	
Difference to be raised by 2026 HWY Taxes			72,000.00	
			358,027.00	
TOTAL Estimated Tax Revenue needed for 2026			870,898.00	

2025-RESERVE FUND ACTIVITY & BALANCES

TOWN EMERGENCY FUND		
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2024	25,928.35	
Revenues:		
Budget Appropriation	0	
Misc. Revenue	7,425.93	Constable Reserve Balance + Property Expansion Res. Balance
Interest Earned	129.88	
Disbursements:		
Expenditures	0	
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2025	33,484.16	
COMMUNITY BUILDING IMPROVEMENT FUND		
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2024	90,531.61	
Revenues:		
Budget Appropriation	0	
Interest Earned	386.94	
Disbursements:		
Expenditures	-11,057.00	Painting, Terminix, Building wash, Door replacement
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2025	79,861.55	
COMPUTER EQUIPMENT RESERVE FUND		
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2024	4,013.61	
Revenues:		
Budget Appropriation	2,000.00	
Interest Earned	17.52	
Disbursements:		
Expenditures	-891.53	Fire Dept. new computer & software
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2025	5,139.60	
COMMUNITY BUILDING PROPERTY EXPANSION FUND		
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2024	707.84	
Revenues:		
Budget Appropriation	0	
Interest Earned	1.85	
Disbursements:		
Expenditures	-709.69	Balance moved to the Town Emergency Reserve Fund
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2025	0	Account closed(as voted on at Town Meeting)
EMERGENCY SERVICES BUILDING IMPROVEMENT FUND		
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2024	14,472.20	
Revenues:		
Budget Appropriation	5,000.00	
Interest Earned	69.59	
Disbursements:		
Expenditures	-1,900.00	Painting of Fire Station
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2025	17,641.79	
EMERGENCY SERVICES VEHICLE FUND		
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2024	161,990.36	
Revenues:		
Budget Appropriation	40,000.00	
Interest Earned	769.55	
Disbursements:		
Expenditures	0	
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2025	202,759.91	

EMERGENCY SERVICES EQUIPMENT FUND		
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2024	53,555.62	
Revenues:		
Budget Appropriation	20,000.00	
Interest Earned	257.3	
Disbursements:		
Expenditures	-1,506.00	Radio installations in FD vehicles
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2025	72,306.92	
REAPPRAISAL RESERVE FUND		
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2024	67,977.65	
Revenues:		
Budget Appropriation	5,000.00	
Interest Earned	306.92	
Disbursements:		
Expenditures	-2,961.68	Tax Maps updates/photos
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2025	70,322.89	
RECREATION RESERVE FUND		
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2024	14,350.80	
Revenues:		
Budget Appropriation	0	
Interest Earned	64.3	
Disbursements:		
Expenditures	0	
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2025	14,415.10	
RESTORATION RESERVE FUND		
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2024	30,985.48	
Revenues:		
Recording Fees	3980.00	Recording Fees
Interest Earned	139.83	
Disbursements:		
Expenditures	-684.87	Land Record books
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2025	34,420.44	
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RESERVE FUND		
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2024	3,511.40	
Revenues:		
Budget Appropriation	20,000.00	
Interest Earned	26.62	
Disbursements:		
Expenditures	-22,000.00	2024 Professional Audit
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2025	1,538.02	
CONSTABLE DURABLE EQUIPMENT RESERVE FUND		
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2024	6,698.65	
Revenues:		
Budget Appropriation	0	
Interest Earned	17.59	
Disbursements:		
Expenditures	-6,716.24	Balance moved to the Town Emergency Reserve Fund
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2025	0.00	account closed(as voted on at Town Meeting)

HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE FUND		
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2024	127,676.04	
Revenues:		
Budget Appropriation	74,420.00	
Hwy Equip - Revenue	11,000.00	Sale of 2012 Chevy K3500 truck
Interest Earned	673.90	
Money borrowed	98,929.10	Infrastructure Powder Spring Culvert Grant paid back
Disbursements:		
Expenditures	-107,483.98	Purchase 2024 Ford F600 Truck
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2025	205,215.06	
HIGHWAY PAVING RESERVE FUND		
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2024	47,031.31	
Revenues:		
Budget Appropriation	50,000.00	
Interest Earned	253.78	
Disbursements:		
Expenditures	-5,190.00	Blaktop paving of Powder Spring Rd Bridge
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2025	92,095.09	
HIGHWAY INFRASTRUCTURE RESERVE FUND		
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2024	33,518.51	
Revenues:		
Budget Appropriation	10,000.00	
Interest Earned	161.12	
Disbursements:		
Expenditures	0	
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2025	43,679.63	
HIGHWAY BUILDING IMPROVEMENT		
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2024	10,034.03	
Revenues:		
Budget Appropriation	5,000.00	
Interest	50.41	
Disbursements:		
Expenditures	0	
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2025	15,084.44	
SIDEWALK RESERVE FUND		
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2024	2,512.13	
Revenues:		
Budget Appropriation	0	
Interest	11.25	
Disbursements:		
Expenditures	0	
Bank Balance as of 12/31/2025	2,523.38	

TOTAL AMOUNT OF RESERVE FUNDS \$ 890,487.98

**Reserve Fund Articles as voted by year with description of purpose and balance as of
December 31, 2025**

Reappraisal & Tax Mapping Fund

March 4, 2003, Article 7: Shall the Town of Groton approve the establishment of a reserve fund to be called the Tax Mapping and Reappraisal Fund in the amount of \$25,000.00?

The Tax Mapping and Reappraisal Fund was established on March 4, 2003 in the amount of \$25,000.00 for the purpose of building up a Reserve Fund to pay for future appraisals and updates of the property values listed in the Grand list and update the tax maps on a yearly maintenance schedule of the Town of Groton.
Balance \$70,322.89

Community Building Improvement Fund

March 1, 2005, Article 8: Shall the Town of Groton approve the establishment of a reserve fund to be called the Community Building Improvement Fund in the amount of \$10,000.00? (24 V.S.A. §2804)

The Community Building Improvement Fund was established for the purpose of building up a reserve fund to finance future upgrades and improvements to the Community Building. The monies for this fund are to be used only for the improvement and upgrade of the Community Building. **Balance \$79,861.55**

Emergency Services Building Improvement Fund

March 1, 2005, Article 9: Shall the Town of Groton approve the establishment of a reserve fund to be called the Emergency Services Building Improvement Fund in the amount of \$10,000.00? (24 V.S.A. §2804)

The Emergency Services Building Improvement Fund is to be used for improvements to the Groton Fire Station.

Including but not limited to: Heating plant, Electrical, insulation, Painting, Door Replacement, Generator installation, internal plumbing and other improvements as voted by the Fire Department. The Fire Department presents their recommendations to the Selectboard for final approval.
Balance \$17,641.79

Emergency Services Vehicles Fund

March 1, 2005, Article 10: Shall the Town of Groton approve the establishment of a reserve fund to be called the Emergency Services Vehicles Fund in the amount of \$10,000.00? (24 V.S.A. §2804)

The Emergency Services Vehicles Fund shall be used for the replacement of Vehicles to include, Rescue Vehicle/Ambulance, Engine, Forest Fire Vehicle other vehicle as voted by the Fire Department. The Fire Department presents their recommendations to the Selectboard for final approval.
Balance \$202,759.91

Restoration and Preservation Reserve Fund

March 7, 2006 (1st Warned as ARTICLE 7): Shall the Town of Groton establish a reserve fund for the restoration and preservation of the Land and Vital records to be funded by the \$1.00 per page recording fee? (Up graded in 2010 see below)

March 2, 2010 (2nd Article on Warning): ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town of Groton approve any increase of the annual amount reserved for the restoration and preservation of the Land and Vital records to be based upon the recording fee paid per page as determined by the Vermont Legislature?

The voters of the Town of Groton established a Municipal Records Reserve Fund for the restoration and preservation of "town records" in accordance with VSA Title 24, Section 2804 including, but not limited to, land records, vital records and, proper vault storage of town records. This fund is not to be used for anything other than the restoration, preservation, conservation and computerization of records, to be funded by revenue of not less than \$3.00 per page.

Section 1671 (a) (1) and (6) of this section and this reserve fund shall be retroactive to July 1, 2009. The exact amount shall be determined by the local legislative body.

Shall the Town of Groton approve any increase of the annual amount reserved for the restoration and preservation of the Land and Vital Records to be based upon the recording fee paid per page as determined by the Vermont Legislature? **Balance \$34,420.44**

Recreation Reserve Fund

March 7, 2010: ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town of Groton authorize the Selectboard to appoint a Recreational Committee and establish a reserve fund of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to be used by the Recreational Committee for any projects and/or activities?

The recreation reserve fund was established and covered large, extraordinary expenses. And will cover short falls in committee events when donations for such events lag. **Balance \$14,415.10**

Town Emergency Reserve Fund

March 4, 2014: ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town of Groton authorize the creation of an Emergency Reserve Fund for the purpose of unforeseen Emergencies?

Town of Groton Emergency Reserve Fund is created for the sole purpose of providing financial stability to the Town in the case of a severe emergency. Money is to be set aside to support serious issues only with a goal to maintain the fund at 10% of the total budget. When looking for examples of where the application of the money would likely be required, the instance of Tropical Storm Irene applies where the Welton Road Bridge was seriously damaged.

Balance \$33,484.16

Sidewalk Fund

March 3, 2015: ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town of Groton approve the establishment of a reserve account to be called "Sidewalk Fund" for the construction and maintenance of sidewalks in the amount of \$15,000.00?

Balance \$ 2,523.38

Professional Services Fund

March 1 2016: ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town of Groton approve the establishment of reserve account to be called "Professional Services Fund" for the purpose of audit consulting services and to fund the reserve fund with \$4,533.00.

Balance \$1,538.02

Emergency Service Durable Equipment Fund

March 5, 2019: ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town establish a Reserve Fund to be called the Emergency Services Durable Equipment Fund to be used for the purchase and replacement of durable Fire Department and FAST equipment in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2804?

March 5, 2019: ARTICLE 7: What sum of money, shall the Town approve to raise and appropriate to fund the establishment of the Emergency Services Durable Equipment Reserve Fund? "Not to exceed \$18,000.00"

Balance \$72,306.92

Constable Durable Equipment Fund

March 3, 2020: ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town of Groton establish a reserve fund to be called the Constable Durable Equipment Reserve Fund to be used for the purchase and replacement of durable equipment associated with the performance of Constable Duties in accordance with 24 V.S.A. 2804?

And appropriate \$4,950.00 to fund this Reserve account?

Balance \$0 (moved to Town Emergency Fund and closed)

Highway Equipment Reserve Fund

March 7, 1999: ARTICLE 9: Shall the voters of the Town of Groton approve the establishment of a reserve fund to be called the Highway Equipment Fund with the funds from the highway budget, in the amount of \$15,000.00 As budgeted this year, to be used for capital expenses within that department? (24 V.S.A. Sec. 2804)

This fund is to be used for replacement of Highway Department Equipment and unforeseen major capital repairs that could arise. The Highway Department will maintain a replacement schedule and update it annually. At the present time the trucks and grader will be replaced with new, and the loader, backhoe and chipper will be replaced with used.

Funding of this fund is a line item in the highway budget that is increased three percent annually. Other funds would come from the sale of surplus equipment and settlements from insurance claims.

The goal of having this fund is to maintain reliable equipment that will allow the Highway Department to provide a reasonable level of service to the needs of the highways infrastructure while maintaining a stable annual cost. **Balance \$205,215.06**

Highway Paving Reserve Fund

March 4, 2007: ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town of Groton establish a Paving Reserve Fund in the amount of \$40,306.00 of unspent 2007 Highway fund?

This fund is to be used for paving Class 2 and Class 3 projects that follows the parameters of the VTRANS Town Highway Class 2 Roadway Program.

Projects shall include detailed work for the preservation of any Class 2 town highway for resurfacing and reconstruction based on identified needs. Eligible activities include preliminary engineering, construction, and construction inspection/management.

The goal of having this fund is to maintain Class 2 and Class 3 paved highways while maintaining a stable annual cost. **Balance \$92,095.09**

Highway Infrastructures Reserve Fund

March 6, 2012: ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town establish a reserve fund for bridges, culverts and highway infrastructures to initially be funded by a \$2000.00 addition to the 2012 Highway Budget?

This fund is to be used for large highway projects that it would not be feasible to fund in a single year and projects that could take several years to plan and complete.

This fund could also be used to leverage highway grant funds that may become available for smaller projects that maybe unforeseen when setting budgets.

Funding of this fund will be for the annual line item in the highway budget. Additional funding will come from grant funds when in kind work exceeds the actual matching cost of a grant. An example would be in kind work (equipment time and labor) performed by the Highway Department that was reimbursable expenses.

The Highway Department will continue to maintain and update the bridge and culvert inventory at <http://vtculverts.org/> and use the data to aid in replacement schedule. Large structures over 20 feet span are inspected by VTRANS every two years and reported to the Select Board.

The goal of having this fund is to maintain Highway Bridges, Culverts & Infrastructures while maintaining a stable annual cost. **Balance \$43,679.63**

Community Building Property Expansion Fund

March 2, 2021: Article 5: Shall the Town establish a reserve fund to be called the Community Building Property Expansion Reserve Fund for the purpose of designing and implementing a new septic system, addressing the drainage issues, memory wall etc., and to fund it by depositing \$40,000 from the general Fund Surplus?

