

TOWN OF UNDERHILL

ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022



Please bring this report to Town Meeting



fig 1



fig 2



fig 3



fig 4



fig 5



fig 6



fig 7

fig 10



fig 8



fig 9



Dedication

2022 represented the 75th anniversary of active research into maple syrup production in Underhill. In the mid-1940s, a gift of land from then Gov. Mortimer Proctor established the University of Vermont (UVM) Proctor Maple Research Farm or “Proctor Farm,” the first the first permanent maple research facility in the country, now known as the Proctor Maple Research Center, or simply PMRC, on the former Harvey Farm in Underhill Center. Administratively PMRC is a field research station (farm) within the Plant Biology Department of the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences. PMRC is the leader in maple research and Extension and comprises approximately 220 acres, with two sugarbush areas, and has been the subject of continuous research on maple since 1947.

With its humble beginnings in an 85 square foot research lab, PMRC founders Dr. James Marvin and Dr. Fred Taylor set out to build on previous research at UVM into all aspects of this iconic Vermont product. Generations of researchers have continued this work from Fred Laing, Dr. Mariafranca Morselli to Sumner Williams, Brian Stowe, Tim Wilmot, Dr. Mel Tyree and many more. Much has been learned over three quarters of a century of inquiry and as anyone interested in science knows, with more discovery comes more questions. From basic tree health, threats posed by climate change, maximizing sustainable high yields of sap to ensuring the highest quality product reaches consumers, the current PMRC crew is dedicated to expanding the understanding of this unique food and sharing that knowledge widely. Dr. Tim Perkins has led PMRC as Director for 26 years and will be retiring in 2023.

Figure 1 Dr. James Marvin. Photo courtesy of David Marvin, Butternut Mountain Farms.

Figure 2 The Sumner Hill Williams Sugarhouse was built in 1992-1993, expanded in 1999 and named for Sumner Williams in 2000. Sumner Williams was a University of Vermont Botany Department Technician 1976-1990, head of sugaring operations and assistant director at the Proctor Maple Research Center. The sugarhouse’s mission is to provide demonstration, research and educational opportunities for all those interested in the production of maple syrup. Photo courtesy of UVM Proctor Maple Research Center.

Figure 3 Dr. Fred Taylor. Photo courtesy of UVM Proctor Maple Research Center.

Figure 4 Current Proctor Maple Research Center crew (Left to Right), Director Dr. Tim Perkins, Mark Isselhardt, Brenden Haynes, Assistant Director Dr. Abby van den Berg, Wade Bosley and Jed Abair.

Figure 5 Dr. Mariafranca Morselli, right, botany professor, University of Vermont 1964-1988 and Lynn Whalen investigated many aspects of the microbiology of maple sap and syrup. They were responsible for early work related to processing technology (RO, UV lights) and their impact on syrup quality. Photo courtesy of UVM Proctor Maple Research Center.

Figure 6 Bill Scott stands outside the original Proctor Maple Research Farm lab (85 square feet) in 1948. Photo courtesy of UVM Special Collections.

Figure 7 Dr James Marvin, left, and Fred Laing, whose work helped establish the feasibility of using plastic tubing, circa 1940. Photo courtesy of UVM Proctor Maple Research Center.

Figure 8 Dr. James Marvin. Photo courtesy of David Marvin, Butternut Mountain Farms.

Figure 9 The University of Vermont Proctor Maple Research Center. Photo courtesy of UVM Proctor Maple Research Center.

Figure 10 Dr. Fred Taylor. Photo courtesy of UVM Proctor Maple Research Center.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TOWN BUSINESS

Official Warning	1
Abstract of Town Meeting 2022	2
Town Officers - Elected.....	3
Town Officials	4
Dates to Remember.....	6

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Details	7
Budget Review Fiscal Year 2024.....	14
Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2022.....	16
Statement of Taxes Raised.....	17
Long-Term Liabilities.....	18
Wages, Salaries and Stipends	19

REPORTS OF TOWN OFFICERS, OFFICIALS & COMMITTEES

Selectboard Report.....	20
Town Administrator Report.....	21
Assessor's Report.....	22
Road Foreman's Report	23
Highway Equipment Inventory	24
Planning Commission Report	25
Conservation Commission Report	27
Natural Resources Inventory & Mapping Committee Report.....	30
Zoning Permits and Approvals	32
Development Review Board Report	41
Energy Committee Report	43
Recreation Committee Report.....	45
Highways Infrastructure & Equipment Committee.....	47
Forest Fire Warden Report.....	48
Vital Statistics	49
Civil Marriages	50
Casey's Hill & Town Skating Rink	51
Tomasi Meadow.....	52

Winter Operations Plan.....	53
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REPORTS OF OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS

American Red Cross.....	54
Scouts BSA Troop 627	55
Chittenden Solid Waste District	56
Essex Rescue	58
Green Mountain Transit.....	61
Jericho Underhill Library District	62
Jericho-Underhill Water District	64
Mills Riverside Park	65
Mount Mansfield Community Television	67
Our Community Cares Camp	68
Age Well.....	70
Underhill Historical Society	71
Underhill-Jericho Fire Department.....	72
UVM Home Health and Hospice.....	75
Vermont Department of Health	77
Harvest Crossing.....	78
Jericho Farmers' Market.....	79

REPORTS OF DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

Trevor Squirrel & Edye Graning... ..	80
--------------------------------------	----

SCHOOL REPORTS & BUDGETS

Mt. Mansfield Modified Union School District Official Warning.....	82
Mt. Mansfield Modified Union School District Annual Report & Budget Summary	84
Mt. Mansfield Modified Union School District Our Schools	85

