

Town of Vernon, Vermont



**TOWN AND SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANNUAL REPORT**

YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025

NOTES

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**ANNUAL REPORT-VERNON, VERMONT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING
JUNE 30, 2025**

**TOWN MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
MONDAY, MARCH 2nd at VERNON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
at 6:30 PM**

**THIS MEETING WILL INCLUDE THE TOWN BUDGET AND
ARTICLES VOTED ON THE FLOOR**

**VOTING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 3rd
7 AM TO 7 PM AT VERNON TOWN HALL**

**PLEASE BRING THIS REPORT WITH YOU TO THE
IN-PERSON TOWN MEETING**

**A special thank you to the Cemetery
Committee and The Governor Hunt House for
submitting pictures for pages 26, 29 & 30.**

VERNON TOWN OFFICE HOURS*

TOWN CLERK

Monday through Thursday 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM
and by appointment

TOWN TREASURER

Monday through Thursday 6:00 AM – 4:00 PM

VERNON FREE LIBRARY

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday	1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Tuesday	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM & 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Friday	Closed
Saturday	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

***Subject to Change**

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Sheriff.....	365-4942
Fire.....	254-2425
Town Offices.....	257-0292
Vernon Elementary	254-5373
Vernon Free Library.....	254-0150
Town Garage.....	254-9428
Recreation Area.....	254-9251
Health Officer.....	451-6842
Fire Warden.....	254-8185

Animal Control Windham County Sheriff Officer Ashley Pinger.. 365-4942

REGULAR MEETINGS *

SCHOOL BOARD

2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 6:00 PM

SELECT BOARD

1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM

SENIOR CITIZENS

2nd Monday of each month at Noon-Potluck (Business Meeting)

4th Monday of each month at 1:00 PM (Blood Pressure and Birthday Social)

VERNON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM

WINDHAM REGIONAL COMMISSION (WRC)

Last Tuesday of every month at 6:00 PM (Winter) 7:00 PM (Summer)

WINDHAM SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (WSWMD)

2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM

FIREFIGHTER & EMS Personnel Training

Every Tuesday at 6:30 PM

PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM

VERNON FREE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2nd Wednesday of each month at 5:45 PM

***Subject to Change**

TOWN INFORMATION

TOWN OFFICERS 2024-2025

TOWN MODERATOR

Kerry Amidon...2026

TOWN AND SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK

Vacant

TOWN AND TOWN SCHOOL

DISTRICT TREASURER

Kathy Walker, Interim2026

SELECT PERSON (3-year term)

Jim Pinkerton, Jr..2027

Sandra Harris....2028

Jean Carr..... 2026

SELECT PERSON (2-year term)

Brandon Bucossi2027

Shelli Harvey..... ...2026

LISTERS (3-year term)

Jesse Jobin.....,.....2028

Chad Baldwin.....2026

Judy Miller (appointed)..2026

1st CONSTABLE

Jesse Jobin.....,.....,.....2026

2nd CONSTABLE

Chad Baldwin.....2026

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR

Marylynn Scherlin.....2026

SCHOOL DIRECTORS (3-year term)

Kerry Amidon.....2026

Cheryl Brown.....2028

Julie Stoughton.....2028

SCHOOL DIRECTORS (2-year term)

Daniel Amidon.....2026

Katherine Baldwin.....2027

WINDHAM-5 DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

Zon Eastes

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Cassie Sailsman (Ch.).....2025

Julie Nevins (Vice Ch.)....2027

Kristen Bratton (Clerk)....2025

Nicole Deyo (Secretary)...2027

Wendy Schumway (Appointed)...2026

MARSH FUND COMMITTEE*

James Brown.....Sandra Harris

MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE*

Peter Miller and Angela Miller* voted at Town Meeting

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Susan Arsenault.....Timothy Arsenault

David Emery.....Sandra Harris

Susan Miller.....Robert Miller, Jr.

Nancy Gassett.....Jesse Jobin

Lynda Starorypinski

BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY

Susan Arsenault..... Timothy Arsenault (Ch.).

Jean Carr.....Shelli Harvey

Sandra Harris.....David Emery

Susan Miller..... Robert Miller, Jr

Nancy Gassett.....Marylynn Scherlin

Jim Pinkerton, Jr.....Brandon Bucossi

TOWN CLERK AND TREASURER

APPOINTMENTS

Town Clerk.....Heidi Johnson Clement

Assistant Town Clerk.....Timothy Arsenault

Interim Treasurer.....Katherine Walker

Book Keeper.....June Turner

SELECTBOARD APPOINTMENTS

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR.....Shelly Banford

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Melissa Allen (Ch.).....Joyce Goodnow

Georgia Boyce.....Sandra Harris

Rita Mudd.....June Turner

SENIOR SOLUTIONS.....Marylynn Scherlin

DRUG & ALCOHOL TESTING.....Roland Walker

E-911 CONTACT

Timothy Arsenault.....Roland Walker

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.....David Emery

HEALTH OFFICER.....Mark Snow

POUND KEEPER- Windham County Humane Society

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER.....

Windham Sheriff Dept. Deputy, Ashley Pinger

ELDERLY ASSISTANCE BOARD

Marylynn Scherlin (Ch.)

Sandra Harris (Vice Chair).....Sharon Richardson

Heather Duke.....Sheila Hasil

Vacant (2 seats)

FARMLAND PROTECTION ADV. COMMITTEE

Arthur Miller (Ch.).....Skip Baldwin
Jeff Hardy.....Madeline Arms

FENCE VIEWERS

Munson Hicks.....Rory Underwood

GREEN UP DAY COORDINATOR-Hannah Rosinski**INSPECTOR OF WOOD, SHINGLES & LUMBER**

Munson Hicks.....George Pond

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER.....Brattleboro Reformer**PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEV. COMMITTEE**

James Pinkerton, Jr. (Ch.).....Madeline Arms
Bob Spencer(V.CH.).....Russ Rosinski
Brandon Bucossi

RECREATION DIRECTOR.....Seth Deyo

Assistant.....Ian Deyo

RECREATION BOARD.....Jason O'Brien (Ch.)

Adam Rittenhour.....Dani Alexander
Emily Patno.....Amy Emery

RESCUE INC. REPRESENTATIVE

Tasha Meadows

ROAD COMMISSIONER.....Roland D. Walker, Jr.**TOWN ATTORNEY**.....Salmon & Nostrand**TOWN FOREST SUPERVISOR**.....Seth Deyo

AssistantIan Deyo

TOWN SERVICE OFFICER.....Marylynn Scherlin

TREE WARDEN.....Roland Walker, Jr.

TOWN BUS DRIVERS

Reita Lashway.....Cindy Symons

VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Chad Mulverhill

WEIGHER OF COAL

Christiane Howe.....Deborah Berryere

WINDHAM REGIONAL COMMISSION

Jim Pinkerton.....Ian Hefele

WINDHAM SOLID WASTE DISTRICT REP.

Jim Pinkerton

Fire Department Officers

Chief- Alex Dunklee
Assistant Chief- Timothy Alexander
Fire Captain- Travis Franklin
EMS Captain- Tasha Meadows
EMS Lieutenant- Jason Veaudry
Chaplain- Bruce Burks

Firefighters/ EMS

John Wheelden.....Katie Halkett
Sabrina KrafchukKeith Franklin
Michael RootChristopher Kempf
Beth Houle.....Katie Richardson
Jada UnruhJosh Kubecka
Kyle May

Junior Members

Connor Griffus

Support

Tina FranklinJean Carr
Tiffany ShelleyVictoria Hall
Jonathan Hall.....Michael Cutter
Tim Meadows

TOWN PROPERTY INVENTORY

BUILDINGS AND LAND

Town Office Building
Gazebo
North School
South School
Fire Station
Recreation Area
Garages & Salt Shed
J. Maynard Miller Forest
Cemeteries
Miscellaneous Land Parcels

2018 Case Loader Model 621B
2015 John Deere 6501D
w/ Tiger Bengal
mid mount mower 60"
1994 Morbark Chipper
1991 Sweepster Model P84
Radios
HTC Shoulder Machine
Lenovo keyboard, Samsung screen & HP Printer
Miscellaneous Garage, Office & Highway equip.

TOWN OFFICES

Computers & Printers
Photocopiers
Safes
Office Equipment & Furnishings
Sound System
Custodial Equipment
Vote scanning machine

FIRE DEPARTMENT

2000 Custom KME Pumper Truck - Engine 3
2015 Ford F-350 Rescue Vehicle 1
1994 Freightliner Pumper/Tanker - Tanker 1
2015 E-One Pumper Truck - Engine 1
2023 Ford Brush Truck - Brush 1
Bauer Breathing Air Fill Station
Base Radio
Mobile Radios
Portable Radios
Pagers
Computers and Printers
Atmospheric Monitoring Equipment
Thermal Imaging Camera
20 Scott Air Packs and 40 Cylinders
Automatic External Defibrillators
Turnout gear
Fog machine
Life Pac 12, 2 Batteries
Holmatro Automobile Extraction Equipment
Firefighting Hose, Tools & Equipment
Office Equipment and Furnishings

LIBRARY

Computers
Printer, Copier/fax machine
Equipment & Furnishings
Books, DVDs, audios, etc.

VERNON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Stationary Communications Equipment
Winco Generator (siren)
Portable Radios
Siren & Signal Box
Office Equipment & Furnishings
Dell Computer; Canon Fax; HP Jet Printer
MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT
48K Kohler Generator

RECREATION

Area Equipment
Pool Equipment
Tools & Equipment
Games & Activity Equipment
Mowers
Office Equipment & Furnishings

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

2010 Diesel Int'l Dump Truck w/ Tenco Dump body, plow & wing
2013 Diesel Int'l Dump Truck w/ Tenco Dump body, plow & wing
2008 Case 580 Super M Series III Backhoe
2021 Western Star Dump Truck W/Tenco Dump body, plow & wing
2003 Ford One Ton Truck, Dump body w/plow and Torwell Sander
2023 Chevrolet pick-up truck
1988 Caterpillar Grader w/ plow & wing

REVENUE FUNDS

REAPPRAISAL FUND

Balance – July 1, 2024		147,965.54
ADD:		
Interest	3,823.76	
Dividends	430.03	
Net Investment Gains	1,740.44	
St of VT Listers Training	7,888.00	
State EEGL Assistance	928.00	
	14,810.23	
DEDUCT:		
Net Investment Losses	1,010.45	
Professional Services		
	(1,010.45)	
BALANCE – June 30, 2025		161,765.32

This fund is invested with M & T Bank

TOWN UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FUND

Balance – July 1, 2024		18,125.49
ADD:		
Interest	61.25	
Dividends	312.39	
Net Investment Gains	1,264.37	
(Realized & Unrealized)		
	1,638.01	
DEDUCT:		
Net Investment Losses	734.04	
Unemployment payments		
	(734.04)	
BALANCE – June 30, 2025		19,029.46

This fund is invested with M & T Bank

J. MAYNARD MILLER FOREST FUND

Balance – July 1, 2024		169,413.14
ADD:		
Interest	24.71	
Dividends	2,857.37	
Net Investment Gains	11,564.28	
	14,446.36	
DEDUCT:		
Net Investment Losses	6,714.07	
Town Forest Maintenance	3,714.12	(10,428.19)
BALANCE - June 30, 2025		173,431.31

This fund is invested with M & T Bank

VERNON ELDERLY ASSISTANCE FUND

Balance – July 1, 2024		37,202.91
ADD:		
Interest	7.10	
Town Mtg Appropriation	5,000.00	5,007.10
DEDUCT:		
Assistance to Residents	4,509.20	(4,509.20)
BALANCE - June 30, 2025		37,700.81

FARMLAND PROTECTION FUND

Balance – July 1, 2024		237,708.81
ADD:		
Interest	2,971.44	
Dividends	2,757.40	
Investment Gains	11,159.87	16,888.71
DEDUCT:		
Net Investment Losses	6,479.16	
		(6,479.16)
BALANCE June 30, 2025		248,118.36

*Of this amount, \$2,720.57 is left to be used for expenses of the Farmland Protection Advisory Committee, as voted at Town Meeting on March 6, 1984. **This fund is invested with M & T Bank**

TOWN CLERK RESTORATION RESERVE FUND

Balance – July 1, 2024		39,205.26
ADD:		
Interest	1,220.70	
Town Clerk Remittance	6,153.00	
		7,373.70
DEDUCT:		
Records Restoration	3,158.87	
		(3,158.87)
BALANCE - June 30, 2025		43,420.09

*This fund is to be used only for the purpose of records preservation.

This Fund is invested with M & T Bank.

DOG FUND

Balance – July 1, 2024		19,635.36
ADD:		
Interest	491.24	
Impound Fees		
Licenses	3,154.00	
		3,645.24
DEDUCT:		
Humane Society Contract	385.00	
Tags and Supplies	274.51	
Animal Control	5,379.96	
State of VT-License Fees	1,821.00	
		(7,860.47)
BALANCE - June 30, 2025		15,420.13

This fund is invested with M & T Bank.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FUND

Balance – July 1, 2024		90,875.17
ADD:		
Interest	459.33	
Dividends	697.99	
Town Mtg Appropriation	25,000.00	
Net Investment Gains	2,824.99	
		28,982.31
DEDUCT:		
Professional Services	156,498.56	
, FY22/23 A/P		
Net Investment Losses	1,640.10	
		(158,138.66)
BALANCE - June 30, 2025		(38,281.18)

At Town Meeting, March 1999, this fund was established by Article 11 with the remaining monies from the Act 60 Legal Services appropriation that had been raised under Article 2 in May, 1997.

The purpose of this fund is to represent the Town of Vernon's position on issues relating to utilities.

The fund is invested with M & T Bank

EMERGENCY MEDICAL & AMBULANCE SVC. FUND

Balance – July 1, 2024		96,593.36
ADD:		
Interest	3.08	
Dividends	<u>1,877.58</u>	
Net Investment Gains	<u>7,599.15</u>	
		9,479.81
DEDUCT:		
Rescue Subscriptions	120.00	
Net Investment Losses	<u>4,411.82</u>	
		(4,531.82)
BALANCE - June 30, 2025		101,541.35

At Town Meeting, March 2004, Article 20 voted to change the policy for Rescue, Inc. reimbursements so that the Town does not pay for the first service but rather encourage households to purchase subscriptions every year and for the Town to pay for subscriptions out of this fund for households that can't afford the cost of the subscription. **The fund is invested with M & T Bank**

PAY AS YOU THROW FUND

Balance – July 1, 2024		10,924.15
ADD:		
Interest	928.49	
Trash Bag Sales	<u>8,781.50</u>	
		9,709.99
DEDUCT:		
Supplies		
Rebate on trash bags	187.50	
Tipping Fee	<u>10,427.34</u>	
Refuse Collection		
		(10,614.84)
BALANCE - June 30, 2025		10,019.30

**JAMES CUSICK SCHOLARSHIP FUND
TOWN OF VERNON REQUIREMENTS**

1. An application shall be submitted to the Selectboard Chairperson or the Town Clerk no later than 4:00 P.M. *or the close of normal business hours* on July 1st of each year.
2. Any Vernon resident as determined by V.S.A. 16: 1075 may apply for a scholarship for assistance for up to a total of four years, each year the resident may reapply. The purpose of the scholarship fund is for the resident to further their education or training upon receipt of a high school diploma or an equivalent as determined by the Vermont Department of Education. The resident shall become eligible for the scholarship upon receipt of the application by the Selectboard Chairperson *or the Town Clerk* within six years of the date of graduation. A resident becomes ineligible at the end of the sixth year from when his/her high school diploma or equivalent certificate was awarded.
3. Applicant must have been eligible to attend the Vernon School system for a minimum of five academic years as a resident immediately prior to receipt of the high school diploma or the equivalent.
4. Each full-time resident recipient shall receive \$1,000.00 (or the amount voted) for two semesters at an institution of higher learning, a certified training center, or a vocational school. If the amount of the appropriation is not sufficient, it shall be divided equally among the students selected.
5. For less than a full-time post-secondary status, a pro-rata reduction in the amount of the scholarship will be made, but in no case will a less than 50% status for an academic year, as determined by the school, be eligible for the scholarship.
6. The student is responsible to provide verification to the Town Clerk by January 15 that they have completed the first semester and are enrolled for the second semester. Acceptable forms of verification are: Verification form provided by the Town Clerk, Student grade report,

Tuition bill, Letter of enrollment, and any other official document form from the school that satisfies the enrollment verification.

7. Checks will be issued each year during the last two weeks of January, payable to the Vernon resident and mailed to the student's home address unless otherwise stipulated.

8. Any scholarship recipient, whose status changes during or before the academic year, is fully responsible for notifying the Town Clerk of the change. Any scholarship recipient who receives an award for which they are ineligible due to *said status change*, residency, or other requirements outlined above, will be responsible for reimbursing the town within ninety days.

9. The Selection Committee is the Chairperson of the Vernon School Board, Chairperson of the Vernon Selectboard, and the Principal of the Vernon Elementary School. All decisions of the Committee shall be by majority vote. The Selection Committee will review applications no later than July 15th. Students will be notified within five days of the Committee's decision.

Any request for reconsideration must be made in writing within ten calendar days following the initial decision. The request must be made by the resident and must cite the specific details needing to be reconsidered. Any reconsideration of the Committee's decision must be made by a majority vote of the Committee and the decision of the Committee is final. Application forms are available at the Vernon Town Clerk's Office.

JAMES CUSICK SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Balance – July 1, 2024		29,632.74
ADD:		
Interest	27.24	
Dividends	48.28	
Net Investment Gains	<u>195.40</u>	
		270.92
DEDUCT:		
2022/2023 Scholarships		
Net Investment Losses	<u>113.43</u>	
		(113.43)
BALANCE – June 30, 2025		29,790.23

At Town Meeting, February 28, 2011, it was voted by Article 20 that the following restriction be placed upon this Fund: No more than \$40,000.00 shall be disbursed in any year and after five (5) years the Selectboard shall review the disbursement guidelines, as well as the appropriation disbursement levels. Applications and guidelines are available at the Town Clerk's Office.

This fund is invested with M & T Bank

CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS

EMERGENCY CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Balance – July 1, 2024		1,249,794.13
ADD:		
Interest	52.12	
Net Investment Gains	<u>97,451.10</u>	
Investment Income	<u>24,077.48</u>	
		121,580.70
DEDUCT:		
Transfer to Capital Plan		
Net Investment Losses	<u>56,575.92</u>	
		(56,575.92)
BALANCE - June 30, 2025		1,314,798.91

Creation of the Fund: At Town Meeting, March 6, 2000, Article 31 voted to establish an Emergency Capital Reserve Fund for the purposes of providing perpetual funds for unanticipated and emergency Capital replacements or repairs and to help defray the cost of the annual appropriation of the Capital Plan. Through Article 32, this new fund received a total of \$1,755,002.02 by transferring the monies from two existing funds: \$790,346.99 in the Town Building/Facilities Major Repair and Upgrade Fund and \$964,655.03 in the Vehicles/Equipment Major Repairs and Replacement Fund. It was envisioned that the Town would be able to fund future capital purchases exclusively through investment income generated annually by the balance in the Emergency Capital Reserve Fund, without having to raise the monies through taxes.

Operation of the Fund: All normal capital purchases or refurbishments are to be included in and funded by the Capital Plan. Failure to plan and include required purchases into the Capital Plan does not constitute an emergency, and the Emergency Capital Reserve Fund shall not be used for such purposes. The Selectboard was authorized to approve, by a majority vote, emergency capital expenditures of \$10,000 or more from the Emergency Capital Reserve Fund. All amounts so expended shall be replenished through an article presented to the next Annual Town Meeting. If the emergency expenditure exceeds \$100,000, the Town Meeting voters may authorize replenishment over several years. It was voted that each year all interest and dividends earned by the Emergency Capital Reserve Fund shall be applied to reduce the cost of the annual appropriation for the Capital Plan. Careful management of the Capital Plan should allow preservation of the principal of the Emergency Capital Reserve Fund. **This Fund is invested with Edward Jones**

VERNON SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FUND

Balance – July 1, 2024		105,983.09
ADD:		
Interest	66.43	
Dividends	<u>21.10</u>	
Town Mtg Appropriation	<u>67,418.72</u>	
Recycle Bin Sales		
Net Investment Gains	<u>85.39</u>	
		67,591.64
DEDUCT:		
Wind. Solid Waste Mgmt.		
Dist. Assessment	<u>15,708.88</u>	
FY23/24 Expenses	<u>8,070.60</u>	
Recycle Collection	<u>32,182.61</u>	
Tipping Fee	<u>633.75</u>	
Refuse Collection	<u>23,132.22</u>	
Net Investment Losses	<u>49.58</u>	
BALANCE - June 30, 2025		79,777.64
		93,733.80

This Fund was established in March 1987, for the purpose of funding a future study, operation, purchase or development of a landfill dump or other means of solid waste disposal. At Town Meeting, March 7, 1989,

Article 36 voted that expenditures of less than \$10,000.00 may be authorized by the Selectboard; greater expenditures will require town meeting approval.

This Fund is invested with Edward Jones

TOWN ROAD UPGRADING FUND

Balance – July 1, 2024	175,296.60
ADD:	
Interest	10,301.01
Dividends	25.81
Net Investment Gains	<u>104.47</u>
State Aid to Highways	<u>66,793.94</u>
Prior Year Carryover	
Town Mtg Appropriation	<u>125,000.00</u>
Trans. Agency Grant	
	202,225.23
DEDUCT:	
Yrly Road Maintenance	<u>19,160.00</u>
Net Investment Losses	<u>60.66</u>
	19,220.66
BALANCE - June 30, 2025	358,301.17

At Town Meeting, March 7, 1989, Article 38 voted that all restrictions be removed and replaced with the following restrictions: This Fund will be used solely for the necessary surveys, land acquisitions and construction costs required for widening or upgrading existing town roads.

Disbursement from this fund shall only be authorized by the Selectboard. **This Fund is invested with Edward Jones.**

TOWN PARKING LOTS MAINTENANCE FUND

Balance – July 1, 2024	29,561.28
ADD:	
Interest	978.70
Net Investment Gains	<u>31.36</u>
Dividends	7.75
Town Mtg Appropriation	<u>4,000.00</u>
	5,017.81
DEDUCT:	
Net Investment Losses	<u>18.21</u>
Parking Lot Resurfacing	
	(18.21)
BALANCE - June 30, 2025	34,560.88

At Town Meeting in March, 2011, Article 26 voted to establish a Town Parking Lots Maintenance Fund for maintenance of Town owned parking lots.

This Fund is invested with Edward Jones.

TOWN CULVERTS FUND

Balance – July 1, 2024	418,596.44
ADD:	
Interest	13,528.59
St of VT - Grant	
Town Mtg Appropriation	<u>40,000.00</u>
	53,528.59
DEDUCT:	
Culvert Maintenance	
BALANCE - June 30, 2025	472,125.03

At Town Meeting in March, 2016, Article 19 voted to establish a Culvert Reserve Fund to be used for the purpose of purchasing culverts.

VERNON CAPITAL FUNDS

Balance – July 1, 2024	2,023,073.10
ADD:	
Interest	<u>33,468.94</u>
Dividends	<u>18,623.71</u>

Capital Sale	28,385.00	
Net Investment Gains (Realized and Unrealized)	75,376.60	
EOC Generator Grant		
Town Mtg Appropriation	491,159.61	
		647,013.86
DEDUCT:		
Town Bus	110,834.55	
Elevator	3,657.50	
EFF Upgrade	25,950.00	
Net Investment Loss	43,760.89	
		184,202.94
BALANCE - June 30, 2025		2,485,884.02

At Town Meeting, March 6, 1990, Article 35 voted to establish a Vernon Capital Fund for the purpose of providing funding for the items authorized in the Vernon Capital Plan.

The Fund is invested with M & T Bank.

POLICY ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE VERNON CAPITAL PLAN

1. Definitions:

Capital Plan

The list of all capital additions or replacements of a value greater than or equal to \$10,000, **required** for the continued maintenance of town services. It is essential that the Capital Plan include only 'need' items not 'want or nice to have' items. All items in the plan shall be reviewed by the Town Administrator and Select board and approved by the Town at the annual Town Meeting. No capital purchase of \$10,000 or more (unless an unforeseeable emergency) will be made, unless it is processed through the Capital Plan. It is essential that aggressive and thorough planning and review by the sponsoring department be made on the recommendation for items to be included in the plan. The Capital Plan cannot be allowed to become a wish list for last minute major purchases. It is expected that at a minimum, the year prior to a planned purchase a detailed bid specification will be developed by the requesting department, considering the best long-term interest of the town. The plan is reviewed and updated every year and shall look at a minimum of five (5) years in the future. Only items included in the approved plan can be funded by the Capital Fund. Items in the Plan will have a planned need date and an expected cost in the need year. The addition of items to the Capital Plan shall be accomplished through the Capital planning guideline.

Capital Fund

A pooled fund established to provide the necessary resources to pay for items authorized in the Capital Plan. Annual appropriations will be made to the fund based on the previously issued and approved Capital planning guidelines. The money appropriated for any particular item shall be retained in the fund until that item is either cancelled or purchased. All unused money for any particular item shall be retained in the pooled fund and classified as excess funds for use on other items or to reduce the amount of money needed to be raised for future appropriations. Any money raised from the resale of capital Plan items shall be returned to the Capital Fund as excess funds. Once an item has satisfied a bid specification and has been paid for from the Capital Fund, no further expenditures can be made from this fund for accessories or enhancements to the purchased item. Last minute additions are indicative of poor planning and anticipation and should be funded by the sponsor agency's operating budget, when funds are available for such discretionary expenses.

Excess Funds

Resources available in the Capital Fund after all planned purchases for that year have been completed. In order to provide protection for some unanticipated increases in the cost of a Plan item, funding for items will try to be as conservative as possible. Because of this it is anticipated that actual purchase cost of items will be lower than the projected cost appropriated for in the fund. These unused funds along with interest and dividends earned, returns from resale of capital items, and cancellation of items from the

Capital Plan partially funded in prior years, will constitute excess funds in the Capital Fund. For management purposes a small amount of excess funds will intentionally be left in the Capital Fund every year to allow for unexpected cost overruns of authorized items. All other excess funds will be applied to help defray the amount of money needed to be raised every year to fund the necessary annual appropriation.

2. Establishing the Plan:

Every year, the Town Administrator will review with the various town departments, the expected needs for that department for the foreseeable future. Any previously existing item in the plan will also be reviewed to assure that the need still exists, and that the details of the item description are still what the department needs. The Town Administrator will then make an assessment on the appropriateness of the need request and vote to either include, delete, or modify the item requested to be added to the Capital Plan. For all items identified to be included in the plan, the committee will establish the required funding, including annual appropriations necessary to assure that the resources are available in the Capital Fund when the item is required to be purchased. The completed Capital Plan will be presented to the Select Board at one of their regularly scheduled meetings for review and acceptance. Prior to the Annual Town Meeting a public hearing will be warned and held to present and explain the Capital Plan to the interested townspeople. Formal approval of the plan will be made by warned article to the Annual Town Meeting.

Prior to January 15 of every year, the Town Administrator shall provide the following reports for inclusion in the Town Report:

The Capital Plan Summary, which is a brief summary of all items proposed for inclusion in the Capital Plan with the need year and projected total cost identified.

The Capital Plan Funding Projections, which is a minimum five (5) year projection of the annual allocations necessary to fund the items approved in the Capital Plan. These projections will utilize the planning guidelines as the basis for balancing allocations and cost distribution.

The Capital Fund Status, which is a detailed year end accounting of all Capital Fund appropriations and expenditures, with The Town Administrator assessments of which funds are excess, and a recommendation for the use of these excess funds to help defray expenses for the following year's appropriation.

3. Making purchases from the Plan:

For all plan items, the requesting department will prepare a detailed bid specification for presentation to the Select Board. At the Select Board's discretion, a member of the Town Administrator may be requested to be present at the board meeting where reviews of Capital Plan purchase specifications are conducted. This The Town Administrator member will provide confirmation to the board that the item requested is consistent with the item described in the approved Capital Plan. Once all bids are received for the item to be purchased, the Selectboard will make the choice that best fits the town's needs. The targeted cost for each Capital Plan item was established conservatively high, so adequate funds should be available to cover the cost of the item. If the best price received still exceeds the targeted cost included in the Capital Fund for the item, and the item is as described in the Capital Plan, then the use of excess funds may be applied to the purchase of the item. Mid-year determination of the availability of excess funds can be made by consultation with the Town Treasurer and the Town Administrator. If sufficient excess funds are not currently available, then the purchase will have to be delayed until later in the year when additional excess funds are made available, or deferred to the following year. Deferral of purchases to the following year will allow for additional appropriations to be made for the item. If the item's purchase cannot be deferred to later in the year or the following year, then the Select Board may allow the purchase to be made creating a shortfall in the Capital Fund. This shortfall will then be restored by increasing the money to be raised in the following year.

4. Capital Planning guidelines:

a. All capital expenditures must be submitted for inclusion in the Capital Plan in advance of the need based on the projected future cost and the following minimum schedule:

Projected cost	Years in Advance of Need
\$10,000-\$20,000	2
\$20,001-\$30,000	3
\$30,001-\$40,000	4
\$40,001-\$55,000	5
\$55,001-\$75,000	6
\$75,001-\$95,000	7
\$95,001-\$115,000	8
\$115,001-\$150,000	10
\$150,001 -	15

Exceptions to this schedule will be considered for unusual circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

b. All equipment replacement need dates will be based on projected end of useful life. The requesting department will be responsible to establish quantifiable measures to determine when end of useful life is achieved (i.e., annual repair cost, out of service time, mileage, operating hours, etc.). The Town Administrator and the Department will mutually agree on the acceptability of the proposed end of useful life indicators. Irrespective of when an item on the Capital Plan is projected to be purchased (need date), it will not be authorized for purchase until the actual end of useful

Selectboard and The Town Administrator determine that it will benefit the Town to sell outright rather than trade, then it should be done as follows: The Department Head will put such items out to bid with Selectboard approval within 30 days. The sale will be completed within 60 days and funds received through this sale will be put in the Capital Plan Fund as excess funds as stated in Paragraph 1 under Excess Funds.