Balance \$0 (moved to Emergency Reserve Fund & closed)

Computer Equipment Reserve Fund

March 7 2023: Article 4: Shall the Town establish a reserve fund to be called “Computer Equipment Reserve Fund”, to be used for purchasing and updating the Town’s computer equipment, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. 2804? **Balance \$5,139.60**

Highway Building Repairs Reserve Fund

March 7 2023: Article 6: Shall the Town establish a reserve fund to be called the Highway Building Repairs Reserve Fund” to be used for the general upkeep and repairs of the town highway garage, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. 2804? **Balance \$15,084.44**

2025 Grant Activity

Revenues

Powder Spring Culvert Grant	\$	98,929.10	
Summer Performer Grant	\$	350.00	
Vt Humanities Council	\$	1,500.00	
302 Cares	\$	1,949.95	
BCBS Grant	\$	550.00	
VOREC Grant	\$	176,986.11	
FEMA 2023-Seyon Pond Road	\$	1,437.92	
FEMA 2024	\$	322,828.06	
Leahy USDA Drainage Project	\$	200,000.00	
Forest Fire Grant		0.00	receive in 2026
Lister Grant	\$	106.89	
Tree Grant	\$	1,866.32	
Knotweed Grant	\$	1,200.00	
Clerk/Treasurer Training Grant	\$	500.00	
Act27 Economic Impact Grant	\$	20,000.00	
MERP Grant	\$	79,460.65	
Planning-New Town Plan	\$	3,186.00	
TOTAL REVENUES	\$	910,851.00	

Expenses

Powder Spring Culvert Grant		0.00	
Summer Performer Grant	\$	350.00	
Vt Humanities Council	\$	1,499.91	
302 Cares	\$	2,445.67	
BCBS Grant	\$	550.00	
VOREC Grant	\$	157,736.12	
FEMA 2023-Seyon Pond Road		0.00	
FEMA 2024	\$	75,493.10	
USDA Drainage Project	\$	75,219.73	
Forest Fire Grant	\$	1,050.54	
Lister Grant		0.00	
Tree Grant	\$	1,546.58	
Knotweed Grant	\$	2,400.00	
Clerk/Treasurer Training Grant	\$	500.00	
Act27 Economic Impact Grant		0.00	
MERP Grant	\$	34,451.84	
Planning-New Town Plan		0.00	
2024 Election Grant	\$	111.29	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	353,354.78	

ARPA Activity

Balance 12/31/2024	\$	126,810.08	
Interest Earned	\$	367.61	
Drainage project expenses	\$	(127,177.69)	
Balance 12/31/2025		0.00	

**TOWN OF GROTON
BALANCE SHEET BY FUND-2025**

ASSET	General	ARPA	Highway	Cemetery Restricted	Library Restricted	Reserve Funds Restricted	Grant Fund	Food Shelf Restricted	Total
CASH ACCOUNTS									
CB-General Fund	330,701.25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	330,701.25
CB-ARPA Funds	-	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
CB-Customer ACH Deposits	0.58	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.58
CB-HRA acct	1,395.51	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,395.51
Petty Cash	56.38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56.38
CB-Perpetual Care CD	-	-	-	98,523.56	-	-	-	-	98,523.56
CB-Perpetual Care	-	-	-	10,134.25	-	-	-	-	10,134.25
CB-H.Hosmer Trust	-	-	-	0.00	-	-	-	-	0.00
WRSB-Development Funds	-	-	-	143.10	-	-	-	-	143.10
CB-Cemetery Lot Fund	-	-	-	9,694.72	-	-	-	-	9,694.72
WRSB MJ Ricker Hall Trust	-	-	-	0.00	-	-	-	-	0.00
TD Roosevelt Carter Trust	-	-	-	0.00	-	-	-	-	0.00
Library Funds	-	-	-	-	45,478.23	-	-	-	45,478.23
Library Endowment Fund	-	-	-	-	5,633.30	-	-	-	5,633.30
Library Capital Improvement	-	-	-	-	13,242.79	-	-	-	13,242.79
Library ACH Account	-	-	-	-	9.00	-	-	-	9.00
Library I-Bond 2022	-	-	-	-	11,496.00	-	-	-	11,496.00
Library I-Bond 2023	-	-	-	-	11,072.00	-	-	-	11,072.00
Library Endowment CD	-	-	-	-	43,253.06	-	-	-	43,253.06
Library American Fund Stock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Library Endowment Fund 2	-	-	-	-	24,160.15	-	-	-	24,160.15
Reserve Fund	-	-	-	-	-	890,487.98	-	-	890,487.98
General Fund MM Reserve	209,416.88	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	209,416.88
General Fund CD Account	200,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200,000.00
Grant Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
Food Shelf	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,260.22	8,260.22
Total CASH ACCOUNTS	741,570.60	0	0	118,495.63	154,344.53	890,487.98	0	8,260.22	1,913,158.96
Due To/From Acct	(324,981.59)	0	96,513.57	(1,138.38)	(4,718.76)	(109,102.36)	344,497.95	(1,070.43)	(0.00)
Investment Accounts	-	-	-	-	424.42	-	-	-	424.42
TOTAL ASSETS	416,589.01	0	96,513.57	117,357.25	150,050.19	781,385.62	344,497.95	7,189.79	1,913,583.38
Liability									
Liability	General	ARPA	Highway	Cemetery Restricted	Library Restricted	Reserve Funds Restricted	Grant Fund	Food Shelf Restricted	Total
Health Ins Payable	(2,699.45)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2,699.45)
Accounts Payable	13,891.15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,891.15
Prepaid Taxes	205.01	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	205.01
Tax Clearing Account	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Fees Due the State of Vt	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Total Liability	11,396.71	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11,396.71
Fund Balance									
Fund Balance	General	ARPA	Highway	Cemetery	Library	Reserves	Grants	Food Shelf	Total
Fund Balance General Fund	5,542.11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,542.11
Fund Balance ARPA	-	(126,810.08)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(126,810.08)
Fund Balance Highway	-	-	(17,011.18)	-	-	-	-	-	(17,011.18)
Fund Balance Cemetery	-	-	-	(12,110.05)	-	-	-	-	(12,110.05)
Fund Balance Library	-	-	-	-	21,086.47	-	-	-	21,086.47
Fund Balance Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	(200,115.24)	-	-	(200,115.24)
General Fund CD Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	209,416.88	-	-	209,416.88
Community Bldg Improve	-	-	-	-	-	79,861.55	-	-	79,861.55
Comm. Bldg. Property	-	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
Computer Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	5,139.60	-	-	5,139.60
Emer Servs Bldg Improve	-	-	-	-	-	17,641.79	-	-	17,641.79
Emer Servs Vehicles	-	-	-	-	-	202,759.91	-	-	202,759.91
Emer Servs Durable Equip	-	-	-	-	-	72,306.92	-	-	72,306.92
Reappraisal/ Tax Maps	-	-	-	-	-	70,322.89	-	-	70,322.89
Recreation	-	-	-	-	-	14,415.10	-	-	14,415.10
Restoration/Preservation	-	-	-	-	-	34,420.44	-	-	34,420.44
Town Emergency Fund	-	-	-	-	-	33,484.16	-	-	33,484.16
Prof. Services Res Fund	-	-	-	-	-	1,538.02	-	-	1,538.02
Constable Durable Equip.	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-	-	0.00
Hwy Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	205,215.06	-	-	205,215.06
Highway Paving	-	-	-	-	-	92,095.09	-	-	92,095.09
Highway Infrastructure	-	-	-	-	-	43,679.63	-	-	43,679.63
Highway Building Repairs	-	-	-	-	-	10,034.03	-	-	10,034.03
Sidewalk Reserve Fund	-	-	-	-	-	2,523.38	-	-	2,523.38
Grants Fund Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	557,496.22	-	557,496.22
Food Shelf Fund Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,027.01)	(1,027.01)
Total Prior Years Fund Balance	399,650.19	126,810.08	113,524.75	129,467.30	128,963.72	685,322.33	(212,998.27)	8,216.80	1,378,956.90
Fund Balance Current Year	5,542.11	(126,810.08)	(17,011.18)	(12,110.05)	21,086.47	96,063.29	557,496.22	(1,027.01)	523,229.77
Total Fund Balance	405,192.30	0.00	96,513.57	117,357.25	150,050.19	781,385.62	344,497.95	7,189.79	1,902,186.67
Total Liability & Fund Balance	416,589.01	0.00	96,513.57	117,357.25	150,050.19	781,385.62	344,497.95	7,189.79	1,913,583.38

2025 Gross Wage Summary Report

<u>Position</u>	<u>Annual Wage</u>	
Assessor	\$12,603.36	
Assistant Assessor	\$25,208.04	
Assistant Treasurer	\$7,611.20	
Church Clock Winder	\$350.00	
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	\$16,885.30	Wages Paid by Penalty Revenue
Election Official	\$511.20	
Election Worker	\$272.00	
FAST Personnel	\$12,780.00	
FAST Head of Services	\$1,200.00	
Fire Chief	\$1,500.00	
Fire Fighters	\$4,947.50	
Fire Warden	\$1,540.00	
Health Officer	\$1,200.00	
Assistant Health Officer	\$500.00	
Highway Equip. Operator	\$62,824.43	
Highway Road Commissioner	\$61,646.91	
Highway Over Time	\$14,055.29	
IT Service Stipend	\$1,500.00	
Librarian	\$33,096.58	
Librarian Assistant	\$13,466.40	
Planning Commission-Chair	\$750.00	
Selectboard Assistant	\$1,200.00	
Selectboard Members (3)	\$4,500.00	
Selectboard Secretary	\$2,300.00	
Temporary Hwy	\$958.50	
Town Clerk	\$48,383.76	
Town Constable	\$3,610.00	
Town Property & Sidewalk	\$2,592.00	
Town Property Maintenance	\$2,322.00	
Town Treasurer	\$55,949.80	
Tree Warden	\$300.00	
Zoning Administrator	\$2,970.00	
Re-Appraisal Photo's	\$2,740.00	
Town Report	\$600.00	
 Total Employees Reported: 34	 \$402,874.27	

Delinquent Tax Report as of 12/31/2025

Name

ABARE, SCOTT
 BATSAKIS, ANDREW
 BLISS, DONALD
 BONACCORSI, CAROL
 BOYCE, DOUGLAS
 BRAIG, PETER
 CALVELLO, NICHOLAS
 CAMP MUFFET LLC
 CASSERLY, CAIL
 CORBETT, MARY
 CORBETT, RACHEL
 DANA, TERRY
 DARLING, HENRY
 DARLING, JAMIE
 DARLING, SHAWN
 DICKEY, CHRISTY
 FARR, BRADLEY
 FEESER, GRETCHEN
 FIFIELD, JASON
 FORTE, ROBERT
 FULFORD, HEIDI
 GOODRICH, ROBERT
 GROTON COMMERCIAL
 HAND, SARKIS
 HART, RONALD
 HERBERT, LARA
 HERSEY, TAMARA
 KENNEDY, MICHAEL
 LEE, DAVID
 LEPENVEN, LARRY
 LORD, NELSON
 MERRYFIELD, MICHELLE
 NURSE, STEFAN
 PAC III, JOHN
 PALMER, JAYME
 PHILLIPS, PAMELA
 PINETTE, KEVIN
 PROCTOR, SHARON
 QUINTAINE, MARIE
 ROSA, RICHARD
 ROZMANITH, ANTHONY
 SHIWLALL, MARJORIE
 TIERNEY, DAVID
 WALKER, JOSEPH
 WILLIAMS, THOMAS
 WOOD, ROSE MARIE

Total Principal Outstanding	As of 12/31/2025
Tax Year 2021	\$2,162.17
Tax Year 2022	\$4,085.69
Tax Year 2023	\$5,474.42
Tax Year 2024	\$26,220.78
Tax Year 2025	\$86,114.36
TOTAL	\$124,706.60

9 properties are on payment plans

Properties that paid in full	
01/01/2026-printing of the Town Report	
CASSERLY, CAIL	
ROZMANITH, ANTHONY	
WALKER, JOSEPH	
+ Partial Payments made	6088.80
01/01/26 -printing of Town Report	
Balance as of printing	\$118,617.80

See www.grotonvt.com for Policy on Collection of Delinquent Taxes

Property Transfers January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025

SELLER	BUYER	ACRES	ADDRESS
Brent Abare	Alyssa Avery	11.1	State Forest Rd
Tina Biengardo & Tammy Dennis	David Wilder III	15	Powder Spring Rd
Ken & Barb Murray	Steven & Tanya Murray	60.5	Twin Brooks Rd
Matt & Tracy Puffer	Daniel Schmais & Brittany Tinkham	2.44	829 Little Italy Rd
Alex & Dylan Wienecke	Mark Mulkern	24	27 Westville Rd
Lynn Walbridge	Andrew Kolofsky	10.9	3333 State Forest Rd
Harold Darling, et al.	Craig & Cindy Darling	5.9	105 Branch Brook Rd
Barbara Batchelder	Joshua Batchelder	10.6	7345 Scott Hwy
Williamson Properties LLC	Schaarschmidt Storage LLC	3.2	78 State Forest Rd
Roy & Esther Loman	Chris Macritchie, et al.	0.37	136 Hooper Dr
Priscilla Joyce Engle Trust	Alexander Wattles	812	141 Engle Rd
Jonathan Gardner	Ryan Gardner	2.7	30 Goodfellow Rd
Clay & Christine Bell	Elsie & Bruce Boisvert	0.07	Lakeside Dr
Peter & Lynne Kelley	Frances Guilfoyle	5.53	953 Powder Spring Rd
James & Janelle Ocampo	Beth & Matthew Gats	0.21	544 Lakeside Dr
Estate of Dana Kennedy	Curt & Eric Kennedy	3.32	2352 Minard Hill Rd
Ernest Batchelder	Trevor, Quincy & Steven Batchelder	18.1	6655 Scott Hwy
Victoria Miller	186282 Inc.	0.18	1222 Scott Hwy
Blenda & Charles Lakin	Cheryl Hanley & Gena Braman	0.19	289 Powder Spring Rd
Joseph Broderick	Margaret Brown	2.12	1984 Glover Rd
Bruce & Kathy Hale	Brandon Seward	6.4	1212 Seyon Pond Rd
Bush Living Trust	Stephanie & Shawn Burrows	1.6	1408 Scott Hwy
George & Ann Thomas	George Thomas III	6.5	498 Fuller Hill Rd
Anthony & Alison Ottoni	Chad & Tonia Emmons	9	6683 Scott Hwy
Shawn Crown	Corey & Jennifer Crown	41	977 North County Rd
Jennifer Kosakowski	Jesse & Jennifer Lambert	10.1	78 Ruff Hill Rd
Helen Ducharme	Fleurie Family Trust	69.69	Hart Dr
William & Catherine Sargent	Tyler Sargent	0.46	174 Ricker Pond Foot Trail
Timbervest Partners III	Georgia Jeremiah & Alex Jeremiah Al-Zoghbi	0.37	Annis Rd
Alison P Gorman 2008 Trust	484 West Shore Drive, LLC	1.2	484 West Shore Dr
Sharon Babic	Donna Johnson	0.98	69 Johnson Dr
Siwell Inc	Federal National Mortgage	9.3	2151 Scott Hwy
Timothy Starr	Margaret Macneil & Kimberly Parlante	43	237 Fuller Hill Rd
The Fleurie Trust	Hawlei Hill LLC	459.69	4579 Scott Hwy
Dave Sanville	Christopher & Ashley Doyle	0.5	1694 Goodfellow Rd
Daniel & Susan Mcallister	Dorilee Lavin	24	802 Levi Pond Rd
Donna Gilchrist	Stephanie Allen	12	124 Goodfellow Rd
Wayne D Gale Estate	Robert & Linda Desrochers	5.87	Hoot-Holler Rd
Andrew & Jocelyn Page	Diane & Zachery Butcher	9.9	352 Branch Brook Rd
Ryan Gimson	Anthony & Judith Willey	11.29	1058 Red Brook Rd
Robert Farquharson	Caleb Bisson	5.3	144 Linda Lane

FY2026 ANR PILOT REPORT

TOWN OF	DEPARTMENT OF	PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	Acres	FMV	Sum of FY26 PILOT
Groton	Environmental Conservation	Groton Lake Dam Site	3	\$63,100.00	\$383.48
Groton	Fish and Wildlife	LEVI POND WMA	259.2	\$78,800.00	\$478.90
Groton	Fish and Wildlife	PINE MOUNTAIN WMA	372	\$372,800.00	\$2,265.65
Groton	Fish and Wildlife	St. Hilaire Parcel	100	\$80,100.00	\$486.80
Groton	Forests, Parks &	Big Deer Campground	25	\$28,600.00	\$173.81
Groton	Forests, Parks &	Bolder Beach	25	\$109,900.00	\$667.91
Groton	Forests, Parks &	Forest Land	11,702.03	\$13,207,200.00	\$80,265.44
Groton	Forests, Parks &	Groton State Forest - Seyon	26	\$106,700.00	\$648.46
Groton	Forests, Parks &	Kettle Pond Campground	20	\$86,000.00	\$522.66
Groton	Forests, Parks &	Lake Groton Cottage Lots	2.07	\$3,000.00	\$18.23
Groton	Forests, Parks &	Lyon Acq. Seyon Block	42	\$29,700.00	\$180.50
Groton	Forests, Parks &	Natural Woodlands Area	149	\$105,300.00	\$639.95
Groton	Forests, Parks &	Page Acquisition	25.7	\$24,300.00	\$147.68
Groton	Forests, Parks &	Ricker Pond Campsite &	39	\$175,100.00	\$1,064.15
Groton	Forests, Parks &	Ricker Pond Damsite	13	\$12,500.00	\$75.97
Groton	Forests, Parks &	Stillwater Campground	42	\$136,100.00	\$827.13
Groton	Forests, Parks &	TNC/Moffatt Acquisition	329	\$250,000.00	\$1,519.35
Groton			13,174	\$14,869,200.00	\$90,366.08
Total					

For State of Vermont owned buildings in Groton, go to
<https://tax.vermont.gov/document/fy26-state-owned-building-inventory>

Current Use

Overview

In 1978, the Vermont legislature passed a law establishing the Use Value Appraisal of Agricultural, Forest, Conservation and Farm Buildings Property. Today, this program is known as "Current Use" and is administered by the Division of Property Valuation and Review within the Vermont Department of Taxes.