OFFICIAL WARNING
TOWN OF UNDERHILL ~ ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MARCH 7, 2023

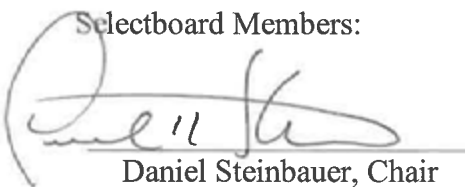
The legal voters of the Town of Underhill, in the County of Chittenden, State of Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at Browns River Middle School, in Jericho, Vermont on March 7, 2023 at 9 o'clock in the morning to transact the following business (Voting for all Australian Ballot articles will be from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Browns River Middle School):

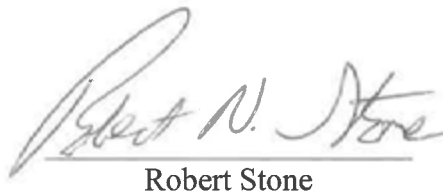
- Article 1 To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year.
- Article 2 To hear the reports of the Town Officers.
- Article 3 Shall the voters approve total general fund expenditures of \$1,383,026 of which \$1,173,656 shall be raised by taxes, \$209,370 by non-tax revenues, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §2664?
- Article 4 Shall the voters approve total highway fund expenditures of \$1,811,560 of which \$1,636,560 shall be raised by taxes, \$175,000 by non-tax revenue pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §2664?
- Article 5 To transact any other non-binding business thought proper when met.

AUSTRALIAN BALLOT QUESTIONS

- Article 6 To elect all Town Officers and School Directors as required by law.
- Article 7 Shall the voters authorize the purchase of an excavator to replace the 1997 excavator and borrow an amount not to exceed \$286,000 for a term not to exceed five years, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §1786 a(b)?
- Article 8 Shall the voters authorize the purchase of a trailer to replace the 2005 trailer used for mobilizing heavy equipment and borrow an amount not to exceed \$45,000 for a term not to exceed five years, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §1786 a(b)?

Selectboard Members:


Daniel Steinbauer, Chair


Robert Stone


Patricia Richards

Received for record this 26th day of January 2023 at Underhill.

ATTEST: , Town Clerk

ABSTRACT WARNING
TOWN OF UNDERHILL ~ 2022 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MARCH 1, 2022

The legal voters of the Town of Underhill, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at Underhill Town Hall, 12 Pleasant Valley Road, in said Town on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. to transact the following articles by Australian Ballot.

AUSTRALIAN BALLOT QUESTIONS

- Article 1 Elect a Moderator for the ensuing year.
Dan Manz – 735
- Article 2 To elect all Town Officers and School Directors as required by law.
Selectboard 3 year
Robert “Bob” N. Stone – 714
Peter K. Duval – 44
- Selectboard 1 year of a remaining 3 year**
Patricia Richards – 682
- Treasurer**
Sherri Morin – 757
- Library Trustee**
Carolyn Greene – 692
- Park District Trustee**
Dave Williamson – 720
- MMU School Director**
Write -in Lisa Pawlik – 107
Write-in Krystal Granzow - 11
- Article 3 Shall the voters approve total general fund expenditures of \$1,256,766 of which \$939,278 shall be raised by taxes, \$317,488 by non-tax revenues, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 2664? **YES 619 NO 158**
- Article 4 Shall the voters approve total highway fund expenditures of \$1,740,384 of which \$1,320,884 shall be raised by taxes, \$419,500 by non-tax revenue pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 2664? **YES 647 NO 132**
- Article 5 Shall the voters authorize the purchase of a dump truck and borrow an amount not to exceed \$192,000 for a term not to exceed five years, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §1786 a(b)?
YES 623 NO 158
- Article 6 Shall the voters approve a full-time administrative position to support staff at the town hall? **YES 538 NO 239**

TOWN OFFICERS

Elected Town Officers

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Expires</u>
Moderator	Dan Manz	1 year	March, 2023
Selectboard	Patty Richards	3 years	March, 2023
	Dan Steinbauer	3 years	March, 2024
	Bob Stone	3 years	March, 2025
Town Clerk	Sherri Morin	3 years	March, 2023
Town Treasurer	Sherri Morin	3 years	March, 2025
Justices of the Peace	Linda Almy (D)	2 years	Nov., 2024
	James Beebe-Woodard (D)	2 years	Nov., 2024
	Travis Beebe-Woodard (D)	2 years	Nov., 2024
	Nancy Geise (D)	2 years	Nov., 2024
	Bill Frank (D)	2 years	Nov., 2024
	Ellen Arrowsmith (D)	2 years	Nov., 2024
	Dan Steinbauer (D)	2 years	Nov., 2024
	Joseph O'Brien (D)	2 years	Nov., 2024
	Patricia Sabalis (D)	2 years	Nov., 2024
Mount Mansfield Modified	Kevin Campbell	3 years	March, 2023
Union School Directors	Eric Gildemeister	3 years	March, 2024
	Lisa Pawlik	3 years	March, 2025
Jericho Underhill Library Trustees	Barbara Yerrick	4 years	March, 2023
	Connell Gallagher	4 years	March, 2024
	Ellen Arrowsmith	4 years	March, 2025
	Carolyn Greene	4 years	March, 2026
Jericho Underhill Park District	Vacant	3 years	March, 2023
	James Massingham	3 years	March, 2024
	Dave Williamson	3 years	March, 2025
Board of Civil Authority	Town Clerk		
	Selectboard		
	Justices of the Peace		