FY2024-2025 CAPITAL FUND STATUS

Item	Need Year	Previous Bal.	FY24/25 Appropriation	Total Available	FY 24/25 Expenditures less Income	Fund Balance	Used to Offset	Excess Funds
Town Van	2022/2023	124,192.00	24,192.00	148,384.00	\$ 110,834.55 (7,711.50)	100,000.00	\$ 27,930.00 -	28,385.00
Brush #1	2017/2018	7,711.50		7,711.50				
Dump Truck-Diesel (2013)	2024/2025	255,002.00	5,000.00	260,002.00		260,002.00		
Back Hoe Case 580SuperM (2008)	2029/2030	91,680.00	26,702.00	118,382.00		118,382.00		
Two Ton Dump Truck (2003)	2020/2021	120,000.00	5,000.00	125,000.00		125,000.00		
Pick up Truck (2023)	2032/2033	10,000.00	10,000.00	20,000.00		20,000.00		
Front end Loader (2018)	2032/2033	31,111.00	31,111.00	62,222.00		62,222.00		
Dumptruck	2033/2034	32,500.00	32,500.00	65,000.00		65,000.00		
Dump Truck (2021)	2031/2032	39,375.00	39,375.00	78,750.00		78,750.00		
Dump Truck-2 Ton	2035/2036	17,272.00	17,272.00	34,544.00		34,544.00		
Dump Truck	2036/2037	27,500.00	27,500.00	55,000.00		55,000.00		
Town Garage Roof	2021/2022	100,000.00	10,000.00	110,000.00		110,000.00		
(2015) Tractor & Rotary Mower JD	2035/2036	27,500.00	21,437.00	48,937.00		48,937.00		
Fuel Tanks - inground	2028/2029	70,000.00	15,000.00	85,000.00		85,000.00		
Tanker #1 Replace	2024/2025	420,000.00	30,000.00	450,000.00		450,000.00		
Engine #1 Pumper/tanker frontline	2035/2036	100,000.00	25,000.00	125,000.00		125,000.00		
Engine #3 Replace (2000 KME)	2031/2032	152,380.00	27,380.00	179,760.00		179,760.00		
Fire Station Roof	2021/2022	28,000.00	822.00	28,822.00		28,822.00		
Fire Station Furnace	2033/2034	1,930.00	1,930.00	3,860.00		3,860.00		
Outside Paint/Trim - Fire Department	2024/2025	17,500.00	17,500.00	35,000.00		35,000.00		
Radios (20) - Fire Department	2024/2025	60,000.00	60,000.00	120,000.00		120,000.00		
Air Paks (2 per year) - Fire Department	Yearly	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00		15,000.00		
Lower Vault Improvements	2021/2022	17,000.00	3,000.00	20,000.00		20,000.00		
Energy Efficiency Upgrades	2027/2028	120,000.00	24,000.00	144,000.00		144,000.00		
Furnace/Boiler	2029/2030	16,000.00	6,400.00	22,400.00		22,400.00		
Painting	2022/2023	20,000.00		20,000.00		20,000.00		
Septic	2030/2031	12,000.00	3,500.00	15,500.00		15,500.00		
Sanitary Waste & Vent Riser	2022/2023	15,000.00	5,000.00	20,000.00		20,000.00		
Pole Mounted Lighting - 6	2023/2024	17,670.00	6,000.00	23,670.00		23,670.00		
Flooring (Carpet/Tile)	2024/2025		24,064.00	24,064.00		24,064.00		
Chair Lift - Town Office	2027/2028		10,000.00	10,000.00	\$ 5,097.50	15,097.50		
Bath House Lighting - Rec.	2025/2026	5,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00		10,000.00		
Interest & Gains								
Income from Emergency Capital Reserve								
Capital Sales							\$ 33,468.94	
Return Excess Funds							40,919.32	
Subtotals		\$ 1,971,323.50	\$ 529,685.00	\$ 2,441,944.50	\$ (7,711.50)	\$ 2,385,849.00	\$ 116,865.76	-

2026-2027 Vernon Capital Plan Projections

Term Transformation	Next Year	Bal 05/31/2023	FY2025/2026	FY2026/2027	FY2027/2028	FY2028/2029	FY2029/2030	FY2030/2031	Proj. Cont. Commitments
<u>Highways Department</u>									
(2003) <u>Dept. Fed 2 yrs</u>	2023/2024	148,364							138,353 Purchased in February 2023 for \$110,473.00 - \$17,930 to go back to Cap. Plan.
(2010) <u>Dump Truck, Inv 1 Diesel</u>	2023/2024	260,000	20,000	5,000					160,000 Second unit has a break, needs \$35,000 additional
(1991) <u>Front Grader, Roof</u>	2024/2025	110,000							255,000 Ordered in 2023 for \$215,000.
(2006) <u>Back Hoe C/w 50% Supp M</u>	2029/2031	115,162	26,702	21,224	21,224	21,224	21,224		110,000 Projected cost increase \$10,000
(2001) <u>Dump Truck</u>	2023/2024	78,750	39,375	45,892	45,892	45,892	45,892		213,000 Projected cost increase \$43,000
(2013) <u>Back Up Truck</u>	2023/2024	20,000	10,000	11,142	11,142	11,142	11,142		90,000 Add'l FY 2024-2025 price increase \$15,000 to \$85,000.
(2016) <u>Front end Loader</u>	2023/2024	62,222	31,111	28,473	28,473	28,473	28,473		260,000 Add'l FY 2024-2025 price increase \$10,000 to \$90,000.
<u>Dump truck</u>	2024/2025	65,000	32,500	42,568	42,556	42,556	42,556		448,000 Add'l FY 2024-2025 (Regina Int'l) dump truck purchased 2023 price increased \$115,000 to \$448,000.
(2011) <u>Tractor & Rotary Mower, TD</u>	2025/2036	34,937	21,457	20,106	20,106	20,106	20,106		201,000 Projected cost increase \$15,000.
(2015) <u>Front End Tractor, 3 Tons</u>	2026/2037	34,744	17,272	15,133	15,133	15,133	15,133		201,000 Add'l FY 2024-2025 (Regina Int'l) dump truck purchased 2023 price increased \$11,000, to 2021,000.00
<u>Dump truck</u>	2027/2038	15,000	27,500	37,000	37,000	37,000	37,000		37,000 499,000 Add'l FY 2024-2025 (Regina Int'l) dump truck price increases \$16,000, to \$499,000.
<u>Fuel Tanker - Improved</u>	2028/2039	\$1,000	\$1,500	20,985	20,385	20,385	20,385		350,000 Carbide Project - Maintenance - \$300,000 were increased to the updated price of \$350,000.
<u>Salt Shad</u>	2028/2039	33,077	23,077	23,077	23,077	23,077	23,077		23,077 Replacement of Salt Shad
<u>Oil Field Finance 7000M gal</u>	2029/2030	4,500	4,500	3,375	3,375	3,375	3,375		18,000 Engineer Report - Fully funded
#1 <u>Pickup, Pwr. spec. prior to bid request</u>	2043/2044			5,667	5,667	5,667	5,667		102,000 Replacement
#5 <u>Dump truck, per spec. prior to bid request</u>	2044/2045			29,942	29,942	29,942	29,942		601,000 Replacement
<u>Yarrow, Monroe & Sonnleitner</u>	2031/2038			5,417	5,417	5,417	5,417		65,000 New
<u>Fire Department</u>									
(2015) <u>Engine 1 Pump</u>	2036/2037	125,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000		400,000 2015 purchase (\$100,344)
(2000) <u>Engine 1 Pump, 1000gal Fire Truck</u>	2024/2025	410,000	136,368	24,320	24,320	24,320	24,320		975,000 Price for Custom Truck is same \$975,000.00, saved 50% down
(1995) <u>Fire Station Roof, 6' perp. extns</u>	2023/2024	179,760	27,380	1,083	1,083	1,083	1,083		350,000 Reg'd in 14 years (\$292,451) + 20%*
(2014) <u>Fire Station Finance</u>	2034/2035	3,860	1,930	1,716	1,716	1,716	1,716		47,000 Roof replaced May 2015
<u>Comida Latina</u>	2024/2025	35,000	17,500						10,000 Getting quote - Eng/Review Report
<u>Radio (30)</u>	2024/2025	120,000	60,000						17,670 Engineer Report
<u>Laurel, Twp. Environment</u>	2025/2026	30,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000		24,124 Add'l FY 2024-2025 - Engineer Report
<u>Term Office</u>									20,000 Rollins Software used 3 years from 2016
<u>Painting (various & garage)</u>	2022/2023	20,000							20,000 Getting quote, fully funded
<u>Sanitary Ware & Van Riser</u>	2022/2023	30,000							19,300 Sanitary - 20 yr life expectancy, used estimated cost
<u>Pole Mounted Lighting - 6</u>	2023/2024	23,670							17,670 Engineer Report
<u>Sonic</u>	2023/2024	48,128							20,000 Rollins Software used 3 years from 2016
<u>Patricia's Department</u>									30,000 53,300.00 funded by ARPA \$5,500.00 spent from Capital Plan, 14,092.50 to go back to Capital Plan
<u>Bob House Lighting</u>	2025/2026	20,000	3,000						200,000 Imulation, A.C. lighting does, windows - estimate report
<u>Chair Lift</u>	2027/2028	20,000		4,450					9,450 Work was completed in 2024 with ARPA funds - 19,450 to go back to Capital Plan
<u>Energy Efficiency Upgrades</u>	2028/2029	144,000	26,666	18,667	18,667	18,667	18,667		200,000 Getting quote - Eng/Review Report
<u>Firms & Solar</u>	2029/2031	22,400		3,210	3,210	3,210	3,210		40,000
<u>Plant Maintenance</u>	2031/2032	15,500	3,500	2,072	2,072	2,072	2,072		16,200
<u>Interest & Gains:</u>									\$ 7,714.067
<u>Retained Earnings Fund:</u>									Sale of Birch Tree Fund
<u>Grand Total To Be Appropriated:</u>									Term Van unspent funds
<u>Less: Reserve ER Capital Reserve Fund:</u>									Wheelchair lift equipment funds
<u>Total To Be Raised BY TATES:</u>									NOTE: Review Faculty-North School, Minimum, Cap. Bldg. Equipment Pool, To Roof - 2007 w/10.7% change
CHANGES									Projected cost includes - Expected price increase of 5% or more
<u>Sal Shad</u>	2037/2038	300,000							
#1 <u>Dump truck, per spec. prior to bid request</u>	2042/2043	102,000							
#5 <u>Dump truck, per spec. prior to bid request</u>	2043/2044	567,000							
#6 <u>Dump truck, per spec. prior to bid request</u>	2045/2046	601,000							
(2003) <u>Drum Fund & Sonnleitner</u>	2020/2021	160,000							

TRUST FUNDS

	A Perry	North Cemetery	P.A Lee Cemetery	South Cemetery	Tyler Cemetery	Whithead Cemetery
ASSETS						
Cash - Saving	4,081.96	5,005.01	0.00	9,426.40	43,419.87	0.00
Investments	1,689.15	57,589.18	2,061.55	9,816.46	0.00	0.00
Due to From Other Funds	0.00	-210.00	0.00	-375.00	-43,445.74	262.57
Fund Balance	5,771.11	62,384.19	2,061.55	18,867.86	-25.87	262.57
REVENUES						
Interest Income	4.08	5.21	59.07	9.09	19.09	0.00
Investment Gain	163.05	7,442.49	0.00	2,145.79	16,968.64	0.00
Lots Sold	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	75.00	0.00
TOTAL REVENUES	167.13	7,447.70	59.07	2,154.88	17,737.73	0.00
EXPENSES						
Fees	75.42	77.31	0.00	75.42	77.94	0.00
Investment Loss	0.00	2,045.00	0.00	673.33	0.00	
Maintenance & Repairs	0.00	2,735.00	0.00	375.00	45,945.74	
TOTAL EXPENSES	75.42	4,857.31	0.00	1,123.75	46,023.68	0.00
Net Change	91.71	2,590.39	59.07	1,031.13	-28,285.95	0.00
Fund Balance July 1	5,679.40	59,793.80	2,002.48	17,836.73	179,112.54	255.05
Fund Balance June 30	5,771.11	62,384.19	2,061.55	18,867.86	150,826.59	255.05

FIDUCIARY FUNDS

TOWN OF VERNON GRANGE 228

SCHOLARSHIP TRUST FUND Balance July 1, 2024		
ADD:		
Interest		
Dividends		
Net Investment Gains		
DEDUCT:		
Scholarship		
Net Investment Losses		
BALANCE - June 30, 2025		

Guidelines and applications are available at the Town Clerk's office.

This Fund is invested with M & T Bank.

GUIDELINES FOR TOWN OF VERNON GRANGE #228 SCHOLARSHIP TRUST FUND

Who is eligible? Any Vernon resident who has resided in town for at least six years who is attending or has been accepted in an agricultural program* at a post-secondary institution.

OR

A Vernon High School Senior who has been accepted in an agricultural program* at a post-secondary institution and has attended Vernon schools for at least six years.

How much are the awards? \$500.00-For less than a full-time student, a pro-rata reduction in the amount of the scholarship is made.

How are they awarded?

Award is based on completion of application form plus a personal resume which will include the following:

1. Brief life history of the applicant
2. Financial need
3. Educational and vocational goals

Deadline: Application and resume must be received in writing by the Town Clerk's office on or before 4:00 p.m. on May 1st. Applications received after that date will not be eligible for consideration.

When will the awards be presented? Checks will be issued each year in August.

Selection Committee: Member of Selectboard

Member of Farmland Committee

Town Resident

*Besides dairy farming, agriculture may also include landscaping, forestry, green house, aquatic farming, fruit farming, etc.

ALICE J. BROOKS FUND

Balance – July 1, 2024		
ADD:		
Interest		
Dividend		
Net Investment Gains		
DEDUCT:		
Resident Assistance		
Net Investment Losses		
BALANCE-June 30, 2025		

Mrs. Alice J. Brooks left \$5,000 in 1941, for the relief of poor children and aged persons in the Town of Vernon. The Selectboard were instructed to invest this, and interest or income alone, could be used per the will.

Total Shares 1957-2024

Mass. Investors Trust	\$109,066.65 held on deposit
George Putnam Fund	\$ 34,666.30 held on deposit
Trustee—Selectboard	

Invested with M & T Bank

MARSH FUND

This fund was a result of a \$2,000 legacy to the Town of Vernon in the will of Mrs. Anna Marsh in 1835. The interest is to be appropriated annually for the "Preaching of the Gospel in said Town." Each year a committee is chosen at the Annual Meeting for disbursement of the fund.

Total Shares 1957-2024 - \$12,336.54 held on deposit in American Mutual Fund. **Invested with M & T Bank**

Balance – July 1, 2024		
ADD:		
Interest		
Dividend		
DEDUCT:		
Advent Christian Church		
7 th Day Adventist Church		
Vernon Union Church		
BALANCE - June 30, 2025		

Trustee – Selectboard

SCOTT & NOYES MEMORIAL FUND

The executor for the Mary A. Scott estate was directed by Probate Court, October 29, 1927, to pay \$10,513.18 to the Vernon Town Treasurer. This was to be held in trust and invested with income only to be used annually for preaching the Gospel and for the Advent Christian Home at South Vernon. After a committee representing the beneficiaries met to investigate changes in disbursement, it was recommended in 1976, that the Trustee's judgment be used regarding disbursement in accordance with the will.

Total Shares 1957-2024

Mass Investors Trust	\$ 46,723.71 held on deposit
George Putnam Fund	\$ 16,506.09 held on deposit
M & T Bank (base sum non-expendable-\$217.18)	

Trustee – Town Treasurer

Balance – July 1, 2024		
ADD:		
Interest		
Dividend		
DEDUCT:		
Advent Christian Church Inc		
Advent Christian Homes Inc		
7 th Day Adventist Church		
Vernon Union Church		
BALANCE - June 30, 2025		

STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED
JUNE 1 2024 - JUNE 30 2025

2024-2025 Grand List	404,752,358.00
Appraised Value - Town	4,047,523.58
2024-2025 Municipal Tax Rate	0.6895
2024-2025 Local Agreement Tax Rate	0.0022
Total Municipal Tax Rate	0.6917
2024-2025 School Grand List	
(as determined by the state)	
Homestead Education	1,277,474.00
Non-Residential Education	2,727,733.87
School Tax Rates	
Homestead Rate:	1.4957
Non-Residential Rate:	1.5025
Homestead Education Raised	1,910,717.86
Non Residential Education Raised	4,098,420.14
Grand total of School Taxes to be Raised	
Municipal Taxes	2,790,754.85
Local Agreement Taxes	8,904.55
Grand Total to be Raised	8,808,797.40
Penalties for Late Filed HS-121	2,789.80
Total Taxes Billed	8,811,587.20

STATEMENT OF DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES

The following Delinquent Taxes are charged against the names below on the Tax Collector's books as of June 30, 2025. Several payments have been made since that fiscal year ending date.

Unless the Auditors are notified to the contrary, it will be assumed that the tax amounts listed are correct. Penalties are added by the Tax Collector according to the Vermont Statutes.

1% interest is also added monthly per vote at Town Meeting March 1996.

ANY PAYMENTS RECEIVED AFTER JUNE 30, 2025 ARE NOT REFLECTED IN THIS LISTING.

2024/2025

Bell, Kelley V & Graham	1,661.31
Duke, David D. Jr. & Heather	
Capen, Todd A & Tiffanhy A	4,967.67
Coughlin, Dana M	756.99
Dawson, Roy Jr.	169.31
Dente, Daniel J	187.78
Denizard, Erick & Sharon	2,199.23
EPG, Inc. (Probate)	2,911.71
Evan, Margery, Charles & Chester Evan (Probate)	8,956.71
Firstlight Fiber Inc.	114.69
Forrett, Lisa (Life Estate)	996.88
Cook, Justin	
Fosburgh-Tenney, Timothy	2,083.43
Foley, Kathleen M	
Gilbert, Shenandoah	213.39
Hayden, Gerald	1,134.39
Iron Militia Vermont LLC	3,014.82
Jenson, Donald F & Patricia	1,197.78
Jobin, Faith	1,023.18
Kaeppe, Phillip M	0.31
Kaeppe, Phillip M	2,406.30
Kavanaugh, Gerald F & Patricia S	820.12
Kuhn, Licia Divona	822.81
% Felicia Kuhn	
Kuhn, Licia Divona	5,290.20
% Felicia Kuhn	
Kuhn, Licia Divona (Trust)	1,790.46
Bassett, Keith	
Lee, Jackie B & Robert E	1,430.61
Lee, Robert E	232.59
Looman, Melissa A	136.88
Lynch, Jerome P. & Diane P	2,075.70
Lynch Shirley A; Lynch, Jesse F	
Mayocl, Louis A	4,315.98
Mercier, Terry J	1,393.32
Moore, Rodney A	1,924.08
Moorhouse, Ashley & Nicholas	1,698.30
Packard, Jeremia L	1,263.84
Rogean, Joan	1,652.56
Sargent, Joy	38.45
Skibniowsky, Stephen	26.30
Smith, Timothy S & Tonia	1,263.84
Traudt, Mark D Jr & Heather	1,519.83

Tyson, Deborah	3,160.80
Van Iderstine, Peter	635.95
Vernon Estates, Inc	3,955.40
Waldron, Jeff	15.36
	<u>\$ 69,459.92</u>

2023/2024

Capen, Todd A & Tiffany A	4,619.01
EPG, Inc. (Probate)	2,707.32
Evans, Margery, Charles & Chester Evans (Probate)	8,328.09
Hayden, Gerald	351.59
Jobin, Faith M	1,391.19
Kuhn, Licia Divona	177.41
% Felicia Kuhn	
Kuhn, Licia Divona	2,860.20
% Felicia Kuhn	
Kuhn, Licia Divona (Trus)	794.99
Bassett, Keith	
Lee, Jackie B & Robert E	1,330.20
Lee, Robert E	216.34
Mayock, Louisa A	2,416.07
Mercier, Terry J	955.05
Moorehouse, Ashley & Nickolas	1,579.11
Paquette, Robert (Estate) & Patti	232.59
Paquette, Steven L	1,011.93
Smith, Timothy S & Tonia	492.82
Tyson, Deborah	2,204.01
Waldron, Jeff	14.28
	<u>\$ 31,682.10</u>

2022/2023

Capen, Todd A & Tiffany A	1,099.70
EPG, Inc. (Probate)	2,672.04
Evans, Margery, Charles & Chester Evans (Probate)	8,219.49
Jobin, Faith M	806.71
Kuhn, Licia Divona	118.59
% Felicia Kuhn	
Kuhn, Licia Divona	1,481.82
% Felicia Kuhn	
Kuhn, Licia Divona (Trust)	454.96
Bassett, Keith	
Mercier, Terry J	115.41
	<u>\$ 14,968.72</u>

2021/2022

EPG, Inc. (Probate)	2,702.82
Evans, Margery, Charles & Chester Evans (Probate)	576.39
	<u>\$ 3,279.21</u>

2020/2021

EPG, Inc. (Probate)	2,746.74
Evans, Margery, Charles & Chester Evans (Probate)	574.46
	<u>\$ 3,321.20</u>

2019/2020

EPG, Inc (Probate)	2,287.34
	<u>\$ 2,287.34</u>

2018/2019

EPG, Inc (Probate)	2,593.83
	<u>\$ 2,593.83</u>

COMPARATIVE BALANCE WORKSHEET FY 24-25

		June 30, 2024	June 30, 2025
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash on Hand or in Bank			
Town Checking Account	150,000.00	150,000.00	
Invested Sweep Account	3,431,428.99	3,910,568.75	
Treasurer's Change Fund	100.00	100.00	
Treasurer's Office Petty Cash	50.00	50.00	
Town Clerk's Petty Cash	50.00	50.00	
Emergency Management Petty Cash	50.00	50.00	
Inventory Gas and Diesel	44,738.32	58,187.61	
Grant Receivable	\$ -		
	\$ 362,617.31	\$ 4,119,006.36	
Delinquent Taxes Receivable			
Real & Personal (Prior Years)	116,604.48	15,641.71	
Interest Receivable	7,040.90	9,169.88	
Penalty Receivable	4,500.51	8,921.79	
	\$ 128,145.89	\$ 33,733.38	
Accounts Receivable			
Vernon School District			
Gas	245.83		
Miscellaneous			
Prepaid Expense			
Vernon Free Library			
State of Vermont	906.07		
Delinquent Taxes Due Town	11,468.97	76,988.11	
Delinquent Tax Interest Due Town	403.18	3,080.28	
Due Town For Delinquent Tax Collector	917.51	5,474.69	
Prepaid Taxes	2.37		
Bus Pass Income		1,020.00	
Town Picnic		-	
Miscellaneous Income:	3,686.33		
VLCT Property & Casualty			
Town Clerk Remittance			
Treasurer's Income	1.00		
Professional Services			
Muni Grant			
Adjustment per Outside Audit			
Due From Other Funds			
Capital Fund	(1,086,351.75)	(1,517,546.96)	
Culvert Fund	(418,596.44)	(472,125.03)	
Dog Fund	(19,635.36)	(15,420.13)	
Farmland Protection Fund	(99,019.19)	(104,748.03)	
Parking Lot Maintenance Fund	(29,171.44)	(34,157.89)	
Polly Lee Cemetery Fund	(2,002.48)	(2,061.55)	
Professional Services	(46,573.61)	68,875.69	
Reappraisal Fund	(126,336.48)	(139,406.27)	
Restoration Fund	(39,221.26)	(43,420.09)	
Reserve Fund	(37,174.26)	(37,460.06)	
Town of Vernon Grange #228	(303.12)	(872.64)	
Town Road Upgrade Fund	(170,558.27)	(356,959.03)	
Unemployment Fund	(2,412.96)	(2,786.60)	
Whithed Cemetery Fund	(255.05)	(262.57)	

PAYT Fund		(8,787.55)	(10,019.30)
Solid Waste Fund		9,079.62	(26,361.39)
Town Road Upgrade Fund			(356,959.03)
Elderly Assistance Fund			(32,700.81)
J M Miller Forest Fund			(24,863.06)
Vernon Free Library	5,715.02		(100,075.54)
	(2,061,833.84)		(3,209,330.29)
	\$ 1,692,729.36	\$ 1,376,649.65	
TOTAL ASSETS			
CURRENT LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE		June 30, 2024	June 30, 2025
Accounts Payable	51,613.77	36,070.25	
Accrued Salaries & FICA	27,089.67	19,603.74	
Prepaid Taxes	90.01	3,473.64	
Fees Due Tax Collector	(54.86)	(876.10)	
Employee Property Tax Withholding	1,007.00	-	
Aflac	(493.75)	(904.40)	
Dental Liability		(535.02)	
Overpaid Taxes	1,872.14	2,075.33	
Deferred Revenue			
Deferred Rec. Income	13,709.00	13,709.00	
Deferred Tax Revenue	33,386.00	122,818.24	
	\$ 129,266.74	\$ 195,434.68	
Total Liabilities & Appropriations	\$ 129,266.74	\$ 195,434.68	
Designated Funds (Reserves)	52,917.59	53,542.59	
Fund Balance	1,510,545.03	1,128,950.23	
Net Fund Balance	1,510,545.03	1,128,950.23	
Total Liabilities & Fund Balance	\$ 1,692,729.26	\$ 1,376,649.65	
NOTE: The Town of Vernon has no long term indebtedness; therefore, a schedule of maturities is not included.			
Designated Fund Balance:		FY24	FY25
Leader Program	991.05	991.05	
EOC Budget Reserve	12,724.55	13,540.42	
Fire Pond Maintenance	2,006.40	8,765.40	
Pre-school Fundraiser	18,448.77	10,248.66	
Tax Listing	2,435.00	2,435.00	
Town Picnic	2,426.76	5,416.29	
Recycling bin	0.10	197.60	
Pre-school Scholarships	10,546.47	11,948.17	
Bus Pass Income	3,681.48	1,020.00	
L. Peduzzi Scholarship	800.34	-	
B. Current Donation	164.95	-	
Total Designated Fund Balance	\$ 54,135.87	\$ 54,562.59	

SELECTBOARD ANNUAL REPORT

Once again, the selectboard would like to thank all Vernon Town Employees and other elected officials for their support, contributions, and hard work to help Vernon be a marvelous place to work, live, and recreate.

After the town meeting select board member Jeff Dunklee stepped down to pursue family business interests and Shelli Dunklee Harvey was elected.

Our long-term Treasurer resigned, and the board was faced with the complex interview/evaluation process to find a bookkeeper to aid our Assistant Treasurer. Who formed a team that deserves very well done for all the hard work in updating to a widely used municipal accounting system for the town.

The board worked on the Local Hazzard Mitigation Plan holding two public meetings, department head interface, and Planning Commission to Windham Regional Commission interface.

Vernon has been very fortunate in continuing unscathed through the many rounds of flooding that other Towns have endured. We are in the midst of very challenging times. The financial landscape becomes more complex and likely more expensive as time passes. As a Board we continue to look for avenues to continue the betterment of the Town while we prioritize keeping our small town on solid conservative financial ground. Policies, procedures, matters big and small require the Board's attention, however we are always striving for transparency, seeking to broaden our perspectives and knowledge. Projects worthy of note include: Recreation Center Upgrades; Upgrades to Treasurer Office entrance and service window; Evaluation and purchase of a New Town Van; Installation of a new chair lift at the town hall; Wildlife Corridon Study approved; and improvements to the Elmhurst Room and Selectboard Room.