The purpose of the law was to allow the valuation and taxation of farm and forest land based on its remaining in agricultural or forest use instead of its value in the marketplace. The primary objectives of the program were to keep Vermont's agricultural and forest land in production, help slow the development of these lands, and achieve greater equity in property taxation on undeveloped land. Benefits for land enrolled in the program were first distributed in tax year 1980.

Participation in the program has grown as it has evolved. The two most significant changes have been the inclusion of conservation land owned by qualifying nonprofit organizations and the exemption from all property taxes of eligible farm buildings. When an application is approved and recorded in the municipal land records, a lien is established on the enrolled land to recover a land use change tax should all or any portion of the enrolled land become developed.

To ensure that parcels with a use value appraisal are appraised by the local assessing officials consistent with the appraisals for non-enrolled parcels an annual audit is conducted on three towns with lands enrolled program.

Benefits

Land will be taxed based on its use value which is established annually by the Current Use Advisory Board.

Requirements and Terms

Property must be managed according to the approved forest or conservation management plan and according to state standards. It will be inspected at least once every 10 years. The main objective in requiring a management plan is to assure that the land is managed carefully. It is not intended to force a landowner into a particular type of management. A private consulting forester may be asked to prepare, or help prepare, a management plan which meets the landowner's objectives as well as the state standards.

A management plan for forestland and conservation land also includes maps that meet the Current Use Program Mapping Standards. Agricultural land does not require a management plan but does require maps that meet the map standards. These maps are typically prepared by a consulting forester. The Vermont Center for Geographic Information (VCGI) has a number of shapefiles that are available for creating these maps.

A Forest Management Activity Report must be filed by Feb. 1 with the Vermont Department of Taxes to report any management activity which occurred in the previous year. The Department of Taxes will send the relevant FMAR data to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation. If you have

any questions regarding your FMAR after it has been submitted, you should contact your county forester. Please wait 14 days after you have submitted the FMAR to contact your county forester.

For further details on Use Value Appraisal of Forestland in Vermont review the online brochure or visit the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation website.

Development and Penalties

Once land is enrolled, it is subject to a contingent lien. If this land is **ever** developed, a lien for the amount of the land use change tax is placed on the land. Once the land use change tax is paid, the lien is released. The land use change tax is calculated as 10% of the fair market value of the developed parcel or portion of a parcel. When a portion of a parcel is withdrawn or developed, the fair market value of the portion is determined by valuing the portion as a stand-alone parcel.

In this program, development includes any of the following:

- Transfer where one or more of the resulting parcels is less than 25 acres
- Construction of buildings, roads, or structures not used for forestry purposes
- Commercial mining, excavation or landfill activity, or cutting timber contrary to the management plan or contrary to state standards

The obligation to pay this tax runs with the land in perpetuity. The tax is not due unless and until the land is developed; however, it may be prepaid if the landowner wishes to clear the title.

2025 Use Values

The Current Use Advisory Board established the Use Values for the 2025 tax year on February 12, 2025.

Property Type	Amount
Agricultural Land	\$510/acre
Forest Land	\$203/acre
Forest Land Greater than one mile from a Class I, II, or III Road	\$152/acre

<https://tax.vermont.gov/property/current-use> for more information.

2025 Current Use Exemptions

NAME	ASSESSED VALUE	LAND USE ACREAGE	LAND USE EXEMPT AMOUNT	GRANDLIST
AYER PATRICK	\$ 275,000	59.00	\$ 65,100	\$ 2,099
ANAGNOSTAKIS CHRISTOPHER	\$ 112,800	101.00	\$ 75,700	\$ 371
BANKS KEELIN/MCCLEARY NORA	\$ 445,000	113.20	\$ 99,600	\$ 3,454
BASTON DANIEL	\$ 214,700	231.50	\$ 156,000	\$ 587
BECK DARREN D	\$ 232,400	49.00	\$ 46,600	\$ 1,858
BISSON GREGORY & KIMBERLY	\$ 248,100	69.00	\$ 66,400	\$ 1,817
BUCKLER STEVEN REVOCABLE TRUST	\$ 243,100	57.45	\$ 80,200	\$ 1,629
CHANANIE JUDITH W	\$ 94,400	51.00	\$ 56,200	\$ 382
CHANDLER HARRY & JUDITH	\$ 462,100	267.08	\$ 288,100	\$ 1,740
CLAPP ALAN B	\$ 287,900	219.00	\$ 261,000	\$ 269
CLOUGH RICK	\$ 206,500	45.70	\$ 41,000	\$ 1,655
CRUM NICOLE ERICH GREG	\$ 184,700	124.76	\$ 121,100	\$ 636
CUTONE RICHARD J	\$ 431,500	129.00	\$ 133,700	\$ 2,978
DANIELS LAWRENCE SR.	\$ 280,700	131.50	\$ 115,600	\$ 1,651
DEMARTINO PAUL REVOCABLE TRUST	\$ 155,100	84.34	\$ 118,200	\$ 369
DOSCINSKI LEONARD & PATRICIA	\$ 457,800	102.70	\$ 130,200	\$ 3,276
DUCHARME HELEN	\$ 80,700	69.69	\$ 71,600	\$ 91
EATON HENRY W	\$ 397,700	55.50	\$ 75,800	\$ 3,219
EDWARDS LESLIE E	\$ 223,200	33.00	\$ 36,900	\$ 1,863
ENGLER STEPHEN B TRUSTEE	\$ 773,200	810.00	\$ 408,200	\$ 3,650
FLEURIE FAMILY TRUST	\$ 406,900	382.00	\$ 247,100	\$ 1,598
FOSTER-JERRY LUND MOUNTAIN TRUST	\$ 443,200	688.43	\$ 304,000	\$ 1,392
FROST BARBARA J	\$ 60,700	30.20	\$ 32,800	\$ 279
GABLE WANDA TRUST	\$ 2,401,000	1072.00	\$ 936,900	\$ 14,641
GOODINE ALLEN	\$ 160,900	87.00	\$ 95,200	\$ 657
GOSSELIN EDMUND	\$ 72,000	33.00	\$ 52,100	\$ 199
GREENOUGH BRADLEY	\$ 250,900	122.00	\$ 88,000	\$ 1,629
GRIMES & NOLAN REVOCABLE TRUST	\$ 169,300	107.00	\$ 114,600	\$ 547
HERSEY MARK	\$ 100,700	123.00	\$ 74,200	\$ 265
KERSAKEN VENTURES LLC	\$ 723,900	633.85	\$ 315,900	\$ 4,080
KLEIN MARTIN P	\$ 367,000	93.40	\$ 98,700	\$ 2,683
MARTELL GROTON LLC	\$ 882,000	334.02	\$ 196,400	\$ 6,856
MEADOWSEND TIMBERLANDS LTD	\$ 135,000	128.00	\$ 118,300	\$ 167
MOORE DONALD F JR	\$ 59,100	28.40	\$ 55,400	\$ 37
NIEMASZYK WALTER	\$ 395,500	355.87	\$ 292,200	\$ 1,033
NOYES BRET D	\$ 201,700	164.00	\$ 147,900	\$ 538

2025 Current Use Exemptions continued

NAME	ASSESSED VALUE	LAND USE ACREAGE	LAND USE EXEMPT AMOUNT	GRANDLIST
OLIVER LOGAN	\$ 271,600	40.5	\$ 52,400	\$ 2,192
OLIVER TROY A	\$ 265,400	40.00	\$ 40,300	\$ 2,251
PAGE KEITH R	\$ 99,300	38.71	\$ 44,300	\$ 550
PARK FORESTRY NY LLC	\$ 658,600	995.4	\$ 527,900	\$ 1,307
POWERS CRAIG	\$ 297,600	32.47	\$ 36,300	\$ 2,213
PUFFER MATTHEW J	\$ 544,100	201.05	\$ 121,600	\$ 4,225
QUINTIN STEVE	\$ 146,200	73	\$ 67,700	\$ 785
RUGGLES PATRICIA A LIFE ESTATE	\$ 268,500	43	\$ 61,100	\$ 2,074
SMITH BRENT	\$ 196,800	39	\$ 45,100	\$ 1,517
SMITH SARA	\$ 192,400	42.7	\$ 55,700	\$ 1,367
STARR TIMOTHY	\$ 137,200	35.8	\$ 41,400	\$ 958
SWEET TREE HOLDINGS 1 LLC	\$ 770,700	760	\$ 695,800	\$ 749
THOMAS PAUL A & BRYCE FREDERICK	\$ 192,000	109.5	\$ 113,000	\$ 790
THOMAS PAUL A	\$ 81,000	63.1	\$ 57,800	\$ 232
THOMAS REALTY INC	\$ 240,100	160.50	\$ 166,100	\$ 740
TIMBERVEST PARTNERS III VERMONT	\$ 198,100	224.8	\$ 166,100	\$ 320
VIENS ROBERT G & MARIA L	\$ 351,300	231.5	\$ 175,100	\$ 1,762
WALKER FAMILY TRUST	\$ 155,800	166.00	\$ 134,200	\$ 216
WARD RYAN T	\$ 427,500	180.5	\$ 155,200	\$ 2,723
WATERHOUSE CINDY J & LEE J	\$ 350,300	111.5	\$ 140,000	\$ 2,103
WEAVER ERIN	\$ 323,800	36	\$ 57,700	\$ 2,661
WELCH CHRISTINE	\$ 396,800	134.5	\$ 145,800	\$ 2,510
WHITEHEAD THEODORE	\$ 66,300	90.00	\$ 54,600	\$ 117
WILLIAMS NANCY	\$ 309,900	44.00	\$ 48,200	\$ 2,617
WOSKO REVOCABLE TRUST	\$ 296,000	32	\$ 36,700	\$ 2,593

Grand Totals	\$ 19,873,700	11,111.12	\$ 8,857,000	\$ 109,767
		Homestead	\$ 1,400,600	\$ 42,491
		Nonhomestead	\$ 7,456,400	\$ 67,276

Groton Selectboard – 2025 Summary

Greetings Groton Residents and Property & Business owners! Another year has come to a close and another Town Meeting is on the schedule. Town Meeting Day is your opportunity to elect officials, vote, and discuss issues all in an open forum amongst your neighbors, friends, and townspeople. It's one of those great democratic traditions considered by many to be one of the purest forms of democracy. We hope to see you at Town Meeting Day or at any of our meetings.

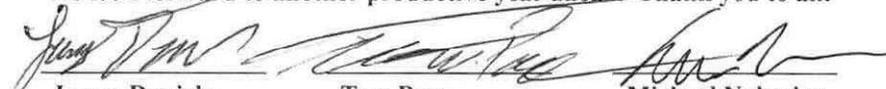
2025 was a year without a flood and without a disaster, however the Town is still working hard to pick up the pieces from last summer's flood. All of the work included in our damage estimate from the 2024 flood has been completed and the town has received our reimbursement from FEMA for that work which included building the new Pound Road bridge. It was nice to closeout that portion of our FEMA claim. The Town is still waiting for word on the FEMA buyout properties. One other outstanding flood-related item is the USDA grant the Town was awarded for completing a post-flood river cleanup in the Wells River behind Upper Valley Grill. The grant was awarded by USDA to the Town in September which did not give the Town enough time to complete the work in 2025. The grant agreement has been amended, and the plan is to complete this work by the end of the Summer 2026.

Speaking of grants and grant projects, how about that new parking lot at the Community Building and Fire Department! The much needed and long-awaited drainage project has been completed and the Town received reimbursement for the work performed following this year's Federal Government shutdown. The Town also closed out our State of Vermont VOREC grant this year. This grant was for the railbed rehabilitation work, Gateway Park planning, trailhead, signs, kiosks, and acquiring the Green Mountain Power property. If you haven't made it out to the railbed to enjoy the new surface, be sure to make a trip this Spring. The Town is working on implementing a Municipal Energy Resiliency Program (MERP) grant and at the time of writing this annual summary we are assessing estimates for the replacement of the heating plant at the Community Building and furnace at the Fire Department. This will be a big project that will take place this Spring or Summer and we will see a modern, new heating plant installed. A ton of effort went into applying for and managing these grants with mostly volunteer labor and time. Great job to all who were involved in all of these grants!

Highlights of 2025:

- At Town Meeting, Tom Page was nominated to a one-year term, remaining on the Selectboard for another year, and Michael Nahmias was nominated to a three-year term. We would like to thank Bobbi Beck for her work on the Selectboard. Bobbi stepped in and finished off Zac's term. Thank you, Bobbi!
- Beginning in January, new computers were purchased and installed throughout Town Offices.
- A new 1-ton truck was purchased by the Town for use by the Highway Department
- Two new roads were authorized by the Selectboard: Linda Lane and Cornerstone Road
- Groton hired an Assessor, Justin Mason, who started in August – Welcome Justin!
- Phillip Palmer retired following a 32.5-year career with the Groton Highway Department! Congratulations Phillip! Brandon Boyce was hired to replace Phillip. Welcome Brandon!
- Our previous Town Plan was “readopted” while a new Town Plan is being drafted by our Planning Commission
- A speed study was completed and 90% of vehicles entering the Village Center are driving above the posted 30-mph speed limit. Next step is buying and installing a new speed sign or two.
- It was an absolutely gorgeous Fall Foliage Day this year!