TOWN OFFICIALS

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Expires</u>
Development Review Board	Matt Chapek	3 years	March, 2025
	Brian Bertsch	3 years	March, 2025
	Mark Green	3 years	March, 2023
	Karen McKnight	3 years	March, 2023
	Charles Van Winkle	3 years	March, 2024
	Daniel Lee	3 years	March, 2024
	Shanie Bartlett	3 years	March, 2024
	Mark Hamlin, Alt.	1 year	March, 2023
	Penny Miller, Alt.	1 year	March, 2023
Planning Commission	Sandy Wilmot	4 years	March, 2026
	David Edson	4 years	March, 2026
	Timothy Frost	4 years	March, 2026
	Val Stori	4 years	March, 2023
	Brian Tijan	4 years	March, 2024
	Lea Van Winkle	4 years	March, 2025
	Bart Johnson	4 years	March, 2025
	Roy Dunphey	4 years	March, 2025
	Vacant	4 years	March, 2025
Conservation Commission	Betsy Chapek	4 years	March, 2026
	Craig Volpe	4 years	March, 2026
	Laurie Graham	4 years	March, 2023
	Amy Golodetz	4 years	March, 2023
	Daphne Tanis	4 years	March, 2024
	Karen McKnight	4 years	March, 2025
	Patrick Lamphere	4 years	March, 2025
	Vacant	4 years	March, 2027
	Vacant	4 years	March, 2027
Energy Committee	Graham Chapek	3 years	March, 2025
	Ravi Parikh	3 years	March, 2025
	Dwight DeCoster	3 years	March, 2023
	Michael Oman	3 years	March, 2023
	Jon Boyson	3 years	March, 2023
	Steve Webster	3 years	March, 2024
	Vacant	3 years	March, 2024

TOWN OFFICIALS

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Expires</u>
Recreation Committee	Melanie Poley	3 years	March, 2022
	Rob Williams	3 years	March, 2025
	Emilie Soisson	3 years	March, 2023
	Lynne Kemp	3 years	March, 2023
	Seth Friedman	3 years	March, 2024
	Isabel Gamm	3 years	March, 2024
	Anton Kelsey	3 years	March, 2024
	Levi McEntee - Youth	2 years	March, 2024
	Vacant – youth position	2 years	March, 2023
Highways Infrastructure And Equipment Committee	Nate Sullivan	1 year	March, 2023
	Mike Weisel	1 year	March, 2023
	Andy Rowe	1 year	March, 2023
	Clark Elliott	1 year	March, 2023
	Kurt Johnson	1 year	March, 2023
	Rich Heh	1 year	March, 2023
Zoning Administrator	Nick Atherton	3 years	May, 2025
Animal Control Officer	Jennifer Silpe-Katz	1 year	March, 2023
Fire Warden	Parker Ripley	5 years	July, 2025
Assistant Fire Warden	Nate Goldman		
Health Officer	Deb Moore	3 years	May, 2025
Deputy Health Officer	Vacant	3 years	
Tree Warden	Don Tobi	1 year	March, 2023
Town Administrator	Brad Holden		
Planning Director	Nick Atherton		
Finance Officer	Jennifer Silpe-Katz		
Emergency Management Director	Bob Stone		
Assistant Clerk/Treasurer	Nancy Bradford		
Assessor	Amanda Bosley		

DATES TO REMEMBER

**Town Meeting ~ 1st Tuesday in March
Dog Licenses ~ due by April 1st**

Property Taxes ~ 8/15, 11/15, 2/15 & 5/15

SELECTBOARD

2nd and 4th Thursday at 6:00 p.m.

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

1st and 3rd Monday at 6:30 p.m.

PLANNING COMMISSION

1st and 3rd Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

2nd Monday at 6:30 p.m.

ENERGY COMMITTEE

2nd Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

RECREATION COMMITTEE

3rd Thursday at 6:00 p.m.

MOUNT MANSFIELD MODIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

2nd and 4th Monday at 6:30 p.m.

DEBORAH RAWSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD

3rd Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

HIGHWAYS INFRASTRUCTURE & EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE

3rd Monday at 6:00 p.m.

MILLS RIVERSIDE PARK BOARD

1st and 3rd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at the
library

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Nate Sullivan, Foreman
Scott Kilpeck, Dwayne Norway and Russ
Clark
(802) 899-9959

TOWN OF UNDERHILL

www.underhillvt.gov
12 Pleasant Valley Rd
PO Box 120
Underhill, VT 05489
Phone: (802) 899-4434
Fax: (802) 899-2137

TOWN CLERK AND TREASURER

Sherri Morin
smorin@underhillvt.gov
Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
(802) 899-4434 x1

FINANCE OFFICER

Jennifer Silpe-Katz
jsilpe-katz@underhillvt.gov
Call for an appointment
(802) 899-4434 x2

ASSESSOR

Amanda Bosley
Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
abosley@underhillvt.gov
(802) 899-4434 x3

PLANNING AND ZONING

Nick Atherton
natherton@underhillvt.gov
Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
(802) 899-4434 x5

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Brad Holden
bholden@underhillvt.gov
Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
(802) 899-4434 x7