Vernon wouldn't be the wonderful community it is to work and live in if it weren't for the dedicated employees who show up every day to complete the hard, routine and sometimes thankless jobs to keep our small-town running.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sandra Harris, Chair
Brandon Bucossi, Vice Chair
Jean Carr, Clerk
Jim Pinkerton, Jr.
Shelli Harvey



SELECTBOARD PROPOSED BUDGET 2026 - 2027

	Budget	Actuals	Budget	Actuals	Budget	Proposed
	FY 2023-2024	FY 2023-2024	FY2024-25	FY2024-2025	FY 2025-2026	FY2026-2027
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE						
Town Clerk's Salary	57,019.00	56,908.80	58,842.00	\$61,945.60	52,388.00	\$53,960.00
Asst. Town Clerk Salary	18,600.00	16,436.88	19,158.00	\$13,216.90	20,308.00	\$5,711.00
Town Clerk's FICA	5,785.00	5,172.09	5,967.00	\$5,291.61	5,563.00	\$4,565.00
Health Insurance	20,054.00	20,420.52	22,793.00	\$21,571.64	26,961.00	\$32,345.00
Dental Insurance	659.00	598.20	692.00	\$472.23	761.00	\$662.00
New/Repl. Equipment	200.00	76.45	200.00	\$179.00	200.00	\$200.00
Postage for Ballots	300.00	310.40	300.00	\$225.23	300.00	\$400.00
Vote Scanner Equip.	2,400.00	905.00	2,400.00	\$916.00	2,400.00	\$2,400.00
Travel & Conferences	1,600.00	1,046.40	1,000.00	\$1,219.10	1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Miscellaneous	800.00	1,369.42	600.00	\$980.22	600.00	\$600.00
Marriage License Quarterly	1500.00	2,015.00	1,500.00	\$2,925.00	1,500.00	\$1,200.00
Income				Grant-	(18,000.00)	(\$2,500.00)
COVID Grants Received.				4,990.63		
	108,917.00	105,259.16	113,452.00	\$108,942.53	93,981.00	\$100,543.00
TOWN TREASURER'S						
Finance Director Salary						\$52,570.00
Book Keeper						\$48,777.00
Treasurer Stipend						\$2,000.00
Asst. Treasurer Stipend						\$500.00
Treasurer's Office FICA	6,579.00	5,826.11	6,790.00	5723.57	6,941.00	\$7,945.00
Health Insurance	20,054.00	20,420.52	22,793.00	18,219.35	25,678.00	\$13,531.00
Dental Insurance	659.00	598.20	692.00	761.00	761.00	\$662.00
Travel & Conference	50.00	0.	50.00	35.00	50.00	\$1,000.00
Income					(1,000.00)	(\$1,000.00)
	113,342.00	112,802.59	118,072.00	114,793.29	123,141.00	\$125,081.00
LISTERS' OFFICE						
Contracted Assessor				0.00	57,000.00	
Listers' Salaries	53,455.00	37,682.32	49,553.00	37,099.27	14,892.00	\$40,972.00
Listers' FICA	4,090.00	2,842.95	3,791.00	2,810.76	1,140.00	\$3,135.00
Health Insurance	7,228.00	6,351.36	7,950.00	4234.24	-	-
Dental Insurance	659.00	598.20	692.00	629.64	-	-
Travel & Conferences	1,200.00	50.00	500.00	268.75	2,000.00	\$3,000.00
	66,632.00	47,524.83	62,486.00	45,042.66	75,032.00	\$47,107.00
SELECTBOARD						
Select Board Salaries	10,000.00	8,100.00	10,000.00	\$8,100.00	10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Town Administrator	67,189.00	67,059.20	98,880.00	\$98,720.44	102,908.00	\$ 108,116.00
Compensatory Time			8,000.00	\$12,638.15	8,000.00	\$8,000.00
FICA (Del Tax Coll.)	8,905.00	8,274.27	10,500.00	\$12,132.68	11,550.00	\$12,625.00
Health Insurance (Adm.)	20,054.00	10,210.26	14,510.00	\$11,855.70	16,049.00	\$27,061.00
Dental Insurance (Adm.)	659.00	598.20	692.00	\$629.64	761.00	\$662.00
New/Replace	500.00	0.00	100.00	\$89.99	100.00	\$100.00
Printing of Town Report	1,500.00	1,826.93	1,584.00	\$1,617.00	2,000.00	\$1,700.00
Postage for Town Report	400.00	199.96	250.00	\$211.85	250.00	\$250.00
Legal Services	15,500.00	46.31	15,500.00	\$10,919.80	15,500.00	\$ 15,500.00
Travel	3,000.00	601.00	1,500.00	\$312.15	1,500.00	\$1,000.00
Outside Audit	14,900.00	14,900.00	14,900.00	\$20,950.00	14,900.00	\$21,000.00
Miscellaneous	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	\$142.59	1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Contributions & Gifts	300.00	40.00	300.00	\$92.27	300.00	\$300.00
Green-up - Local	150.00	116.82	175.00	0.00	175.00	\$175.00

Green-up - State *		0.00	100.00	\$0.00	100.00	\$100.00
Appreciation Activities	1,600.00	1589.95	1,600.00	\$1,570.20	1,600.00	\$1,600.00
Welcome Signs:	575.00	300.00	575.00	\$875.00	575.00	\$900.00
457(b) Contribution	30,669.00	34,676.37	34,507.00	\$38,405.18	37,630.00	\$38,906.00
Flags	450.00	53.42	450.00	\$389.60	400.00	\$400.00
Hiring Expenses		0.00	100.00	\$0.00	100.00	\$ 100.00
	177,351.00	148,592.69	215,223.00	\$219,652.24	225,398.00	\$249,495.00
GENERAL EXPENSES						
Website Design/Hosting	1,014.00	3,065.00	3,065.00	3,065.00	3,065.00	\$3,065.00
General Office Supplies	7,500.00	3,973.68	5,000.00	4,014.25	4,500.00	\$4,500.00
Advertising	1,000.00	632.33	2,000.00	1,180.23	1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Telephone	11,000.00	17,133.15	17,000.00	20,809.05	17,000.00	\$22,000.00
Postage	2,500.00	2,156.57	2,500.00	3,467.69	2,500.00	\$3,600.00
Dues & Subscriptions	1,500.00	2,505.36	1,500.00	908.56	2,500.00	\$1,500.00
VT League of Cities & Town	3,818.00	3,988.00	4,111.00	4,111.00	4,200.00	\$4,325.00
County Tax	34,116.00	40,798.00	45,000.00	39,440.00	45,000.00	\$45,000.00
Contract Mint. & Repair	26,400.00	19,859.01	26,400.00	32,162.50	25,000.00	30,000.00
Technology Upgrades	3,000.00	3,310.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,500.00	\$3,500.00
Insurance & Bonds	95,000.00	70,684.00	85,000.00	75,118.00	85,000.00	\$80,000.00
Communications	2000.00	2,350.00	2,000.00	2,800.00	2,000.00	\$3,000.00
ARPA Grant		231,755.71				
Risk/Exposure						
	188,848.00	170,455.10	196,576.00	190,076.36	195,765.00	218,849.00
PLANNING						
Postage, Misc.	800.00	420.38	100.00	-	100.00	\$100.00
Windham Regional Planning	5,400.00	5,580.04	5,581.00	5,846.06	5,581.00	\$6,000.00
Professional Assistance	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Matching Grant	2,200.00	0.00	2,200.00	-	2,200.00	\$2,200.00
20' Muni Grant	-					
	9,400.00	6,000.42	8,881.00	5,846.00	8,881.00	\$9,300.00
RECREATION DEPARTMENT						
Director's Salary	62,187.00	62,067.20	64,176.00		66,102.00	68,085.00
Asst. Director's Salary	46,099.00	46,098.08	47,573.00		49,001.00	51,941.00
Maintenance Foreman	8,542.00	6,691.37	9,154.00		9,354.00	10,154.00
Water Safety Instructors	28,435.00	23,503.92	24,545.00		24,920.00	26,920.00
Day Camp Staff	16,728.00	17,177.82	17,616.00		17,916.00	21,416.00
Customer Service	7,185.00	11,703.77	7,555.00		8,500.00	9,000.00
Pre-school Director	36,497.00	35,106.73	37,665.00		38,795.00	41,123.00
Pre-school Assistant	42,514.00	36,164.10	43,874.00		45,190.00	47,902.00
Weekend Supervisor	3,505.00	4,324.76	3,565.00		4,500.00	6,000.00
FICA	19,255.00	17,228.02	19,563.00		20,339.00	21,615.00
Heath Insurance	87,627.00	89,237.82	99,781.00		121,600.00	118,257.00
Dental Insurance	2,634.00	2,392.80	2,766.00		3043.00	2,646.00
Supplies	20,975.00	27,165.25	23,400.00		25,000.00	25,700.00
Utilities/Fuel Oil	10,000.00	11,619.87	10,500.00		12,000.00	12,500.00
Telephone	1,300.00	1,850.52	1,650.00		1,800.00	1,800.00
Contracts & Rentals	1,910.00	1,625.44	2,025.00		2,025.00	2,550.00
New/Replace Equipment	0.00	771.39			2,700.00	2,000.00
Repairs and Maintenance	1,050.00	3,210.41	1,250.00		1,250.00	4,250.00
Programs	22,300.00	4,135.00	20,100.00		23,600.00	24,700.00
After School Program Exp.		14,038.66				
Matching Grant	2000.00	0.00	2,000.00		2,000.00	2,000.00
Travel & Conference		0.00				
Dumpster					4,784.00	5,000.00

Expenses	421,743.00	486,622.84	438,758.00		484,419.00	505,559.00
Income						
Pre-school Partnership		57,317.50				(73,602.00)
Income (Pre-school Partnership)						
Preschool Fundraiser		5,387.41				(5,947.00)
Income (Preschool Fundraiser)						
Grants/ Donations		7,805.00				
Income (Grants/Donations)						(900.00)
Estimated Income					(200,000.00)	(80,449.00)
					284,419.00	425,110.00
RECREATION SCHOOL			231,105.00		231,105.00	231,105.00
			-	231,105.00	231,105.00	231,105.00
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS						
Custodian	22,664.00	10,874.50	23,389.00		24,091.00	25,296.00
Custodian FICA	1,734.00	985.32	1,790.00		1,844.00	1,936.00
Ground keeping		745.50				
Cleaning		1,260.00				
Snow Removal		0.00				
Supplies	1,500.00	1,618.18	800.00		1,600.00	1,400.00
Grounds		484.97				700.00
Custodial Equipment	3,500.00	0.00	1,000.00		1,500.00	1,000.00
Fuel Oil	13,000.00	10,226.70	14,000.00		14,000.00	14,000.00
Electricity - Town/Lib/North	13,000.00	10,071.61	13,000.00		13,000.00	12,000.00
Repairs to Equipment	500.00	0.00	200.00		500.00	200.00
Generator Maintenance	-	-	-		935.00	950.00
Bldg. Repairs & Maintenance	8,000.00	6,058.10	5,500.00		6,000.00	7,500.00
Dumpster					1,496.00	1,556.00
	63,898.00	42,324.88	59,679.00		64,966.00	66,538.00
CEMETERIES						
Caretaking	27,924.00	17,380.00	39,496.00		34,000.00	34,000.00
Tyler Cemetery Fund	(8,320.00)		(8,320.00)		(8,320.00)	(8,320.00)
North Cemetery Fund	(500.00)		(500.00)		(500.00)	(500.00)
Historians Lawn Care					(1,500.00)	(1,500.00)
Supplies	500.00	62.97	750.00		750.00	750.00
Repair & Maintenance	7,500.00	3,200.00	7,500.00		7,500.00	7,500.00
Memorial Day Supplies	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00
	28,104.00	20,642.97	39,926.00		32,930.00	32,930.00
VERNON SENIORS						
Bus Pass Exp. (gas)		489.21				
Activities	2,550.00	2,550.00	2,550.00		2,550.00	2,550.00
	2,550.00	3,039.21	2,550.00		2,550.00	2,550.00
TOWN VAN						
Van Driver	11,117.00	1,760.70	8,500.00		8,500.00	8,500.00
FICA	851.00	134.71	652.00		652.00	652.00
Gasoline	1,500.00	505.37	1,500.00		1,500.00	2,500.00
Van Maintenance	2,000.00	796.00	2,000.00		2,000.00	2,000.00
Bus Pass Expense (Fuel)						
Bus Pass Income					(900.00)	
	15,968.00	3,196.78	12,652.00		11,752.00	13,652.00
HISTORIANS SOUTH						
Electricity	450.00	480.48	450.00		481.00	481.00
Bldg. Repairs & Maintenance	3,780.00	2,668.35	3,600.00		3,500.00	3,500.00
Grounds	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00		1,600.00	1,500.00

Lawn Care	900.00	800.00	900.00		1,500.00	1,500.00
Matching Grant	2,000.00	0.00				
	8,630.00	5,448.83	6,450.00		7,081.00	6,981.00
CONTRACTED PUBLIC						
Law Enforcement Contract	108,160.00	104,000.04	112,320.00		135,200.00	135,200.00
Income					(2,500.00)	(2,500.00)
	108,160.00	104,000.04	112,320.00		132,700.00	132,700.00
FIRE DEPARTMENT						
Fire Chief Stipend	7,250.00	7,250.00	7,250.00		7,250.00	7,250.00
Assistant Fire Chief Stipend -	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00		3,500.00	3,500.00
Line Officers Stipend	3,500.00	3,500.00	5,500.00		5,500.00	5,500.00
Lost Wages	300.00	0.00	50.00		50.00	50.00
FICA	1,114.00	1,090.16	1,247.00		1,247.00	1,247.00
Uniforms	800.00	800.00	1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00
Inoculations	500.00	0.00	500.00		500.00	50.00
Physicals	4,000.00	390.79	2,000.00		2,000.00	50.00
EAP	500.00	475.20	500.00		500.00	500.00
Supplies	1,200.00	830.92	1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00
EMS Rescue Supplies	2,500.00	2,871.98	2,500.00		2,500.00	2,500.00
New Equipment - Fire Svc.	11,000.00	9,277.77	10,000.00		10,000.00	8,000.00
New Equipment - EMS	4,000.00	2,363.23	3,500.00		3,500.00	3,000.00
Public Education	1,000.00	471.95	1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00
Fuel Oil	13,500.00	11,466.30	13,000.00		13,000.00	13,000.00
Electricity	2,750.00	2,494.44	2,250.00		2,500.00	3,500.00
Dues and Subscriptions	3,200.00	3,877.77	3,800.00		4,000.00	4,500.00
Southwest Mutual Aid	33,825.00	51,069.50	34,500.00		35,500.00	44,500.00
Gasoline	2,000.00	2,292.98	2,500.00		2,500.00	2,500.00
Equipment Repair/Maint.	6,000.00	5,351.73	6,000.00		6,000.00	5,500.00
Truck Repair/ Maint.	8,000.00	6,168.42	8,000.00		8,000.00	8,000.00
Fire Pond Maintenance	3,500.00	0.00	1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00
Building Repairs/ Maint.	4,000.00	2,580.50	4,000.00		4,000.00	4,000.00
Training, Travel & Conf.	1,000.00	405.02	1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00
Training, Travel & Conference:	1,500.00	737.50	1,500.00		1,500.00	1,000.00
Travel Reimbursement	11,000.00	11,996.74	8,000.00		12,000.00	12,000.00
Matching Grant	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00
Dumpster					1,560.00	1,650.00
Income						
	132,439.00	131,262.90	127,097.00		134,107.00	138,797.00
OTHER PUBLIC SAFETY						
Health Officer	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00		2,500.00	3,000.00
Deputy Health Officer	500.00	0.00	500.00		500.00	500.00
FICA	200.00	191.26	200.00		200.00	364.00
Fire Warden - Permits	500.00	0.00	500.00		500.00	750.00
EOC Building Expenses	4,500.00	7,213.56			-----	0.00
Rescue's Monthly Pymt	53,178.00	53,177.92	53,704.00		54,252.00	54,800.00
	61,378.00	63,082.74	57,404.00		57,952.00	59,414.00
HIGHWAY MAINT.						
Equipment Rental	5,500.00	3,523.35	5,500.00		5,500.00	6,000.00
Guard Rails	1,100.00	0.00	1,100.00		1,100.00	1,100.00
Culverts	5,500.00	5,102.45	6,000.00		6,000.00	6,000.00
Gravel	8,000.00	6,567.01	8,000.00		8,000.00	8,000.00
Chloride	6,700.00	6,139.90	6,700.00		6,700.00	6,700.00
Asphalt	1,000.00	743.14	1,500.00		1,500.00	2,700.00
Salt	53,000.00	37,916.54	55,000.00		55,000.00	56,700.00

Sand	10,500.00	9,635.13	10,500.00		10,500.00	10,500.00
Tree Warden	3,000.00	5,500.00	5,000.00		5,000.00	5,000.00
Storm water Run-off Permits	4,800.00	4,498.51	4,800.00		4,800.00	4,800.00
	99,100.00	79,626.03	104,100.00		104,100.00	107,500.00
TOWN GARAGE OPERATION						
Road Commissioner's Salary	75,240.00	72,307.91	77,627.00		79,956.00	84,754.00
Equipment Operator's Salary	55,298.00	51,957.21	57,040.00		60,463.00	64,091.00
Equipment Operator/Mechanic's	58,599.00	54,933.25	60,459.00		64,087.00	69,214.00
Part-time Operator's Salary	5,000.00	63.00	4,000.00		4,000.00	4,000.00
FICA	14,851.00	12,309.40	15,310.00		15,770.00	16,988.00
Health Insurance	76,395.00	67,940.68	77,747.00		91,860.00	92,144.00
Dental Insurance	2,634.00	1,196.52	2,766.00		3,043.00	1,985.00
Uniforms	2,700.00	3,162.79	3,000.00		3,500.00	4,400.00
Drug & Alcohol Testing	400.00	260.00	400.00		520.00	550.00
Supplies	4,000.00	3,877.92	4,000.00		4,000.00	4,000.00
Fuel Oil	19,000.00	13,325.70	19,000.00		19,000.00	17,000.00
Electricity	3,500.00	3,462.20	3,500.00		3,500.00	4,800.00
Dues & Subscriptions	200.00	24.80	200.00		2,200.00	2,200.00
Gas & Diesel	21,000.00	11,657.86	21,000.00		21,000.00	16,000.00
Road Tools & Supplies	4,000.00	3,031.65	4,000.00		4,000.00	4,000.00
Safety Equipment	2,000.00	1,520.18	2,000.00		2,000.00	2,000.00
Building Repair & Maint.	4,000.00	3,651.63	4,000.00		4,000.00	4,500.00
Travel & Conferences	250.00	30.00	200.00		200.00	200.00
Dumpster Fee	1,300.00	1,145.60	1,300.00		1,700.00	1,700.00
Income					(200.00)	(200.00)
	350,367.00	305,858.30	357,549.00		384,599.00	394,526.00
ROAD EQUIPMENT REPAIR & MAINT.						
Trucks	10,000.00	6,373.88	11,000.00		11,000.00	12,000.00
Grader	2,500.00	166.53	2,500.00		2,500.00	2,500.00
Tractor	6,500.00	6,950.67	6,500.00		5,000.00	5,000.00
Snow Plows & Sanders	3,000.00	2,740.50	3,000.00		3,000.00	4,000.00
Front End Loader	2,500.00	1,412.01	2,500.00		2,500.00	2,500.00
Small Equipment	2,400.00	2,121.07	2,700.00		2,700.00	2,700.00
Radios	500.00	115.00	500.00		500.00	500.00
	27,400.00	7,483.00	22,900.00		27,400.00	29,200.00
Carryover per Statute		22,037.82	41,238.96		76,502.91	
		29,520.82	64,138.96		27,400.00	
Interest Earned		1,383.96				
TOTAL BUDGET	2,214,819.00	2,009,448.47	2,293,980.00		2,403,759.00	2,478,027.00
Deduct Estimated Income	\$296,950.00		\$310,000.00		(282,900.00)	(168,149.00)
Carryover from FY23-24					(100,000.00)	
TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE	1,775,430.00	1,986,026.69	1,843,162.00		2,020,859.00	2,309,878.00

2024 – 2025 Appropriations

	Balance	Transfers	Income	Expenses	Balance
	Previous Years	and Appropriations			
MISCELLANEOUS APPROPRIATIONS					
Library Administration & Operation	53,138.89	106,845.00	3,724.00	(106,871.64)	56,836.25
Elderly Assistance Fund		5,000.00		(5,000.00)	-
Town Road Upgrade Fund		125,000.00		(125,000.00)	-
Capital Fund		167,897.55		(67,897.55)	
Professional Services Fund		100,000.00		(100,000.00)	-
Parking Lot Maintenance Fund		4,000.00		(4,000.00)	-
Solid Waste Fund		118,300.64		(118,300.64)	
Emergency Management	27,776.16	15,000.00		(6,459.00)	36,317.16
Culvert Reserve Fund		40,000.00		(40,000.00)	-
Vernon Historians'		1,100.00		(1,100.00)	-
Town Picnic	2,426.76				2,426.76
James Cusick Scholarship Fund	34,000.00			(9,000.00)	25,000.00
Various Organizations		5,100.00		(5,100.00)	
Balances as of June 30, 2024 do not include appropriation amounts voted at March 2024 Town Meeting					

2024 – 2025 Town Grants and Expenses

	Prior Year Carryover	Estimated Revenue/ Beginning Balance	Expenditures	Received	Spent in	Unused
		In FY 23-24	In FY23-24	In FY23-24	Previous Years	
Recreation Department						
Preschool Partnership		88,454.00	57,317.50	88,454.00		31,136.50
Town Office						
ARPA Grant		659,362.03	57,517.50		573,915.27*	85,446.76
EOC Generator Grant			14,399.50		27,500.00	
Highway Department						
Library						
Summer Program Grant		200.00	335.61	200.00		
FY 22/23 Courier Grant		583.88	562.22	583.88		

*ARPA Expenditures and unused balance is through 12-18-2024

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

CEMETERY

This has been an exciting year for our new cemetery committee! Here is what we've worked on so far: 50 stones were up righted, Tyler Cemetery fence has been fixed, 11 stones professionally maintained, a vandalized stone in North Cemetery was fixed, the survey and access way in Tyler Cemetery were adjusted, caretakers work was reviewed, Charlie Marchant met about Green Cemeteries, Tyler Cemetery tree professionally managed, and lots of vegetation was pruned.

Looking forward to another year!

Members of The Vernon Cemetery Committee:

June Turner

Joyce Goodnow

Georgia Boyce, Treasurer

Rita Mudd, Vice Chair

Melissa Allen, Chair

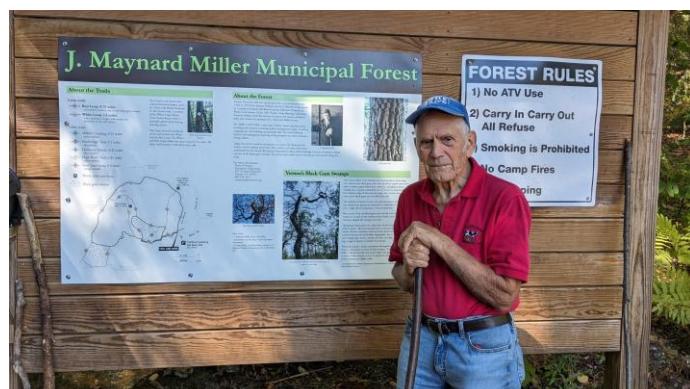


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CONSERVATION COMMISSION

This year, the Vernon Conservation Commission continued its work to care for the natural spaces that make our town such a great place to live. We hosted an online training with Ginger Nickerson of the Vermont Urban and Community Forest Program on identifying invasive insects, helping residents learn how to recognize and report pests that can threaten our forests. One commission member conducted monthly walks in the Town Forest to monitor for invasive plants and insects, helping us stay ahead of potential problems. We also reviewed and commented on the Great River Hydro solar development plans, supported efforts to identify local wildlife corridors, and provided educational materials at Lily Pond and outreach at events like the Community Market and "Home for the Holidays."

A highlight of the year was the Old Growth Forest Network hike held at the J. Maynard Miller Municipal Forest, where commission member Paul Miller shared stories about the history of the forest and its deep ties to his family. Events like this bring together our community's shared appreciation for the land and the people who have cared for it over generations. Whether reviewing local projects or providing educational resources, the Commission's work focuses on stewardship that benefits everyone, protecting Vernon's woods, fields, and waters so they remain healthy, beautiful, and productive for years to come.



Commission member Paul Miller at the J. Maynard Miller Municipal Forest kiosk.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

This year has been a quiet and for the most part uneventful. Even though the spring was normal, this summer was a bit unusual as we had experienced a drought throughout most of the state. We were not made aware of water issues that may have impacted our residents.

Good news is, we have settled into our EOC, (Emergency Operations Center) at the town office.

The address is: Vernon Emergency Management, 567 Governor Hunt Road; we are located in the basement area. The Sheriff's department is keeping the small office for their use and we will be utilizing the main part of the old Police department. We feel this location is the best area, as we can share spaces and not have redundant cost, such as heat, electricity, etc. We have reduced our annual budget by \$5,000.00 dollars.

In the event of a natural disaster or any other emergency, the building offers room and facilities that would be conducive to working with our state and federal partners over long or short-term periods.

Covid 19 continues to be a topic as well as the high rates of the flu and RSV. Social distancing, better hygiene, hand washing, masks, and vaccinations are all part of what is considered normal these days. Precautions are the same as before; if you are sick stay home. Vaccinations still appear to be your best defense to combat these diseases.

We will always be in the process of redirecting our energies, rewriting plans to meet the "All Hazards" type of plan, and updating our local Emergency Management Plan on a regular basis.

North Star is continuing with the deconstruction of the Vt. Yankee buildings and is on or ahead of schedule for the completion. Fuel rods are in safe, protected, dry cask storage on site. There is still no plan from the Government for long term storage of these highly radioactive bundles. Emergency planning for the plant is in the foresight of this office, and will be, as the decommissioning, structure demolition and the process of removing buildings are finished over the next few years. We work with the Highway Department and assist with any risk analysis for road closures, such as routine maintenance or storm related issues, or emergencies.

We are available to work with the Fire Department and Sheriff's Office in a Unified Command role, providing assistance and in coordination with the general public. We will take on any tasks that may need to be completed.

A very important "Annual" message! We are asking **ALL** residents to sign up for **VT-ALERT**. It is a free service, and will **NOTIFY YOU**, via phone, text, and email (*or all of them*) about emergencies and road closures that affect you and your loved ones. Alerts are relevant and localized, based on home/work addresses, as well as your current location. **DON'T WAIT, SIGN UP NOW!** Go to; www.vtalert.gov

In 2021 the Vermont Legislature enacted a law (Section 12 of Act No. 52 (H.122)) requiring the creation of Regional Emergency Management Committees (REMCs) to coordinate and support regional all-hazards emergency planning and preparedness activities to improve each region's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from all disasters., each REMC is expected to meet at least quarterly.

The Windham Regional Emergency Management Committee, consist of two voting members from each town. The Vernon Select board has appointed, Emergency Management Director David Emery and Fire Chief Alex Dunklee to represent the town. The Regional Emergency Management Committee representatives are to be confirmed each year with submittal of your Local Emergency Management Plan.

I would like to thank the town personnel and the select board for keeping the needs and safety of the residents in the forefront.

I look forward to serving this community and continuing to make Vernon a safe place to live. Safety is the responsibility of all of us.

Please don't hesitate to contact me, at 802-579-9931 or email at, vernonemd@gmail.com
Respectfully,

David J. Emery Sr., Emergency Mgmt. Director

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Vernon Fire Department continued to remain busy through 2025. Our department conducts our in-house training nearly every Tuesday evening (with some additional weekend days and weeknights for outside training opportunities).

In October, during fire prevention week, several of our members took time off from their day jobs, to make for a fun and exciting Fire Prevention Day at the Elementary School. This year's focus

was; "Charge into Fire Safety-Lithium-Ion batteries in the home".

The Vernon Fire Association would like to thank the community for their overwhelming support of the Corned Beef Dinner, Ham Dinner, Breakfast with Santa, as well as the attendance at the spring Vernon community Market.

As of the writing of this update, we currently have 2 members enrolled and attending the Firefighter 1 certification course- 180+ hours of hands-on and textbook instruction. We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to Sabrina Krafchuk, and Jada Unruh for dedicating their time to further their training to serve our community.

Over the summer, Junior member, Connor Griffus attended the Vermont State Fire Academy; Fire Cadet Academy. Upon graduation, Connor was asked to carry the flag in their color guard, and to also return next year as a Lieutenant. We are extremely grateful for Connor's professional representation of our community and look forward to continuing to support his path in emergency services.

If you know anyone between the ages of 16 & 18 who may be interested in becoming a junior member, please scan the link below, and check out the membership application package, as well as the program requirements. Our members have continued to compile a diverse offering of training which continues to focus on teamwork, circumstances that we encounter, and utilizing the resources that we have available to us. Some of the training highlights from the year include:

- Pumping Operations, In conjunction with Guilford Volunteer Fire Department
- SCBA and Search/ Rescue training with United Fire training- Attended by Vernon, Guilford Dummerston, & Bernardston.
- First 5-Minute Operations w/ Jakes of All Trades- Attended by Guilford, Vernon & Dummerston.
- Back to basics, re-learning basic skills.

Several members of our department and our community have been working on scoping out the replacement of our current 1994 Freightliner Tanker. This task has not been easy to pinpoint, but the committee has done a thorough job looking at different options to upgrade our current truck, which has been allocated for expenditure from the capital budget.

Please check out the QR code down below.... Thanks to the support of the Vernon Fire Association, they have hosted a website for the fire department,

where you can learn more about what we do, how we function, and who we are. Also available are; membership applications, and forms for address signs.



You can also follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/vernonfire51 On behalf of the Vernon Volunteer Fire Department, Thank You for your support,

-Chief Alex Dunklee

FARMLAND PROTECTION COMMITTEE

STATUS REPORT

Chair: Arthur Miller ***Jeff Hardy***
Skip Baldwin ***Madeline G. Arms***

During the year 2025:

- There were no applications for funding submitted,
- There was one meeting held in February 2025, to discuss questions raised by Norma Manning from the Vernon Conservation Committee regarding the definition and designation of prime agricultural soils and farmland as outlined in the Town Plan. This query was initiated by Great River Hydro's application for a solar installation on land that they own but has been used as farmland for many years.
- Per our Treasurer's report, we have \$248,118.36 in the Farmland Protection account. Thus, after consulting with committee members, it was decided that there will be no request for additional funding at Town Meeting in March 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Madeline G. Arms

Friends of Vernon Center, Inc- Governor Hunt House ad Community Center

There was much activity in 2024 for both the Hunt House and the Community Center. With the aid of both a HUD grant, which had been awarded in 2022 and ARPA funds which were approved in 2024, projects such as the painting of the exterior of the entire property and custom-made storm windows for the Hunt House that needed to be approved as historically appropriate were purchased and installed. There were also some electrical improvements including fixing interior outlets, a new

entry door was installed in order to conserve heat, improving the outdoor lighting and lastly several audits regarding possible insulation options.

The Governor Hunt House built in 1764, is unheated and will remain so at this time. The Community Center section was built by Vermont Yankee and currently has been heated by electricity. Given the overwhelming costs of heating this part of the property, a major focus for us, as a Board, has been to investigate other heating options. A contract has been signed for the insulation of a propane furnace. In order for this installation to take place, the room for the furnace needed to be insulated. Also, the sighting of the propane tank needed to be approved by the Preservation Trust of Vermont. Fortunately, these improvements will fall under the HUD grant guidelines.

A second major project for us this year was the renovation of the kitchen in the Community Center. With the generosity of Jeff Newton from Fabuwood, who donated new kitchen cabinets and the installation work, which was completed by Rick Castine, a Vernon resident, free of charge. Because of their efforts, we can now offer a very functional and up to date kitchen for potential renters.

Another change for this year was the retirement of 4 of our Board Members; Roger and Sandra Rulewich, Tom Rappaport, and Arlene Palmiter. All served on the Board for many years with commitment and energy. We are grateful for their service. At that same time, we welcomed 3 new Board Members; Amy Tirroski, Christine Shepherd and Don Rosinski.

As we continue to move into 2025, with the leadership of Shelli Harvey, our Facilities and Events Manager, there has been an increased focus on both fund-raising and community events. There have been a few months of Friday Food Truck Nights which has provided an evening once a month of food trucks available to the community. Also at the same time, we have been holding Bingo nights which, hopefully have been a fun activity, for all. The Community Center has also been the gathering spot for Bone Builders which meets 2 mornings a week, a number of yogi classes, rentals such as showers, birthday parties, and celebrations of life. There has also been a continued focus on providing both free and some fee-based classes.