We look forward to another productive year ahead. Thank you to all!


Larry Daniels Tom Page Michael Nahmias

Sullivan, Powers & Co., P.C.

Certified Public Accountants

77 Barre Street
P.O. Box 947
Montpelier, VT 05601
802/223-2352
www.sullivanpowers.com

Richard J. Brigham, CPA
Chad A. Hewitt, CPA
Jordon M. Plummer, CPA
VT Lic. # 92-000180

January 14, 2026

Selectboard
Town of Groton, Vermont
1476 Scott Highway
Groton, VT 05046

We have audited the financial statements of the Town of Groton, Vermont as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024.

The financial statements and our report thereon are available for public inspection at the Town Office.

Sullivan, Powers & Co.

Town Clerk's Report

2025 was a relatively quiet election year, with only Town Meeting and the BMU Budget Vote taking place. In contrast, 2026 will be a busy election year, including the August Primary, the November General Election, as well as Town Meeting and the BMU Budget Vote. I am hopeful for a smooth and successful election year.

The Town continues to actively manage and complete projects supported by the many grants it has received. The largest grant-funded project completed this year involved significant improvements around the Community Building and Fire Station. This project included new drainage installed beneath the parking lot and Community Building, the addition of parking spaces behind the building, and full resurfacing with regrading and paving. ARPA funds and the Leahy USDA Grant were used to support this important work.

FEMA has reimbursed the Town for damages related to the July 2024 flood. I have begun the closeout paperwork, after which it will be submitted to the State to begin their review process. The Town will also receive State funding to cover its required local share of the damages (12.5%). We are hopeful these funds will be received before the end of the year.

This year, we will be celebrating America's 250th Anniversary, and I look forward to seeing expressions of patriotism throughout the Town.

As a reminder, there is a secure mail slot located to the left of my office door inside the entranceway. It is available 24/7 for dropping off Town correspondence, including tax payments, dog licensing paperwork and fees, building permits, Community Building use payments and paperwork, marriage applications, and birth or death certificate applications.

For updates, forms, agendas, applications, and permits, please visit the Town website at www.grotonvt.com.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns. I can be reached at (802) 584-3276, by email at townclerk@grotonvt.com, or you are welcome to stop by the office.

I continue to enjoy working for the community of Groton.

Respectfully,
Carrie Peters

Treasurer Report

Sullivan, Powers & Co., P.C., the Town of Groton's independent auditors, performed the town audit and provided a report on July 9 2025 to the Select Board for year ending 2024.

The Town audit report and financial statements are available at the town office for review. Please contact the office if you're interested in a copy. The 2024 audit can also be found on Groton Town website under Town Treasurer.

If you have any questions please contact me. 802-584-3131 or Treasurer@grotonvt.com or stop by the office.

I'm grateful to be working for our community.
Thank you,

Lisa JL Hart
Town Treasurer

GROTON MUNICIPAL ASSESSOR REPORT - 2025

Changes and projects performed in 2025

- The Town of Groton has hired Justin Mason as the Municipal Assessor for the Town of Groton. He is currently working to meet the new qualifications and training requirements for Level II Certification. He is also a full-time Assessor through an Interlocal Agreement for Assessor Services with the Towns of Johnson, Hyde Park, St. George, Berkshire, and Sheldon. He was raised in Vermont, resides in West Glover with his partner and children, has over 13 years of experience working with Real Estate and Municipalities, and strives to provide consistent, fair, transparent, and equitable practices to municipalities throughout the State of Vermont.
- Photos were taken of most parcels during the past year. Thank you for your cooperation during this project.
- Contiguous parcels were identified within the Grand List and updates are being performed for the Online Tax Maps for data to be linked to most all of the parcels online.

Annual Information and Filings

HOMESTEAD DECLARATION – Please remember to file a Form HS 122 when you file your Income Tax. THIS HAS TO BE DONE EVERY YEAR.

ADDRESS CHANGES – Please send address changes to the Assessor’s Office. This will help us to have up to date information when it is time to mail tax bills and other information to you.

INFORMATION REQUESTS – Please fill these out in a timely manner and return to the Assessor’s Office. Please reach out if you have questions or concerns.

Grand List & Tax Rate Information

The Town of Groton has 878 Total Parcels and 741 Taxable Parcels. The Total Town Taxable Municipal Grand List for 2025 for tax rate setting purposes in 2025 was \$1,308,385.00. The ending Total Town Taxable Municipal Grand List for 2025 was \$1,308,327.00 after Errors and Omissions. Previously, the Total Town Taxable Municipal Grand List for 2024 was \$1,321,761.00. The Total Town Municipal Grand List decreased by approximately 1.02% compared to the Grand Lists used for tax rates. The State of Vermont changed the utility valuation process throughout the state, resulting in utilities in the Town of Groton to decrease in value. The 2025 Town Tax Rate was 0.4043 and the Highway Tax rate was 0.3490, and the Local Agreement/Veterans Rate was 0.0028. Comparatively, the 2024 Town Tax Rate was 0.3943 and the Highway Tax rate was 0.3306, and the Local Agreement/Veterans Rate was 0.0038, as set by the Selectboard.

Common Level of Appraisal & Coefficient of Dispersion (CLA & COD)

Please see the included Equalization Letter from the State of Vermont within the Annual Town Report. The Town’s 2025 CLA (Common Level of Appraisal) is 59.75% compared to 64.13% in 2024. The CLA is calculated using the last three years of sales data. The three-year analysis causes the CLA to move more slowly than the general market, either upward or downward. The Statewide Adjustment (SA) for 2025 is 70.33% The Town’s SA applied to Tax Rates for 2025 is 84.96%. The Town’s 2025 COD (Coefficient of Dispersion) is 25.45% compared to 26.39% in 2024, showing that uniformity of appraisal for different property types in the grand list slightly improved. The higher the COD is, the greater the disparity, which is corrected by performing a Townwide Reappraisal.

Online Resources

- Town of Groton Town Website: <https://grotonvt.com/>
- State of Vermont Department of Taxes Website: www.tax.vermont.gov
- Property Valuation & Review Annual Reports
Website: www.tax.vermont.gov/research-and-reports/reports/pvr-annual-reports

These reports provide statewide statistics broken down by county and town covering assessments, tax rates, property transfers, & adjustment claims. They also contain information on how statistics are computed.

Contracts

- The Town of Groton has a contract with CAI Technologies for annual tax map updates.
- The Town of Groton has a contract with NEMRC for Grand List maintenance assistance and the 2027 – 2029 Townwide Reappraisal. There will be more information about this as we get closer to 2027.

Property Transfers, Inspections, and Grievance Notices & Hearings

Property Transfers: Property transfers are valid once legally executed and recorded with the Town of Groton in the Town Land Records. Property ownership is reflected on the Grand List as of April 1 of each year. If a property is sold or subdivided after April 1, the tax bill and full assessment will be in the name of the previous owner. Pro-rating the property taxes is the responsibility of the buyers, sellers, and their legal counsel.

Inspections: The Municipal Assessor will be performing property inspections through Spring 2026 for the 2026 Grand List. Please contact the Assessor's to report any changes made to your property or to schedule an appointment. Property inspections may be performed based on Municipal Zoning Permits, State Permits, Highway Access Permits, reported changes, changes noted visible via public highway, web-based imaging, and changes per MLS information that is allowable according to PVR. Appointments for property inspections are not required unless an interior inspection is needed, though efforts will be made to contact property owners prior to inspections. Property owners with no trespassing signs may be contacted directly through USPS or other contact information on file by the Town Assessor's and changes may be made to the property assessment per the information available and valued at highest and best use if no response is received. Please note: Property inspections are performed to obtain an accurate, defensible, and equitable Grand List for the Town of Groton.

Hearings: Grievance Hearings are held after the completion of the Abstract Grand List as of April 1, 2026, and Change of Appraisal Notices have been sent. All those requesting a Grievance Hearing must submit their appeal in writing, allowing the Municipal Assessor's to 'hear' the grievances. You may request a hearing by contacting the Assessor's. The request for hearing must be received by the deadline indicated on the notices. Notice of Grievance will be posted at the 5 physical posting locations and posted on the Town of Groton website.

Office Hours & Contact Information

Justin Mason is available on Tuesday's from 8:00am – 12:00pm by appointment only, and other times may be arranged by request.

Dorothy Knott is available by appointment.

THANK YOU!

Assessor ~Justin Mason

assessor@grotonvt.com

Assistant Assessor ~Dorothy Knott

assistantassessor@grotonvt.com

Assessor's Office – 802-584-3155



State of Vermont
 Department of Taxes
 133 State Street
 Montpelier, VT 05633-1401

Agency of Administration

Phone: (802) 828-5860

January 2, 2026

00210

Town Clerk
 Town of Groton
 1476 Scott Highway
 Groton, VT 05046

2025 Equalization Study Results

This letter serves as notification of the results of Property Valuation and Review (PVR)'s 2025 equalization study. Every year PVR is required to certify the equalized education property value (EPPV or EEGL) and coefficient of dispersion (COD) for each Vermont town (32 V.S.A § 5406). This letter also communicates the Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) for your town and explains how it will impact your homestead and nonhomestead education tax rates.

Education Grand List (from 411):	\$130,740,695
Equalized Education Grand List (EEGL):	\$218,813,565
Common Level of Appraisal (CLA):	59.75% or 0.5975
Coefficient of Dispersion (COD):	25.45%
2025 Statewide Adjustment (SA):	70.33% or 0.7033
2025 SA Applied to Your Tax Rates:	$[0.5975]/[0.7033] = \mathbf{84.96\% \text{ or } 0.8496}$

In 2024 the Vermont Legislature passed Act 183, which updates the adjustment factor applied to education tax rates starting with the 2025-2026 property tax year, effective on July 1, 2025.

Historically, education tax rates were adjusted by a municipality's CLA from the Equalization Study. Going forward, the new adjustment factor applied to education tax rates is the CLA divided by a single "statewide adjustment." The "statewide adjustment" is the average level of appraisal for all of Vermont.

For example, if a municipality has a CLA of 60%, and the statewide adjustment is 75%, then the adjustment factor applied to the municipality's education property tax rates will be $0.60 / 0.75 = 0.80$ or 80%.

All Vermont property will still be taxed at 100% of fair market value, but the factor applied to education property tax rates will be calculated differently. More information is available at tax.vermont.gov/statewide-adjustment.

Key Definitions

The **education grand list** in VTPIE is what your municipality reported to the state on the 411 form and includes (if applicable) your municipality's cable and/or tax increment financing (TIF) amounts.



The education grand list represents the municipality's total property value subject to the education property tax (from the most recent grand list available) and serves as the numerator in the computation of the CLA.

The **equalized education grand list (EEGL)** represents PVR's statutorily mandated estimate of your municipality's education grand list total fair market value. It serves as the denominator in the computation of the CLA.

The **common level of appraisal (CLA)** is determined by dividing the education grand list by the equalized education grand list (32 V.S.A. § 5401). A number over 100% indicates that property in your municipality is generally assessed for more than its fair market value. A number less than 100% indicates that property is generally assessed for less than its fair market value.

The **coefficient of dispersion (COD)** is a measure of how fairly distributed the property tax is within your municipality. It reflects the average deviation of sales ratios (assessed value ÷ sale price) from the median. A high COD means many taxpayers in your municipality are paying more than their fair share, and many are paying less than their fair share. **A COD over 20% necessitates a reappraisal** (32 V.S.A. § 4041a).

Appeals

A municipality may petition the director of PVR for a redetermination of its EEPV and/or COD (32 V.S.A § 5408). All petitions must be in writing and signed by the chair of the municipality's legislative body. Petitions should contain a plain statement of matters being appealed and a statement of the remedy being sought. Submissions can be made by sending a PDF of the appeal to tax.pvr@vermont.gov or by mailing to Department of Taxes, Attn: **PVR; 133 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633-1401. PVR must receive petitions by the close of business on the 35th day after the mailing of this letter.**

Additional Information

If you have questions about your results, please contact your District Advisor or call 802-828-5860. To get answers to many common questions about tax rates and how they are determined, and to see how the current year property tax rates for your municipality were calculated, please see the Department's education tax resources at tax.vermont.gov/education-tax-rates.

To learn more about how the equalization study is conducted, how to read the certified sales report, and additional instructions on how to appeal your results, please see the "Introduction to Vermont's Equalization Study" document at tax.vermont.gov/municipal-officials.

Municipal officials can view your municipality's final computation sheet and final certified sales report in your VTPIE account. Complete Statewide results can be found here: [Equalization Study | Department of Taxes](#).

Sincerely,



Jill Remick, Director
Property Valuation and Review

cc: Chair, School Board
Chair, Selectboard
Superintendent of Schools SD027

Homestead Declaration Information

By Vermont law, property owners whose homes meet the definition of a Vermont homestead must file a Homestead Declaration annually by the April filing deadline. If eligible, it is important that you file so that you are correctly assessed the homestead tax rate on your property. Here is the information you as the property owner need to know about the Vermont Homestead Declaration.

In Vermont, all property is subject to education property tax to pay for the state's schools. For this purpose, property is categorized as either nonhomestead or homestead. A homestead is the principal dwelling and parcel of land surrounding the dwelling, owned and occupied by the resident as the person's domicile.

All property is considered **nonhomestead**, unless it is declared as a **homestead**. The education property tax rate levied on nonhomestead property differs from the rate levied on homestead property. It is **your** responsibility as the property owner to claim the property as a homestead if you meet, or expect to meet, the following requirements:

- You are a Vermont resident
- You own and occupy a homestead as your domicile as of April 1, 2026.

Please note: If you meet these requirements, except that your homestead is leased to a tenant on April 1, 2026, you may still claim it as a homestead if it is not leased for more than 182 days in the 2025 calendar year.

Nonhomestead Property

Property is considered nonhomestead if one of the following applies:

- Your property is leased for more than 182 days out of the calendar year.
- The property is used exclusively for commercial, including rental, purposes.
- The property is used for a second home, camp, vacation, or summer cottage.

How to File

Online - Taxpayers may file returns using myVTax, our free, secure, online filing site.

Paper Returns - If you cannot file and pay through myVTax, you may still use the paper forms. The Homestead Declaration is filed using Form HS-122, the Homestead Declaration and Property Tax Credit Claim. Use our filing checklist that follows to help you get started.

Many people file their Homestead Declarations at the same time they file their Vermont income tax returns. However, if you apply to extend the time to file your income tax return, the Homestead Declaration **must still be filed** by the April filing deadline. Even if a person is not required to file a Vermont Income Tax Return, the declaration must be filed by the deadline.