Town of Underhill-FY2024 Budget

Line	Category	FY 2022		FY 2023		FY 2024		
		Budget	Actual	Budget	Thru 12/31/22 Actual	Proposed Budget	Change Inc/(Dec)	% Change
	REVENUES							
1	PROPERTY TAXES							
2	General Tax Revenue	874,552	875,561	963,756		1,173,656	209,900	21.8%
3	Highway Tax Revenue	1,137,598	1,137,958	1,312,573		1,636,560	323,987	24.7%
4	Sidewalk Tax Revenue			-		-	-	0.0%
5	Total Municipal Property Taxes	2,012,150	2,013,519	2,276,329	-	2,810,216	533,887	23.5%
6	OTHER PROPERTY TAXES							
7	Local Agreement Tax Revenue	85,000	90,010	102,000	82,533	85,000	(17,000)	-16.7%
8	Total Property Taxes	2,097,150	2,103,530	2,378,329	82,533	2,895,216	516,887	21.7%
9	FINES							
10	Delinq Tax Interest	4,000	3,239	4,000	1,290	4,000	-	0.0%
11	Late Homestead Penalty, Fees, Retainage	3,000	5,294	3,000		3,000	-	0.0%
12	Delinq Tax Penalty	15,000	14,815	15,000	7,439	15,000	-	0.0%
13	Total Fines	22,000	23,347	22,000	8,729	22,000	-	0.0%
14	LICENSES & PERMITS							
15	Dog Licenses/Animal control	4,000	2,578	4,000	533	3,000	(1,000)	-25.0%
16	Zoning Permits	27,000	22,014	30,000	10,105	20,000	(10,000)	-33.3%
17	Judiciary Fines & Fees	3,000	4,834	3,000	1,106	3,000	-	0.0%
18	Tax Research	4,000	2,980	4,000	1,975	3,500	(500)	-12.5%
19	Miscellaneous Lic/Permits	1,500	1,364	1,500	334	1,500	-	0.0%
20	Total Licenses and Permits	39,500	33,770	42,500	14,053	31,000	(11,500)	-27.1%
21	INTERGOVERNMENTAL							
22	State Aid to Highways	102,000	118,166	102,000	54,635	110,000	8,000	7.8%
23	Payment in lieu of Taxes	30,000	33,816	30,000	34,219	32,000	2,000	6.7%
24	State Current Use	59,000	57,965	55,000	57,791	57,000	2,000	3.6%
25	Highway, Sidewalk & Structures Grants	480,882	379,334	17,500	52,000	60,000	42,500	242.9%
26	Reappraisal & Equalization Revenue	13,900	13,054	13,000		-	(13,000)	-100.0%
27	Transfer In ARPA Funds		226,371			-	-	0.0%
28	HW Misc Income	5,000	1,725	30,000	12,045	5,000		
29	Total Intergovernmental	690,782	830,431	247,500	210,691	264,000	41,500	6.7%
30	CHARGES FOR SERVICES							
31	Copies	2,500	1,951	2,500	757	2,000	(500)	-20.0%
32	Recording Fees	23,000	39,951	30,000	14,003	25,000	(5,000)	-16.7%
33	Total Charges for Services	25,500	41,902	32,500	14,760	27,000	(5,500)	-16.9%
34	MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE							
35	Savings Interest	5,000	8,111	9,000	3,265	7,000	(2,000)	-22.2%
36	Rent - Post Office	9,403	8,759	12,000	4,981	12,000	-	0.0%
37	Miscellaneous Income	7,250	9,496	9,000	4,571	9,000	-	0.0%
38	.225% of 1% Muni Retained	10,000	13,019	10,000	-	10,000	-	0.0%
39	Post Employee/Cobra Paybacks		1,555	-	393	-	-	0.0%
40	Total Miscellaneous Revenue	31,653	40,939	40,000	13,209	38,000	(2,000)	-5.0%

41	Other Revenue							
42	Bank Loans		180,000	462,000	542,000		(462,000)	-100.0%
43	TH Building reserve	30,000		30,000	-	-	(30,000)	-100.0%
44	Sidewalk Reserve	33,074	33,074	-	-	-	-	0.0%
45	Appraisal/Reappraisal Fees/Ed. Reserve	51,571		10,118		-	(10,118)	-100.0%
46	Records Restoration Reserve	2,370		2,370		2,370	-	0.0%
47	ARPA Funds Usage	8,000	125,127	40,000	40,000		(40,000)	-100.0%
48	General Reserve		-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
49	Highway Reserve	60,000		-			-	0.0%
50	Total Other Revenue	185,015	338,201	544,488	582,000	2,370	(542,118)	-99.6%
51	Use of Surplus							
52	Use of Surplus	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	-	(25,000)	-100.0%
53	TOTAL OTHER SOURCES OF REVENUE	1,019,450	1,333,591	953,988	868,442	384,370	(544,618)	-59.7%
54	TOTAL REVENUE	3,116,600	3,437,120	3,332,317	950,975	3,279,586	(27,731)	-1.6%
55	EXPENDITURES							
56	SELECTBOARD							
57	Selectboard Stipends	4,500	4,204	4,500	4,500	4,500	-	0.0%
58	Payroll Taxes/Employee HRA Payments	8,000	11,200	8,000	10,259	18,000	10,000	125.0%
59	Post Employment Benefits	2,400	3,849	2,400	1,668	2,400	-	0.0%
60	Training/Prof Fees	300	5,559	300	5,453	300	-	0.0%
61	Legal Fees	20,000	11,611	20,000	1,678	18,000	(2,000)	-10.0%
62	VLCT Dues	4,830	4,830	5,044	5,044	5,225	181	3.6%
63	Human Resources Services	24,000	21,262	5,000	3,270	9,000	4,000	80.0%
64	General Insurance & Workers Comp.	25,000	45,994	39,478	20,132	38,000	(1,478)	-3.7%
65	Other Expenses	10,000	5,888	10,000	1,748	10,000	-	0.0%
66	Total Selectboard	99,030	114,397	94,722	53,753	105,425	10,703	11.3%
67	ELECTIONS							
68	Salaries	1,000	1,159	2,800	1,353	1,300	(1,500)	-53.6%
69	Printing & Binding	2,000	2,960	3,500		2,200	(1,300)	-37.1%
70	Outside Labor & Prof Fees	300		1,200		1,200	-	0.0%
71	Supplies (post,sup,tech exp)	1,150	1,970	725	5,838	2,000	1,275	175.9%
72	Total Elections	4,450	6,089	8,225	7,191	6,700	(1,525)	-18.5%
73	ADMINISTRATION							
74	Salaries	52,000	60,486	63,600	31,661	69,133	5,533	8.7%
75	Salaries - Insurance Opt Out						0	0.0%
76	Payroll Taxes & Benefits	19,115	18,681	20,509	9,623	22,612	2,103	10.3%
77	Training & Development	200	68	200	-	200	-	0.0%
78	Professional Fees	-		0	856	0	-	0.0%
79	Travel	700	108	700	57	500	(200)	-28.6%
80	Total Administration	72,015	79,342	85,009	42,197	92,445	7,436	8.7%