Because the Friends of Vernon Center is a non-profit organization, without a consistent revenue source, we are very focused on fund-raising. To that end, we have participated in a fund raiser at the Welcome Center on I91, ran a Harvest Festival, the Festival of Trees yearly. As a Board, we will continue to be attentive to our dual focus: providing a resource and gathering place for our townspeople and to work toward making the facility as self-sufficient as possible.

We are always looking for suggestions, feedback about possible events. We welcome anyone wishing to learn more about us, volunteer or consider joining the Board. For information, please contact us at: governorhunt.org or email us at govhuntecc@gmail.com. Respectfully submitted,

Beth Armington,

President- Friends of Vernon Center, Inc - Governor Hunt House and Community Center





The Gathering Place

The Gathering Place (TGP) is a 501c3 not-for-profit organization that has proudly served the older adults and adults with disabilities residents of the Windham County region including bordering New Hampshire and Massachusetts communities since 1989. TGP is conveniently located on 30 Terrace Street in Brattleboro. Older adults and adult disabled individuals of a variety of ages, races, religions and socioeconomic status enjoy the benefits of the Center and its services. The Gathering Place is both a cost-effective way to minimize the stress of providing care at home and an affordable alternative to nursing facility placement. The center is open Monday through Friday from 7:45 AM to 4:45 PM. Participants receive 2-way transportation from door to door.

TGP's myriad of services and activities are designed to bring health, fun, laughter and companionship to the lives of our participants and peace of mind to their families. Our services include:

- **Nursing oversight**
- **Access to transportation and coordination of medical appointments**
- Access to on-site counseling, and occupational and physical therapies
- Daily exercise program
- Recreation and social activities **that help participants retain their sense of identity**
- Nutritious meals and snacks
- Personal care (showers, podiatry, etc.)
- Outreach services
- Companionship
- Special events

There are many different ways that program participants may pay for their services.

- Private pay refers to those participants who pay The Gathering Place's stated fee.
- TGP offers scholarships **made possible through donations and town allocations** for those who exhibit financial need, to help cover the cost of attendance. For those program participants whose income falls within TGP's

Sliding Fee Scale range, an adjusted fee is calculated according to the scale.

- Vermont Medicaid
- Dementia and Respite Grants
- American Parkinson's Disease Association Grants

We continue the long climb to regrow our program to pre-pandemic levels when we served over 100 families each year. The program is currently operating at just over 60% of pre-pandemic census.

In the last Fiscal Year TGP provided services to **42** families. The services included:

- 25,909** hours of service
20,160 hours of planned activities
8,476 breakfasts, lunches and snacks
10,080 hours of exercise per year

As part of our fundraising program, we ask local towns for financial support so that we can continue to provide an excellent program and stand ready to meet the future demand for our services, including the ability to fund our income sensitive sliding fee scale for those folks that need our support. The Gathering Place is asking for your help and is requesting funding in the amount of **\$750**.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to your response. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Heather Robertson, Executive Director

Health Care and Rehabilitation Services HCRS

Health Care and Rehabilitation Services (HCRS) is a comprehensive community mental health provider serving residents of Windsor and Windham counties. HCRS assists and advocates for individuals, families, and children who are living with mental health issues, developmental disabilities, and substance use disorders. HCRS provides these services through outpatient mental health services, a substance use program, developmental disability services, and 24/7 emergency services.

During FY25, HCRS provided 6,147 hours of services to 59 residents of the Town of Vernon. The services provided included all of HCRS' programs resulting in a wide array of supports for residents of Vernon.

Anyone with questions about HCRS services should contact George Karabakakis, Chief Executive Officer, at (802) 886-4500.

HEALTH OFFICER

The role and main duties for Town Health Officers (THO) are to investigate complaints and abate any existing and/or potential public health hazards such as a failed onsite wastewater system (septic system).

18 V.S.A. § 2(9) defines a public health hazard as conditions (chemical, biological or physical) that have the potential to harm the health of the public. THOs are responsible for addressing public health hazards in their town.

Some health hazards may be private, not public, and the THO is not responsible for addressing private health hazards. THOs must consider and weigh factors when determining whether a health hazard or potential health hazard is public or private:

Rental Housing, Health, and Safety

As of January 1, 2024, the state Division of Fire Safety is the government entity with the primary authority to enforce State laws governing rental housing, health, and safety. The Division of Fire Safety has adopted the Rental Housing Health and Safety Code and designed a complaint-based system to ensure rental housing, including short-term rentals, is maintained in a safe and healthy manner, and will take the lead on rental housing inspections in most of the state. However, town health officers have the authority to assist the Division of Fire Safety in inspecting rental housing, pursuant to 18 V.S.A. §602a (5) and 20 V.S.A. Chapter 172.

The Division of Fire Safety has a webpage with information on rental housing, health, and safety. Contact information for the regional offices of the Division of Fire Safety, including the Assistant State Fire Marshals for Rental Housing, is also available on their website.

https://firesafety.vermont.gov/rental_housing_healthandsafety

Drinking Water

Public Water Supplies Although THOs will generally not become involved with situations concerning public water supplies, they will be informed (by mail, from the Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division) of any boil notices, do not drink' notices, or other emergency notices placed on water systems in their communities

Private Drinking Water Sources

Approximately 40% of Vermonters use private water supplies such as wells or springs. These water sources serve single-family homes or small groups of homes and are typically monitored and maintained by their

owners. Many rental properties use water provided by a public water system, other rental properties are served by a private well or a spring.

There are many contaminants in well or spring water that may cause health effects. Although private water supplies are not regulated, the Health Department recommends testing for:

1. Coliform bacteria (Kit A) every year
2. Inorganic chemicals (Kit C+) every five years
3. Naturally, alpha radiation (Kit RA) every five years

These kits are grouped in the Vermont Homeowner Testing Package and can be purchased from the Vermont Public Health Lab by calling 802-338-4724 or online at www.HealthVermont.gov/lab/forms The Health Department offers laboratory analyses, guidance, and technical advice on treatment options.

Non-Rental Private Water Supplies When contacted by homeowners concerned about the safety of their private water supplies, THOs can refer individuals to the Environmental Health Division (Private Drinking Water Program) for technical assistance by email at ahs.VDHDinkingWaterProgram@vermont.gov or by calling 802- 489-7339.

Homeowners can purchase test kits through the Health Department Laboratory by calling 802-338-4724.

Occasionally, THOs will receive a call alerting them that the land activities of a neighbor or other party are contaminating a homeowner's water supply. Depending on the situation, the THO may need to facilitate testing, contact another state agency, work with the parties to come to a solution, or simply provide the parties with referral resources. If you observe or have knowledge of any activity that may violate Vermont's environmental laws, encourage the affected party to file an environmental violation report with the Department of Environmental Conservation at Dec.vermont.gov/content/environmental-violation-report. The THO can also contact the Environmental Health Division (Private Drinking Water Program) for guidance on how to proceed.

If heating fuel or chemicals are known to have been spilled near someone's well or spring, the THO should advise them to report the spill to Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Spill Management Team during business hours (7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) at 802-828-1138 or outside of business hours at 800-641-5005.

Individuals should not drink the water if they suspect a fuel or chemical spill has impacted their well or if their water smells sweet or like fuel or chemicals. The Health Department recommends regular testing of private drinking water supplies.

For additional information on other Health related questions/concerns, visit the Vermont Department of Public Health Department's web site at <http://healthvermont.gov/>

For local questions or concerns you may contact Town Health Officer Mark Snow @ (802) 451-6842,

Mark A. Snow, Vernon Town Health Officer

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The Highway Department has had a busy year with our normal maintenance of roadside mowing, tree work, replacing signs, edging of roads, cleaning under guardrails and routine ditch and culvert cleaning.

Additional work on the Clean Water Act "Act 64" all of Houghton Hill Road was done which included ditches, stream banks, and culvert inlets and outlets were all brought up to the new storm water regulations. All ditches were reshaped, grass reseeded or large rip rap added. All culvert inlets and outlets had stone added for water runoff.

Added prefab concrete headers and large rip rap stone to inlets and outlets. On West Road to bring this up to the new standard.

The Town was very fortunate not to have any major damage caused by flooding because of all the rain.

Work done at the Town Office building including work to get a new handicap chair lift in. Adding a new trim board. Rebuilding a handrail to bring area around elevator up to code. Replaced heating oil tanks and fuel lines to bring them up to the new code.

West Road full depth Reclamation and Repaving was awarded to Bazin Brothers Trucking Inc. Because of night paving in Brattleboro ours was moved back later in the fall.

The Highway department cut cost by crack sealing 2 miles of Pond Road our self. This cut the price in half.

The Highway department is asking that you do not place items to give away at intersections of Town roads. This is illegal dumping with larger fines and possible jail time. You can place items free or to

give away at the end of your driveway on your property.

The Highway department is asking to get permission before you do any work in the Town right-of-way or near any town road. Work done in the Town right-away could change water flow which could put you in violation of "Act 64" the Clean Water Act.

The Highway department is asking all landowners or renters to not fill or dump materials of any kind in the town drainage ditches or over right of way banks as this impedes water flow and could cause roads to washout. There is a State Statute in Title 19 prohibiting this with fines.

The act of dumping snow in the Town right-of-way is a crime enacting the following provisions of: **23 V.S.A. § 1126a. Depositing snow onto or across certain 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.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the Highway Department 802-254-9428.

Roland David Walker, Jr., Road Commissioner

HISTORIANS

Established in 1968, the Vernon Historians, Inc. is an independent 501(c)3 non-profit organization separate from the town government. It exists for the purpose of preserving historical materials and artifacts that helps us picture life and events of the past which have shaped our community.

Volunteer Museum Hosts welcomed approximately 78 visitors, including visitors from Holland, MI, London, England, and Oakland CA. The theme for 2025 was Vernon's one room school houses with a presentation and reunion on opening day at the Museum.

Other events included an ice cream social, a presentation of Vernon farms to the Vernon Seniors by Sandy Morrison, Jan Peduzzi, and Carol Hammond. There was also a display of agricultural

tools at the Governor Hunt House Harvest Fest and a Vernon history program.

Currently, the Historians are working with Brattleboro Words Trail to include Vernon in a *“community-created audio stories linking places to people to create a unique Vermont experience”*, which will be featured at the future Brattleboro Railway Station.

The Historians will also take part in the “Festival of Trees” held at the Governor Hunt House from December 5-7.

Pond Road Chapel is looking great! Two sides of the Chapel and the shutters have been painted, and new bottom window sash ropes installed. Minor slate work is scheduled.

Vernon has a rich historical heritage and we encourage the residents of our town to avail themselves of the resources available at the Museum. Even if you are new to Vernon, and especially if you have children, it is important and interesting to know the history of the place you call home.

We invite you to check out the Museum and the Annex. We are open Sunday afternoons, June -September, from 2-4 p.m. or by appointment.

For your convenience, our email contact information is:
vernonvermonthistorians@gmail.com.

VERNON FREE LIBRARY 2025 TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

We, the Trustees of the Vernon Free Library, thank you for your generous support in FY 2024-2025. Because of you, our library continues to be an important and valuable resource for our community. We are grateful for the opportunity to share a few of the highlights from this year with you.

We were thankful for the generous response from our community in annual donations, and for purchasing books and tickets during our bake sale and raffle. Many thanks also go to the wonderful local businesses who donated a number of items for the raffle. All fundraising proceeds go to the library to purchase items which are outside of the budget and thus relieve some of the financial burden on taxpayers. This year, we purchased a Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS) membership so library patrons can visit the VINS Nature Center and Wild Bird Rehab at a discount.

Another purchase this year paid for the migration to a new website. After many years of excellent service, our previous webmaster retired. We were fortunate to find a new provider with experience in municipal websites, who can support the unique needs of our library. Please take a look at the same familiar URL: <https://vernonfreelibrary.org/>.

We enjoyed seeing many of you at the Vernon Community Market this year, and sharing a virtual scavenger hunt to introduce the new website. There are some talented young techies in this town—they zoomed through the hunt to find some key website features and also explored some new elements. We also revealed the new logo designed by one of our very own patrons, and loved handing out logo stickers during the Market.

The Trustees held meetings in person and via the Zoom platform and conducted our usual business. Additionally, this year, we updated the Collection Development Policy to ensure compliance with new Vermont laws. This summer we were excited to join the Vernon Library staff in welcoming the State Librarian for a visit to our little library. It's always nice to have the opportunity to engage with the wider Vermont library community and to share the Vernon perspective with leadership in Montpelier.

We always welcome your feedback, and we look forward to seeing you all throughout the coming year. Thank you again for your continued financial support.

Trustees (Term):

Cassie Sailsman, Chair (2028)

vfltrustee.3@gmail.com

Julie Nevins, Vice-Chair (2027)

vfltrustee.2@gmail.com

Nikki Deyo, Secretary (2027)

vfltrustee.5@gmail.com

Kristin Bratton, Clerk (2028)

vfltrustee.1@gmail.com

VERNON FREE LIBRARY

The library has been increasingly busy serving the needs of our community and has welcomed many new patrons.

The return of the part-time Youth Services Librarian position has made it possible to increase our services for children. Currently, the position is vacant but we hope to fill it soon.

Our Reading Group is meeting monthly on the second Thursday of the month and has grown to about a dozen members!

Our Knitting Group meets weekly on Wednesday at 1 pm. New members are always welcome!

Our summer reading program theme was "Color Our World". Participants enjoyed air dry clay creations & display, marble art, stain glass art, squeegee art, tie dying socks, and yarn art wall hangings and bookmarks! And lots of reading! Approximately 500 books were read during the summer reading program!

The library hosted 2 Puzzle Tournaments. The contestants/teams were treated to refreshments and a prize for the winners.

Windham-1 Meet-Ups with Zon Eastes, our State Representative for Vernon & Guilford, were hosted by the library. This is your chance to engage in open conversation about issues and ideas that matter most to you and your neighbors.

We continue to keep our collection current and purchase new releases monthly. The library collection totals over 20,000 items including DVDs, Audio books on CD, magazines, and books.

Digital services continue to be important. Available to library patrons, they can be found at www.vernonfreelibrary.org, and include the following:

OVERDRIVE through ListenUp Vermont using the LIBBY app offers e books and downloadable audio books totaling over 57,648 items in the collection.

PALACE PROJECT This app is another source of downloadable e book and audio books through the Vermont Department of Libraries and available to any member of Vernon Free Library.

BIBLIO+ Stream unlimited movies and TV series, including BBC content and books to movies, on any device with your library card!

VERMONT ONLINE LIBRARY (VOL) offers a wide array of electronic information databases on a variety of topics geared to a variety of age levels, for both generalists and specialists. The information is produced by known and trusted

publishers and includes Gale databases (via Vermont academic, school, and public libraries) and Gale Presents: Udemy (via all Vermont public libraries.) Resources include health information, newspaper articles, reference databases, periodicals, Chilton's DIY repair manuals, Peterson's Test and Career Prep, Job Seekers, Small Business Owners, Travel Tools, and more for all ages, including children. These resources are available to you 24 hours a day from not only your participating local library, but your home, your office - or location where internet access is available.

VERMONT ONLINE is made available through the Vermont Department of Libraries.

CONSUMER REPORTS online is available. FAMILY SEARCH (genealogy site)

WI-FI coverage includes the library, inside the Town Office Building, and outside the Town Office Building via a HOT SPOT.

The annual holiday GIVING TREE continued this year. Again, the generosity of our residents helped to make the holidays a little brighter for our neighbors.

We all love being able to serve our community.

Thank you for your support of Vernon Free Library!

DIRECTOR: Jean Carr

YOUTH SERVICES LIBRARIAN: vacant

LIBRARY ASSISTANT: Beth Armington, Danielle Walker

VOLUNTEERS: Kathy Korb, Mia Fowler-Shaw

GIVING TREE COMMITTEE/VOLUNTEERS: Joyce Goodnow, Rita Mudd, June Turner, Jean Carr

Vernon Free Library	F/Y	ACTUALS	F/Y	FY
	23/24	23/24	24/25	25/26
Gross Wages	\$62,154	\$61,012	\$85,648	\$90,459
FICA	\$4,755	\$4,381	\$6,553	\$6,921
Donation				
Subtotal Payroll	\$66,909	\$65,393	\$92,201	\$97,380
Insurances	13,191	10,808	14,510	15,961
20 Supplies	1,000	1,259	1,000	1,000
22 Books	12,700	16,251	12,700	12,700
23 New Equip.	1,485	978	1,485	1,485
24 Periodicals	1,000	1,157	1,000	1,000
25 Audio/Video	1,100	621	950	1,000
26 Internet Access	2,000	1,051	2,000	2,000
27 Software	0	0	0	-
28 Marketing/Fund Raising	600	120	600	500
29 Electronic Resources	200	150	200	200
35 Postage	850	846	1,000	1,100
40 Dues	170	100	170	170
44 Technology	1,600	2,252	1,600	2,000
62 Repairs & Maint.	1,500	1,855	1,500	1,500
72 Miscellaneous	40	0	40	40
71 Programs	500	325	500	500
73 Program Supplies	1,000	1,141	1,000	1,000
74 Travel & Conference	1,000	100	1,000	1,000
Subtotal Expenses	\$39,936	\$39,014	\$41,255	\$43,156
Totals	\$106,845	\$104,407	\$133,456	\$140,536
VFL GIFT FUND	\$48,808		\$49,554	
Donation Expenditures		\$2,464		

LISTERS REPORT

This has been a transition year for the Listers office as both Carol and Bill Hammond have retired. Carol and Bill have been Listers for the town of Vernon for over 20 years. Their wealth of knowledge and commitment to the town will be deeply missed. We wish both Carol and Bill the best of luck on their new adventures as they enjoy retired life. The Lister's office gained two new listers, Jesse Jobin and Judy Miller. Both Jesse and Judy have settled right in and quickly learned the Lister roles and responsibilities, they both make a great addition to the Vernon Board of Listers.

The Lister Board lodges the Grand List, hears grievances, participates in Board of Civil Authority hearings, and sits on the Board of Abatement. The Listers' most important duty is to produce a Grand List of all properties in Vernon. Property is appraised at its fair market value.

The State of Vermont has taken over the completion of town wide reappraisals rather than them being done at the local level. Reappraisals are expected to be conducted every 6 years. Vernon's reappraisal will commence sometime in the fall of 2026 and is scheduled to be completed by 2028. New England Municipal Resource Center (NEMRC) will be conducting the reappraisals. The appeals/grievance process will also change, with appeals being held at designated places around the state. This is the result of Act 68 (H480), passed in 2023 by state legislation. Vernon homeowners should expect to receive a letter from the Listers office prior to the start of reappraisals. The NEMRC assessors may ask to enter your home to count rooms, water fixtures, take pictures, and measure your house, garages, barns, and outbuildings. This information is needed to ensure a quality assessment of your property.

Vernon is still in litigation with Great River Hydro over their 2023 and 2024 tax assessments. Both parties have been in mediation this past year without coming to an agreement. We are scheduled to go to court in late May 2026.

We would like to remind everyone to file your Homestead Declaration by April 1, 2026. This is necessary to ensure you are billed using the correct tax rate and ultimately receive a tax rebate.

The Listers office continues to provide lister cards and other information by email, phone, or in person. If anyone has questions concerning their property, please come by the Lister office; we are always happy to have Vernon residents come by for a visit. The Listers are available Monday through Thursday 10am to 2pm and by appointment.

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION REPORT

○ Committee members

- **Jim Pinkerton (Chair)**
- **Robert Spencer (Vice Chair)**
- **Madeline Arms**
- **Brandon Bucossi**
- **Russ Rosinski**

- **Great River Hydro proposed Solar project**
 - between Governor Hunt Road and Fort Brigham Road, reviewed many times, and recommended approval.
- **Monitored VY Site deconstruction progress**
 - mainly using presentations by Corey Daniels of Northstar.
- **Interfaced with Power Transitions**
 - several times regarding their lease of the Vermont Yankee Site and several proposals for site projects including solar arrays, and battery storage facilities.
 - Project has been put on hold for one year
- **Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)**
 - Worked on and had several public meetings updating the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- **Recreation Master Plan**
 - Reviewed the project and monitored its progress, very good expenditure of grant funds.
- **Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU)**
 - Reviewed MOU for Old Growth Forest Registry, suggested that the town not sign the document.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

“To promote recreation services that will foster and encourage the development of a healthy lifestyle for the community”

Each of us follow a routine, a schedule, a process specific to us and only us. It's what makes us unique in our own way. Sure, there will be some similarities but no two people will ever be completely the same. If that was the case the world would be bland, free from seasoning! While I don't make a practice of speaking for others I am going to go out on a limb and say I think we can all agree the world is certainly not bland.

As no two people are the same no two years at the Recreation Department are the same. Yes, routines, schedules, and processes may be similar but each carries its own unique seasoning that make what we do so enjoyable.

Our “routine” or “schedule” was once again filled with programming that meets a need here in town. The Vernon Preschool continued to provide a

safe, comfortable, and fun learning environment for local youth ages 3-5, the After School Program gave 49 kids a place to hang out when the bell rings wrapping up the school day, Day Camp provided 35 campers each week opportunities to try something they had never tried before, to socialize and make new friends, to swim, build forts, come in second place to the Recreation Director in UNO (ha-ha), and much more!

While the “need” is different one could make the case that other programming is equally as vital to the community. Game Club, Baseball/Softball, Christmas Crafts, Pickleball, or any of the other 20 plus programs we are tasked with running have been busier than ever. While many of these programs take place each year the lessons learned, accomplishments along the way, and relationships made are never the same.

As we do each year, we take some time to evaluate current programming while also exploring new ideas. It was this process that ushered along the return of swim lessons! It was very exciting to see 49 Vernon kids work to be more comfortable and confident swimmers. We are very much looking forward to seeing the progress they all make as they continue their efforts next summer. Great job by all!

I have said it before and will say it again. We could not do what we do without a tremendous group of volunteers! You all are the absolute best! It is your efforts that make our small town such a great community.

In closing we want to thank each of you who have supported the department this past year. You are the seasoning that makes each year full of flavor, never bland, similar in routine yet uniquely different. We love that!

Seth Deyo, Recreation Director

RESCUE INC

As we enter our 60th year of service, we are excited to be leading the EMS industry in Vermont and New Hampshire with innovative approaches to today's complex health care, education, and rescue needs. Grounded in years of experience and community values, our team of more than 80 staff have partnered with other community organizations to address chronic disease, workforce development and disaster response. We continue to improve operational efficiency, reliability, and service quality while maintaining our focus on patient-

centered care. In the last year we have responded to more than 5000 calls for service, responding to 100% of 911 activations in our member towns. We have been able to assist with mutual aid to areas covered by partner agencies and continue to support specialized rescue responses across Vermont. Our mobile integrated health program continues to grow, serving joint replacement patients, and chronic conditions. This program has helped improve health outcomes and prevented unnecessary hospital admissions through patient focused education and intervention. At our EMS training academy in Newfane, we are now providing education for all levels of EMS provider as well as supporting the greater health care workforce. Our mobile simulation center can bring advanced training directly to area providers. Community CPR and first aid education are an essential part of our mission at the Vermont EMS Academy. New this year is our workplace safety programs specially designed to help our local small businesses with compliance and safety.

To state that healthcare is entering a complex financial and operational time would be a significant understatement. Our organization is not immune from the changes in federal funding and the reorganization of state health care programs. We are working with law makers to ensure that EMS remains a funding priority. We are committed to providing high-level care at a reasonable cost to our member towns. We understand that the financial stress that we feel as an organization is the same stress that is being felt by local taxpayers, after all, we live in the communities we serve. This year's town assessment request is a 1% increase over last year.



Drew Hazelton
Chief, Rescue Inc

SENIORS

The Vernon Seniors get together twice a month in the lower level of the town hall. On the second Monday we have a potluck lunch and a business meeting. On the fourth Monday we have a birthday social with scheduled activities or guest speakers. All business meetings start at twelve noon and all socials start at one.

We take several bus trips each month. Some of the trips taken this year; Van Gogh Immersive Experience, Magic Wings, Naulakha Estate, Emily Dickinson Home, Sparkle Barn and Chocolate Emporium, Sturbridge Village, Bridge of Flowers and Immersive Monet Experience.

We had lunches in Dummerston, Newfane, and Franklin Tech. We went to various malls and thrift stores as well as Ollies and Ocean State Job Lots. We enjoyed a picnic lunch at the Vernon Rec

Shelter. We also gathered to celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas. On the third Thursday of each month, we do crafts at the lower level of the town hall.

Our meetings provide an opportunity for socializing with others in the community. We get a chance to share great food, hear interesting stories, and encourage one another when needed. We invite everyone fifty-five and older to join our growing membership. Yearly dues are five dollars.

Gloria Pinkerton – President
Reita Lashway – Vice President

Sallie May - Secretary

Maribeth Cornell - Treasurer

Eleanor Thomas - Assistant Treasurer

SENIOR SOLUTIONS

Senior Solutions, Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont, Inc. has served the residents of Vernon and Southeastern Vermont since 1973. We have offices in Springfield (main office), Windsor and Brattleboro. Our mission is to promote the well-being and dignity of older adults. Our vision is that every person will age in the place of their choice, with the support they need and the opportunity for meaningful relationships and active engagement in their community.

This is a summary of services provided to Vernon residents in the time period of 7/1/2024-6/30/2025.

These figures represent more than \$28,000 worth of services provided at no charge to the residents of Vernon.

Information & Assistance: 108 Calls or Office Visits. Our Helpline (802-885-2669 or 866-673-8376) offers information, referrals and assistance to older Vermonters, their families, and their caregivers to problem-solve, plan, and access resources. We assist with health insurance problems, long-term care applications, fuel assistance, applying for benefits, and many other needs. Extensive resources are also on our website: www.SeniorSolutionsVT.org

Medicare Assistance: 23 Calls or Office Visits. Vernon residents received assistance with Medicare issues and enrollment through our State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). SHIP provides Medicare education and counseling, classes for new Medicare enrollees, and help enrolling in Part D and choosing a drug plan.

In-Home Care Coordination Services: We provided 14 residents with in-home case management or other home-based assistance (totaling 146 hours) to enable them to remain living safely at home. A Senior Solutions case manager meets clients at home to

create and monitor a person-centered plan of care. Based on this plan, case managers work to secure services that support the client in the community. We also support clients with self-neglect behaviors, and help those who experience abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

Nutrition Services and Meal Programs: We partnered with Brattleboro Senior Meals at the Gibson-Aiken Center, Evening Star Grange #154, and Vernon Green Retirement Homes to provide 1,664 Home-Delivered Meals, plus community meal gatherings in our region. Senior Solutions administers federal and state funds to local organizations to supplement their operating costs for these meal programs. The funds we provide do not cover the full cost, so local meal sites must seek additional funding to meet operating costs. Senior Solutions does not use town funding to support these meal programs and does not benefit from any funds that towns provide directly to local meal sites. Senior Solutions also offers the services of a registered dietitian to older adults and to local meal sites.

Volunteer Visitors: Our volunteers provided home visits, telephone reassurance, and respite for family caregivers. Our Vet-to-Vet program matches Veteran volunteers with Veteran recipients. Two residents received a total of 43 hours of volunteer service.

Other Services: Residents may also have received one or more of the following services: caregiver respite, transportation, wellness and fall prevention programs, options counseling, legal assistance (through Vermont Legal Aid), assistance for adults with disabilities, pet care support, and home-based mental health services.

Senior Solutions is enormously grateful for the support of the people from the Town of Vernon.

Submitted by: *Mark Boutwell, Executive Director*

SOUTHEASTERN VERMONT COMMUNITY ACTION (SEVCA)

Southeastern Vermont Community Action is an anti-poverty, community-based, nonprofit organization serving Windham and Windsor counties since 1965. Our mission is to *empower and partner with individuals and communities to alleviate the hardships of poverty; provide opportunities to thrive; and eliminate the root causes of poverty.*

SEVCA has a variety of programs and services to meet this end. They include Head Start, Weatherization, Emergency Home Repair, Family Services (crisis resolution, fuel, utility, housing, and food assistance), Micro-Business Development,

Financial Coaching (asset building & financial literacy), Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, a Community Solar program, and a Thrift Store Voucher Program.

SEVCA has served a total of unduplicated 27 households comprised of 50 people in Vernon between Oct 2024 and the end of September 2025. Unduplicated means that some of these households may have received services from more than one of our program areas.

In Vernon, SEVCA's impact in FY2025 included:

- \$49,962 in no-cost weatherization services that reduce a household's energy costs and make homes healthier and safer.
- \$6,760 in emergency heating system repairs and replacements to keep homes heated.
- \$4,035 of fuel & utility assistance to keep people's homes heated and their power on
- \$854 in housing assistance to help people avoid eviction or get into safe and affordable housing
- \$408 in Community solar energy assistance valued at \$408 to reduce member household's energy costs
- 17 households received assistance preparing their income taxes to take advantage of tax credits, refunds and rebates.
- 1 household received support and consultation on building a micro business

The combined value of services provided to residents in the Town of Vernon exceeded \$59,019. The figures reported here are for direct client assistance only and do not include the cost of SEVCA providing these services through staffing and operating costs.

Community support, especially through town funding, is crucial in building strong partnerships. The combined efforts of federal, state, private, and local funding allow us to maintain, enhance, and expand our services. While SEVCA has not received funding from Vernon in recent years, we remain committed to delivering our programs to those who qualify to ensure everyone has access to the basic necessities of life.

We greatly appreciate the continued support of Vernon residents.

Josh Davis, Executive Director

Southeastern Vermont Community Action, Inc.
(SEVCA)

91 Buck Drive, Westminster, VT 05158

(800) 464-9951 or (802) 722-4575

sevca@sevca.org or www.sevca.org

SeVEDS

Improving wages, creating jobs, & attracting and keeping people in the region is critical economic development work that is beyond the capacity of any single community to do on its own. **Southeastern VT Economic Development Strategies (SeVEDS)** was founded as an affiliate of the Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation (BDCC) in 2007 to create regional strategies and attract resources that help us act together to build a thriving economy.

SeVEDS contracts with BDCC, Southeastern Vermont's Regional Development Corporation, to develop and implement these strategies in the Windham Region.