<https://tax.vermont.gov/homestead-declaration>

<https://tax.vermont.gov/sites/tax/files/documents/HS-122-2024.pdf>

Groton Highway Report

- 2025 was an interesting year as it was super dry, we went from one extreme to another. The Highway department replaced the washed-out bridge on Pound Road with an aluminum arch culvert, which save the town money. Phillip decided to hang up his hat with the highway department after over 32 years, Thanks again Phillip. We hired Brandon Boyce to replace him (Welcome Brandon).
- I would like to thank my whole crew (Phillip, Brent, Brandon, Steven and Ben) for all the hard work that you do and all the time spent keeping Groton Highway running as smooth as possible.
- We worked with other departments on projects, supplying labor and equipment time, saving them money.
- Phillip, Brandon and I try our best to control cost while maintaining a level of service that keeps up with the needed maintenance of the roads.
- I would like to thank the residents of the Town of Groton for all the support in helping us do the best job possible.
- Here are a couple reminders:

23 V.S.A. § 1126a. Depositing snow onto or across highways prohibited

(a) No person, other than an employee in the performance of his or her official duties or other person authorized by the agency of transportation (in the case of state highways) or selectboard (in the case of town highways), shall plow or otherwise deposit snow onto the traveled way, shoulder or sidewalk of a state highway or a class 1, 2, or 3 town highway.

(b) Nothing in this section should be construed to be in derogation of any municipal ordinance regulating the deposit of snow within the limits of town highways. (Added 1997, No. 150 (Adj. Sess.), § 17.)

- Article 7.1 from the Town of Groton Highway ordinance:
Winter Parking- Parking within a town right of way, including turnarounds and/or Cul de sacks, shall be prohibited between November 1 and March 31 of each year except for town owned parking areas where there will be no parking between midnight and 6:00 am.
Violators will be towed at the vehicle owner's expense.

Town Garage Phone-584-3209
Harold's Pager 290-1355
Harold's (Cell) (802)424-7918
Email: grotonhwy@fairpoint.net

Groton Ryegate FAST: 2025 Year in Review

First and foremost, **thank you** to our dedicated volunteer responders. In small communities like ours, your commitment keeps our emergency services strong. You give countless hours—often in the middle of the night or away from your families—to keep us safe.

The Commitment Behind the Badge: Training Requirements

Our volunteers undergo rigorous training to ensure high-quality care, whether for a minor injury or a life-threatening emergency. These state-mandated hours highlight the significant time commitment involved—all on a volunteer basis (responders are only paid per call, not for training).

Level	Initial Certification Hours	Recertification (every 2 years)
EMT	120–170	40
AEMT	220–290 (includes EMT)	50
Paramedic	1,000+	60

This doesn't include our required monthly training sessions. We fully support these standards—they ensure you receive competent, professional care when you need it most. However, the time required can be a barrier to recruiting new members.

Our Team and Response Challenges

We ended 2025 with **9 licensed providers**—a stable number we're proud of. For our call volume, this is a solid team, but like many volunteer departments across Vermont and the country, availability can be an issue due to work, family, and other commitments.

This year, we responded to most calls promptly. On **52 calls (21.5% of total)**, no local responder was available. In every case, our contracted transport agency or mutual aid provided care and transport if needed—ensuring no one went without help.

The good news? **Two new members** are currently enrolled in an EMT course through St. Johnsbury Academy Adult Education. We're excited to welcome them soon!

If you're interested in joining our team (no experience necessary—we'll train you!), please reach out. Your community needs you.

2025 Call Volume

Call volume in 2025 was slightly below last year's record high but continues our upward trend over recent years. We handled a total of **244 calls**:

126 in Groton (52%) / 117 in Ryegate (48%) / 1 in Newbury (mutual aid) (0%)

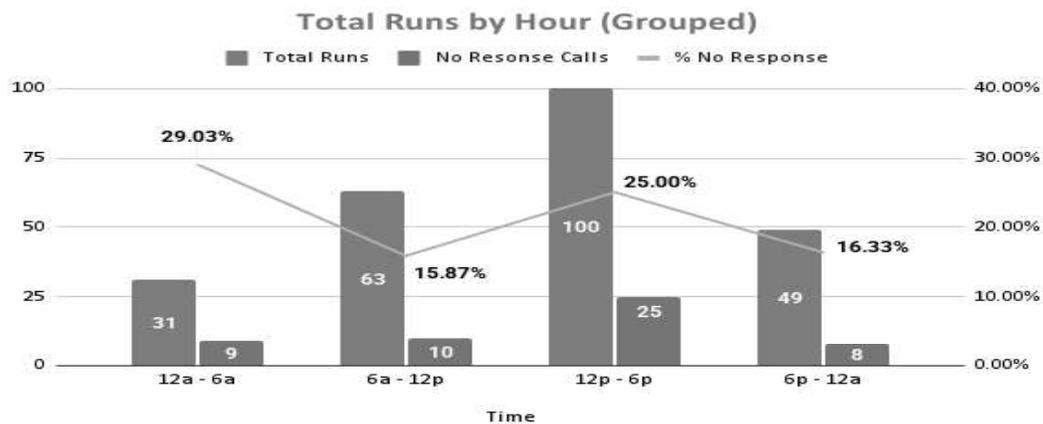
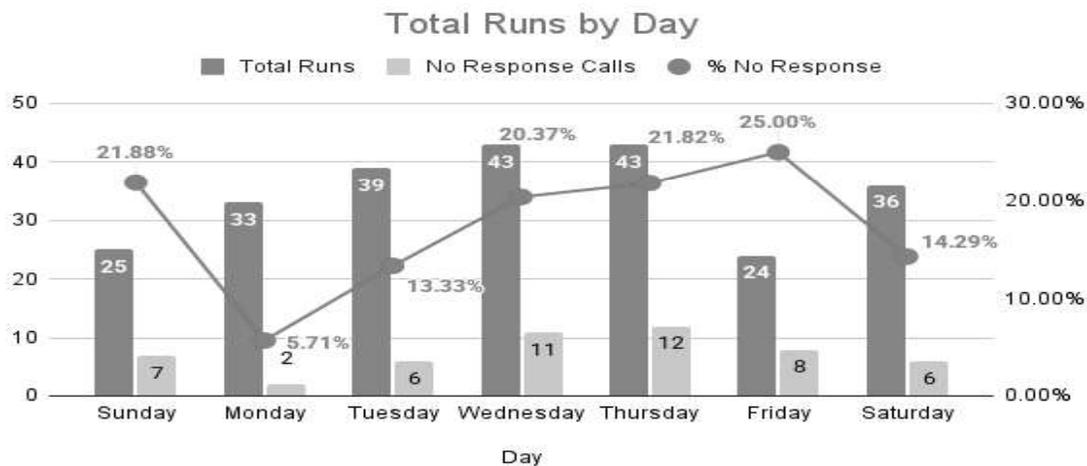
Additional metrics (including peak days/times) are shown in the charts below.

Looking Ahead: Vehicle Replacement in 2026

Our primary response vehicle, Rescue 1 (R1), was purchased as a temporary fix for our previous failing unit. It has served us reliably, but it's time for an upgrade better suited to medical calls.

We're exploring both new and used options, with pros and cons for each. We're leaning toward a used SUV or pickup already equipped for EMS duties to balance cost and functionality. We'll keep the Selectboard (and the community) updated as we move forward.

Thank you again for your support. Our volunteers are here for you—24/7.



Derek Curtis
 Head of Service
 Groton Ryegate FAST



Annual Report to the Town of Groton, Vermont

The mission of the Groton Free Public Library is to assemble, preserve, organize, and make freely available to the people of the Town of Groton, books and other resources for education, enlightenment, and recreation.

In 2025, we welcomed 4,342 visitors into the Alice Lord Goodine House, our free community space that is your portal to a broad network of resources, information, and people with knowledge to share.

We organized programs that foster civic engagement and community building: meetings on public transportation, food insecurity, internet privacy and scams, in addition to book clubs, story times, and lectures on history and natural science. We offered public health programming, job training and career development opportunities, as well as a warm place for a cup of coffee on a Saturday morning.

Each week our Library hosted community groups like Taking Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) and Kingdom Recovery’s All Recovery Group, and offered a safe, supportive space for community members of all ages - including Groton youth with regular Video Game Nights, bi-weekly peer-to-peer mentoring through Harm Reduction Heroes, and monthly Tween & Teen Nights.

Also in 2025, we organized the first A Day in Our Village, a community event designed to showcase all that Groton has to offer, and give community members the opportunity to discover the diversity and variety of civic, cultural, social service, business, educational and religious organizations and groups in the Village and region. We welcomed many of you on Fall Foliage Day, and wrapped up the year by hosting the 4th annual Winter Lights.

The Groton Library is a part of an interconnected system of libraries that work together to expand our access to books, materials and information. We are always exploring opportunities for resource sharing that benefit the town of Groton. We are so grateful for the support from our community and we look forward to welcoming you to the library for opportunities to learn, grow, and connect in 2026.

Respectfully Submitted by Sarah Spira, Library Director

Trustees: Dawn Miller Evans, Jennie Gaiss, Deborah Jurist, Wayne Knott, Donna Russo- Savage

2025 By the Numbers



397
Library
Cardholders



4342
Library
Visits



3807
Books & Digital
Materials Borrowed



200
Volunteer
Hours Worked



255
Programs
Offered



514
Computer
Sessions



**2025 Budget and Actual > 2026 Proposed
Expenses Paid from Town General Fund**

	<i>2025 Budget</i>	<i>2025 Actual</i>	<i>2026 Proposed Budget</i>
Library Director Wages 2025: 29hrs/Week 2026: 29hrs/Week	\$33,176.00	\$33,096.00	\$37,205.00
Library Assistant Wages 2025: 17hrs/Week 2026: 16hrs/Week	\$13,260.00	\$13,466.40	\$13,824.00
Payroll Taxes	\$3,664.00	\$3,782.03	\$4,083.00
Retirement	\$0.00	\$2,138.35	\$2,184.00
VLCT PACIF	\$1,171.00	\$1,171.00	\$1,171.00
Workers Comp Insurance	\$388.00	\$388.00	\$388.00
Unemployment Insurance	\$102.00	\$102.00	\$144.00
Cleaning Service	\$2,000.00	\$3,175.00	\$3,200.00
Building Rent	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00
Supplies-Library	\$2,200.00	\$2,488.12	\$2,500.00
Books & Digital	\$4,950.00	\$5,018.84	\$2,525.00
Telephone/Internet	\$1,800.00	\$1,821.68	\$1,800.00
Software/Support	\$1,770.00	\$1,844.75	\$1,800.00
Misc. Expenses	\$110.00	\$24.63	\$110.00
Totals	\$82,591.00	\$86,517.38	\$88,934.00

Expenses Paid by Library Funds raised through revenue and donations

	<i>2025 Budget</i>	<i>2025 Actual</i>	<i>2026 Proposed Budget</i>
Programs	\$2,750.00	\$3,021.08	\$2,750.00
Postage	\$770.00	\$791.21	\$800.00
Elevator Expense	\$633.00	\$1,330.00	\$632.50
Books & Digital	\$1,100.00	\$1,220.94	\$3,675.00
Training & Mileage	\$275.00	\$269.00	\$300.00
Technology Services/ Software	\$462.00	\$723.93	\$1,000.00
Computer Maintenance	\$330.00	\$0.00	\$330.00
Computers	\$1,100.00	\$0.00	\$1,100.00
Furnishings	\$770.00	\$401.04	\$770.00
Misc. Expenses	\$1,100.00	\$818.08	\$1,100.00
Totals	\$9,290.00	\$8,575.28	\$12,457.50

**Library Funds for Town Report 2025
Account Balances as of 12/31/2025**

Library Operating Fund (generated through donations and revenue)	\$45,617.23
Endowment Fund Money Market Account- Wells River Savings Bank	\$5,633.30
Endowment Fund CD- Community Bank	\$43,253.06
Capital Fund 1 year CD- Wells River Savings Bank	\$13,242.79
Library Annual Appeal Account- Community Bank	\$9.00
American Funds Investment Account	\$422.47
Certificate of Deposit From American Funds	\$24,160.15
I Bond 2022	\$11,496.00
I Bond 2023	\$11,072.00
Total	\$154,906.00

**Revenues & donations deposited into the Library
Operating Fund in 2025**

Town of Ryegate Annual Contribution	\$200.00
Donations and Annual Appeal	\$26,710.39
Dividends from American Funds	\$12.86
Total	\$26,723.25

Grants Received in 2025

VT Department of Libraries Summer Program Grant	\$350.00
VT Humanities Early Literacy Initiative	\$1,499.91
302 Cares	\$2,445.67
BlueCross BlueShield	\$550.00
Total	\$4,845.58

Disbursement from Endowment Fund

Total	\$0
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Library Funds

Groton Free Public Library Operating Fund

March 7, 2006, Article 8: Shall the Town of Groton approve the existing accounts and the establishment of a reserve fund to be called the Groton Free Public Library fund to be funded by grants, gifts, donations, fund raising, existing library investments and other non-taxation sources said fund to be used for library improvements, managed by the library Board of Trustees and dispensed by the Town Treasurer?

Operating expense account funded by annual appeal donations, memorial funds, interest from Endowment and dividends from American Funds.

Balance \$45,617.23

Endowment Fund

Endowment funds are composed of monies that have been gifted to the library in the form of bequests or donations. Endowment monies are not meant to be used to fund routine operational activities or salaries. Endowment funds are to be used at the discretion of the Groton Library Board of Trustees. Any requests for release of endowment monies must be voted on and approved by the Library Board of Trustees. The Library Board of Trustees are responsible for overseeing the use/investment of all endowment funds. The Library Board of Trustees alone holds the power to direct investments and distribute money/assets for the library.

Amendment: 7/13/2015, The Library Board of Trustees voted to remove all financial limitations on endowment requests.

Balance \$5,633.30

Capital Fund Certificate of Deposit

September 26 2013 Library Board of Trustees received an anonymous gift restricted to capital improvements or non-budgeted items at the discretion of the Library Trustees.

Balance \$13,242.79

American Funds

Investment of funds received from sale of book in 1991. Dividends are deposited in Community Bank Fund for use toward the library portion of the monthly operating expense of the building.

Balance \$422.47

April 2025 Endowment CD was established at Wells River Bank

Balance \$24,160.15

Library Pay Pal Fund

Account was established to receive money electronically for Annual Appeal Donations.

Balance \$9.00

Series I Bond

October 5 2022 Library Board of Trustees decided to move 10,000.00 from the Capital Fund CD and opened a Series I bond account.

Maturity Date 10-01-2052

Balance \$11,496.00

Series I Bond

March 9 2023 Library Board of Trustees decided to move 10,000.00 from Capital Fund CD and open a Series I bond Account. Maturity

Date 04-01-2053

Balance \$11,072.00

Library Endowment CD

February 26 2024 Library Board of Trustees decided to move funds to a CD.