81	TOWN CLERK/TREASURER							
82	Salaries - Town Clerk/Treasurer	72,756	72,756	77,252	38,453	83,973	6,721	8.7%
83	Salaries - Insurance Opt Out	6,593	8,289	5,985	2,993	5,780	(205)	-3.4%
84	Salaries - other	7,040	14,262	7,462	5,406	8,112	650	8.7%
85	Payroll Taxes & Benefits	14,779	14,861	16,453	7,702	17,718	1,265	7.7%
86	Training & Development	300	277	500	120	400	(100)	-20.0%
87	Professional & Technical Services	55	-	175		150	(25)	-14.3%
88	Land Record Restoration	8,400	8,220	8850	4,110	8850	-	0.0%
89	Travel	1,200	-	1,000		1,200	200	20.0%
90	Total Town Clerk/Treasurer	111,123	118,664	117,677	58,783	126,182	8,505	7.2%
91	FINANCE/HUMAN RESOURCES							
92	Salaries	36,400	49,866	59,612	30,285	64,793	5,181	8.7%
93	Salaries: Health Benefit Adjustment	-		-		-	-	0.0%
94	Payroll Taxes & Benefits	3,185	15,499	27,777	14,181	28,613	836	3.0%
95	Training & Development	300	698	300	212	600	300	100.0%
96	Professional & Technical Services	14,750	17,085	15,000	8,417	20,000	5,000	33.3%
97	Travel (other= bank,Tech,supplies)	250	330	250	355	270	20	8.0%
98	Total Finance	54,885	83,479	102,939	53,450	114,276	11,337	11.0%
99	ASSESSING							
100	Salaries - Listers		-	0		0	-	0.0%
101	Salaries - Insurance Opt Out - Listers	-	-	0		0	-	0.0%
102	Salaries - Assessor	29,547	30,129	31,320	21,824	49,459	18,139	57.9%
103	Salaries - Insurance Opt Out - Assessor	9,263	8,836	8,409	4,205	8,121	(288)	-3.4%
104	Payroll Taxes & Benefits	8,748	8,173	9,024	5,142	12,139	3,115	34.5%
105	Training & Development	1,800	435	1,800	740	800	(1,000)	-55.6%
106	Professional & Technical Services	87,671	93,360	32,318	375	2,000	(30,318)	-93.8%
107	Travel (other=supplies)	1,200	733	1,200	512	500	(700)	-58.3%
108	Total Assessing	138,229	141,666	84,071	32,797	73,018	(11,053)	-13.1%
109	BUILDING AND PLANT							
110	Custodial Services	4,800	3,500	4,800	1,100	4,800	-	0.0%
111	Parks & Landscaping	8,000	5,991	8,000	3,953	10,000	2,000	25.0%
112	Building Maintenance	10,000	9,170	10,000	570	10,000	-	0.0%
113	Postage Meter/Copy Lease	2,800	2,614	2,800	1,459	2,800	-	0.0%
114	Property & Casualty Insurance	-					-	0.0%
115	Telephone	4,300	4,451	4,300	1,948	4,500	200	4.7%
116	Postage	3,000	4,423	3,000	1,006	4,000	1,000	33.3%
117	Technical Expenditures	15,000	24,954	15,000	17,795	20,000	5,000	33.3%
118	Janitorial Supplies	800	435	800	71	800	-	0.0%
119	Kitchen Supplies	600	617	600	464	600	-	0.0%
120	Office Supplies	10,500	10,209	10,500	3,987	10,500	-	0.0%
121	Electricity	3,300	2,997	3,300	1,525	3,400	100	3.0%
122	Street Lights/Park Lights	2,500	2,736	2,500	1,350	3,000	500	20.0%
123	Heating Fuel	3,000	2,300	3,000	3,508	4,000	1,000	33.3%
124	Total Building & Plant	68,600	74,399	68,600	38,736	78,400	9,800	14.3%
125	POST OFFICE							
126	Maintenance & Repair	1,000		1,000	-	1,000	-	0.0%
127	Supplies & Property Taxes Paid	500		500	2,386	2,386	1,886	377.2%
128	Total Post Office	1,500	-	1,500	2,386	3,386	1,886	125.7%