Our work is guided by the **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)**, a 5-year regional plan that is developed through a data-driven public process with extensive regional input. The CEDS was updated in 2024 to inform the region's economic direction through 2029. The plan's central theme is: **'The rapid pace of innovation, continuing economic resilience to disaster impacts, and trending demographic shifts make it clear that an adaptive approach is needed in Southern Vermont.'** The full document is available at www.sovermontzone.com/ceds.

Background & Request

To support this work, SeVEDS requests funding at \$3.00 per person from all 27 towns we serve.

Therefore, we are asking the Town of Vernon to appropriate \$6576 (based on a population of 3192) to support implementation of SeVEDS strategies.

In 2025, 22 communities, representing 82% of Windham region residents, voted to invest in SeVEDS, representing an investment of \$110,000+ to support regional economic development. We use this municipal funding in three key ways:

1. To directly fund implementation of programs & projects serving local communities, businesses and people (details below).
2. To build regional economic development capacity. SeVEDS uses municipal funding to create programs, conduct research and planning, secure and administer grants, and to help regional partners. **In FY25 we helped directly administer \$2.7 Million to external partners (towns,**

businesses and nonprofits) for their programs and projects.

3. As seed funding. In 2025, BDCC leveraged **SeVEDS municipal funding 10x over** to bring additional state, federal and philanthropic money to the region to support our programs. Every dollar contributed by towns is matched many times over.

Program Impacts

- BDCC's **Business Services** team provides technical assistance and lending to businesses of any size, from startup to retirement. We encourage every local business to reach out – if we can't help, we'll connect you with someone who can. We'll also connect local business owners with "**BizConnect**" events now happening every month around the region. **8 Vernon businesses are in our current active service pipeline and in September a BizConnect event was held in Vernon.**
- Our Workforce Team creates programs like **Pipelines and Pathways**: providing career training and support to students in area High Schools through programs like our Reality Fair and Fearless Futures. The **Southern Vermont Young Professionals** group helps young adults in their 20's-40's advance their careers and deepen their connections in the region.
- Regionally, we support jobs for the many **Vernon** folks who commute out of town to work, by working with hundreds of businesses, including many of the area's largest employers.
- The **Welcoming Communities** program has supported 207 New Americans who have filled positions in 51 local companies and started a dozen businesses, building a more resilient and enterprising regional economy. And GROW has supported 213 people who have recently moved and 243 who are exploring moving to our region, with the help of 117 local hosts, since 2024.
- The **Southern Vermont Economy Project** helps towns and non-profits improve community vibrancy through local projects. Since 2017 SVEP has provided hundreds of expert-led and peer learning training opportunities to 2,000+ participants to help community projects solve problems and find resources. Vernon officials have participated in these opportunities.

- **BDCC has also met with Vernon Town Officials and offered assistance with the economic and housing sections of the Town Plan rewrite planned for the coming year**

More SeVEDS-Led Programming

For a deeper overview of our programs, visit our newly updated website at www.brattleborodevelopment.com. There you can sign up for our e-newsletter to get updates including state and federal economic and community development resources, or download our annual report (you can also call the office to receive your own copy: 802-257-7731.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

The Town Clerk's office has quite a list of duties such as issuing dog licenses, DMV registration renewals, recording and certifying public documents, notary services, voter registration, managing elections, land postings, certifying copies of vital records, issuing marriage licenses, selling cemetery plots, providing and tracking scholarship applications, issuing green mountain passports and issuing overweight vehicle permit.

So far this year, the office has processed:

- 22- Cusick Scholarship applications
- 21- Marriage Licenses
- 4 - Birth Certificates
- 13- Death Certificates
- 79-Certified Copies
- 11-Burial Permits
- 6- Cemetery Deeds
- 11- VT Motor Vehicle registrations renewed
- 3- Parcels of land were posted
- 5- Green Mountain Passports
- 247- Dog licenses.

A friendly reminder to all dog owners to please get your annual dog licenses beginning January 2nd through April 1st to avoid late fees. The Town has adopted a new dog ordinance and is again partnering with the Windham County Animal Control Officer, Ashley Pinger to provide two Rabies vaccination clinics at the Town Office. More details on this will be posted to the Town website. Remember licensing dog helps to fund not only state animal welfare programs but also helps to fund our Animal Control officer both are valuable programs.

During my first year as Town clerk, I have attended numerous trainings and learned so many things, hosted an attended a rabies clinic, done the biennial purge, sent out annual reports to be bound, created a projects list that includes creating a key book, getting mylar maps online, organizing, creating an inventory for the upstairs vault and Tim Arsenault has come back as the assistant on an as needed basis.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Our office processed \$7,752,150.05 in accounts payable during the fiscal year and \$10,940,892.51 in accounts receivable for the Town and Vernon Free Library. We generated 912 tax bills and 34 revised tax bills. We continue to collect tax payments in three installments, it is acceptable to pay the entire bill at any time or to make smaller payments throughout the year to help accommodate your financial needs.

It is the tax payer's responsibility to file the Homestead Declaration no later than April 15th of each year, if you file after that date a penalty will be applied. This is done through the Vermont Department of Taxes website, and can help reduce the amount of taxes you owe on your tax bill.

The Treasurer's Office has been working on updating and streamlining how our office works to enter payments and accounts payable, we have been training to utilize our accounting modules to reduce the number of hours in labor it has taken in the past. The Town purchased a new module for Cash Receipts that not only helps to enter payments and deposits quicker but also entering all tax payments in a timelier manner. Going forward it is our plan to reduce the hours for the employees in this office and still be able to maintain the same quality of service that the town is accustomed too.

It is important that you update any address changes with our office or the Listers office

*Katherine Walker, Interim Treasurer
June Turner, Bookkeeper*

WINDHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

This year, I'm presenting the Windham County Regional Policing Pilot Project to the Vermont Legislature. Since my last letter to towns, we've held several regional meetings amongst stakeholders and

the public to further how to improve the well-studied, decades-old problems that persist to this very day. The Windham County Regional Policing Pilot Project is an effort to improve policing in our local communities in a manner affordable to towns and taxpayers. After more than three years of conversations and meetings with towns, residents, and local leaders, this pilot explores a regional approach that keeps decision-making local while allowing communities to work together to support shared policing services. We seek to reduce redundant inputs, while recognizing a more reliable structure that shares resources to our communities in Windham County. You can learn more about our project at:

<https://windhamcountyvt.gov/RegionalPolicing>

Early in 2025, the Sheriff's Office received a three-year \$1.1 million dollar grant for lead hazard capacity building in Windham County. Research has shown the impact of lead on crime and incarceration rates as well as other public health issues. Through the grant, we've trained 366 people (so far) to do lead-related maintenance in Windham County homes, met with local housing providers and groups to develop a list of property owners who would want to do work, all to prepare us for a future phase of funding that would help property owners fix the problem at its source in homes. You can learn more about our project at:

<https://lead.windhamcountyvt.gov>

We continue a variety of our regional programs, including our:

- Regional Animal Control Officer (ACO) program, which the Town of Vernon is a member of, which addresses issues with animals that are vicious; at-large;
- vehicle crashes in Windham County via increased education.
- Snowmobile Enforcement Team, which patrols VAST trails to promote and preserve snow travelers and our trail systems.
- Enhanced Teen Driver's Safety Program & our Enhanced Driver's Safety Program, which help reduce motor vehicle crashes. The Windham County Sheriff's Office is pleased to serve the people of Town of Vernon and look

CALL TYPE	COUNT
MV Crash	7
Animal Problem	35
Assault - Aggravated	1
Assist - Agency	42
Assist – Citizen/Motorist	32
Cruelty to a Child	1
Drugs - Possession	1
DUI	2
Juvenile Problem	5
Mental Health Issue	4
Motor Vehicle Complaint	28
Quality of Life	187
RFA - Service	18
Search Warrant	1
Stolen Vehicle	1
Suspicious Event	19
Theft/Fraud	3
Threats/Harrassment/Dispute	10
Traffic Stop	195
Trespass/ Vandalism	7
Untimely Death	3
VIN Verification	34
GRAND TOTAL	622

neglected; unregistered; and in need of quarantine.

- Regional Emergency Communications Center, which answers approximately 40,000 phone calls, which generated 10,959 responses to the communities we serve.
- Regional Highway Safety Task Force targeting crash reduction efforts related to distracted, impaired, and other dangerous driving behaviors.

forward to the upcoming year. If you have a need for our services, please don't hesitate to contact our office at 802-365-4942 for non-emergencies or 911 for emergencies.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheriff Mark R. Anderson



WINDHAM REGIONAL COMMISSION

The mission of the Windham Regional Commission (WRC) is to assist towns in Southeastern Vermont to provide effective local governance and to work collaboratively with them to address regional issues. The region is comprised of 27 member towns: the 23 towns of Windham County; Readsboro, Searsburg and Winhall in Bennington County; and Weston in Windsor County.

The Commission, a political subdivision of the state, is composed of and governed by town-appointed Commissioners. Towns choose their own representatives to serve on the Commission. After town meeting, each Selectboard appoints up to two representatives to serve on the Commission for a one-year term. Vernon is currently represented by Ian Hefele and Jim Pinkerton, Jr. Each Commissioner represents their town's interests within a regional context before the Commission, and brings information from the Commission back to their town. All WRC meetings are open to the public and subject to Vermont open meeting law. Committees and meeting schedules can be found on our website www.windhamregional.org. We assist towns with a wide variety of activities, including town plans and bylaws; community and economic development; local emergency and hazard mitigation planning, including flood hazard area bylaw assistance; serving as a liaison between towns and the State Emergency Operations Center to report damage caused by a disaster; natural resources, including assisting towns with watershed restoration and water quality projects; energy resilience and planning; transportation, including traffic counts (automotive, bicycle, pedestrian), inventories (bridges, culverts, signs, road erosion), and road foremen training; redevelopment of Brownfields sites (sites that are or may be contaminated by hazardous substances); review of projects submitted for review through Act 250 (land use), Section 248 (energy generation and transmission, telecommunications), and federal permitting processes; grant applications and administration; training of municipal officials and volunteers across a range of topics; and mapping and geographic information system

(GIS) analyses. The maps in your town office were likely produced by the WRC.

We help towns, both individually and collectively, make the most of the financial and human resources they have, assisting with projects in, and among towns, building and augmenting the capacity of volunteer-based town boards and commissions, and providing professional services to towns that may want to take on a project that is beyond what they can comfortably manage with their own staff and volunteers. Our relationship with towns is inherently collaborative.

The following are highlights of work we did in your town between October 1, 2024 and September 30, 2025:

- Led Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
- Supported Wildlife Corridor Planning Study
- Supportive Work for FY25 Grants in Aid Construction Project
- Mapping for the Vernon Elementary School's Source Protection Plan

Funding for the WRC is provided through contracts with state agencies, federal and other grants, and town assessments. Town assessments typically make up approximately 5 percent of our total budget. Each town's individual assessment makes it possible for us to leverage the resources to serve all towns. The assessment for the town's 2027 fiscal year is \$6,200.22. To see our detailed Work Program and Budget for FY2026 and the 2025 Annual Report, visit our website, www.windhamregional.org, and click on the heading "About Us."

WINDHAM SOLID WASTE MGMT. DIST.

History and Current Status: The Windham Solid Waste Management District (WSWMD) was formed in 1988 by eight towns who cooperatively managed a 30-acre landfill on Old Ferry Road, Brattleboro until it closed in 1995. As more towns joined the district, a regional materials recovery facility (MRF) was constructed by the district adjacent to the closed landfill and processed dual-stream recyclable materials for 20 years until it stopped operating in 2017. Currently 18 towns are members of WSWMD which employs 4 full-time and 7 part-time persons to provide educational programs and operate the transfer station and composting facility on Old Ferry Road.

Town Solid Waste Services: Seven member towns, Dover, Jamaica, Readsboro, Stratton, Townshend, Wardsboro, and Wilmington operate

transfer stations for trash and recyclable materials. Other materials such as tires and electronics are also collected by some transfer stations, and most of the single stream recyclables are processed at the Casella MRF in Rutland. All town transfer stations are required to provide containers for drop-off of food scraps. Three towns, Brookline, Halifax, and Marlboro provide drop-off sites for recyclables. Two towns, Brattleboro and Westminster provide residential curbside trash and recycling collection. Six towns, Dummerston, Guilford, Newfane, Putney, Somerset, and Vernon do not provide any trash or recycling services. The WSWMD website has a map showing the services provided by each town. Residents and businesses can contract with haulers for trash and recycling collection services or purchase an annual access sticker at WSWMD for \$60 (a single day pass is \$15) A half-year pass was added this year for \$35 from January through June.

Financial Report: WSWMD finished fiscal year 2025 with a budget deficit of \$41,113.63. Revenues of \$2,014,069.59 off-set total expenses of \$1,550,942.95 and \$499,120.73 of capital plan and facility reserves. The annual assessment to member towns for fiscal year 2025 was kept to a 3.88% increase.

Transfer Station: The WSWMD transfer station is a regional drop-off center for trash, recyclables, organics/food scraps, construction & demolition debris, scrap metal, and appliances. The transfer station also handles electronics, fluorescent tubes, ballasts, lead-acid and household batteries, waste oil and oil filters, paint, sharps/syringes, textiles, books, tires, and household hazardous waste. Use of the transfer station is limited to residents and businesses from member communities and requires the purchase of an access sticker at \$60/year. Approximately 3,000 customers purchase annual access stickers. For some items such as paint and electronics there is no additional charge for recycling. Fees are presented at www.windhamsolidwaste.org.

Materials Recovery Facility (MRF): The District voted to close the MRF in July 2017 but continues to accept cardboard from commercial sources. Cardboard is baled and sold, generating revenue for the district

Composting Facility: Of all recyclable materials handled by the district, the only ones that are reused locally are food scraps and yard debris. The food scrap composting facility is in its 13th year of operation and is the 2nd largest food scrap composting facility in Vermont. As the food scrap composting mandates of Act

148 have been phased in, the total quantity of food scraps processed at the site have increased. To handle the increased quantity and meet Vermont solid waste management regulations, in 2024 the district constructed a new building with aerated windrows, odor control, as well as rainwater and liquid management systems for the compost piles.

This \$800,000 expansion will allow the district to continue to locally manage organic wastes while meeting state permitting requirements for a larger capacity facility. Funding for the new facility is from federal and state grants, as well as District funds. No long-term debt was required.

There are five distributors of “Brattlegrow Compost.” WSWMD donates compost for school and community gardens. There are several companies providing subscription collection of food scraps which are delivered to the WSWMD compost facility.

Windham Solid Waste Management District:
Brattleboro Brookline Dover Dummerston Guilford
Halifax Jamaica Marlboro Newfane Putney Readsboro
Somerset Stratton Townshend Vernon Wardsboro
Westminster Wilmington

Solid Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP): All towns in Vermont are required to meet state solid waste management requirements through implementation of an authorized SWIP. The district writes and implements a SWIP on behalf of all its member towns, and so provides compliance and the accompanying services to each member town. In 2025 the SWIP was updated to cover 5 years, from 2026 – 2030.

Solar Array: WSWMD leases its capped landfill to Greenbacker Capital to operate a 5 mega-watt solar array, the largest group net-metered project in the state. Greenbacker has contracted to provide solar power for 20 years to the towns of Brattleboro, Dummerston, Halifax, Newfane, Readsboro, Vernon, Wardsboro, and Wilmington; schools in Brattleboro, Marlboro, Putney, and Vernon; as well as Landmark College, Marlboro College, and the Brattleboro Retreat. The project provides significant cost savings for municipal and school budgets. Greenbacker Capital has a 20-year lease and pays the district a minimum of \$120,290/year for use of the landfill, as well as 50% of renewable energy credits, for total annual revenue of \$250,000.

Special Materials Recycling: At our transfer station, WSWMD offers free drop off of special wastes which include: batteries, e-waste, computers, TVs, printers, clothes, shoes, books, lightbulbs, mercury

containing thermostats, paint. Other items can be dropped off for a small fee including: propane tanks, oil filters, waste oil, fluorescent lightbulbs, light ballasts, and clean wood that includes brush /log/stumps. Eliminating these items from our landfills and providing proper end of life recycling and disposal of these products protects our environment.

Household Hazardous Waste: Management of household hazardous waste collection is a state mandated regulation that is a costly and difficult service to manage. Member towns benefit by having the district offer these services to all residents and small businesses at the WSWMD household hazardous waste (HHW) depot in Brattleboro. The depot is open one day per week mid-May through mid-October. This year we served 377 households. The cost for the program is offset by a Vermont DEC grant program, and a user fee per visit of \$15.00. The average disposal cost per user is greater than \$110.00.

Community Outreach & Technical

Assistance: The district continues to provide technical assistance for schools, businesses, and towns. In 2025, the district assisted 7 schools and 40 businesses with their waste management needs.

In 2025, WSWMD worked on a grant from the US Department of Agriculture to create a pilot program for food scrap drop-off at Guilford Central School in order to provide residents with a convenient location, as well as document best practices for other towns interested in setting up a similar system. For the towns with transfer stations (Dover, Jamaica, Readsboro, Stratton, Townshend, Wardsboro, and Wilmington) the district has continued to provide signage and technical assistance. A special effort was made to assist transfer stations in Dover, Jamaica, Townshend, and Wardsboro in shifting their organics recycling service to a new collection program operated by the district, which also ensures that the organics are composted at the district's new composting facility.

Special Event Outreach and Technical

Assistance: The WSWMD special event bins were used at 20 events this year. The bins are used to separately collect recyclables, food scraps, and trash. They are available at no charge to towns, businesses, residents, and institutions for fairs, festivals, weddings, etc. In addition, WSWMD offers free technical assistance to help events reduce their waste.

Bob Spencer, Executive Director



Windham & Windsor Housing Trust (WWHT)

Windham & Windsor Housing Trust (WWHT) is a non-profit organization founded in 1987, serving the residents of Windham and Windsor Counties providing an array of affordable housing opportunities and programs for low- and moderate-income community members. WWHT's mission is *to strengthen the communities of Southeast Vermont through the development and stewardship of permanently affordable housing and through ongoing support and advocacy for its residents.*

The organization applies mission to practice through four branches: Homeownership, Housing Development, Resident Supportive Services, and Property Management. The **Homeownership**'s Home Repair Program assisted *16 homeowners* by providing low-cost loans to make critical repairs. *93 participants completed the Homebuyer Educational Workshop.* The one-to-one counseling assisted *22 new homeowners* in 2025 by navigating them through the purchase process to closing on their new home. The *Shared Equity program has 148 homes* currently and provides grants to income-eligible homebuyers to subsidize the purchase of single-family homes which lowers the cost to the homebuyer. The VHIP (Vermont Housing Improvement Program) works with private landowners to rehab and/or create new units. There are 86 units under construction spread across the whole of Windham and Windsor Counties this year with a healthy pipeline for 2026. In 2025, we **launched a partnership with HomeShare Vermont**, matching hosts (people with rooms to share) with guests (people looking for shared living). Find more information, view available southern VT listings, and apply here HomeShareVermont.org.

Housing Development: WWHT develops affordable rental housing opportunities which meet the diverse household needs within a community. We made a lot of progress this year: in Julys celebrated the opening of *Central & Main, 25 affordable apartments in downtown Windsor!* *Alice Holway Drive in Putney broke ground in 2025 and will be opening in summer of 2026; two buildings creating 25 new homes* within the village. We are also in the pre-

construction phase for the innovative redevelopment plan of the Chalet property, a multi-phase development that will cumulate in a new neighborhood rental and homeownership opportunities. Construction will begin 2026. Information and updates on all these can be found under the FAQ tab on our website: www.homemattershere.org

Supportive Services: Our SASH (Support and Services At Home) in Windsor and SASH For All in Brattleboro area bring personalized and neighborhood level support as residents pursue their self-defined health and wellness goals. Collectively, these programs have served 139 people in our properties and SASH extends into the Windsor community. Support includes housing retention, food access, health access.

Property Management: WWHT owns 115 buildings housing 16 commercial spaces with 912 affordable rental apartments and 3 mobile home parks, home to over 1,790 residents. Self-manage 372 apartments in Southern Windsor County and contract with Stewart Property Management for the balance including Rockingham and Windsor County properties. WWHT takes pride in the appearance of our multi-family housing and is committed to providing the staff and financial resources necessary to ensure the long-term health and safety of our residents as well as the preservation of property values.

Although WWHT is a non-profit, we pay local property taxes on our rental properties and our shared-equity homeowners pay property taxes to the Towns and Villages.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM CENTER

The Women's Freedom Center is the domestic and sexual violence organization serving Windham and southern Windsor County. Our mission is to end physical, sexual, and emotional violence against women and children in our communities. We work toward this goal through comprehensive support services, community

education, and by challenging the societal and systemic roots of violence.

For over 50 years, we have stood with survivors—offering shelter, safety, and support in times of profound crisis. We provide 24/7 emergency services year-round, including a confidential crisis hotline, shelter and safe housing, safety planning, financial assistance, and referrals. Survivors also rely on us for long-term, ongoing support: individual and group counseling, legal and medical advocacy, help navigating housing and social services, and more.

In rural areas like ours, the isolation that often accompanies abuse can be life-threatening. That's why we meet survivors wherever it is safest—whether that means helping them come to us or going to them in their communities.

From July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, we answered 1,942 crisis calls, sheltered 140 individuals, and provided thousands of hours of direct support. We also helped 722 adults and children who experienced abuse with legal advocacy, transportation, childcare, and emergency housing or financial aid. Beyond crisis response, we work to prevent future violence. This past year, we led 75 educational and outreach events—school presentations, trainings, and workshops—reaching more than 1,600 people throughout the region.

As a private, nonprofit organization, the Women's Freedom Center relies on the strength of our community to sustain these essential, life-saving services. Your town's contribution makes a direct impact: it helps keep our shelter open, our crisis line answered, and our outreach growing. Your support ensures that every survivor has a safe place to turn—day or night. We deeply appreciate your continued partnership. Together, we can create a community where violence is not tolerated, and every survivor is supported.

Regards, Vickie Sterling, Executive Director

TOWN OF VERNON SCHOOL DISTRICT



**FISCAL YEAR ENDING
JUNE 30, 2025**

Windham Southeast Supervisory Union

WSESU / WSESD SEEK TO IDENTIFY CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES
FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

The Windham Southeast Supervisory Union is required by federal law to locate, identify and evaluate all children with disabilities. The process of locating, identifying and evaluating children with disabilities is known as Child Find.

Windham Southeast Supervisory Union schools conduct Kindergarten screening each spring, but parents may call to make an appointment to discuss their concerns at any time. As the school district of residence, WSESU has the responsibility to identify and provide services to any child with special needs who may require special education and related services in order to access and benefit from public education.

If you have, or know of any WSESU resident who has a child with a disability under the age of 21 or a child who attends a private school located in Brattleboro, Dummerston, Guilford, Putney or Vernon, we would like to hear from you. This includes individuals who are homeless, migrant, home schooled and/or individuals attending private schools. Sometimes parents are unaware that special education services are available to their children.

Please contact the School Principal at any of our WSESU Schools or the Director of Special Education, Tate Erickson, at 802-254-3748 or terickson@wsesdvt.org.

Brattleboro Area Middle School	802-451-3500
Brattleboro Union High School	802-451-3400
Academy School	802-254-3743
Green Street School	802-254-3737
Oak Grove School	802-254-3740
Dummerston School	802-254-2733
Guilford School	802-254-2271
Putney Central School	802-387-5521
Vernon Elementary School	802-254-5373
Early Childhood Special Education	802-254-3765

REPORT FROM THE WSESU SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Vernon Town School District

A District of the Windham Southeast Supervisory Union

It is my honor to present the Superintendent's Report for the Windham Southeast Supervisory Union (WSESU), including the Vernon School District. We are fortunate to be supported by a dedicated, experienced, and caring staff, administration, and school board who work collaboratively and collectively to provide a high-quality, well-rounded educational experience for all students. Ensuring safe, healthy, and engaging learning environments remains central to our mission and daily practice.

District Challenges and Progress

Like school systems across the nation, WSESU has faced significant challenges in the years following the pandemic. These challenges have influenced student academic progress, social-emotional development, school operations, and staffing. Through this period, we have remained steadfast in keeping student needs at the forefront of all decision-making. Our unified approach and strong collaboration with families, community partners, and staff have allowed us to navigate these complexities and continue to grow as a school system.

Continuous Improvement Planning

We remain committed to addressing the academic, social-emotional, and behavioral needs of our students. This work is guided by our district's Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP), which outlines targeted goals and actions to support system-wide improvement.

WSESU Continuous Improvement Goals for 2025-26

Literacy Growth: WSESU students will achieve 10% literacy growth from Spring 2024 while closing opportunity gaps for historically marginalized groups by 10%, as measured by benchmark and VTCAP scores growing at the 60th percentile rate of improvement.

Math Growth: WSESU students will achieve 10% math growth from Spring 2024 while closing opportunity gaps for historically marginalized groups, as measured by benchmark and VTCAP scores growing at the 65th student growth percentile.

Collective Efficacy: By June 2026, WSESU school community members will demonstrate an increased commitment to, and embodiment of, collective efficacy—the belief that all students are capable of high achievement, paired with the shared responsibility to support them in equitably reaching their potential.

Graduation Outcomes: By June 2026, the WSESU 4-year and 6-year graduation rates will exceed the Vermont state average.

To support these objectives, the Vernon Elementary School engages in data-informed decision making, including formal data checkpoints in the fall, winter, and spring. These reviews enable staff to analyze academic and social-emotional indicators and develop both classroom-level and individual student plans that are monitored throughout the school year.

Multiple Layered Systems of Support (MLSS) and Educational Support Teams (EST)

The continued development of Multi-Layered Systems of Support (MLSS) and Educational Support Teams (EST) remains a central focus of the WSESU CIP. These systems ensure that all students receive strong core instruction layered with targeted intervention and enrichment. Our administrative team meets regularly to study data, plan, and collaborate on the implementation of these structures, while also honoring the unique strengths of each school community. We emphasize common planning time, collaboration, and the effective use of resources to increase student engagement and staff support.

We have fully formalized our EST structures across all WSESU schools including uniform forms, protocols, and expectations to provide consistency. Throughout the school year EST leaders engage in regular meetings to ensure calibration and ongoing refinement and alignment towards continuous improvement.

Curriculum Instruction & Assessment / Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

This year marks the first time in our supervisory union that all WSESU schools have fully adopted a common mathematics curriculum (Illustrative Mathematics) and a common literacy curriculum (EL Education). Both programs are research-based, carefully vetted, and grounded in best instructional practices. Shared curriculum resources significantly strengthen coherence, collaboration, and instructional quality across classrooms and schools.

The Curriculum and Assessment Office was reorganized last year to better support staff and students across the district. The office is led by the Director of Curriculum and Assessment and includes a PreK–Grade 6 Curriculum Coordinator, a Grades 7–12 Curriculum Coordinator, and district Math and Literacy Coaches. The inclusion of a dedicated Pre-K Coordinator further strengthens alignment and continuity across grade levels.

In collaboration with the Curriculum and Assessment Office, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Office provides instructional leadership and support. The DEI Office includes the Director of Equity and Inclusion, a District Equity Coach, and identified Diversity Teacher Leaders at each school site, ensuring that equity-focused practices are embedded across classrooms and learning environments.

Together, this improved structure and collaborative approach provides targeted support, clarity of roles, and enhanced instructional leadership across our school system. We are fortunate to benefit from consistent, thoughtful leadership that challenges us to embrace excellence, maintain high expectations, and continuously improve outcomes for all students.

Professional Learning and Collaboration

We have continued to expand opportunities for professional growth through both supervisory union-wide and school-based professional development. Additionally, the supervisory union continues to explore and implement peer observation models. Principals engaged in cross-school learning walks and formal peer observations, while teaching staff participate in regular peer learning walks that have now become common practice across schools. These collaborative structures foster professional reflection, promote consistent instructional practices, and strengthen district cohesion.

Early Childhood Education

WSESU continues to strengthen early childhood programming. Families in Vernon have access to a number of Universal PreK opportunities in Vernon and nearby towns. The Vernon Recreation Department offers a PreK program inside Vernon Elementary School.

Nutrition Program

In spring 2025, WSESU laid the foundation for an internally-operated nutrition program. By summer, the program was fully established, staffed, and ready for implementation in our 2025–2026 school year. Our nutrition program prioritizes locally sourced, healthy, and appealing meals and has received consistently positive feedback. Student and staff participation has increased significantly, reflecting the quality and value of this new district-run initiative.

Capital Planning and Facilities

WSESU continues to prioritize capital planning and infrastructure improvements that enhance the daily experience of students and staff. Working closely with the finance department, school board, and building leaders, we remain committed to proactive facility upgrades and thoughtful long-term planning to maintain safe and modern learning environments. Significant capital accomplishments include the full renovation of Natowich and Tenney Fields at Brattleboro Union High School, as well as restoration of the historic grandstand. These improvements support physical education, athletics, and outdoor learning and address facility needs that have been discussed in the community for years.

Student Achievement and Data Highlights

Academic achievement is trending upward across the supervisory union. Local assessment data and statewide results show positive growth, particularly in mathematics and literacy, with our elementary schools demonstrating significant improvement and several schools achieving some of the strongest growth rates in the state.

At the secondary level, expanded data systems now allow for more consistent monitoring and response to student needs throughout the year. Our local benchmarking assessment data is showing continued growth.

Appreciation and Closing

WSESU and the Vernon School District are fortunate to have exceptional school boards, dedicated administrators, talented educators, and committed support staff who work diligently each day to ensure that our students thrive. I am deeply proud of the work accomplished this year and grateful for the continued trust and partnership of our families and communities.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the Windham Southeast Supervisory Union and the Vernon School District. Together, we are building strong foundations and bright futures for our children.