Balance \$43,253.06

****Library Funds are not Town funds; they are controlled by the Library Board of Trustees.

GROTON CEMETERY RULES

Revision 10/16/25

Cemetery Hours of Operation

The cemetery will open on May 1st and close on November 1st. Burials will be performed after the ground has fully thawed in the spring and will cease after November 1st. Any internments to be held after November 1st will be at the discretion of the Sexton.

Flowers, Flags, and Personal Memorabilia

All flowers, natural and artificial, and memorabilia should be removed from the cemeteries by May 1st. Items will be placed by the shed and can be retrieved until May 15th, any remaining will be disposed of by the maintenance workers. The flags will remain on the graves until Veteran's Day in November. Any flowers, plants and flags left in the cemetery may be removed

Footings

In order to facilitate mowing and for the long-term stability of the stones, all the monuments will be set on a cement foundation with footings which extend four inches outward from the monument.

Monuments, Cornerstones, Vaults, Urns and Grass Markers

A cemetery official will have the final say on the placement of all monuments, cornerstones, vaults, urns, and grass markers. Cemetery Commissioners will be responsible for placing cornerstones. All monuments will be set on a 4' (minimum) cement foundation with footings set 4" from the monument. Cremation urns may be interred on any plot with or without existing burials. The addition of a memorial stone is limited to the lot size. The Sexton must be notified of the urn interment and is responsible for the digging and placement, for the location to be officially registered. There is an additional cost for this service. For the number of cremations allowed on the plot, see the current Cemetery Pricing chart. All burial vaults will be made of concrete.

Plantings

Plantings should be small and low maintenance, nothing that will grow to a size which would impede on the surroundings and the ability to maintain the area. They must be clearly marked and only planted between monuments (not in front or behind) in order to cut grass with trimmers. Should maintenance issues arise, the Cemetery Commissioners will assess the situation and do what is deemed necessary to bring the plot into compliance.

Purchasing Lots in a Groton Cemetery

Lots are for sale containing as few as 1 burial plot and up to 12 plots. Lots sold at resident prices will have the resident's name only listed as owner on the deed. Non-residents cannot be listed as co-owners on lots purchased at residential prices. The initial of the owner's last name will be engraved on the cornerstones. There is a price list available through the town clerk.

Specifying Individuals to be Buried in a Lot

At the time of purchase the deed holder can fill out a form that will specify the individuals who can be buried in a specific lot. This document can be notarized and filed with the deed for the current recording fee.

Should a deed holder wish to sell a lot or portion of a lot, they must first sell it back to the town at the same price that it was originally purchased for. Then the town will sell the lot to the new owner based on current pricing. Corner stone for this new lot may not be required if the Commissioners approve.

Please be aware that the only way to securely guarantee who shall be buried in any given lot is for that person to own it. In cases where there might be a family dispute, we suggest that the parties take all steps possible to make clear who shall be allowed to use a lot.

Perpetual Care

Perpetual Care fees cover emergency repair and general upkeep of the cemetery. If you are interested in purchasing a lot in the Groton cemetery, please contact the Town Clerk.

Cemetery Plot Pricing

Size	# of traditional burial sites	# of cremation sites	PLOT PRICE	PERPETUAL CARE	FEES	TOTAL FOR RESIDENTS	TOTAL FOR NON RESIDENTS
12'x4'	1	4	\$100	\$200	\$230	\$530	\$1980
12'x8'	2	8	\$200	\$300	\$230	\$730	\$3495
12'x12'	3	12	\$300	\$400	\$230	\$930	\$5095
12'x16'	4	16	\$400	\$500	\$230	\$1130	\$6690
12'x20'	5	20	\$500	\$600	\$230	\$1330	\$8295

Fees include: recording cost \$15, cornerstones \$140, setting of cornerstones \$60 and administrative costs \$15. The cost of grave and cremation urn preparation is set by the contractor at the time of service.

Plots must be paid in full at the time of purchase.

2025 Cemetery Budget vs. 2025 Actual Spent, 2026 Budget

Expenses paid from Town General Fund

	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2026 Budget
Contracted Work	2,800	1,580.00	2,800
Riverside Cemetery	200	180.00	200
Mowing	12,500	10,500.00	13,400
Supplies	1,300	501.62	1,841
Total	16,800	12,761.62	18,241

Cemetery Revenues

Cemetery Lot Sales	0.00
Corner Stone Revenue	0.00
Corner stone setting fees income	0.00
Perpetual Care Revenue	0.00
Recording Fee Revenue	0.00
Development Funds (non-resident lot sales)	0.00
Donation	100.00
Interest Revenue	5,039.73

Total Revenue 5,139.73

Cemetery Expenditures (out of Cemetery Funds)

Deposited to Development Funds	0.00
Recording Fees	0.00
Corner Stone Expense	193.75
Corner Stone Setting expenses	240.00
Deposit interest into CD	1,016.03
Misc, Exp. (xtr contract work)	15,800.00

Total Expenses 17,249.78

Cemetery Fund Balances 12/31/2025

CB Perpetual Care-MM	10,134.25
WGSB-H. Hosmer-Savings	0.00 *
WRSB Development Funds	143.10
CB Cemetery Lot-MM	9,694.72
WRSB MJRicker Hall Trust-Savings	0.00 *
TD Bank Roosevelt Carter Trust-Savings	0.00 *
CB Perpetual Care CD	98,523.56

Total 118,495.63

*account closed & moved into Perpetual Care acct.

Zoning Administrator

2025 was an extremely busy year for Zoning. We had thirty-seven permits applied for. That is the most I have handled in the several years I have been doing this. We have a great Planning Commission which has helped me in several areas this year as the State Laws are becoming more stringent and sometimes harder to understand and enforce. The time period for some of these permits have been longer than usual due to Flood Plain Regulations and the fact that in some instances, I am dealing with three different State Agencies for a single permit. Be aware that in some instances that what you might want to erect for a structure may sit in the Flood Plain, the River Corridor and Wetlands. This means three different site visits by three Agencies that may not agree on how to move forward.

Once again, in 2025, one of the major problems was folks erecting a structure without a Permit. This resulted in at least two instances in the structure being taken down until the proper Permits or State Visit was completed. It is always better to call and ask if you need a Permit rather than taking the chance and having to tear down the structure and reconstruct at a later date.

Also, for folks wanting to sub divide their property, please be aware that there are specific things that have to be done according to our Zoning Policies and that you should allow for at least ninety days for the process to complete. The entire process can be found on our Groton, Vermont website, as well as all of our Zoning Bylaws can be found there.

I would like to take this time to thank the Planning Commission, the Select Board, the Zoning Board of Adjustment, Dorothy Knott and especially Carrie Peters for all the assistance I have received in doing this important function in the Town of Groton. I also want to thank all the taxpayers in this Town which has made my job a learning experience and a more enjoyable experience as I have had the opportunity to meet many of our taxpayers I would not otherwise been able to do.

I will not be available as Zoning Administrator for the year 2026 as I will be relocating, but I have enjoyed my tenure as Zoning Administrator for the Town of Groton.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Webster

Groton Planning Commission

In the past year, Groton's Planning Commission has met regularly performing the functions the Commission typically performs. The Commission lost a voting member in March when Michael Nahmias joined the Selectboard. However, we have been able to keep him on as an ex-officio, non-voting member and still chairperson for the year. We made Mike earn that annual stipend! Walter Morse Jr. joined the Planning Commission in 2025 and long-time Planning Commission members Steve Hart and Emily Pratt stepped down after many years of serving on the board. We thank Emily & Steve for their time on the board and Walt for his willingness to join the Commission. If you are keeping score, the Commission has two seats at the time of this writing. Hopefully by Town Meeting Day those seats are filled, but if they are not, consider volunteering a night a month to help plan your Town's future!

So, what does the Planning Commission do? What did Groton's Planning Commission do in 2025?

Here's the highlights:

Town Plan – The Planning Commission minimally updated our 2017 Town Plan so it would meet the requirements to be adopted again while we prepared a more comprehensive, thorough update. We held public meetings as required and the Town Plan was re-adopted this year. The Planning Commission applied for and was awarded a Municipal Planning Grant from the State of Vermont. This grant will be used for the thorough Town Plan update which is currently underway.

Groton Gateway Park – The Planning Commission worked with the Town's planning consultant, SE Group, to finish the Concept Master Plan for the Groton Gateway Park which includes the newly acquired Green Mountain Power property and the municipal property (former gravel pit & stump dump) on Little Italy Road.

Subdivision Application Review – This past year the Planning Commission received three (3) subdivision applications; holding public hearings for each and issuing approvals for each application. These are the most subdivision applications this Commission has seen in a long time. A trend that will likely continue.

Zoning Administrator – Dan has had a busy year and unfortunately, this will be his last year as Zoning Administrator. Thank you, Dan, for all of your hard work. The Planning Commission will miss working with you. Best of Luck Dan!

Thank you all who serve on the Planning Commission and for all of your time and effort.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Nahmias – Chairperson – Groton Planning Commission

Constable
Animal Control Officer
Fire Warden Enforcement Officer

First, I would like to thank the voters of the Town of Groton, Vermont for allowing me to hold this office for the preceding year. It has been a very busy year with many calls of various types. As Constable, I answered 158 calls encompassing 186 hours. These calls included narcotic overdoses, several domestic calls, many calls between neighbors with various disagreements, traffic direction, illegal parking on town highways or roads that prevented clear passage or blocked the Town's Snow Plow Crew from being able to turn around with a plow or blocking passage of the plow on Town Highway, people illegally blocking rights of ways that were granted by deed, illegal parking on Town Property for extended periods of time and working with the Caledonia County Sheriff's Office on several occasions.

As Animal Control Officer, I handled 140 calls which included Feral Cows intruding on people's property doing destruction, many lost dog calls or dogs in traffic calls, wild animals doing destruction or being diseased. In 2025, I dispatched seven rabid raccoons in the Town of Groton. Three were in the center of town. This makes it even more important to make sure your dog is registered with the Town and that they have their rabies shot up to date. Many of the Animal Control Officer calls pertained to making sure your dogs were registered with the town of Groton, which is a State Law. I also was involved in Coordination with the Health Officer of doing investigations in vicious dogs and unprovoked dog bites and handling that situation after the bites. I also transported dogs to the Town Kennel in Orange and worked with the Kennel to have dogs found, go back to their proper homes.

As Fire Warden Enforcement Officer, I handled four complaints. These were for illegal burning or burning substances outside our burn ordinance. These individuals were given warnings and were reported to the proper State Agencies.

In the year 2025, Groton has been able to issue Municipal Tickets for violators to be cited in Court in White River Jct., for violations we had not done before such as non-registration of dogs. There are other reasons for the tickets to be given. These can result in substantial fines.

As I found out over the course of the last two years as Constable, one thing has become apparent. If you have an emergency, please be aware that the Sheriff's Dept. or the Vermont State Police are not going to be here as quickly as you want. The Constable position is important for the Town, as a Constable in many instances will respond quickly and can resolve many issues in a timely manner. I will not say I have enjoyed every interaction with people in the Town over the last year but I have tried to bring to a conclusion many issues I have been faced with.

This will be my last Report as I am going to be relocating to another area within the next couple months and will not be a candidate for Constable for the Town of Groton in 2026. I again want to thank the voters of the Town for your support in the last year.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Webster

The Buckaroos of 302

The Buckaroos of 302 stand at 316 members as of December 29th as we look to improve upon last year's membership. Our volunteer crew primarily focused on cutting back trails this fall as last year's efforts focused on bridge projects. We did install and deck a new bridge above Seyon Pond Lodge on the 302 trails while also putting another deck on a corduroy bridge in the Cabot area on the 232 trails. Thank you to Mark and Matt Puffer of Puffer Excavation for their time spent working on trails this fall. The town railroad bed was re-surfaced this year as part of the VOREC grant awarded to the town of Groton; we are happy to report the railroad bed grooms out much nicer! We'd like to thank our volunteers for all that they do and the hours that they put in every fall to keep our 60 miles of trails in top shape. We were able to get trails cleared and open prior to the holidays. The majority of our trail system is open but early season riding conditions are to be expected as we wait for more snow.

Current list of officers:

President - Taylor Lamberton; Vice President - Kevin McDonnell; Secretary - Stuart Russo-Savage; Trail Master - Gary Lamberton; Media Coordinator - Suzanne Pare; Treasurer - Dwaine Smith

Recreation Committee Report 2025

Do you have Recreation Committee ideas? Do you need sponsorship of a recreational activity?

Please don't hesitate to reach out to any Recreation committee member.

2025 Notable Sponsorships

- State Park Pass for GFPL

The recreation committee has sponsored an additional pass for any state park visit. You may pick up all available passes at the library.

- Day in our Village - June 28th, 2025

The purchase of an "Event Ahead" road sign was funded by Recreation Committee to be used for cautioning road traffic. This sign was used for this event and can be used for other events held in our community.

- Jazzy's Children's Fund Annual Halloween Party.
- Winter Lights Festival (a Groton Free Public Library event)

SD Ireland Cement Truck at the Winter Lights Festival

Recreation Committee Members:

Lisa Hart, Janet Page, Michael Gaiss and Jennie Gaiss

The Groton Food Shelf

The Groton Food Shelf would like to thank the following people and organizations for their generous donations of food and/or money.

Town of Ryegate

Mike & Jennie Gaiss

Kathy Crum

The Blue Mountain Grange

Ken & Barb Nelson

Rich & Judy Thrasher in memory of Norman & Marion Murray & Laurel Murray Goodwin

Janet Bryer

Jim & Lois Bostrom

Lawrence Cotnoir

Mark Gleicher & Deborah Jurist

Groton Baptist Church

Nancy Thurnauer

Kirsten Murch & Alan Massey

Judith Thrasher

Earl Brock

Martin Klein

Ryegate Presbyterian Church

Santina Huskey

Ryegate Corner Presbyterian Women

If we missed you, we apologize and please know your donation was greatly appreciated.

The Food Shelf gave out 18 Thanksgiving Baskets and 18 Christmas baskets, plus gift cards to Ocean State Job Lots so that parents could choose gifts for their children.

If you are in need please call 584-3276, Mon-Thurs. or email townclerk@grotonvt.com to set up a time to pick up food.

Food Shelf 2025 Beginning Balance:	\$8,216.80
Donations:	\$2,645.00
Interest Earned:	\$68.96
Expenses: (Food, gift cards, personal care items)	\$3,740.97
Ending Balance:	\$7189.79

Resources:

3SquaresVT 1-800-479-6151

Vermont Food Bank, 1-800-585-2265

Vermont 2-1-1, dial 211 or go to vermont211.org

Re-Treasured Community Closet, 802-222-0543

Groton Historical Society



Groton Depot By Eric Benson 2003
Baptist Church Pastor

Looking back on 2025 the GHS had a truly dynamic year with loads of community effort and fun. Individuals and groups worked on projects to preserve our history and to explore the ways our town's past enriches us, helps us understand the present and indulges our curiosity.