129	SCHOOL HOUSE							
130	Maintenance/Repair/Supplies	1,500	9,504	1,700	1,023	2,300	600	35.3%
131	Electric	260	332	260	159	260	-	0.0%
132	Heating Fuel	40		40		40	-	0.0%
133	Total School House	1,800	9,837	2,000	1,181	2,600	600	30.0%
								0.0%
134	TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	551,632	627,874	564,743	290,475	602,432	37,689	6.7%
135	PUBLIC SAFETY							
136	ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER							
137	Salaries	2,000	1,439	2,000	732	7,200	5,200	260.0%
138	Telephone Allowance	300	300	300	175	-	(300)	-100.0%
139	Payroll Taxes & Benefits	175	133	175	69	-	(175)	-100.0%
140	Vet, Kennel, Impound Expenditures	700	3,219	700		1,000	300	42.9%
141	Supplies	300	353	300	374	-	(300)	-100.0%
142	Travel	100	25	100	20	-	(100)	-100.0%
143	Total Animal Control Officer	3,575	5,470	3,575	1,370	8,200	4,625	129.4%
144	PURCHASED SERVICES							
145	Chittenden County Sheriff	20,000	18,928	20,000	8,190	38,000	18,000	90.0%
146	Traffic Calming/Safety Init.	-	-	1500	-	10,500	9,000	600.0%
147	Total Purchased Services	20,000	18,928	21,500	8,190	48,500	27,000	125.6%
148	SAFETY APPROPRIATIONS							
149	Essex Rescue	11,745	11,745	35,929	17,965	54,525	18,596	51.8%
150	Underhill Jericho Fire Department	247,990	247,990	251,106	125,553	319,121	68,015	27.1%
151	CUSI	5,737	5,737	5,737	2,869	5,737	-	0.0%
152	Total Safety Appropriations	265,472	265,472	292,772	146,386	379,383	86,611	29.6%
153	HEALTH							
154	Public Health Officer	1,200	-	1,200		750	(450)	-37.5%
155	Well Monitoring	9,000	8,519	9,000	4,654	9,330	330	3.7%
156	Visiting Nurse Association	7,800	7,580	7,900	3,950	7,900	-	0.0%
157	Total Health	18,000	16,099	18,100	8,604	17,980	(120)	-0.7%
158	TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	307,047	305,968	335,947	164,550	454,063	118,116	35.2%
159	RECREATION							
160	ARPA Spending	-		40,000		-	(40,000)	-100.0%
161	Prof & Tech Services	-	609	-		-	-	0.0%
162	Grounds/Pond Maintenance	2,500	1,489	7,000	36,100	5,000	(2,000)	-28.6%
163	Supplies	5,000	5,005	5,500	14,821	3,900	(1,600)	-29.1%
164	Total Recreation	7,500	7,103	52,500	50,921	8,900	(43,600)	-83.0%

165	PLANNING & ZONING				-	-		
166	Salaries	58,939	44,289	55,120	27,500	59,785	4,665	8.5%
167	Salaries: Ins Opt Out	-	6,087	8,409		-	(8,409)	-100.0%
168	Payroll Taxes & Benefits	27,673	10,752	12,467	8,922	20,957	8,490	68.1%
169	Training & Development	1,031	28	2,500	288	500	(2,000)	-80.0%
170	Legal and Professional Fees	10,000	2,839	2,000	1,015	2,000	-	0.0%
171	Mapping	2,000	75	12,000	1,838	17,000	5,000	41.7%
172	Advertising/Printing	3,500	3,587	3,500	1,118	3,500	-	0.0%
173	CC Regional Planning Dues	4,411	4,411	4,677	4,677	4,882	205	4.4%
174	Supplies, Postage, Tech Expenditures	1,750	912	1,750		1,750	-	0.0%
175	Travel	550	-	550	59	550	-	0.0%
176	Total Planning & Zoning	109,854	72,979	102,973	45,416	110,924	7,951	7.7%
177	CULTURAL SERVICES							
178	Underhill Jericho Library	111,766	111,766	114,805	57,403	110,812	(3,993)	-3.5%
179	Total Cultural Services	111,766	111,766	114,805	57,403	110,812	(3,993)	-3.5%
180	APPROPRIATIONS							
181	Local Agreement	85,000	90,010	102,000	82,533	85,000	(17,000)	-16.7%
182	Energy Committee	4,000	-	4,000	-	500	(3,500)	-87.5%
183	Cemetery Fund	5,000	3,267	5,400	1,667	3,000	(2,400)	-44.4%
184	Community Cares Camp/Memorial Day	3,350	3,000	3,350	1,500	3,350	-	0.0%
185	VACD & FPF	200	200	200	100	200	-	0.0%
186	GMT Bus Route	15,597	16,221	15,597	15,597	16,221	624	4.0%
187	Conservation	500	1,103	2,275		2,675	400	17.6%
188	Mount Mansfield Community Television	1,250	1,250	2,000	1,000	2,000	-	0.0%
189	Total General Appropriations	114,897	115,051	134,822	102,397	112,946	(21,876)	-16.2%
190	REGIONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS							
191	Winooski Nat'l Resources	500	500	500	250	500	-	0.0%
192	Jericho Underhill Park	21,058	21,058	21,005	10,503	23,106	2,101	10.0%
193	Chittenden County Tax	17,577	18,355	18,098	19,564	20,253	2,155	11.9%
194	Total Regional Service Appropriations	39,135	39,913	39,603	30,317	43,859	4,256	10.7%
195	SOCIAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS							
196	Steps to End Violence	700	700	700	350	940	240	34.3%
197	Child Care Resources & VT Assoc for Blind	200	200	200	100	200	-	0.0%
198	COTS	500	500	500	500	500	-	0.0%
199	Local Food Shelf	600	600	600	300	600	-	0.0%
200	American Red Cross	1,000	1,000	1,000	500	1,000	-	0.0%
201	Mills River Farmers market	1,000	1,000	1,000	500	1,000	-	0.0%
202	Howard Mental Health	900	900	900	450	900	-	0.0%
203	Senior Citizens	1,250	1,250	1,250	625	1,250	-	0.0%
204	CVA On Aging	1,250	1,250	1,500	750	1,500	-	0.0%
205	VCIL	200	200	200	100	200	-	0.0%
206	Total Social Service Appropriations	7,600	7,600	7,850	4,175	8,090	240	3.1%
207	NOTES AND BONDS							
208	Construction Bond - Principal			-			-	0.0%
209	Construction Bond - Interest			-			-	0.0%
210	Short Term Note - Principal	-		-			-	0.0%
211	Short Term Note - Interest	-	-	-	-		-	0.0%
212	Total Bond Redemption	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%