Mark V. Speno

Superintendent of Schools

Windham Southeast Supervisory School District



REPORT OF THE Vernon Elementary School 135 Students, Grades K-6

Introduction by Vernon Elementary School Principal Mary Ross

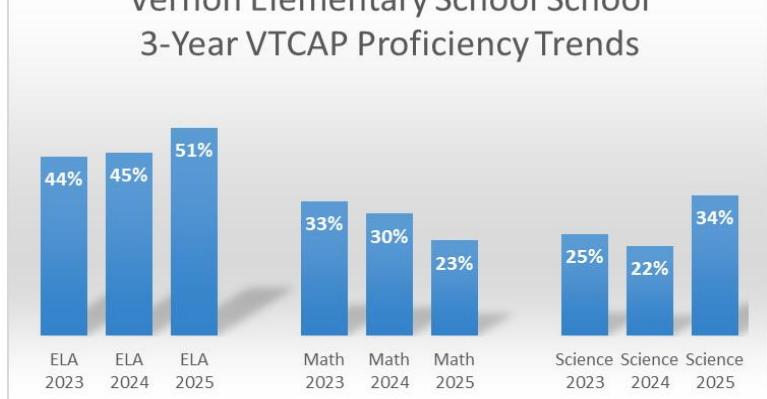
Each day at Vernon Elementary School, 135 students are greeted by a team of dedicated and caring faculty and staff with a single purpose. Vernon Elementary School is a community dedicated to lifelong learning. We strive to establish and implement high standards for all members of our school community. We collaborate, use data to help drive decisions, and actively promote a positive school environment. This includes teaching, modeling, and positively reinforcing expectations so that each student will reach their academic, social, and emotional potential.

Teachers share examples of high-quality work with peers aligned with the curriculum. Vernon faculty and staff collaborate with the Office of Curriculum and Instruction. Grade-level teams meet weekly to track individual progress of each student and then use that reflection

and change interventions to help students in their learning to catch up. We also use information to provide extension and enrichment opportunities for students these gaps. In response to math test staff are attending additional professional development, using new tools, and reviewing and responding to math assessments. We have a new program to fluency skills to help kids improve their skills.

Additionally, three evening events will take year to engage families and the community. VES will host a math game

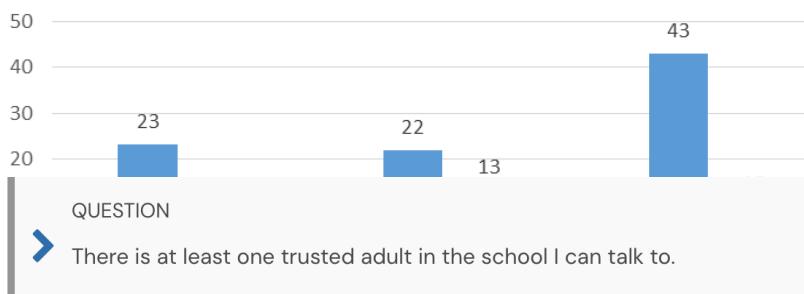
Vernon Elementary School School 3-Year VTCAP Proficiency Trends



literacy open mic night, and an internet safety night. Students present their literacy work at assemblies to showcase high-quality work. We define high-quality work with attention to craftsmanship, authenticity, and complexity. Multiple student leadership groups throughout the year spearhead community-building projects like Project Feed the Thousands, mentoring kindergarten students, spirit week, and reviewing community expectations.

Social Emotional Performance and Progress:

Vernon Spring 2025 VTCAP - Opportunity Gaps between those in Historically Marginalized Subgroups and those not from Historically Marginalized Subgroup
 *smaller gaps are preferable



As staff and faculty work to support each student's academic progress, research also shows the importance of building strong, trusting relationships with students and families. There is a schoolwide goal at Vernon Elementary School to increase the number of students who report having a trusted adult, as measured by the student climate survey:

93 % ⓘ

responded favorably

▼ 1

from Fall 2024 Student Climate Survey

Summary of Current Goals and Achievement

98 % ⓘ

responded favorably

▲ 1

from Fall 2024 Student Climate Survey

85 % ⓘ

responded favorably

▲ 9

from Fall 2024 Student Climate Survey

Literacy:	At Vernon Elementary School, literacy accuracy and fluency are tracked at a micro level to support student growth toward mastery. Students are given many opportunities to access high-quality content and also individual practice aligned with the science or reading at their level for multiple hours every day.
Math:	Faculty and staff are attending additional professional development, using new tools, and frequently reviewing and responding to student math assessments. We have a new program to build math fluency skills to help kids improve their math fact skills. Faculty will engage in peer learning opportunities this year to share best practices. Many students have had opportunities to explore the math menu to have targeted practice time to build the skills they need while also engaging in grade-level curriculum.
Thematic Studies and Related Arts:	In addition to a rigorous curriculum in Art, Music, Physical Education, and Library, content specialist teachers serve additional roles within the school. These faculty members support individual plans, work collaboratively with other faculty to meaningfully engage in cross-curricular projects, and promote schoolwide initiatives like increasing reading time in and out of school. Additionally, these faculty create opportunities to extend their learning in programs like band, Tornadoes Jump rope Team, and Art Internship.
Social Emotional	Faculty and staff work at Vernon Elementary School to promote student voice in their learning. This looks like working with students to write, work towards, and complete

Learning and Cultivating Belonging	<p>their goals. All students participate in goal-setting with support from their instructional team, and some students have targeted goals related to a specific learning plan. We have a goal to increase students' sense of belonging and reporting of having one or more trusted adults at school this year.</p>
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Innovation for Students, Staff, and Our Community

Vernon grade level teams meet weekly to plan for and support all students and include: Principal, Instructional Coach, Classroom Teacher, Academic Support Teacher, and Special Education Teacher.

Vernon Data Team meets monthly to critically analyze student data and look for opportunities to shift to support student growth. This team includes: Principal, Instructional Coach, Academic Support Teachers, and Special Education Teachers.

Educational Support Team meets weekly to revise specific student plans to support specific learning goals with input from students. This team includes: Family, Student input, Principal, Instructional Coach, Board Certified Behavior Analyst, School Counselor, School Social Worker, Special Education Teacher, Speech and Language Pathologist, and Classroom Teacher.

Student Support Team meets weekly to look for opportunities to support the social, health, and emotional needs of students and includes: Principal, Nurse, Board Certified Behavior Analyst, School Counselor, School Social Worker, and Planning Room Coordinator.

Vernon Elementary School partners with **Miller Farm** and many other local food providers to serve nutritious and delicious meals available at no additional cost to all children at VES. This year, the School Social Worker, **WESEU**

Cafeteria Staff, and **PTC** partnered to bring a snack shelf for any students looking for additional nutrition during or after the school day. **New England Youth Theater** and the **Vernon Recreation Department** also work collaboratively with school staff to provide special and unique theater and athletic opportunities to students at VES.

Investments for our School, Programs, and Students:

Student needs have informed budgetary investments for the FY 27 budget draft. These needs were indicated through work with our many interdisciplinary faculty teams. They include the Individualized Education Plan Team, the Educational Support Team, Grade Level Teams, and district Multi-Layered Systems of Support Team. Further, staff engaged in professional development with Developmental Designs and they use up-to-date technology to support student learning. In order to support continued growth for all students, we will further develop our data team to support all faculty in analyzing and responding to student data to target learning interventions to be intensive and meet urgent student needs so they yield excellent results in a short period of time.

Summary

Thank you to the entire Vernon community for the support and attention you give to our students. At VES, faculty and staff strive to hold up all 135 kids as the unique and special humans they are. VES students work hard, think deeply, and care for each other. High expectations are in place for all students to be safe, respectful, responsible, and kind. The FY 27 budget is built to meet the academic, social, and emotional needs of each student with support from the Office of Curriculum and Assessment, the WSESU Nutrition Program, and the Office of Special Education. Sixth-grade students recently shared with an elected official visiting VES that any faculty or staff member at the school was there for them with any need they had. With community support of the FY 27 budget, we hope to build on existing systems and structures that motivate, celebrate, and uplift all students next year and for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Mary Ross, Principal



REPORT OF THE
Brattleboro Area Middle School - Brattleboro, VT
297 students grades 7-8

Introduction by Principal Keith Lyman

Brattleboro Area Middle School plans to serve nearly 300 students in FY27 in grades 7–8 and reflects the vibrancy, diversity, and resilience of the Brattleboro community. Our work continues to be anchored in our core values of **Safety, Community, and Learning**, which guide every decision we make to support students' academic, social, and emotional growth. Over the past year, BAMS focused on strengthening Tier 1 instruction, deepening alignment with the EL Education and Illustrative Math curricula, and refining our Multi-Tiered System of Supports to ensure that all students receive timely and effective support.

We have also made major strides in building a more cohesive school community. This year, students and staff began participating in **monthly all-school assemblies led by students**, team-based community events, and expanded skills class curricula that ensure consistent messaging around expectations, digital literacy, routines, and relationship-building. Our revised SEA (Social-Emotional Assistance) model has provided more coordinated support for students navigating social, emotional, or behavioral challenges. BAMS continues to be a school that values relationships, strong instruction, student voice, and continuous improvement, and we are proud of the growth our students have made academically and socially.

Performance and Progress:

Our climate data reflect a school community that continues to strengthen belonging, consistency, and engagement.

- **Student Climate (Panorama):** Gains in students' sense of belonging and teacher-student relationships; strong perceptions of safety during the school day; increased student voice opportunities through assemblies and leadership groups.
- **Family Survey Trends:** Families report strong communication from the school and appreciation for tighter routines, greater transparency in expectations, and clear support structures for students.
- **Staff Indicators:** Increased clarity around MLSS processes and more structured collaboration in team and skill-period routines.

Celebrations

- Reading and math proficiency and growth trends show improvement aligned with stronger Tier 1 instruction.
- Improved consistency in routines, expectations, and advisory programming.
- Strengthened MLSS and SEA systems resulting in improved student regulation and quicker return-to-class supports.

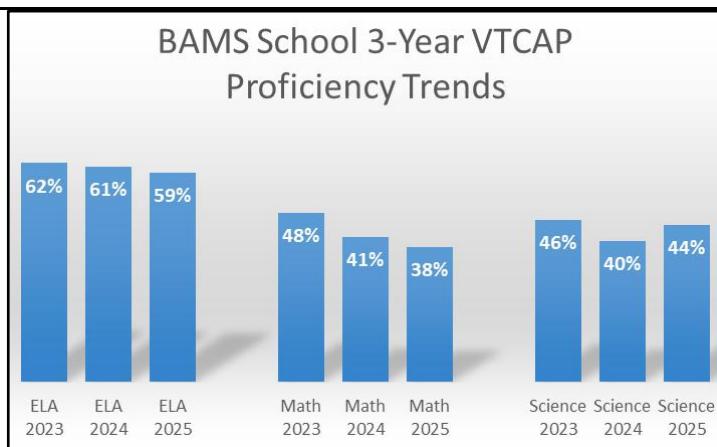
Next Steps

- Continue sharpening Tier 1 instruction by deepening work with EL and IM's high-leverage practices.
- Enhance targeted interventions through improved progress-monitoring cycles and better integration with skills-grouping data.
- Expand family engagement, especially around academic progress and support options.
- Strengthen calibration of expectations across classrooms to further reduce variability in student experiences.

Summary of Current Goals and Achievement

Literacy:	For 2025–26, our focus remains on strengthening foundational reading skills and improving comprehension, writing stamina, and text-based analysis through EL Education modules. Growth areas include improving reading proficiency for students receiving special education and academic support services, and better aligning skills-period interventions with diagnostic data. FY27 budget priorities include maintaining
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dedicated interventionists, and purchasing additional EL decodables and complex texts.



Math:	Our goals for 2025–26 center on deepening conceptual understanding, productive struggle, and discourse within the Illustrative Math curriculum. We will also pilot an additional math support curriculum for students needing intensified instruction beyond IM. Growth areas include supporting students who are significantly below grade level and strengthening fluency. FY27 budget priorities include continued investment in math intervention staffing, supplemental curriculum materials, and training in high-leverage instructional practices and OGAP-aligned assessment tools.
Thematic Studies and Related Arts:	Our exploratory programming continues to anchor interdisciplinary connections and hands-on learning at BAMS. Highlights include STEAM integration in design & technology, vibrant art and music programming, and community-connected experiences such as field trips, student leadership events, and performances. FY27 priorities include sustaining equipment, materials, and program staffing that support experiential learning.
Social Emotional Learning and Cultivating Belonging	Our 2025–26 goals emphasize consistent SEL routines through advisory, Developmental Designs strategies, and stronger integration with the SEA team. We aim to increase students' sense of belonging, agency, and regulation skills. FY27 budget needs include sustaining the SEA team model, continuing partnerships with counseling and social work supports, and expanding professional development in trauma-responsive practices and restorative approaches.

Innovation for Students, Staff and Our Community

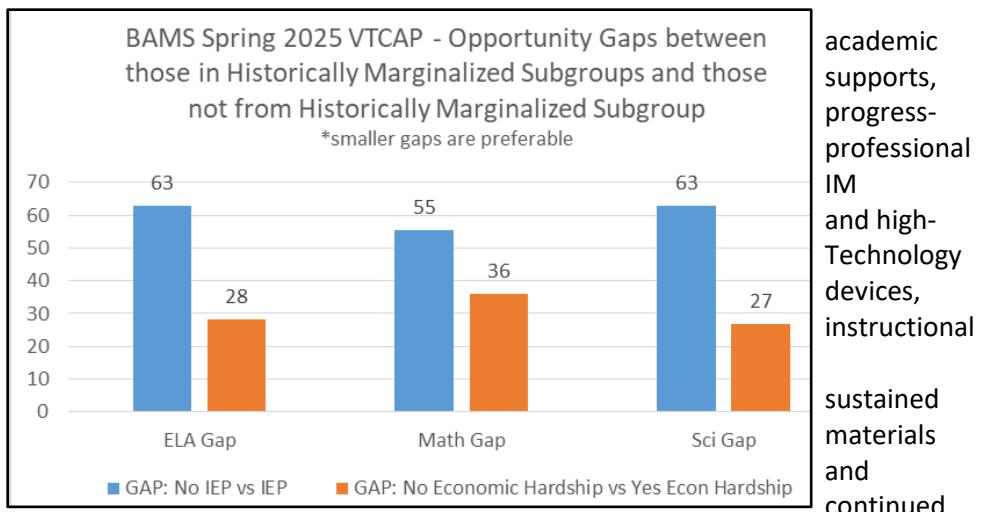
BAMS continues to evolve in response to student needs. Our monthly all-school assemblies, bi-weekly team town meetings, redesigned skills period, and strengthened MLSS and SEA systems anchor our instructional and social-emotional innovation. Rising needs include increased mental-health supports, improved literacy and math interventions, and expanded staff development around Tier 1 instruction.

Counseling and social work are fully integrated into MLSS through close collaboration with the SEA team, EST processes, and push-in/pull-out supports for students needing Layers 2 and 3 interventions. Partnerships with community organizations—including BEAMS, local mental-health providers, and area arts and environmental programs—continue to enrich students' experiences and strengthen family connections.

Investments for our School, Programs, and Students:

BAMS has invested significantly in strengthening MLSS, including intervention staffing, expanded SEA and improved diagnostic and monitoring tools. Teacher development has focused on EL and implementation, co-teaching models, leverage instructional practices. Investments continue to support 1:1 digital literacy, and classroom tools.

Anticipated FY27 investments include intervention staffing, curriculum for math and literacy, enhanced SEL behavior-support systems, and professional learning aligned with our Tier 1 improvement priorities.



academic supports, progress-professional IM and high-Technology devices, instructional sustained materials and continued

Summary

Brattleboro Area Middle School continues to build a strong, cohesive learning community grounded in our core values of Safety, Community, and Learning. Through strengthened Tier 1 instruction, clearer routines, and a more responsive MLSS and SEA system, we are seeing positive momentum in student engagement, climate, and academic progress. Our all-school assemblies, revised advisory program, and expanded student leadership opportunities have helped deepen belonging and create a more unified school culture.

As we look ahead to FY27, our priorities include sustained investment in literacy and math interventions, continued training for teachers in high-leverage practices, and targeted social-emotional supports that meet the needs of our diverse learners. We are grateful to our families, staff, and community partners for their continued support and partnership, and we remain committed to ensuring that every student at BAMS is known well, challenged, and supported to succeed.



REPORT OF THE Brattleboro Union High School 732 Students, Grades 9-12

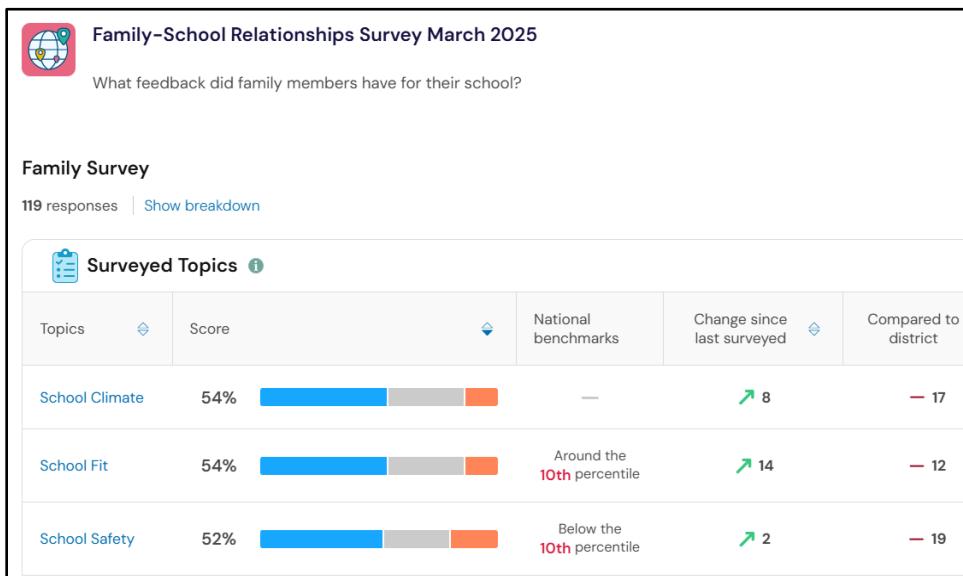
Introduction by Principal Hannah Parker

Brattleboro Union High School is dedicated to educating the whole student while intentionally fostering the academic, personal, and life skills necessary for success beyond graduation. The school offers a broad range of academic pathways, including Honors and Advanced Placement courses, online learning, dual enrollment, early college experiences, and work-study opportunities, allowing students to pursue rigorous coursework while exploring individual interests and postsecondary goals. To ensure all students are supported, Brattleboro Union High School provides targeted services through the Access Hub, SEA Services, and the CAVE program, which are designed to address diverse learning needs and promote student success. As a student-centered community, the school is committed to creating meaningful

opportunities for students to discover their strengths and define their path into adulthood. The community is warmly invited to attend the school's musical and theater productions, as well as athletic competitions, which showcase the talents, dedication, and school spirit of Brattleboro Union High School students.

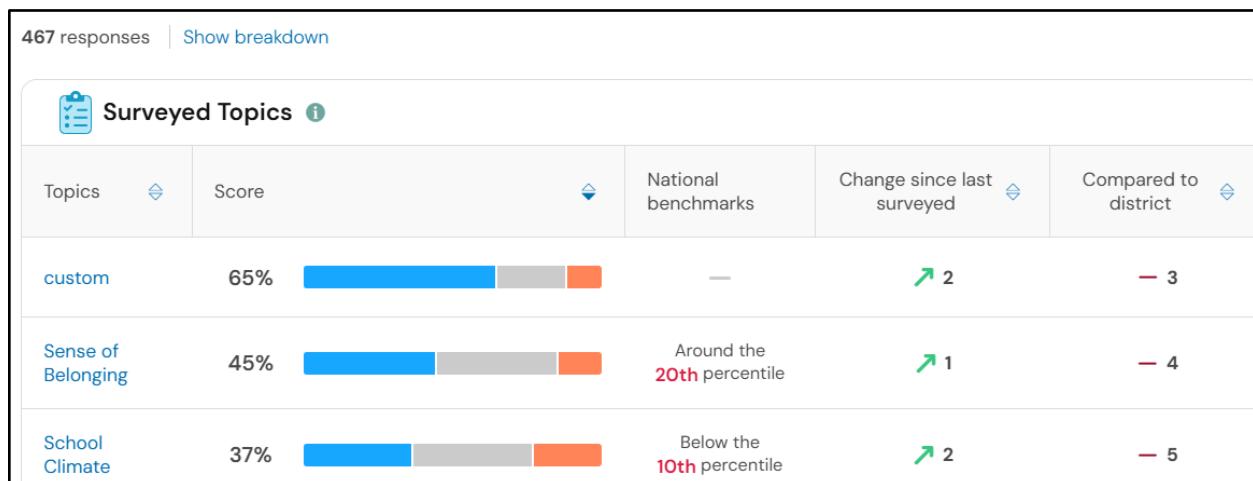
Performance and Progress:

Family Climate Survey, Spring 2025



In Spring 2025, 119 BUHS families chose to take the family-school relationships survey that was shared with all caregivers. While favorable responses were lower when compared to national benchmarks, much positive change had been achieved, per this sampling of respondents, since the Spring 2024 administration of the survey tool.

Student Panorama Climate Survey, Winter 2025 (grades 9-12)



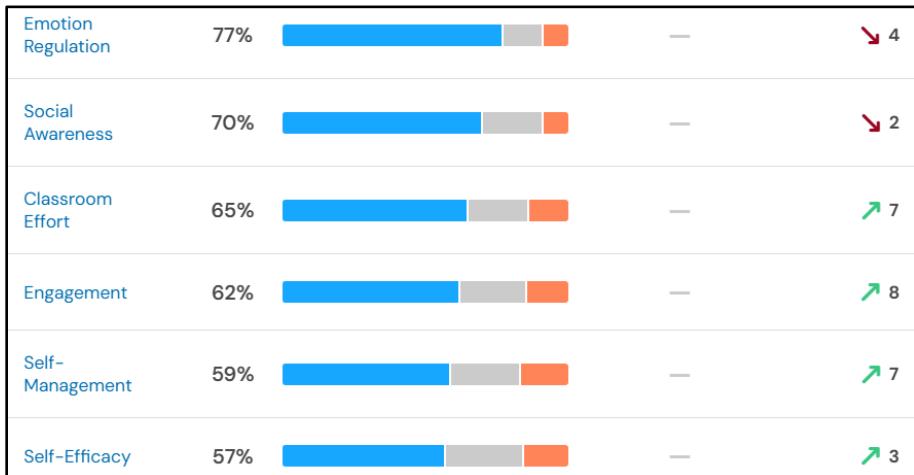
In the Winter of 2025, 467 BUHS students provided feedback about school climate questions via our Panorama survey. Though high schoolers' perceptions of climate lagged district averages slightly, incremental positive changes were noted from the year prior and continue to propel our work to increase student sense of belonging for all learners.

TPOS Fall 2025

In Fall 2025, BUHS engaged in a teacher perception survey, to uncover insights about areas of relative strength and need for our students, as viewed by staff who work daily with them. The response rates, as well as increases in favorable responses in most categories, indicate positive trends with our climate and how students are engaging in their school experience. The blue bar indicates favorable responses, grey is approaching favorable, and orange indicates areas for

investigation.

Our Panorama data shows encouraging positive trends, highlighting stronger student engagement, improved peer



interactions, and growing connections within our school community. This year marks our first year without cell phones, and we are seeing a clear positive correlation between increased classroom focus, stronger student outcomes, and more meaningful peer-to-peer interactions. As we build on this momentum, we remain committed to deepening engagement and strengthening connections with our students and families to ensure every learner feels supported, connected, and ready to succeed.

Summary of Current Goals and Achievement

Literacy:	BUHS Goal 1: BUHS Students will show a 10% increase in proficiency on STAR Reading Benchmarks from 49% in spring 2025 to 59% in spring 2026. Over the course of the year, we reorganized the benchmark testing schedule to more closely mirror the conditions students experience during state assessments, helping to improve both the validity of the data and student readiness. We also provided school-wide professional development focused specifically on strengthening Tier I literacy strategies across classrooms. In addition to benchmark assessments, we administered multiple layers of diagnostic assessments to more precisely identify students who need support with foundational reading skills. Building on this data, we will begin piloting reading intervention programs in the second semester, with a targeted emphasis on structured literacy instruction in phonics, decoding, and fluency.
Math:	BUHS Goal 2: BUHS Students will show a 10% increase in proficiency on STAR Math Benchmarks from 34% in spring 2025 to 44% in spring 2026. In addition to reorganizing the benchmark testing schedule to improve both the validity of the data and student readiness, BUHS also piloted a structured program, TransMath, within math Learning Support classes. This curriculum focuses on foundational skills necessary for engaging in higher-level mathematics. The Curriculum and Assessments Department and the BUHS Math Department are working together to ensure that all course offerings are rigorous and support high-level mathematical reasoning.
Thematic Studies and Related Arts:	BUHS Goal 4: By the end of the 2026-27 school year, every BUHS student will have a plan for post high school, which will lead to the BUHS graduation rate exceeding the Vermont average. BUHS continues to have a strong arts program highlighted throughout our school year, including our theatrical performances, chorus and band concerts, honors music recital, art displays throughout our building and senior art show. We are proud of the work done by our students and staff that highlight the high level of achievement in the arts. BUHS also offers three academies that allow students to dive deeper into areas of interest. The three academies offered are STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), ISA (International Studies Academy) and VPA (Visual Performing Arts.)

Social Emotional Learning and Cultivating Belonging	<p>BUHS Goal 3: Increase sense of belonging on the panorama survey to over 50% by Spring of 2026.</p> <p>BUHS has been partnering with VSAC (Vermont Student Assistance Corporation) for the past two and a half years to support our students to graduate with a plan for post high school. Through this work we have been focusing more on our advisory system and students' personalized learning plans to ensure each student is finding their own purpose and path forward. There are many student groups focused on bringing a sense of belonging to our school through their work. A few of our student groups that focus on increasing the sense of belonging in our school are Student Council, Student Advisory Committee, Youth to Youth and AWARE.</p>
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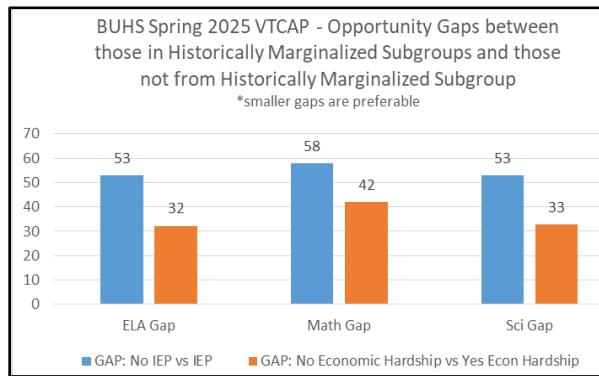
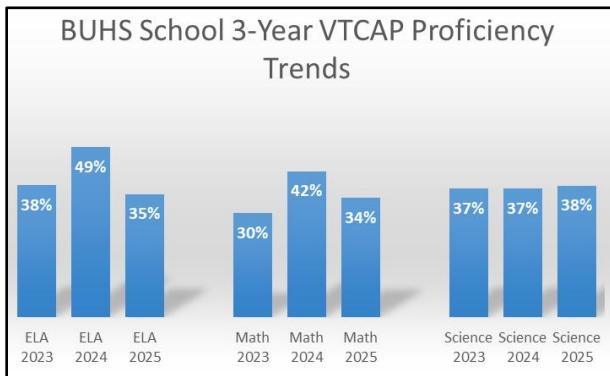
Innovation for Students, Staff and Our Community

The new C.A.V.E. (Culinary Agricultural Vocational Education) program has had a strong start, supporting more than 20 special education students. Through this program, students launched a food service called *The Daily Bear*, which provides breakfast and lunch options to local businesses. This hands-on opportunity allows students to build a wide range of skills, including customer service, gardening (planting, maintaining, and harvesting), menu creation, meal preparation, and basic banking and financial skills.

The Aspirations Program is now in its third year and continues to focus on building systems within our school to ensure every student graduates with a clear plan for life after high school. Through community service opportunities, flexible pathways, career exploration, and a partnership with BDCC, we are connected with more than 100 local organizations. We are also working to strengthen our Advisory program to better support students as they discover, plan, and follow their individual paths.

Investments for our School, Programs, and Students:

Brattleboro Union High School (BUHS) has taken a data-informed and student-centered approach to improving instruction and support by closely analyzing STAR assessment and VTCAP data. These data sources are used to identify trends in student performance and areas of greatest need, allowing faculty and staff to design targeted learning opportunities that are directly tied to classroom instruction. Assessment windows are being intentionally rolled out to ensure consistency, reduce student stress, and provide timely data that teachers can use to adjust instruction and interventions in meaningful ways. (The graphs below show our reading and math proficiency scores from fall 2025 to winter 2025.)



To further support academic growth, BUHS has established strong in-class support structures. Each of the four content areas is supported by an

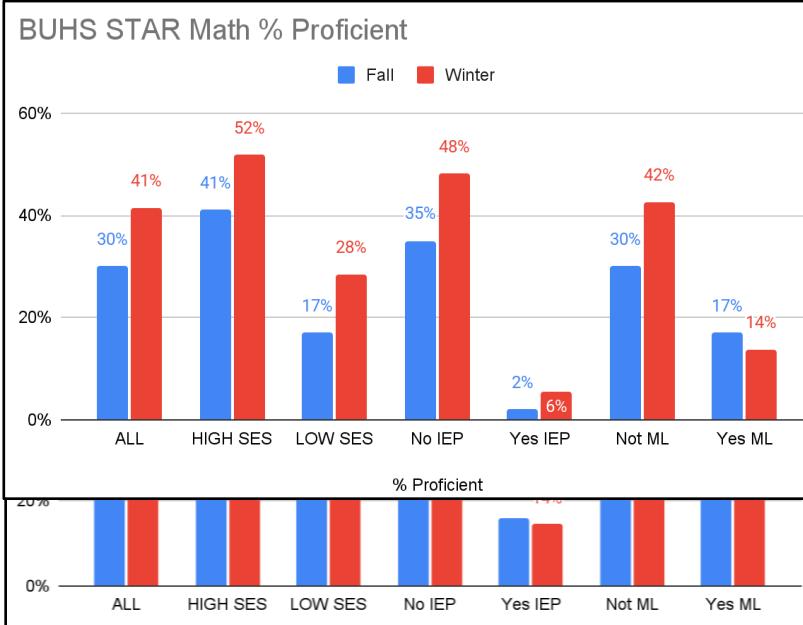
Academic Support Teacher (AST) and a special educator who

provide push-in services to classes with the highest levels of need. This model promotes inclusive practices, strengthens differentiation, and ensures that students receive support within the general education environment. In addition, BUHS has convened a committee dedicated to reviewing the daily school schedule. This group is examining whether the current schedule effectively meets the academic, social, and emotional needs of all students, and is exploring potential

adjustments to better support learning, intervention, and enrichment opportunities.