Next year is the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Neither Groton nor Vermont even existed in 1776, but we should celebrate this event because the Declaration of Independence announced the most hopeful moment for human beings the world had ever witnessed.

The concept that the pursuit of life, liberty and happiness was a right which could not be taken away, was a new idea. Although at the time it was limited to white men who owned land, eventually the Constitution was designed to be amended. Now in America, men and women of all colors are by nature and law considered equally free and independent and have the inherent right to pursue happiness.

Planning for the GHS's celebration for 2026 is underway. Hopefully we will come up with something that will make us think, learn and have some fun.

We will be kicking off 2026 with the celebration of an important acquisition the GHS has received; a 5.5' x 3' oil painting called "The Heifer" by Groton resident Altoon Sultan. She has lived in Groton since 1989. Her work is in many museum collections, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York: the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; the Library of Congress; and the Fleming Museum of the University of Vermont. If you have lived in Groton for at least 20 years or so you will recognize the old yellow barn that sat on the south side of Rt. 302 before the road was widened.

2026 will be a year of beauty and thought and community. Visit the GHS website to search all the old newsletters, watch videos, and email your questions www.grotonvthistory.com



Groton Community Club



The Groton Community Club enjoyed another successful year supporting our community and investing in local high school seniors as they pursue higher education after graduation.

This year, the Club awarded scholarships to eight graduating seniors, providing \$800 to each student for a total of \$3,600. These scholarships reflect our ongoing commitment to supporting the goals and aspirations of the next generation.

We also hosted our annual Chicken BBQ Ride-In at the Upper Valley Grill. Over 140 chicken meals were served, and riders and local community members alike came out to enjoy great food while supporting the Club's mission.

In addition, the Club held its annual smoker raffle, which was once again a strong success thanks to generous community participation.

Our annual Chicken Pie Supper was held in October and continued to be a highlight of the year. This year, we transitioned to digital ticketing and sold around 450 meals. The event was well attended, with full tables, full bellies, and a strong sense of community spirit.

We are deeply grateful for the continued support of our community and look forward to another successful year ahead.

Tracy Emerson
The Groton Community Club

Groton Community Garden

The Groton Community Garden – a program of The Growing Peace Project – delivered an abundance of fresh, healthy food to the community in its fifth productive year. This included a successful new “pick your own” approach. We enjoyed meeting and talking with the many people who came by to harvest and learn about food gardening, especially the many children who represent our next generation of food growers.

In May we co-hosted a Story Time and Pea Planting activity with the Groton Free Public Library and the Vermont Department of Public Health. In June, the garden participated in A Day in Our Village with a free tomato-pruning workshop, garden Q&As and of course free produce to take home. In July, we co-hosted a free, fresh-food workshop and lunch with the library and the Vermont Garden Network's “Veggie Van.”

As in year's past, we thank the many local gardeners who donated vegetable starts and seeds, the Black Dirt Farm, in Stannard, for a truckload of its beautiful organic compost, with special thanks to our mentor Jacqueline Labate, director of The Growing Peace Project, in Topsham.



Eradication of Japanese knotweed

Report from the Invasive Species Working Group

Our goal is to eradicate Japanese knotweed in Groton. This highly invasive plant is rapidly expanding on many properties throughout the town. Its damage to septic systems, wells, pipes, and foundations can be extremely expensive to repair, and just its presence can dramatically decrease property values. Some folks at the 2023 town meeting thought eradication was impossible, but our results have been stunning.

Over the past 3 years we have focused efforts on two areas along the Wells River. A grant from the State of Vermont funded treatment of the Memorial Park and neighboring properties along the river downtown. In July 2024, volunteers cut the tall knotweed canes. By September, small canes had reemerged and were much more manageable and susceptible to herbicide spray. Very limited reemergence occurred in 2025 and our treatment process was repeated. We expect to see very little if any recurrence in 2026, but we will continue to monitor and treat any that reappears.

Our second area of work is the Groton Gateway Park. Areas of the park treated in previous years have demonstrated remarkable control. In 2025, we finally cut and sprayed all the remaining knotweed at the park, including on the former GMP property that the town now owns.

This is a continuing multiyear project. Eradication requires repeated treatment over several years with ever decreasing knotweed. In some areas, no knotweed has recurred, but we will continue monitoring and treating as necessary. Our experience has concluded that the cut-and-spray method is the only affordable strategy that is effective in eradicating knotweed, particularly when the patches are large.

Our efforts have expanded beyond Groton as recognition of our success has spread. For example, we are now working with the Cross Vermont Trail in East Montpelier. We have also attended State meetings, interacted with volunteer groups from other towns, and are working with the UVM Extension Service to catalyze a State-wide program to enhance eradication efforts throughout the State.

For 2026, the Town has budgeted funds so we can continue to attack knotweed on the Gateway Park, and begin work behind the cemetery on Route 302. We will also extend our efforts further up and down the Wells River with permission of the owners and at no cost to them. Groton is home to the headwaters of the Wells River, and it is important that we prevent any more knotweed washing downstream to invade other properties after the next big storm.

Volunteers. This is an important long-term community project and we seek a few more volunteers. Most effort is needed for a couple of weeks in the summer when cutting the knotweed canes. This program would not have been possible without dedicated volunteers as well as Nick Smith, our State-certified pesticide contractor.

If you have Japanese knotweed on your property and have not discussed it with us, please contact us before it invades any further. This includes properties away from the river. We can advise how you can control your own knotweed, or our volunteers may be able to help at no cost to you. Please don't put it off as it is much easier to control when the patch is small. **Our contact is: Alan.R.Eastman@Dartmouth.edu.**

Summer 2024



Summer 2025



NEK Broadband

Over the past six years, Groton has been on a journey to bring reliable, high-speed internet to our community. Back in 2020, we voted to join NEK Broadband, a non-profit organization and part of a Communications Union District created to ensure every household – no matter how rural – has access to high-speed internet.

Since then, it's been steady progress forward. A key local milestone occurred when the Groton Selectboard dedicated a portion of ARPA funding to broadband infrastructure several years ago. The real game-changer came in fall 2024, when NEK Broadband and the Groton area were awarded a \$2.85 million USDA Community Connect Grant, with the agreement finalized in May 2025.

Construction began shortly thereafter and continued throughout much of the summer. The result: approximately 300 addresses in Groton and South Ryegate gained fiber internet access in 2025.

For information about service availability and ordering:

Current Service Area Map: <https://nekbroadband.org/map/>

Pricing & Service Offerings: <https://nekbroadband.org/pricing-service-offerings/>

Order or Pre-Register: <https://get.nekbroadband.org/>

The Community Connect Grant also funded The Community HUB – a free, digitally-enabled community space in Groton Village offering free internet, computers, and technology access for everyone. In July, Katie Moritz was hired as NEKCV's Communication Manager to operate the HUB from its Groton location.

The HUB received fiber service in December and has already begun serving the community. Working with Vermont Emergency Management, the space hosted an emergency management webinar in mid-December with 131 registered attendees from across the country. The Groton Free Public Library also held their cookie fundraiser at the HUB during the Winter Lights event in December.

In addition to workspace and video conferencing capabilities, once the buildout of the space is fully completed the HUB will also contain a soundproof privacy pod for meetings or telehealth appointments that will be able to hold up to four people (or accommodate a wheelchair and an assistant if the person using it needs one with them). A visual of the expected HUB floor plan has been provided below. Expect more activities in 2026 when everything is finished and the space expands its community offerings.

In conjunction with the grant, NEKCV has offered to donate \$17,000 to the Groton Free Public Library and \$10,000 to the South Ryegate Library to help expand their digital offerings. The South Ryegate Library has submitted equipment requests that NEKCV is working to fulfill. Additionally, plans are underway to install a public Wi-Fi hotspot at the Groton Nature Center later this year.

Thank you to the 55 participants who attended our two Broadband Information Sessions this year (January and June), and over 100 attendees at the Lake Groton Association annual meeting where we provided a broadband update. Special appreciation goes to the 167 people who responded to our HUB survey, helping identify local needs and shape the facility's future direction. This community input has been shared with NEKCV to guide their HUB planning.

This is about more than just connectivity – it's about opportunity. It's about giving our kids, families, and businesses the tools they need to thrive in the years ahead. Thank you for being part of this journey and for your ongoing support and engagement. Together, we're building a stronger future for Groton.

Sincerely,
Mike Gaiss & Martin Klein
Groton's Representatives on the NEKCV / NEK Broadband Governing Board





2025 ANNUAL REPORT

This year, we have been implementing our mission to ensure that unserved and underserved community members in the 72 towns that make up our communications union district have access to reliable, fast, and affordable fiber internet.

We did this through numerous efforts, including focusing on our internal processes, upgrading our financial and build software, and expanding our locally-sourced workforce. We also continued to fully integrate NEK Broadband and CVFiber into a single merged entity.

CONSTRUCTION AND SERVICE

Projected Growth by Year

2025		2026 projected	
Towns served	40	Towns served	55
Miles built	510	Miles built	555
Addresses passed	10,026	Addresses passed	15,000

10,026 
SERVICE AVAILABLE

1,055 
MILES OF NETWORK

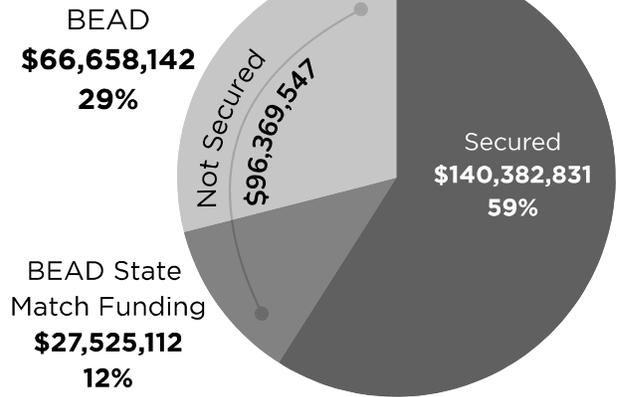
1,902 
CUSTOMERS SERVED



BUILDING CAPACITY

In 2025, we doubled the number of our staff for the 4th year in a row, and now we have 26 staff members. There were also 3 broadband training classes, and out of the 28 graduates, NEKCV employs eight class graduates.

TOTAL FUNDING



BUDGET SUMMARY

	2025 Budget	2025 Forecast	2026 Budget
INCOME			
Operations Revenue	\$2,047,769	\$1,890,583	\$3,524,616
RDOF Revenue	\$1,247,036	\$1,830,733	\$477,590
Ops & Admin Grant Revenue	\$3,856,318	\$8,708,463	\$8,000,707
Capital Investment Grant Revenue	\$36,529,448	\$17,208,689	\$34,997,009
Other Revenue	\$220,254	\$366,379	\$346,722
TOTAL REVENUE	\$43,900,825	\$30,004,848	\$47,346,644
EXPENSES			
Operational Costs excludes depreciation/amortization	\$1,247,036	\$1,057,340	\$1,671,193
Administrative Costs	\$3,856,318	\$3,634,149	\$5,089,496
TOTAL EXPENSES & COSTS	\$5,103,354	\$4,691,489	\$6,760,689
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATIONS	\$38,797,471	\$25,313,359	\$40,585,955
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	\$36,529,448	\$18,802,570	\$33,269,506
ANNUAL NET CASHFLOW	\$2,268,023	\$6,510,789	\$7,316,448
PRIOR YEAR SURPLUS			\$6,510,789
TOTAL SURPLUS			\$13,827,238
NON-CASH COSTS depreciation/amortization		\$2,800,000	\$4,430,648

SIGN UP FOR UPDATES

To order our service, get updates, or sign up for our newsletter, visit get.nekbroadband.org or cvfiber.net

NEKCV is a communications union district (CUD) that aims to provide high-speed internet access to 72 towns across the Northeast Kingdom and Central Vermont.

Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP) Grant Update (thru Oct. 29, 2025)

MERP is a State of Vermont grant program to help municipalities improve energy resilience in their public buildings. It funds projects to lower energy use, operating costs, and greenhouse gas emissions through measures like weatherization, fuel switching improvements, renewable energy, and battery storage.

In December 2024, Groton was awarded a \$397,000 MERP grant requiring no town matching funds. The original grant provided funding for weatherization, thermal efficiency improvements, renewable energy heating systems, HVAC improvements, and lighting upgrades for our three municipal buildings (Community Building, Fire Station, Town Garage). In addition, funds were awarded to cover the costs of additional energy resilience projects (e.g., solar panels, battery storage, EV charging technology).

Project Development

Given the project's complexity along with regional challenges securing bids, we engaged Cx Associates to validate building needs, identify potential grant amendments, and develop detailed RFP specifications.

A May 8th kickoff meeting with Cx Associates and all relevant town departments established our coordinated approach. This was followed by site visits with Vermont Building & General Services (BGS) on July 3rd and Efficiency Vermont on July 11th.

Grant Amendment

Based on recommendations from Efficiency Vermont and Cx Associates, we successfully amended the grant agreement to:

- Community Building: Add option for two pellet boilers or one pellet boiler with small propane boiler.
- Fire Station: Replace pellet stove with hybrid furnace heat pump (electric/propane)
- Town Garage: Remove original HVAC requirements.
- Accelerate solar panel installation to 2025 to capture 30% Direct Pay incentive (generating \$25K-\$37K in additional funding).

The amended agreement was signed following the August 6th Selectboard meeting.

Financial Impact

Working with Catamount Solar, Green Mountain Solar, and Sun Common, we developed an economic model projecting annual energy savings of \$7,946-\$14,303, totaling \$159K-\$286K over 20 years (at current energy prices). In conjunction, DeWolf Consulting certified the Community Building roof can support solar panels.

Additionally, news in September of Vermont's decision to redistribute returned MERP funds created opportunity for additional project funding in 2027. Combined with projected energy savings and solar incentives, we were optimistically confident that we had a viable path for turning the original \$397K grant into an eventual \$600K-\$800K total financial impact for the town while also helping to futureproof against rising energy costs.

Procurement

Four RFPs were posted on August 28th. A Pre-Bid Site Visit Day was hosted on September 18th. Bids opened at the October 8th Selectboard meeting yielded three energy improvements proposals for the three municipal buildings and four solar/battery/EV charger proposals. At the October 22nd Selectboard meeting (video recording at (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RBa5Hq16TTA>), bid reviews and recommendations were presented and discussed.

Project transition to new town contacts was completed October 29th. We thank all partners, officials, and bidders who contributed to this initiative.

Mike Gaiss & Dennis Casey, Groton MERP Project Volunteers (through October 29, 2025)

CALEDONIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

970 Memorial Drive
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
(802)748-6666

SHERIFF BRANDON THRAILKILL

The first half of 2025 was something our staff hopes never to endure again. In March we lost Sheriff James Hemond to a terrible disease which in multiple ways left our Department with a large void and not many clear answers. For nearly 2 months our Department was in what I would describe as “limbo mode” while maintaining a balance of our services. Following Sheriff Hemond’s passing, we also lost some staff which created an additional strain on our already vulnerable position.