213	CAPITAL EXPENDITURES							
214	Other		225	-	3,295	16,000	16,000	0.0%
215	Town Hall	30,000	23,546	30,000			(30,000)	-100.0%
216	TOTAL CAPITAL PURCHASES	30,000	23,771	30,000	3,295	16,000	(14,000)	-46.7%
217	TOTAL GENERAL EXPENDITURES	1,279,431	1,312,025	1,383,243	748,949	1,468,026	84,783	6.1%
218	HIGHWAY							
219	SALARY AND BENEFITS							
220	Salaries	235,020	181,728	299,207	114,194	341,750	42,543	14.2%
221	Salaries - Part Time	11,238	28,128	12,138	6,121	15,000	2,862	23.6%
222	Salaries - Insurance Opt Out			0		0	-	0.0%
223	Payroll Taxes & Benefits	85,168	76,842	85,980	40,304	96,037	10,057	11.7%
224	Training & Licensing	200	-	200		6,000	5,800	2900.0%
225	Total Salary and Benefits	331,626	286,698	397,525	160,619	458,787	61,262	15.4%
226	CONTRACTORS AND OUTSIDE LABOR							
227	Tree & Brush Removal	24,000	19,535	30,000	3,650	37,500	7,500	25.0%
228	Culvert Maintenance	5,000	6,515	6,000	2,025	6,300	300	5.0%
229	Contractors & Professional Services	27,500	32,440	24,000	24,510	42,250	18,250	76.0%
230	Contractors - Misc	27,000	31,874	27,000	28,402	40,000	13,000	48.1%
231	Hauling	10,000	15,788	10,000	1,283	10,000	-	0.0%
232	Total Contractors Services (prior year CO)	93,500	106,152	97,000	59,870	136,050	39,050	40.3%
233	OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES							
234	Building & Grounds Maintenance	10,800	19,938	10,800	2,205	10,530	(270)	-2.5%
235	Heavy Equipment Maintenance	15,000	58,328	15,500	4,463	15,000	(500)	-3.2%
236	Dump Truck Maintenance	60,000	61,960	60,000	29,221	62,000	2,000	3.3%
237	Small Equipment Maintenance	3,000	2,883	3,100		3,000	(100)	-3.2%
238	Vehicle Maintenance	2,000	3,313	2,100	551	2,000	(100)	-4.8%
239	Equip and Vehicle Rental	2,500	653	2,500	1,836	2,500	-	0.0%
240	Insurance-Vehicle,Property,Casualty						-	0.0%
241	Telephone	2,000	3,583	3,400	2,099	3,400	-	0.0%
242	Total Other Purchased Services	95,300	150,660	97,400	40,376	98,430	1,030	1.1%
243	GENERAL SUPPLIES							
244	Shed/Office Supplies	6,500	6,188	6,500	2,173	6,500	-	0.0%
245	Small Tool Purchases	2,000	2,185	2,000	398	2,000	-	0.0%
246	Small Equipment Purchases	1,000	676	1,000	937	1,000	-	0.0%
247	Total General Supplies	9,500	9,049	9,500	3,508	9,500	-	0.0%
248	ENERGY							
249	Heating Fuel	6,000	9,405	5,500	8,156	8,200	2,700	49.1%
250	Gas/Oil/Fuel	45,000	69,522	45,000	41,817	76,500	31,500	70.0%
251	Total Energy	51,000	78,927	50,500	49,973	84,700	34,200	67.7%
252	ROAD MATERIALS							
253	Gravel	80,000	98,824	80,000	70,260	100,000	20,000	25.0%
254	Chloride	20,000	24,566	20,000	11,171	22,000	2,000	10.0%
255	Salt	50,000	46,146	50,000	6,004	52,000	2,000	4.0%
256	Sand	80,000	80,092	70,000	76,399	87,500	17,500	25.0%
257	Stone	15,000	28,560	15,000	8,831	28,000	13,000	86.7%
258	Total Road Materials	245,000	278,187	235,000	172,665	289,500	54,500	23.2%

259	OTHER EXPENSES							
260	Roadside Maintenance	20,000	41,284	20,000	8,000	22,000	2,000	10.0%
261	Sidewalk Maintenance	4,000	8,147	7,247	2,915	12,500	5,253	72.5%
262	Travel	250	438	250	668	700	450	180.0%
263	Electricity	4,000	3,742	3,500	1,562	3,750	250	7.1%
264	Bridges Culverts Guardrails	25,000	38,611	45,000	30,894	26,000	(19,000)	-42.2%
265	Traffic Control Materials	11,500	11,922	7,000	9,364	7,200	200	2.9%
266	Pavement Repair & Retreatment	3,000	7,599	44,000	22,500	26,000	(18,000)	-40.9%
267	Total Other Expenses	67,750	111,744	126,997	75,904	98,150	(28,847)	-22.7%

268	NOTES							
269	Highway Notes - Principal	103,343	103,340	107,216	93,546	\$495,520	388,304	362.2%
270	Highway Notes - Interest	8,316	8,003	10,178	9,185	15,922	5,744	56.4%
271	Total Notes	111,659	111,343	117,394	102,730	511,442	394,048	335.7%