BUHS also places a strong emphasis on students' social-emotional well-being. The school is supported by a comprehensive team that includes four school counselors, three social workers, and one SAP. This team works collaboratively with students, families, and staff to create opportunities for support, connection, and skill-building, ensuring that students' social-emotional needs are addressed alongside their academic development.

BUHS & WRCC: Enrollment Patterns



professionals in the field. These experiences are further supported through internships, work-study opportunities, and independent studies, allowing students to take a deeper dive into career exploration, build practical skills, and develop a clearer understanding of potential pathways aligned with their interests and goals.

BUHS also offers a comprehensive and flexible program of studies designed to be both relevant and academically challenging. Students are encouraged to pursue courses and learning experiences that align with their interests while engaging in meaningful, rigorous work. Through expanded offerings and opportunities to earn credit for authentic experiences and applied learning, students are able to explore areas of passion in greater depth, take intellectual risks, and develop the skills and knowledge necessary for continued success in college, careers, and beyond.

Details about course pass statistics, participation in technical education, regional job opportunities and apprentice programs, the FLEX program, and post-secondary data are included in the main portions of the WSESU report.

Summary

We are proud of the progress BUHS has made over the past few years in increasing student engagement, staff participation, and community outreach. We look forward to continuing our work on our Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) goals, including improving math and reading scores, increasing our graduation rate, and strengthening our students' sense of belonging. These goals guide our daily conversations and are central to the work we do each day. We appreciate the community's support and are grateful to be part of the BUHS family.



REPORT OF THE WINDHAM REGIONAL CAREER CENTER

Serving students in Windham County, including students at Bellows Falls Union High School, Brattleboro Union High School, Leland and Gray High School, and Twin Valley High School. The Windham Regional Career Center is a career and technical school providing a diverse selection of career preparation programs for ALL students attending the Brattleboro Campus. Deciding to take a class at the Windham Regional Career Center is often the first step to something bigger and better. www.wrccvt.com

Brattleboro, 252 Students, Grades 11 and 12

Introduction by WRCC Director Nancy Wiese

Classes at the WRCC are designed to offer students an in-depth, sequential, experiential learning environment. Students learn and apply those skills in real world situations. Learning focuses not only on academics but also on teamwork, trial and error, and shared safe risk taking.

In the 2025-26 school year, WRCC has 252 students enrolled in classes. 78 students are enrolled in the semester career foundations course, and 177 students are enrolled in one of ten 2-year programs available through WRCC. Students self-select to participate in WRCC programs, which positively impacts school culture, student achievement, and graduation rates.

WRCC programs and services include:

- AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY
- AVIATION*
- BUSINESS*
- CONSTRUCTION/ARCHITECTURE
- CULINARY ARTS
- EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION*
- ELECTRICAL TECHNOLOGY (ELECTRICIANS)
- ENGINEERING AND ADVANCED MANUFACTURING*
- FORESTRY/NATURAL RESOURCES*
- HEALTH CAREERS*
- PROTECTIVE SERVICES*

As well as offering students classes and services in:

- TECHNICAL ENGLISH*
- CAREER FOUNDATIONS
- DUAL ENROLLMENT COURSES (High School and College Credit)
- CAREER AND TECHNICAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS (CTSO'S)
- ACADEMIC SUPPORT
- WORK-BASED LEARNING PROGRAMS

* Indicates that a program offers dual enrollment credit (both high school and college credit for the same course) Dual Enrollment credit is available to all students within the class that offers it.

Performance and Progress:

Windham Regional Career Center (WRCC) Data: WorkKeys

WRCC uses "WorkKeys" as a benchmark assessment system to screen students and monitor growth. WorkKeys determines Reading and Math Proficiency. Because WRCC experiences a 50% change in students enrolled annually, the data cannot be viewed from a definitive longitudinal lens. However, trends in WorkKeys assessments show great growth and performance for WRCC students, programmatically.

WRCC Indicator	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024 - 2025	Fall 2025
Graduation Rate	96.88%	92.24%	Not yet released	N/A
Reading Proficiency	52.35%	62.78%	55.56%	48.4%
Math Proficiency	63.53%	61.67%	66.29%	57.5%

- Reading proficiency increased 8.07% during the 2024 - 2025 school year.
- Math proficiency increased 14.29% during the 2024 - 2025 school year.
- 22.27% of the students at WRCC are on plans to support learning success (IEP or 504)
- 17 students are multi-language students

Summary of Current Goals and Achievement

Literacy:	Increase the percentage of students proficient in Reading (WorkKeys Workplace Documents scores) by 10% Reduce the score gap between students with and without disabilities in Reading by 10 points
Math:	Increase the percentage of students proficient in Math (WorkKeys Applied Math scores) by 10% Reduce the score gap between students with and without disabilities in Math by 10 points
Social Emotional Learning and Cultivating Belonging	At least 11% of students in each program will be non-traditional by gender by FY27 Over 95% of students report feeling that they belong as part of the WRCC community.

Innovation for Students, Staff, and Our Community

WRCC Business Teacher, Linda Alvarez, has been named the 2026 Vermont Teacher of the Year. She is the first Vermont career and technical education teacher to receive the award.

WRCC is proud to prepare students to successfully enter the workforce, college, or the military.

Over the past year the career center has been awarded grants to purchase a number of pieces of equipment to either replace outdated equipment or increase student employment opportunities as they leave high school. The purchases include a tractor and winch to replace our 1969 skidder, four new two post lifts for the automotive program replacing four lifts that were at the end of safety standards, and the purchase of a Haas vertical milling machine with a cobot arm. These purchases mean that students at WRCC are learning using equipment that area employers are using and are prepared for the work force. This would not be possible without the grant funds awarded to the center.

Investments for our School, Programs, and Students:

Vermont career and technical centers are required to complete a comprehensive local needs assessment every two years. This assessment requires center staff to look at the employment needs and trends in Windham County and the surrounding area, this information drives program and professional development at the center. We compare the data to our existing programs to determine if we are supporting local needs. This same process is used to look at student progress, program alignment, and student outcomes to ensure that career and technical education in Vermont is meeting the needs of students, families, employers, and the region.

Summary

The Windham Regional Career Center teachers and staff are proud to serve the students, families, employers, and communities of Windham County. We look forward to continuing to support students in reaching their career goals and becoming successful members of our community. WRCC students enter the workforce, college, or the military after graduation and they report that they are better prepared to all of these areas based on their career and technical education experience. We want to express our gratitude to the members of Windham County for the support you give us.

VERNON TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
FY27 PROPOSED BUDGET - REVENUE & EXPENSE SUMMARY

Board Approved 1/27/26	2024-2025		2025-2026		2026-2027	
	ACTUAL	Approved	Proposed	\$ Diff.	% Diff.	
Revenues						
LOCAL						
Interest	22,992	35,000	22,000	(13,000)	-37%	
Miscellaneous	1,497	3,000	3,000	-		
Rent-Town of Vernon Rec. Dept.	231,105	231,105	231,105	-	0%	
WSESU SUB-GRANTS						
EPSDT Nurse Grant	5,237	5,237	5,237	-	0%	
Medicaid Literacy Grant	36,570	36,570	36,570	-	0%	
Title 1 & 2A Grants	77,805	71,516	77,716	6,200	9%	
CRF-LEA / ESSER Grant	127,974	-	-	-		
STATE & FEDERAL						
General State Support Grant	7,161,198	7,104,126	7,234,915	130,789	2%	
State On behalf of Dist. Career Center	101,489	93,899	92,746	(1,153)	-1%	
OTHER LOCAL						
Fund Balance & Education Reserves	-	100,000	230,000	130,000		
TOTAL REVENUES & TRANSFERS	7,765,868	7,680,453	7,933,289	252,836	3.3%	
Expenditures:						
Elementary Instruction & Support Svcs.	3,573,094	3,579,915	3,492,867	(87,048)	-2%	
WSESU Admin & Instruction Support	260,197	250,596	267,119	16,523	7%	
Food Services	-	-	-	-		
Transfer to Reserve	100,000	100,000	125,000	25,000		
Sub Total K-6 Regular Ed Expenses	3,933,291	3,930,511	3,884,986	(45,525)	-1%	137 139
PreK Regular Education	111,970	110,000	113,000	3,000	3%	29 27
Special Education PreK-12	1,050,008	904,236	1,004,730	100,494	11%	
Transportation K-12	138,107	140,026	145,711	5,685	4%	
Reg.&Voc Ed. Secondary Tuition 7-12	2,359,841	2,595,680	2,784,862	189,182	7%	131 130
Sub Total Other Expenses	3,659,926	3,749,942	4,048,303	298,361	8%	297 297
Total Expenses Grades Prek - 12	7,593,217	7,680,453	7,933,289	252,836	3.3%	
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	172,651	-	-			
Changes in Fund Balance						
Beginning fund balance @ 7/1/24 [audited]	695,629	410,041				
Revenues	7,765,868	105,722				
Expenses	7,593,217	235,624				
Surplus/(Deficit)	172,651	(129,902)				
FY25 Ending Fund Balance @ 6/30/25	868,280	280,139				
FY26 Estimated Net Use of Fund Balance *	(100,000)	-				
Projected FY26 Ending Fund Balance	768,280	280,139				
FY27 Estimated Net Use of Fund Balance *	(230,000)					
Estimated FY27 Ending Fund Balance	538,280					

* Refers to Use of Fund Balance net of Transfers in to reserve from General Fund

Vernon School District

School Funding Law Statistics as of 1.26.26

AOE Preliminary School Property Tax Rate Estimate, FY27 Proposed Budget - "Yield" from Tax Commissioner 12.1.25		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	\$Diff	%Diff
2. "Property dollar equivalent Yield" [Adjusted by Statewide CLA]		7,159	8,596	8,849	253	2.9%
3. "Property dollar equivalent Yield" [pending Legislative action]		9,893	11,879	12,582	703	5.9%
4.						
5. Income dollar equivalent yield per 2.0% of household income		10,110	12,172	12,154	(18)	-0.1%
6. Expenditures						
7. Budget (local budget, including special programs, full technical center expenditures, and any Act 144 expenditures)		7,840,665	7,680,453	\$7,933,289	252,836	3.3%
8. Sum of separately warned articles passed at town meeting		-	-	-	-	
9. Total Budget		7,840,665	7,680,453	\$7,933,289	252,836	3.3%
10.						
11. Offsetting revenues						
12. Offsetting revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, etc., including local Act 144 tax revenues)		577,978	482,428	\$605,628	123,200	25.5%
13.						
14. Education Spending		\$7,262,687	\$7,198,025	\$7,327,661	129,636	1.8%
15.						
16. Equalized Pupils/Long Term Weighted Average Enrollment		498	457	465.0	8	1.7%
17.						
18. Education Spending per Equalized Pupil / LTWA Pupil		\$ 14,589	\$ 15,743	\$ 15,758	\$ 15	0.1%
19. Less ALL net eligible construction costs (or P&I) per equalized pupil				\$ -	-	
20. Excess spending threshold [New in FY26 per Act 183]			15,926	\$ 16,470	544	3.4%
21. Excess Spending per Equalized Pupil over threshold (if any)			-	\$ -	-	
22. Vernon's Per pupil figure for calculating District Equalized Tax Rate		14,589	15,743	\$ 15,758	15	0.1%
23.						
24. District spending adjustment (minimum of 100%)		147.5%	183.1%	178.1%	-5.1%	-2.8%
25.						
26. Initial Act 183 District Equalized Homestead tax rate		\$ 2,038	\$ 1,831	\$ 1,781	\$ (0.051)	-2.8%
27. Pre-Act 183 Equalized Tax rate for comparison purposes		\$ 1,475	\$ 1,325	\$ 1,252	\$ (0.073)	-5.5%
28.		based on \$1.00	based on \$1.00	based on \$1.00		
29. Act 183 with State Wide Adjustment less discount		\$ 1,948	\$ 1,731	\$ 1,710	\$ (0.022)	-1.3%
30.						
31. Pre-Act 183 methodology: 2024H.987 and H.850 Tax rate "cent discount" FY25 - FY29 equalized w/		\$ 1,385	\$ 1,245	\$ 1,202	\$ (0.043)	-3.4%
32. Act 183 State Wide Adjustment [TownCLA/StateCLA]		130.2%	122.4%	115.2%	-7.2%	-5.6%
33. Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)		92.58%	88.57%	81.05%	-7.52%	-8.5%
34.						
35. Actual district homestead rate to be assessed by town		\$ 1,496	\$ 1,415	\$1,484	\$ 0.069	4.9%
36.						
37. Anticipated income cap percent (to be prorated by line 30)		2.89%	2.59%	2.59%	0.01%	0.2%
38.						
39. Following current statute, the Tax Comm. had recommended a "property yield" of \$8,849 for every \$1.00 of homestead tax per \$100 of equalized property value and an income dollar equivalent yield of \$12,154 for a base income percent of 2.0% for FY27 budgets and the non-residential tax rate at \$1.785. To be confirmed by Legislature by						
40. Estimated Annual Impact on Homestead School Property Tax Bill:						
41. 100,000		1,496	1,415	1,484	69	4.9%
42. 150,000		2,244	2,122	2,225	103	4.9%
43. 200,000		2,991	2,829	2,957	138	4.9%
44. 250,000		3,739	3,537	3,709	172	4.9%
45.						
46. School Funding Law Tax Calculations and Definitions						
47. FY25 Funding Law Formula to calculate Actual Tax Rate:						
48. PPS / Yield = ETR						
49. ETR / Town CLA = ATR						
50.						
51. Definitions set by the Legislature:						
52. ATR: Actual Tax Rate						
53. CLA: Common Level of Appraisal						
54. ETR: Equalized Homestead Education Tax Rate						
55. Act183 FY26 & 27 Funding Law Formulas, effective 7/1/2025						
56. PPS / (Yield x Statewide CLA) = ETR						
57. ETR / (Town CLA / Statewide CLA) = ATR						
58.						
59. PPS: per pupil education spending						
60. Statewide CLA: Represents the average CLA across all VT Towns = .7236						
61. Statewide Adjustment Factor: Town CLA divided by the Statewide CLA						
62. Yield: Amount \$1.00 tax rate raises on Statewide Education Grand List						

VERNON TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
FY27 Proposed Budget

Account	Description	FY25 Actual	FY26 Amended	FY27 Proposed	\$ Diff	Pct Change
Revenue						
101.1313.11.11.5.0000.4.1510.00000000	Interest Earned	(22,863)	(35,000)	(22,000)	13,000	-37%
101.1313.11.11.5.0000.4.1520.00000000	Interest Earned Reserve	(129)	-	-	-	-
101.1313.11.11.5.0000.4.1921.00000000	Rentals Town of Vernon Rec Dept	(231,105)	(231,105)	(231,105)	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.1.0000.4.1990.00000000	Miscellaneous Revenue	(1,497)	(3,000)	(3,000)	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.7.0000.4.3110.00000000	Education Spending Grant	(7,161,198)	(7,104,126)	(7,234,915)	(130,789)	2%
101.1313.31.11.7.0000.4.314.00000000	Tech Center on Behalf Payments	(101,489)	(93,899)	(92,746)	1,153	-1%
AOE: Local Funded Expenses - 00000000		(7,518,281)	(7,467,130)	(7,583,766)	(116,636)	2%
101.1313.11.11.4.0000.4.2250.22502406	Title I Subgrant	(1,966)	(2,000)	(2,000)	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.4.0000.4.2250.22502599	Title I SWP	(71,248)	(60,000)	(69,516)	(9,516)	16%
101.1313.11.11.2.0000.4.2481.24812476	Medicaid IEP Reimb	(36,570)	(36,570)	(36,570)	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.2.0000.4.2483.24832478	Medicaid EDPSDT	(5,237)	(5,237)	(5,237)	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.4.0000.4.2599.25992430	ESSER	(127,595)	-	-	-	-
101.1313.11.11.4.0000.4.2651.26512410	Title II	(4,970)	(4,819)	(6,200)	(1,381)	29%
AOE: Grant Funded Expenses		(247,586)	(108,626)	(119,523)	(10,897)	10%
Type: Revenues - 4		(7,765,868)	(7,575,756)	(7,703,289)	(127,533)	2%
Expenditures - PreK						
101.1313.01.11.0.1101.5.5620.00000000	PreK Tuition VT Appr Private Provider	111,970	110,000	113,000	3,000	3%
Function: Direct Instruction - 1101		111,970	110,000	113,000	3,000	3%
101.1313.01.22.5.2590.5.5930.00000000	Essential Early Ed Assessment	117,457	102,847	117,312	14,465	14%
Function: Othr Supp Serv-Ctr Serv - 2590		117,457	102,847	117,312	14,465	14%
Level: PreKindergarten - 01 - Local Funded		229,427	212,847	230,312	17,465	8%
Expenditures - Elementary						
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.1110.00000000	Elementary Teachers	929,483	997,947	923,866	(74,081)	-7%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.1220.00000000	Paraeducator	197,854	204,687	151,348	(53,340)	-26%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.1310.00000000	Substitutes	25,587	28,000	28,000	-	0%

VERNON TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
FY27 Proposed Budget

Account	Description	FY25 Actual	FY26 Amended	FY27 Proposed	\$ Diff	Pct Change
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.1730.00000000	Stipends	16,795	11,000	11,000	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.2110.00000000	Health Insurance	246,707	270,403	299,795	29,391	11%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.2170.00000000	HRA	1,233	42,400	34,080	(8,320)	-20%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.2180.00000000	HSA	380	-	380	380	
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.2200.00000000	FICA	84,750	100,044	88,626	(13,418)	-13%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.2290.00000000	Childcare Tax	4,758	5,754	4,982	(772)	-13%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.2310.00000000	Retirement	22,773	29,000	24,000	(5,000)	-17%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.2350.00000000	403(b)	15,163	13,100	15,500	2,400	18%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.2510.00000000	Tuition Reimbursement	2,839	8,000	8,000	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.2710.00000000	Workers Compensation	6,708	7,216	9,625	2,409	33%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.2810.00000000	Dental	16,693	20,000	16,172	(3,828)	-19%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.2920.00000000	Life	1,657	2,206	1,800	(406)	-18%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.2940.00000000	LTD	4,987	6,259	4,920	(1,339)	-21%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.3210.00000000	Professional Educational Services	10,399	5,000	10,000	5,000	100%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.4430.00000000	Rentals-Computers/Related	10,383	10,000	10,500	500	5%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.5310.00000000	Communications	-	100	100	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.5380.00000000	Internet	348	2,000	2,000	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.5810.00000000	Travel	-	1,400	1,400	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.6110.00000000	General Supplies Elem	20,571	32,000	30,000	(2,000)	-6%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.6410.00000000	Books and Periodicals	8,218	14,000	10,000	(4,000)	-29%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.6510.00000000	Supplies-Tech Related	29,543	33,200	33,200	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.1101.5.8120.00000000	Dues and Fees - Students	1,052	1,000	1,000	-	0%
Function: Direct Instruction - 1101		1,658,841	1,844,716	1,718,293	(126,423)	-7%
101.1313.11.11.0.1104.5.1120.00000000	Academic Support	170,011	174,918	181,918	7,000	4%
101.1313.11.11.0.1104.5.2110.00000000	Health Insurance	58,476	65,455	70,273	4,818	7%
101.1313.11.11.0.1104.5.2170.00000000	HRA	220	8,000	6,400	(1,600)	-20%
101.1313.11.11.0.1104.5.2200.00000000	FICA	11,618	13,381	13,917	536	4%
101.1313.11.11.0.1104.5.2290.00000000	Childcare Tax	657	770	800	31	4%
101.1313.11.11.0.1104.5.2310.00000000	Retirement	-	1,542	-	(1,542)	-100%
101.1313.11.11.0.1104.5.2350.00000000	403(b)	3,398	3,400	3,400	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.1104.5.2510.00000000	Tuition Reimbursement	300	-	500	500	
101.1313.11.11.0.1104.5.2710.00000000	Workers Compensation	988	1,060	1,548	497	47%
101.1313.11.11.0.1104.5.2810.00000000	Dental	3,360	3,360	3,360	-	0%

VERNON TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
FY27 Proposed Budget

Account	Description	FY25 Actual	FY26 Amended	FY27 Proposed	\$ Diff	Pct Change
101.1313.11.11.0.1104.5.2920.00000000	Life	245	279	279	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.1104.5.2940.00000000	LTD	754	760	819	56	8%
Function: Academic Support - 1104		250,025	272,916	283,212	10,297	4%
101.1313.11.11.0.2110.5.1720.00000000	Social Worker	67,332	69,801	75,785	5,984	9%
101.1313.11.11.0.2110.5.2200.00000000	FICA	5,152	5,340	5,798	458	9%
101.1313.11.11.0.2110.5.2290.00000000	Childcare Tax	307	307	333	26	8%
101.1313.11.11.0.2110.5.2310.00000000	Retirement	1,542	1,542	1,601	59	4%
101.1313.11.11.0.2110.5.2510.00000000	Tuition Reimbursement	457	500	500	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2110.5.2710.00000000	Workers Compensation	377	419	644	225	54%
101.1313.11.11.0.2110.5.2920.00000000	Life	97	125	125	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2110.5.2940.00000000	LTD	297	405	341	(54)	-16%
Function: Attend/Social Work Serv - 2110		75,561	78,439	86,127	6,688	9%
101.1313.11.11.0.2120.5.1110.00000000	Guidance Services	55,367	58,701	64,342	5,641	10%
101.1313.11.11.0.2120.5.2110.00000000	Health Insurance	10,555	11,815	12,685	870	7%
101.1313.11.11.0.2120.5.2170.00000000	HRA	52	1,900	1,520	(380)	-20%
101.1313.11.11.0.2120.5.2200.00000000	FICA	3,969	4,491	4,922	432	10%
101.1313.11.11.0.2120.5.2290.00000000	Childcare Tax	233	258	283	25	10%
101.1313.11.11.0.2120.5.2310.00000000	Retirement	1,542	1,542	1,601	59	4%
101.1313.11.11.0.2120.5.2350.00000000	403(b)	1,106	550	1,200	650	118%
101.1313.11.11.0.2120.5.2510.00000000	Tuition Reimbursement	9,058	1,050	1,050	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2120.5.2710.00000000	Workers Compensation	322	352	547	195	55%
101.1313.11.11.0.2120.5.2810.00000000	Dental	528	584	528	(56)	-10%
101.1313.11.11.0.2120.5.2920.00000000	Life	83	91	91	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2120.5.2940.00000000	LTD	244	248	290	42	17%
101.1313.11.11.0.2120.5.6110.00000000	General Supplies Guidance	1,104	1,000	1,000	-	0%
Function: Guidance Services - 2120		84,163	82,582	90,058	7,477	9%
101.1313.11.11.0.2131.5.1110.00000000	Health Services	68,341	72,633	72,087	(546)	-1%
101.1313.11.11.0.2131.5.2110.00000000	Health Insurance	10,555	11,815	12,685	870	7%
101.1313.11.11.0.2131.5.2170.00000000	HRA	52	1,900	1,520	(380)	-20%
101.1313.11.11.0.2131.5.2200.00000000	FICA	5,000	5,492	5,515	23	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2131.5.2290.00000000	Childcare Tax	282	316	317	1	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2131.5.2350.00000000	403(b)	1,381	1,350	1,370	20	1%
101.1313.11.11.0.2131.5.2510.00000000	Tuition Reimbursement	220	1,500	1,500	-	0%

VERNON TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
FY27 Proposed Budget

Account	Description	FY25 Actual	FY26 Amended	FY27 Proposed	\$ Diff	Pct Change
101.1313.11.11.0.2131.5.2710.00000000	Workers Compensation	396	436	613	177	41%
101.1313.11.11.0.2131.5.2810.00000000	Dental	528	528	528	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2131.5.2920.00000000	Life	97	112	112	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2131.5.2940.00000000	LTD	301	305	324	20	7%
101.1313.11.11.0.2131.5.3410.00000000	Physician Cont Services	778	800	800	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2131.5.6110.00000000	General Supplies Nurse	388	700	700	-	0%
Function: Health Services - 2131		88,299	97,886	98,071	184	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2190.5.1720.00000000	Behavior Interventionist	68,606	72,301	74,971	2,670	4%
101.1313.11.11.0.2190.5.2200.00000000	FICA	5,252	5,531	5,506	(25)	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2190.5.2290.00000000	Childcare Tax	290	-	317	317	
101.1313.11.11.0.2190.5.2310.00000000	Retirement	3,636	1,542	3,700	2,158	140%
101.1313.11.11.0.2190.5.2510.00000000	Tuition Reimbursement	-	500	500	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2190.5.2710.00000000	Workers Compensation	412	434	612	178	41%
101.1313.11.11.0.2190.5.2810.00000000	Dental	-	264	-	(264)	-100%
101.1313.11.11.0.2190.5.2920.00000000	Life	82	109	109	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2190.5.2940.00000000	LTD	295	296	324	28	9%
Function: Othr Support Serv-Stu - 2190		78,573	80,977	86,038	5,061	6%
101.1313.11.11.0.2219.5.1110.00000000	Instructional Coach	42,045	51,812	53,886	2,074	4%
101.1313.11.11.0.2219.5.2110.00000000	Health Insurance	17,056	16,364	21,082	4,718	29%
101.1313.11.11.0.2219.5.2170.00000000	HRA	96	2,000	1,920	(80)	-4%
101.1313.11.11.0.2219.5.2200.00000000	FICA	2,893	3,964	4,122	158	4%
101.1313.11.11.0.2219.5.2290.00000000	Childcare Tax	179	380	237	(143)	-38%
101.1313.11.11.0.2219.5.2310.00000000	Retirement	771	1,542	801	(742)	-48%
101.1313.11.11.0.2219.5.2350.00000000	403(b)	838	1,700	850	(850)	-50%
101.1313.11.11.0.2219.5.2510.00000000	Tuition Reimbursement	1,148	1,800	1,800	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2219.5.2710.00000000	Workers Compensation	244	311	458	147	47%
101.1313.11.11.0.2219.5.2810.00000000	Dental	980	1,040	980	(60)	-6%
101.1313.11.11.0.2219.5.2920.00000000	Life	69	105	75	(30)	-29%
101.1313.11.11.0.2219.5.2940.00000000	LTD	214	233	242	9	4%
Function: Othr Instruct Improve - 2219		66,533	81,251	86,453	5,202	6%
101.1313.11.11.0.2220.5.1110.00000000	Library/Media Services	48,637	50,328	50,412	84	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2220.5.2110.00000000	Health Insurance	6,384	-	-	-	
101.1313.11.11.0.2220.5.2170.00000000	HRA	33	-	-	-	

VERNON TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
FY27 Proposed Budget

Account	Description	FY25 Actual	FY26 Amended	FY27 Proposed	\$ Diff	Pct Change
101.1313.11.11.0.2220.5.2180.00000000	HSA	1,520	-	-	-	-
101.1313.11.11.0.2220.5.2200.00000000	FICA	2,836	3,735	3,856	121	3%
101.1313.11.11.0.2220.5.2290.00000000	Childcare Tax	219	215	222	7	3%
101.1313.11.11.0.2220.5.2310.00000000	Retirement	1,542	1,300	1,601	301	23%
101.1313.11.11.0.2220.5.2350.00000000	403(b)	281	996	292	(704)	-71%
101.1313.11.11.0.2220.5.2510.00000000	Tuition Reimbursement	5,148	1,200	1,200	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2220.5.2710.00000000	Workers Compensation	253	293	428	136	46%
101.1313.11.11.0.2220.5.2810.00000000	Dental	340	422	340	(82)	-19%
101.1313.11.11.0.2220.5.2920.00000000	Life	69	74	74	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2220.5.2940.00000000	LTO	215	203	227	24	12%
101.1313.11.11.0.2220.5.6110.00000000	General Supplies Library	400	600	600	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2220.5.6410.00000000	Books and Periodicals	1,197	4,000	4,000	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2220.5.6510.00000000	Supplies-Tech Related	1,078	1,000	1,000	-	0%
Function: Library/Media Services - 2220		68,137	64,366	64,263	(113)	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2230.5.3220.00000000	Trnsfr to WSES	26,280	28,750	-	(28,750)	-100%
Function: Technology fr Instruct - 2230		26,280	28,750	-	(28,750)	-100%
101.1313.11.11.0.2291.5.1730.00000000	One Percent Salary	4,608	7,500	7,500	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2291.5.2200.00000000	FICA	339	575	574	(1)	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2291.5.2290.00000000	Childcare Tax	18	30	33	3	10%
101.1313.11.11.0.2291.5.2710.00000000	Workers Compensation	19	45	64	19	42%
101.1313.11.11.0.2291.5.3310.00000000	Emp Train/Devel One Percent	210	300	300	-	0%
Function: One Percent - 2291		5,194	8,460	8,471	21	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2292.5.3210.00000000	Environmental Studies	6,600	8,000	8,000	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2292.5.3310.00000000	Emp Training/Develop	1,119	2,000	2,000	-	0%
Function: Program Improvement - 2292		7,719	10,000	10,000	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2311.5.1910.00000000	School Board Wages	12,000	15,000	15,000	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2311.5.2200.00000000	FICA	918	1,148	1,148	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2311.5.2290.00000000	Childcare Tax	53	66	66	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2311.5.2710.00000000	Workers Compensation	43	51	128	77	151%
101.1313.11.11.0.2311.5.3410.00000000	Other Professional Svcs	-	3,000	3,000	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2311.5.5410.00000000	Advertising	420	1,500	1,500	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2311.5.6110.00000000	General Supplies School Board	968	2,300	2,300	-	0%

VERNON TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
FY27 Proposed Budget