At the end of April, I was appointed by Governor Phil Scott as Sheriff of the Caledonia County Sheriff’s Department. I have been with the Caledonia County Sheriff’s Department for approximately 4.5 years serving as a State Transport Deputy before being promoted to Lieutenant and then ultimately to Captain. I take this appointment seriously, pridefully and look forward to continuing the development of this exceptional Department for years to come.

Since May, we have hired 5 full-time Deputies. For the first time in approximately 18 years one of our full-time Deputies is slated to attend the Level III Basic Training Police Academy as another new Deputy will attend the Level II Academy in early 2026

2025 may have challenged us, and tested us on many levels, but it did not break our spirit or commitment to serving our communities. We pressed on and accomplished many great things. We acquired a new patrol contract with Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital (NVRH), our monthly patrols across the 12 Towns that we are contracted with increased extensively and for the first time in several years the Caledonia County Sheriff’s Department provided security at the Caledonia County Fair without the assistance of outside agencies. We retained our ATV patrols and provided security at numerous weekend events. As we acquired full-time staff, we re-negotiated our Caledonia Court contract to provide 3 Deputies Monday through Friday.

While fulfilling our daily operations and obligations, we formed a strong working relationship with the Lyndonville Police Department where we assisted on multiple search warrants in the northern part of the County. We are a drug takeback location and participate in the Prescription Drug Take Back days through the Vermont DEA. We offer civil fingerprinting, by appointment for various career and coaching applications. We also have a car seat technician available to answer questions regarding car seats.

This year we added our Department as a Santa Fund Drop-off location. We also offered a community-based Holiday gift certificate giveaway called, Where is the Cruiser? This has been a great way to engage with the people of our communities. We applied for and received grants for Highway Safety to provide additional patrols throughout the County.

This Department has made an incredible comeback in a time where law enforcement Departments are struggling with recruitment. We thrive and will continue to grow effectively and responsibly. You can find us on Facebook where we work to provide consistent updates about Department events.

Respectfully, Sheriff Brandon Thrailkill

2026 HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE Collection Schedule

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
SATURDAY, MAY 9	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Maidstone, Town Hall
SATURDAY, MAY 16	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Corinth, Transfer Station
SATURDAY, MAY 23	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Jay/Troy, Transfer Station
SATURDAY, JUNE 6	9:00 a.m. – 1:00p.m.	Derby, Recycling Center
SATURDAY, JUNE 20	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Glover, Recycling Center
SATURDAY, AUGUST 8	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Danville, Recycling Center
SATURDAY, AUGUST 15	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Waterford, Transfer Station
SATURDAY, AUGUST 22	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Barnet, Recycling Center
SATURDAY, SEPT. 26	8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Lyndon, Recycling Center

The NEKWMD reserves the right to terminate any collection early in the event that we are at storage capacity. Please limit HHW disposal at listed events to 25 gallons. If you have more than 25 gallons, please call our office to schedule an appointment at our Lyndonville facility, May 5 – October 1, 2026.

Not going to be able to make any of these dates? NOT A PROBLEM! The NEKWMD will be accepting these materials by appointment at our Lyndonville facility from May 5, 2026 to October 1, 2026. Due to regulatory handling requirements, hazardous wastes will not be accepted without an appointment. Scheduling ahead ensures that a qualified individual will be on-site ready to accept your hazardous waste.

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

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

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

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

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

Explosive- can explode with exposure to heat or pressure

Flammable/Ignitable- can easily be set on fire

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

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

Poison means that the substance is highly toxic.

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

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

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

The NEKWMD hazardous waste collection program is made possible in part by a grant from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. This year's grant totaled \$73,093.00

Acceptable HHW Materials

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

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

GARDEN SUPPLIES

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

GARAGE

- ANTIFREEZE
- BRAKE FLUID *
- CORROSIVES

- CAR WAXES AND CLEANERS

GARAGE (CONTINUED)

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

* ALSO ACCEPTED AT OIL AND BATTERY STATIONS YEAR ROUND

PLEASE DO NOT BRING:

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

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

The NEKWMD hazardous waste collection program is made possible in part by a grant from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. This year's grant totaled \$73,093.00

Town Building's Use Policy

Town Buildings play an important role in our community and we hope to promote their use while continuing to meet the growing cost of maintenance. We ask that those using the facilities contribute a portion of the money required to cover the cost of cleaning, utilities, heating, and general upkeep.

Taxpayer money provides for the bulk of this financial burden but a portion of the increased maintenance cost is due to the increased use and needs. Increased activity has also required that our scheduling policy be updated to allow for more residents and diverse activities to be accommodated.

All Town Buildings will be available for public use providing there is no conflict with Town-sponsored activities.

Town Building usage by town residents shall take precedence over non-resident, non-profit, or private use.

Space will be scheduled in hourly segments with a fee of **\$10.00** per hour for residents & **\$25.00** per hour for non-residents.

The daily charge for renting Tables and Chairs and taking them off site:

- Plastic 8 Foot Table- \$1.00
- Metal folding chairs-\$.50

There will be a separate **\$100.00** cleaning and damage deposit at the time the reservations are made and paid in advance. It will be returned after the space has been determined to be clean and damage free. If it is paid by check the check will be shredded or mailed back at the renter's request. If it is paid by cash then the renter needs to come in to the office to pick it up. Cash will not be mailed. **If the cash has not been picked up within 30 days after the rental it will become a donation to the Community Building Reserve Fund.**

Multiple day events will cost a minimum \$200.00 plus the \$100.00 deposit fee.

A Donation for the use of Ballfields and Parks would be appreciated.

Funeral related events will be charged a flat fee of \$20.00 for non-residents and free to residents.

The Town of Groton will need to be listed as a Certificate Holder for General Liability Insurance. Specifics can be found at the Town Treasurer's Office.

The Town Building Rental Form and Release of Responsibility Form will be available at the Town Clerk's office during regular business hours and are also available on the Town website.

It is the responsibility of the individuals or groups using Town Buildings to clean the rented space and to take the trash with them. The key must be returned promptly after the function. Keys shall not be duplicated. There is a mail drop slot to the left of the Town Clerk's door that is available **24/7**. Please use it for key drop off and payment of fees.

Please do NOT park in front of the Fire Station doors!

Misuse of any of the Groton Town Building Facilities and/or premises and/or failure to comply with the above policy, or any of the rules will result in immediate revocation of permission to use any of the facilities in the future.

Updated February 20, 2025

VETERAN'S EXEMPTION

Disabled veterans who own their homes (in fee simple) may be eligible for a property tax exemption. The exemption reduces the assessed value of the property, lowering the veteran's property taxes. See [32 V.S.A. § 3802](#).

State law mandates a minimum \$10,000 property tax exemption for veterans in both the municipal and education grand list. Cities and towns may vote to increase the exemption up to \$40,000 in the municipal grand list. The taxable value (not resale value) of a veteran's property will be reduced by the amount of the exemption. Veterans are eligible for the exemption in one of three circumstances:

Disability compensation for 50% or higher disability, or
Veterans Pension for Non-Service Connected Disability, also known as V.A. Pension or
Widower's Pension ("improved pension"), or
Military retirement pay for a permanent medical military retirement

How to Apply

If a disability qualifies a veteran for this exemption, the federal Department of Veterans Affairs will issue a downloadable [Summary of Benefits Letter](#). Submit the letter, along with the current year's [Property Tax Exemption Application](#) to the [Vermont Office of Veterans Affairs](#) by May 1 of each year. The application must be submitted every year to maintain the exemption.

Please note: The exemption is available to unremarried surviving spouses and minor children of veterans who met the eligibility criteria at the time of their death.

More info at www.veterans.vt.gov, form at <https://veterans.vermont.gov/sites/ova/files/documents/Property%20Tax%20Application.pdf>

VOTERS ONLINE REGISTRATION

www.vote.vermont.gov

Enter your information to register or login. When logged in, you can view your:

- Voter registration status
- Absentee ballot requests
- Voter participation history
- Polling place information
- Municipal clerk information
- Elected officials listing
- Sample ballots
- Personalized Voter Guide
- And more!

Resource List

Suicide and Crisis Lifeline - 988

Vermont Suicide Prevention Hotline - 800-273-8255

Substance Abuse - VT Help link - call 802-565-LINK (5465) or visit VTHelpLink.org for free and Confidential alcohol and drug support and referral services if you or someone you know needs help

The Vermont Network against Domestic and Sexual Violence -
Domestic Violence Hotline- 800-228-7395
Sexual Violence Hotline - 800-489-7273

Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging
481 Summer St #101, St Johnsbury VT 05819 - 800-642-5119

Green Mountain Support Services -
93 James Road, Morrisville VT 05661 - 802-888-7602
1222 Main St. Suite 102, St Johnsbury VT 05819 - 802-424-1636
After Hours on call Pager: 802-741-7515 or you can e-mail info@gmssi.org

VT Office of Veteran's Affairs - 802-828-3379 or visit the website at veterans.vermont.gov
Veterans in Crisis - 800-273-8255 - Press 1 to reach the VA Hotline -
Counselors are available 24 hours.

Pathways Vermont - Supportive Services for Veterans and Families -
P0 Box #127 Winooski, VT 05404 - info@pathwaysvermont.org 888-492-8218

Vermont State Police-802-748-3111 <https://vsp.vermont.gov/stations/stjohnsbury>

Caledonia County Sheriff's Dept.-802-748-6666, <https://caledoniasheriff.org>

VT Game Warden-802-751-0103, <https://www.vtfishandwildlife.com/contact/contact-a-warden>

DCF-802-748-8374, <https://dcf.vermont.gov/>

St. Johnsbury Local Health Office Annual Report: 2025

There are twelve Local Health Offices in Vermont, linking communities to the Department of Health. The St. Johnsbury office covers towns in Caledonia, Southern Essex, and parts of Orange counties. Below are some highlights from 2025. For more details, visit HealthVermont.gov/local/st-johnsbury. If you need help accessing or understanding this information, contact AHS.VDHStJohnsbury@Vermont.gov

Supporting Children and Families



- Supported more than 750 of our pregnant neighbors, infants and children under the age of 5 each month in our WIC program. WIC offers healthy foods, breastfeeding help, nutrition advice and links to community programs.
- Joined community partners at events that provided educational, recreational, healthcare and social connection opportunities for children, youth and families.
- Partnered with Salvation Farms to provide free seasonal produce to families.
- Hosted the infant comfort station at the Caledonia County Fair, providing a clean and quiet space for breastfeeding, diaper changing and other family needs.

Resilient and Responsive

- Vaccinated uninsured and underinsured children and adults for flu, COVID and other infectious diseases.
- Provided guidance to daycares, schools, healthcare facilities and individuals on how to limit the spread of disease, prevent and respond to outbreaks, and enhance health across the lifespan.
- Held Emergency Preparedness Neighbor Up! Nights with the Medical Reserve Corps and the St. Johnsbury Community HUB. Here we shared strategies for how to be ready for future emergencies like floods, storms and other unexpected events, providing “go kits” for community members to take home.



Working Together to Build Healthier Communities



- Participated in our region’s accountable health community, NEK Prosper!, and supported initiatives like the Gear Lending Library and the collaborative Community Health Needs Assessment.
- Our staff served on boards, advisory panels and executive committees of community organizations such as: kuRRve, NKHS, Northeast Vermont Prevention Consortium, Northeastern Vermont Prevention Coalition, NEK Community Advisory Board of BC/BS of Vermont.



HealthVermont.gov/local/st-johnsbury
802-748-5151



MARRIAGES

<u>DATE</u>	<u>APPLICANT</u>	<u>APPLICANT</u>
JUNE 14, 2025	SHELBY CHRISTINE PETERS	ADAM JOSEPH MAXWELL
AUG. 31, 2025	MADYSEN LYNN HARRINGTON	DYLAN JOESEPH SMITH
SEPT. 13, 2025	JESSICA ELAINE MCDERMOTT	REESE HARTSON MILES
OCT. 4, 2025	BRIANNA ROSE BATHALON	CARSON WILLIAM STE. MARIE
OCT. 25, 2025	HALEY FRANCES NEWLAND	ISAAC COCHRAN FRENCH
OCT. 25, 2025	JORDYN ELIZABETH FIELDS	CARSON WILLIAM STE. MARIE
DEC. 21, 2025	COURTNEY ALANNA FERRIS	PHILIP JERALD LORD

BIRTHS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>MOTHER</u>	<u>FATHER</u>
GEORGIA MAIREAD PAGE	SAMANTHA PAGE	WILLIS PAGE
LIAM GABRIEL ELDRED	BRIANNA ELDRED	ROBERT ELDRED
HALLIE MAE HAYWARD	TYNIKA OLIVER	TODD HAYWARD
PETER JACKSON MAXWELL	SHELBY MAXWELL	ADAM MAXWELL
RHIELLA PEARL HERNANDEZ	MACKENZIE CARLE	JUAN HERNANDEZ

DEATHS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>
JOHANNA WILEY	73
HAROLD WILLIAMS JR	83
MADELINE DANA	97
BROCK HOUGHTON	26
ERNEST BATCHELDER	84
JAMES CILLEY	
VIKKI FOWLER-FUNK	66
AVIS ROYSTON	88

INFORMATION FROM STATE OF VERMONT VITAL RECORDS

**ALL DOGS MUST BE LICENSED BY
APRIL 1, 2026!**

Dog License Fees

**Intact Male or Female Dogs - \$16.00 by
April 1st**

**Altered Male or Female Dogs - \$12.00
by April 1st**

After April 1st additional fees will be added



VERMONT STATE LAW

In accordance with VSA 20 (3581) all Dogs shall be licensed by April 1st of each year. Or

You will be in violation of this Vermont Statute and of The Town Ordinance.

Pursuant to 20 V.S.A. § 3621, the Groton Selectboard will issue a warrant to impound or find homes or destroy all unlicensed dogs and wolf hybrids in the town. Pursuant to the warrant and 20 V.S.A. § 3624, the Constable and Animal Control Officer are required by law within 90 days to destroy all such unlicensed dogs and wolf hybrids within the town. A person who fails to license a dog or wolf-hybrid in the required manner shall be fined up to \$500.00.

WE DO NOT WANT TO TAKE YOUR ANIMALS, BUT STATE LAW REQUIRES US TO IMPOUND UNLICENSED DOGS!

You will need to show a recent rabies certificate and a spayed or neutered certificate if your dog(s) has been altered. If you no longer have this animal, please contact the Groton Town Clerk to let her know.

Groton Town Clerk's hours - Monday through Thursday 8:00 am –4:00 pm

Dropbox located inside the entranceway to the left of the Town Clerk's door, is open 24/7 to drop off paperwork and fees.

THERE IS **NO** RABIES CLINIC SCHEDULED IN GROTON FOR 2026

Go to <https://dcf.vermont.gov/benefits/vsnip> for information about VT Spay Neuter Incentive Program