Account	Description	FY25 Actual	FY26 Amended	FY27 Proposed	\$ Diff	Pct Change
101.1313.11.11.0.2311.5.8110.00000000	Dues and Fees - Staff	1,240	1,000	1,000	-	0%
Function: Board of Education - 2311		15,643	24,065	24,141	77	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2313.5.1610.00000000	Board Treasurer	2,200	2,200	2,200	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2313.5.2200.00000000	FICA	168	168	168	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2313.5.2290.00000000	Childcare Tax	10	9	10	1	11%
101.1313.11.11.0.2313.5.2710.00000000	Workers Compensation	13	13	19	6	46%
Function: Board Treasurer - 2313		2,391	2,390	2,397	6	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2410.5.1410.00000000	Principal	119,612	124,995	131,245	6,250	5%
101.1313.11.11.0.2410.5.1610.00000000	Admin Asst	54,623	56,004	58,804	2,800	5%
101.1313.11.11.0.2410.5.2110.00000000	Health Insurance	34,425	34,669	37,062	2,393	7%
101.1313.11.11.0.2410.5.2170.00000000	HRA	201	6,200	4,960	(1,240)	-20%
101.1313.11.11.0.2410.5.2200.00000000	FICA	12,732	13,846	14,539	692	5%
101.1313.11.11.0.2410.5.2290.00000000	Childcare Tax	672	796	836	40	5%
101.1313.11.11.0.2410.5.2310.00000000	Retirement	1,542	1,542	1,601	59	4%
101.1313.11.11.0.2410.5.2350.00000000	403(b)	6,536	6,700	6,700	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2410.5.2510.00000000	Tuition Reimbursement	1,867	2,100	2,100	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2410.5.2710.00000000	Workers Compensation	949	1,086	1,815	529	49%
101.1313.11.11.0.2410.5.2810.00000000	Dental	1,716	1,584	1,584	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2410.5.2920.00000000	Life	472	436	490	54	12%
101.1313.11.11.0.2410.5.2940.00000000	LTD	752	770	855	85	11%
101.1313.11.11.0.2410.5.5310.00000000	Communications	-	3,800	-	(3,800)	-100%
101.1313.11.11.0.2410.5.6110.00000000	General Supplies Principal	1,574	1,000	1,000	-	0%
Function: Office of the Principal - 2410		237,674	255,629	263,391	7,863	3%
101.1313.11.11.5.2590.5.5930.00000000	WSESU Assessment	280,197	250,596	267,119	16,523	7%
Function: Othr Supp Serv-Ctrl Serv - 2590		260,197	250,596	267,119	16,523	7%
101.1313.11.11.5.2591.5.5930.00000000	Transportation Assessment	138,107	140,026	145,711	5,685	4%
Function: Othr Supp Serv-Ctrl Serv - 2591		138,107	140,026	145,711	5,685	4%
101.1313.11.11.0.2610.5.1820.00000000	Custodian	180,441	189,408	197,869	8,461	4%
101.1313.11.11.0.2610.5.2110.00000000	Health Insurance	62,738	70,312	62,968	(7,343)	-10%
101.1313.11.11.0.2610.5.2170.00000000	HRA	364	13,200	8,800	(4,400)	-33%
101.1313.11.11.0.2610.5.2200.00000000	FICA	12,993	14,181	14,951	769	5%

VERNON TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
FY27 Proposed Budget

Account	Description	FY25 Actual	FY25 Amended	FY27 Proposed	\$ Diff	Pct Change
101.1313.11.11.0.2610.5.2290.00000000	Childcare Tax	723	816	860	44	5%
101.1313.11.11.0.2610.5.2310.00000000	Retirement	9,808	9,500	9,900	400	4%
101.1313.11.11.0.2610.5.2710.00000000	Workers Compensation	2,059	1,136	1,661	525	46%
101.1313.11.11.0.2610.5.2810.00000000	Dental	2,497	2,600	2,500	(100)	-4%
101.1313.11.11.0.2610.5.2920.00000000	Life	266	305	285	(20)	-7%
101.1313.11.11.0.2610.5.2940.00000000	LTD	793	829	879	51	6%
101.1313.11.11.0.2610.5.4310.00000000	NonTechnlgy Repair/Maint	51,080	32,000	32,000	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2610.5.4510.00000000	Construction Services	135,333	-	-	-	-
101.1313.11.11.0.2610.5.5210.00000000	Insurance (Not Emp Ben)	20,286	22,342	22,342	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2610.5.5310.00000000	Communications	9,947	6,700	10,000	3,300	49%
101.1313.11.11.0.2610.5.6110.00000000	General Supplies Custodian	21,994	23,000	23,000	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2610.5.6220.00000000	Electricity	10,870	11,000	11,000	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2610.5.6230.00000000	Bottled gas	31,383	36,400	36,400	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2610.5.6290.00000000	Net Metered Electricity	19,387	16,000	19,000	3,000	19%
Function: Operation of Buildings - 2610		572,973	449,728	454,415	4,687	1%
101.1313.11.11.0.2630.5.4310.00000000	NonTechnlgy Repair/Maint	1,377	8,000	8,000	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2630.5.6110.00000000	General Supplies Grounds	921	5,000	5,000	-	0%
Function: Care and Upkeep of Grounds - 2630		2,298	13,000	13,000	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.2715.5.5190.00000000	Field Trip Transportation	8,001	8,000	8,000	-	0%
Function: Field Trips-Edu Related - 2715		8,001	8,000	8,000	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.0.5390.5.8110.00000000	Trnsfr to Cap-FacilityBus	100,000	100,000	125,000	25,000	25%
Function: Fund Transfers - 5390		100,000	100,000	125,000	25,000	25%
101.1313.11.12.0.1101.5.1750.00000000	Summer School Stipends	1,440	2,320	2,320	-	0%
101.1313.11.12.0.1101.5.2200.00000000	FICA	108	177	177	-	0%
101.1313.11.12.0.1101.5.2290.00000000	Childcare Tax	5	-	10	10	-
101.1313.11.12.0.1101.5.2710.00000000	Workers Compensation	-	11	11	-	0%
Function: Direct Instruction - 1101		1,553	2,508	2,819	10	0%
101.1313.11.22.5.2590.5.5930.00000000	Spec Ed Assess Elementary	593,598	555,284	602,163	46,879	8%
Function: Othr Supp Serv-Ctrl Serv - 2590		593,598	555,284	602,163	46,879	8%
Level: Elementary (K-6) - 11 - Local Funded		4,341,769	4,451,458	4,437,832	(13,626)	0%

VERNON TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
FY27 Proposed Budget

Account	Description	FY25 Actual	FY26 Amended	FY27 Proposed	\$ Diff	Pct Change
Expenditures - Secondary						
101.1313.31.11.0.1101.5.5610.0000000	Sec Tuition VT Public LEAs	1,277,473	1,570,000	1,594,497	24,497	2%
101.1313.31.11.0.1101.5.5620.0000000	Sec Tuition VT Appr Private/Indep	274,277	249,600	409,203	159,603	64%
101.1313.31.11.0.1101.5.5630.0000000	Sec Tuition NON-VT Public LEAs	433,400	446,600	495,351	48,551	11%
101.1313.31.11.0.1101.5.5640.0000000	Sec Tuition NON-VT Private LEAs	53,974	110,400	64,611	(45,789)	-41%
Function: Direct Instruction - 1101		2,039,124	2,376,800	2,563,662	186,862	8%
101.1313.31.11.0.1301.5.5660.0000000	Tuition Vocational Ctr-On Behalf	101,489	93,899	92,746	(1,153)	-1%
Function: Vocational Education - Department - 1301		101,489	93,899	92,746	(1,153)	-1%
101.1313.31.22.5.2590.5.5930.0000000	Spec Ed Assess Secondary	456,410	348,952	402,567	53,615	15%
Function: Othr Supp Serv-Ctrl Serv - 2590		456,410	348,952	402,567	53,615	15%
101.1313.31.31.0.1301.5.5670.0000000	Tuition Vocational-Pd by Vernon	219,229	124,981	128,454	3,473	3%
Function: Vocational Education - Department - 1301		219,229	124,981	128,454	3,473	3%
Level: Secondary (7-12) - 31 - Local Funded		2,816,261	2,944,632	3,187,429	242,797	8%
Subtotal All Local Funded Expenses - 00000000		7,387,438	7,608,937	7,855,673	246,636	3%
Expenditures - Grant Funded						
101.1313.11.11.4.2999.5.1730.22502406	Family Engagement Stipend	600	-	-	-	-
101.1313.11.11.4.2999.5.2200.22502406	FICA	42	-	-	-	-
101.1313.11.11.4.2999.5.2290.22502406	Childcare Tax	2	-	-	-	-
101.1313.11.11.4.2999.5.6110.22502406	Supplies Family Engagement	1,321	2,000	2,000	-	0%
AOE: Title I subgrant - 22502406		1,966	2,000	2,000	-	0%
101.1313.11.11.4.2219.5.1110.22502599	Instructional Coach Title I	41,920	35,000	35,924	924	3%
101.1313.11.11.4.2219.5.2110.22502599	Health Insurance	12,183	10,534	15,055	4,521	43%
101.1313.11.11.4.2219.5.2170.22502599	HRA	500	2,000	1,280	(720)	-36%
101.1313.11.11.4.2219.5.2200.22502599	FICA	2,987	2,678	2,748	71	3%
101.1313.11.11.4.2219.5.2290.22502599	Childcare Tax	150	154	158	4	3%

VERNON TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
FY27 Proposed Budget

Account	Description	FY25 Actual	FY26 Amended	FY27 Proposed	\$ Diff	Pct Change
101.1313.11.11.4.2219.5.2310.22502599	Retirement	771	-	801	30	4%
101.1313.11.11.4.2219.5.2320.22502599	VSTRS—OPEB	10,748	8,915	11,483	2,568	29%
101.1313.11.11.4.2219.5.2350.22502599	403(b)	838	-	850	12	3%
101.1313.11.11.4.2219.5.2710.22502599	Workers Compensation	244	298	305	7	3%
101.1313.11.11.4.2219.5.2810.22502599	Dental	700	240	700	460	192%
101.1313.11.11.4.2219.5.2920.22502599	Life	50	25	51	6	104%
101.1313.11.11.4.2219.5.2940.22502599	LTD	158	158	162	4	3%
AOE: Title I SWP - 22502599		71,248	60,000	69,516	9,516	16%
AOE: ESSER III - 25992430		127,595				
101.1313.11.11.4.2213.5.1730.26512410	Stipends Title IIA PD	4,250	4,210	5,700	1,490	35%
101.1313.11.11.4.2213.5.2200.26512410	FICA	312	322	436	114	35%
101.1313.11.11.4.2213.5.2280.26512410	Childcare Tax	17	19	25	6	32%
101.1313.11.11.4.2213.5.2310.26512410	Retirement	380	232	-	(232)	-100%
101.1313.11.11.4.2213.5.2710.26512410	Workers Compensation	12	36	39	3	8%
AOE: Title II Subgrant - 26512410		4,971	4,819	6,200	1,381	29%
Subtotal Grant Funded Expenses		205,780	66,819	77,716	10,897	16%
Total Expenditures		7,593,217	7,675,756	7,933,289	257,533	3.4%

2025 ANNUAL TOWN AND SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

Moderator, Tim Arsenault opened the Town Meeting at 6:30 pm on Monday, March 3, 2025.

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. There was a moment of silence for all residents that lost their lives in 2024.

The Moderator went over the rules of the meeting.

The Moderator introduced Zon Eastes the Vermont State Representative for Vernon and Guilford. Zon will be working to protect our democracy in Vermont. There are four major issues for Vermonters: Taxes, Restructuring of Education, Housing and the rising cost of Healthcare. Zon is part of the following: Human Services Committee, VT Rural Caucus, Older Vermonter's Caucus. The Secretary of State would like to award Tim Arsenault with a Vermont Public Service award. Tim has been serving the Town as Moderator for 27 years and several years as Town Clerk. Zon encourages residents to reach out to him with your concerns and questions.

T. Arsenault introduced the School Board who gave a presentation on the FY 26-27 budget.

T. Arsenault stated this is the Selectboard portion of the meeting and introduced the Selectboard Chair Sandra Harris. S. Harris introduced board members: Brandon Bucossi, Jean Carr, Jim Pinkerton and Jeff Dunklee. Sandra also introduced the Assistant Treasurer, Kathy Walker and Town Administrator, Shelly Banford.

S. Harris thanked J. Dunklee for serving again as the appointed Selectboard member for the last year. S. Harris would like to recognize Head Lister Carol Hammond for the many years of service and she will be missed. S. Harris would also like to thank T. Arsenault for his many years of service to Vernon as Moderator, BCA member and Town Clerk.

T. Arsenault read the following articles:

Article 4: Shall the voters authorize Town General Fund expenditure for operating expenses of \$2,403,759.00 of which \$2,020,859.00 shall be raised by taxes, \$282,900.00 by estimated income and \$100,000.00 to be carried over from FY23-24. *B. Bucossi moved that the voters authorize the Town General Fund expenditure for operating expenses of \$2,403,759.00 of which \$2,020,859.00 shall be raised by taxes, \$282,900.00 by estimated income and \$100,000.00 to be carried over from FY23-24. J. Carr seconds the motion. B. Bucossi moves to amend the article to authorize the Town General Fund expenditure for operating expenses of \$2,411,379.00 of which \$1,999,759.00 shall be raised by taxes, \$314,320.00 by estimated income and \$100,000.00 to be carried over from FY23-24. The motion was seconded.* The Moderator read the amended article. *Mr. Gassett motioned for the article to be divided so residents know what is being spent for each line item. There was a second.* The Moderator noted this motion would need to pass with two thirds vote. The Moderator called for the vote. The BCA members took a count and the motion failed No-73 to Yes -44. The first amended article passed.

Article 5: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$140,536.00 to be raised by taxes for administration of the Vernon Free Library? *Julie Evans motions that voters appropriate the sum of \$140,536.00 to be raised by taxes for administration of the Vernon Free Library. The motion was seconded.* The article passed.

Article 6: To elect a Library Trustee to fill the unexpired term of three years through Town Meeting of March 2026. *Cassie Sailsman motions to nominate Wendy Schuman to fill the unexpired three-year term through Town Meeting of March 2026. The motion was seconded.* The article passed.

Article 7: To elect a Library Trustee to fill the expired term of three years through Town Meeting of March 2028. *Julie Evans motions to nominate Cassie Sailsman to fill the expired three-year term through Town meeting of March 2028. The motion was seconded.* The article passes.

Article 8: To elect a Library Trustee to fill the expired term of three years through Town Meeting of March 2028. *Nicole Deyo motions to nominate Kristen Bratton to fill the expired three-year term through Town meeting of March 2028. The motion was seconded.* The article passes.

Article 9: To choose a committee to disburse the income of the Marsh Fund. *J. Carr motions to appoint Sandra Harris and James Brown to the Marsh Fund Committee to disburse the income of this fund. The motion was seconded.* The article passes.

Article 10: To choose a Memorial Day Committee. *S. Harris motions to nominate Peter and Angela Miller to the Memorial Day Committee. The motion was seconded.* The article passes.

Article 11: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,200.00 to be raised by taxes, to fund Vernon Historians, Inc. for the expenditures related to Vernon's historic preservation, educational promotion and required insurance? *H. Frost motions for the voters to appropriate the sum of \$1,200.00 to be raised by taxes, to fund Vernon Historians, Inc. for the expenditures related to Vernon's historic preservation, educational promotion and required insurance. The motion was seconded.* The article passes.

Article 12: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$150,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the "Professional Services Fund"? *Chad Baldwin motions the voters appropriate the sum of \$150,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the Professional Services Fund.* C. Baldwin clarified these funds are used to fund the constant litigation and mediation attorneys relating to the utilities appealing their tax assessments. The Town expends about \$100,000.00 each year. There is currently only 35,000.00 left in the fund. *The motion was seconded.* The article passes.

Article 13: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the "Emergency Repair/Replacement Fund"? *J. Pinkerton motions the voters appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the Emergency Repair/Replacement Fund. The motion was seconded.* The article passes.

Article 14: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$150,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the "Town Road Upgrading Fund"? *J. Dunklee motions the voters appropriate the sum of \$150,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the Town Road Upgrading Fund. The motion was seconded.* The article passes.

Article 15: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$40,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the "Town Culvert Fund"? *J. Dunklee motions the voters appropriate the sum of \$40,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the Town Culvert Fund. The motion was seconded.* The article passes.

Article 16: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the "Town Parking Lots Maintenance Fund"? *J. Dunklee motions the voters appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the Town Parking Lots Maintenance Fund.*

Article 17: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the previously established "Elderly Assistance Fund"? *J. Dunklee motions the voters appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the previously established Elderly Assistance Fund. Jessie Jobin motions to amend the amount to be amended to \$15,000.00. The motion was seconded.* The amended article passes.

Article 18: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the "Town of Vernon-James Cusick Scholarship Fund"? *J. Dunklee motions to the voters appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the Town of Vernon-James Cusick Scholarship Fund. The motion was seconded.* The article passes.

Article 19: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$506,837.00 for the funding of items approved in the Capital Plan of which \$469,758.04 is to be raised by taxes? *J. Carr motions the voters appropriate the sum of \$506,837.00 for the funding of items approved in the Capital Plan of which \$469,758.04 is to be raised by taxes. The motion was seconded.* The article passes.

Article 20: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$16,007.85 to be raised by taxes for the Windham Solid Waste District Assessment to fund the previously established “Solid Waste Fund”?

As a member of the WSWMD the Town is assessed an annual fee, which in FY 25 will be \$7,854.43 from July 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 and FY 26 from January 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025 will be \$8,153.15. This cost has increased 4% in 2026. The Town is obligated to pay this annual assessment unless it officially withdraws from WSWMD, which will take 2 years in accordance with the WSWMD charter from the State of Vermont. Due to significant state mandates, particularly providing two household hazard waste collection events per year, most towns decide to remain members of WSWMD rather than provide the mandated services on their own.

*J. Carr motions the voters appropriate the sum of \$16,007.85 to be raised by taxes for the Windham Solid Waste District Assessment to fund the previously established “Solid Waste Fund. J. Jobin motions to withdraw from the WSWMD. The motion was seconded. J. Jobin would like to zero out the article amount. B. Bucossi asked Bob Spencer, WSWMD Director to detail the State mandates their services covers. There are 172 families using the facilities. If Vernon withdraws from WSWMD these families will no longer be able to access the WSWMD facilities. And Vernon will be responsible to do Hazard waste collections, writing a Solid Waste Management plan each year, solid waste education for businesses and schools. J. Jobin withdraws his amendment. *Donna Toussie motions to amend the article to raise and appropriate \$8,000.00 and the remaining \$8,007.85 to be paid by the PAYT.* S. Harris informed the audience the current balance of PAYT is \$7,516.81. *D. Toussie amends her article to appropriate \$8,000.00 and move the remaining balance of the PAYT over. The motion was seconded. Sandy Morrison would like to know if the Town can use the Solid Waste fund to fund this article.* B. Bucossi stated he would support that. S. Harris noted some invoices haven’t been posted. *D. Toussie withdraws her amendment. S. Morrison motions to amend the article to take the balance of the PAYT fund and balance to be appropriate from the Solid Waste fund. The article is seconded.* The article passes.*

Article 21: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$17,250.00 to be raised by taxes to help support the operating expenses and utilities of the Governor Hunt House Community Center? *Arlene Palmeter motions the voters appropriate the sum of \$17,250.00 to be raised by taxes to help support the operating expenses and utilities of the Governor Hunt House Community Center. The motion was seconded.* Arlene Palmeter noted this is 4% of the operating budget. *J. Jobin motioned to amend the article to appropriate \$2,000.00 to support the Governor Hunt House Community Center.* David Emery stated, “There are compelling arguments for and against this article.” The Governor Hunt House can’t be replaced and should be maintained. Residents should think about maintaining this building as it’s an Emergency Shelter for a small group at no cost. D. Emery supports the \$17,250.00 appropriation. *The amendment was seconded.* An audience member called to cease the debate and call the amendment. The amendment failed. The Moderator called for a vote on the original article. The article passes.

Article 22: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 to be raised by taxes for the operation of the Emergency Management Office? *B. Bucossi motions the voters appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 to be raised by taxes for the operation of the Emergency Management Office. The motion was seconded.* The article passes.

Article 23: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to help support the Gathering Place? *S. Harris motions the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to help support the Gathering Place. The motion was defeated.*

Article 24: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$850.00 to help support the Women’s Freedom Center? *J. Carr motions the voters appropriate the sum of \$850.00 to help support the Women’s Freedom Center. The motion was defeated.*

Article 25: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$2,100.00 to support the services of Southeastern Vermont Community Action? *B. Bucossi motions the voters appropriate the sum of \$2,100.00 to support the services of Southeastern Vermont Community Action. The motion was seconded.* The article passes.

Article 26: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$6,576.00 for the support of Southeastern Vermont Economic Development Strategies (SeVEDS) to provide workforce and economic coordination services to the Windham Region. *J. Carr motions the voters appropriate the sum of \$6,576.00 for the support of Southeastern Vermont Economic Development Strategies (SeVEDS) to provide workforce and economic coordination services to the Windham Region. The motion was seconded.* The article was defeated.

Article 27: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,850.00 to help support outpatient, mental health and substance abuse services by the staff of Health Care & Rehabilitation Services (HCRS) in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691? *B. Bucossi motions the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,850.00 to help support outpatient, mental health and substance abuse services by the staff of Health Care & Rehabilitation Services (HCRS) in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691. The motion was seconded.* The article was defeated.

Article 28: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$3,250.00 to help the Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire? *S. Harris motioned the voters skip over this article due to a discontinuance or services in Vernon as of April 15, 2025. The motion was seconded.* The article was defeated.

Article 29: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,750.00 to help support Senior Solutions? *J. Pinkerton motions the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,750.00 to help support Senior Solutions. The motion was seconded.* The article passes.

Article 30: Shall the voters authorize payment of Real and Personal Property taxes to the Treasurer in three installments, with the due dates being September 11, 2025, January 8, 2026 and May 7, 2026? *B. Bucossi motions the voters authorize payment of Real and Personal Property taxes to the Treasurer in three installments, with the due dates being September 11, 2025, January 8, 2026 and May 7, 2026. The article is seconded.* The article passes.

Article 31: Shall the voters approve the provision of notice of availability of the Town Report and Auditor’s Report by “postcard, mailed to all registered voters” at least 30 days prior to Town Meeting, in lieu of mailing or otherwise distributing the Town Report and Auditor’s Report as authorized by Vermont law and 24 V.S.A. § 1682(a)(2)? *J. Dunklee motions the voters approve the provision of notice of availability of the Town Report and Auditor’s Report by “postcard, mailed to all registered voters” at least 30 days prior to Town Meeting, in lieu of mailing or otherwise distributing the Town Report and Auditor’s Report as authorized by Vermont law and 24 V.S.A. § 1682(a)(2). The motion was seconded.* Dale Gassett asked about the status of the Town Audit as it wasn’t available 10 days before Town Meeting per State Statute. S. Harris stated she is aware of this situation. D. Gassett stated this seems to be a perpetual situation now and would like to know how the Town can correct this maleficence moving forward. S. Harris took the podium to read a letter she received this evening. The letter was addressed to the Citizens and Selectboard and dated March 3, 2025 from the Town Treasurer. The Treasurer is resigning her position effective March 3, 2025 at the end of Town Meeting due to

lack of confidence. S. Harris went on to note there was a complaint the Town Administrator has not gotten back to some people. S. Harris informed the audience the Town Administrator and Assistant Treasurer have been doing all the work in the Treasurer's office. If it wasn't for the two there wouldn't be any financial information for the meeting. S. Harris stated the Selectboard and Town Administrator offered the Treasurer help but she didn't want any. Mr. Pond inquired about the time frame of the Audit and suggested it be started earlier. S. Harris stated only the Treasurer has access to the information needed by the Auditors. The Audit was not completed due to lack of information submitted by the Treasurer. B. Bucossi informed Mr. Pond the Treasurer had been contacted multiple times by the Auditors regarding the audit and was non-responsive. B. Bucossi informed the audience the Treasurer has been non-responsive when crucial information was requested. Discussion on this position being an appointed or hired position and an Audit of all the Treasurer's records followed. B. Bucossi noted there has been no response from the Treasurer for some time regarding anything including the Town Meeting. The Treasurer hasn't responded to anyone until the letter was received at the meeting.

Article 32: To transact any other business that may lawfully come before said meeting. *J. Pinkerton motions to open discussion on the Great River Solar Array. The motion was seconded.* The Moderator noted this is not a warned topic all discussion is purely advisory along with any votes to be taken. Norma Manning from Conservation Commission has a meeting at the end of the month. The Conservation Commission has done its due diligence on the GRH Solar Array. There are handouts by the door from the Conservation Commission detailing concerns that were addressed by the Commission. The Moderator called for any other business that may come before the voters. The Moderator called the only Moderator candidate in tomorrow's election, Mrs. Amidon to close the meeting.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:59 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shelly Banford

WARNING
TOWN OF VERNON, VERMONT
2026 ANNUAL TOWN AND SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

The legal voters of the Town of Vernon are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Vernon Elementary School Gymnasium, 381 Governor Hunt Road, at 6:30 pm on Monday, March 2, 2026, in said Town to act upon Articles 4 through 35 below.

Articles 1 through 3 will be voted by Australian ballot on Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at the Town Office Building, downstairs. Polls will be open from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

The Town Report can be found on the Town's website and copies available at the Town Clerk's office after February 20, 2026.

Article 1: To elect the following Town Officers (**VOTING BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT**):

Treasurer – 3 yr. Term – Joshua Kubbecka

Selectboard - 3 yr. Term – Jean Carr

Selectboard - 2 yr. Term – Shelli Dunklee Harvey

Lister 3 yr. Term – Chad Baldwin

Lister -remaining year of a 3-year Term - None

Delinquent Tax Collector – Marylynn Scherlin

First Constable – Jesse Jobin

Second Constable – Chad Baldwin

Town Moderator- Kerry Amidon

Article 2: Shall the voters of the [Vernon Town] School District approve the school board to expend \$7,933,289 which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? The Vernon Town School District estimates that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in per pupil education spending of \$15,762 which is 0.1% higher than per pupil education spending for the current year. (**VOTING BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT**)

Article 3: To elect three (3) school directors from the nominees to serve on the school board of the Vernon School District from the day following the Annual District Meeting: (**VOTING BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT**)

One (1) school director who is a resident of Vernon for a three-year term

One (1) school director who is a resident of Vernon for a two-year term - Daniel Amidon

One (1) school director who is a resident of Vernon for the remaining two years of a three-year term

And a School Moderator

Article 4: Shall the voters authorize Town General Fund expenditure for operating expenses of \$2,478,027.00 of which \$2,309,878.00 shall be raised by taxes, \$168,149.00 by estimated income.

Article 5: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$169,612.00 to be raised by taxes for administration of the Vernon Free Library?

Article 6: To elect a Library Trustee to fill the expired term of three years through Town Meeting of March - 2029.

Article 7: To choose a committee to disburse the income of the Marsh Fund.

Article 8: To choose a Memorial Day Committee.

Article 9: Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to appoint the Town Treasurer as authorized by 17 V.S.A. §2651(f) and who shall have the professional qualifications to serve as finance director with the same powers and duties of a Town Treasurer.

Article 10: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,200.00 to be raised by taxes, to fund Vernon Historians, Inc. for the expenditures related to Vernon's historic preservation, educational promotion and required insurance?

Article 11: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$200,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the "Professional Services Fund"?

Article 12: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the "Emergency Repair/Replacement Fund"?

Article 13: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$150,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the "Town Road Upgrading Fund"?

Article 14: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$40,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the "Town Culvert Fund"?

Article 15: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the "Town Parking Lots Maintenance Fund"?

Article 16: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$50,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the previously established "Elderly Assistance Fund"?

Article 17: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the "Town of Vernon-James Cusick Scholarship Fund"?

Article 18: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$614,554.00 for the funding of items approved in the Capital Plan of which \$469,758.24 is to be raised by taxes?

Article 19: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$17,000.00 to be raised by taxes to help support the operating expenses and utilities of the Governor Hunt Community Center?

Article 20: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 to be raised by taxes for the operation of the Emergency Management Office?

Article 21: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$750.00 to help support the Gathering Place?

Article 22: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$850.00 to help support the Women's Freedom Center?

Article 23: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$2,100.00 to support the services of Southeastern Vermont Community Action?

Article 24: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$6,576.00 for the support of Southeastern Vermont Economic Development Strategies (SeVEDS) to provide workforce and economic coordination services to the Windham Region.

Article 25: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,850.00 to help support outpatient, mental health and substance abuse services by the staff of Health Care & Rehabilitation Services (HCRS) in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?

Article 26: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,785.00 to help support Senior Solutions?

Article 27: Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to appoint a collector of delinquent taxes who may be the Town Treasurer appointed by the Selectboard as authorized by 17 V.S.A. §2651(d)?

Article 28: Shall the Town establish a Community Harvest Festival Reserve Fund to be used for the purpose of funding the Community Harvest Festival in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2804?

Article 29: Shall the Town deposit \$5,416.29 (balance of the Town Picnic Reserve Fund) into the Community Harvest Festival Reserve Fund?

Article 30: Shall the Town dissolve the Town Picnic Reserve fund?

Article 31: Shall the Town establish a reserve fund to be called the “Fire Dredging Reserve Fund” to be used for payment of dredging expenses of Vernon’s fire ponds as authorized by 24 V.S.A. §2804?

Article 32: Shall the voters raise and appropriate \$10,000.00 for the Fire Dredging Reserve fund?

Article 33: Shall the voters authorize payment of Real and Personal Property taxes to the Treasurer in three installments, with the due dates being September 10, 2026, January 7, 2027 and May 6, 2027?

Article 34: Shall the voters approve the provision of notice of availability of the Town Report and Auditor’s Report by “postcard, mailed to all registered voters” at least 30 days prior to Town Meeting, in lieu of mailing or otherwise distributing the Town Report and Auditor’s Report as authorized by Vermont law and 24 V.S.A. § 1682(a)(2)?

Article 35: To transact any other business that may lawfully come before said meeting.

NOTES