272	CAPITAL EXPENDITURES							
273	Building Improvement		500	38,400			(38,400)	-100.0%
274	Vehicles & Equipment		178,272	-	192,000		-	0.0%
275	Infrastructure - Sidewalk	343,956	509,732			-	-	0.0%
276	Infrastructure - Roads	500,000	384,712	540,780	612,484	125,000	(415,780)	-76.9%
277	TOTAL CAPITAL PURCHASES	843,956	1,073,216	579,180	804,484	125,000	(454,180)	-78.4%
278	TOTAL HIGHWAY EXPENDITURES	1,849,291	2,205,975	1,710,496	1,470,130	1,811,560	101,064	5.9%
279	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	3,128,722	3,518,000	3,093,739	2,219,078	3,279,586	185,847	6.0%

280 The firm of A.M.Peisch & Company, LLP was engaged to audit the financial statements of the Town of Underhill for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022.

281 Copies of the audit report are on file at the Town Office and can be obtained on the Town Website at www.underhillvt.gov.

282 A complete picture of the town's financial condition and results of operations can only be obtained by reading the whole audit report and the

283 accompanying footnotes and schedules.

		<u>FY24</u>	
284	Taxable Grand List - Estimate for FY2024	\$5,450,000	\$54,500 = \$.01 on the Tax Rate or approximately 2%
285	Total Municipal Taxes	\$2,810,216	Municipal tax bill for a \$350,000 property = \$1,804.73
286	Tax Rate per \$100 value	\$0.5156	Local Agreement = \$54.59

I have another year with the platform to brag about the people that I am fortunate enough to work with and the community I choose to live and work in. I could not do my job effectively without Sherri, Brad, Amanda, Nancy, Nick or Nate. We all work diligently in our positions, but each of us also contributes to the success of the Town. Thank you all for the hours you spend researching costs, editing and proofing spreadsheets and documents I create and always being available to help me with whatever I need. The culture we create in our workplace is critical and you all make coming to work a pleasure. Thank you. I also want to give a heartfelt thank you to Kurt Johnson who spends hours of his time every year reviewing my spreadsheets, double-checking formulas and playing devil's advocate when necessary.

And now - The Numbers -

It is most important to understand that over 70% of what taxpayers pay on their property tax bill is the education tax. It has nothing to do with the Town; our revenues, or our expenses. The Vermont Department of Education sets the education tax rate and we simply collect the money for them. This year the homestead education tax was 71% of what you are paying in taxes, so if you paid \$1000 in property taxes, \$710 goes directly to the schools and only \$290 to run the town, maintain the roads and provide services to residents. We control the expenses of the town and our goal is to craft a budget that allows us to meet the demands of our town while keeping taxes as stable as possible. We are also always looking at the past and projecting the future because it is not effective to only look at the current budget year.

I have created a *Budget 2024 Guide* and it is uploaded on the Town of Underhill website and copies are available at Town Hall or we are happy to mail you a copy. I suggest using it to follow along with the budget by line number. If you have questions or require more clarification, please reach out to me.

In summary, our total expenses are not increasing, but we need to raise more money through taxes in FY24 than we did in FY23 because while our total expenditures are not projected to be higher, our non-tax revenue, typically used to offset expenses, is lower. The town balances use of debt and reserve funds to help keep tax increases low and at the projected .5280 municipal tax rate while it is .0572 cents higher than FY23, it is actually lower than FY22 (.5304) and about the same as FY21 (.5224). Keep in mind that a 12% increase in the municipal rate is really only about a 3% or 4% increase on the tax bill since the muni portion is only 30% of what you pay in total taxes. I also point out that the tax rate is an equation based against the Grand List; the sum of appraised value of all properties in Underhill, increased by around 40% in FY23 when the reappraisal was complete, so the total expenses needed to be raised is higher but with a bigger grand list, the rate doesn't appear as if it went up. It's basic math, but even if the rate stays the same, if your property value increases, your taxes will too. All the numbers are moving targets and you have to look at the past and the future to get the complete picture.

Coming on the heels of using highway reserves to cover the gap in revenue in FY22 when we completed major bridge rebuild and paving, unfortunately once again there was no surplus to add to reserve funds last year and therefore it will be necessary to utilize more tax dollars to balance the budget. Our non-tax revenue is projected at \$384,370 as opposed to last year's \$953,988; a nearly 60% decrease.

There are no paving projects in FY24 therefore there are no large paving grants here either. They would appear as non-tax revenue if there were any.

Generally, expenses for goods, labor and services are up. Everyone is feeling it. For example, according to the Consumer Price Index, the price for food at home is up 13.5% for the year that ended in August of 2022. The Town of Underhill is no exception and it is especially evident in professional and technical services. This year alone the cost to Underhill for Essex Rescue is going up 51.8% and our share of the Underhill Jericho Fire Department appropriation is up 27.1%. The Selectboard also approved a cost of living adjustment for all full-time and regular part-time employees to match the Social Security Administrations Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA). This will be used each year to determine base wage increases and a new system for implementing merit based wage increases will be considered next year. Approximately 70 million Americans saw their Social Security and Supplemental Security Income increase by 8.7% January 1, 2023. Recruiting, retaining, and rewarding employees by paying them livable wages is critical to the Town's success.

The Town is still seeking to hire a Road Commissioner and a recruitment firm was contracted. We have the expenses for salary and benefits estimated in the enclosed budget. Inflation has increased much of the costs for repairs, maintenance, and purchases and this is evidenced in the budget. Anywhere Nate can save money for the town, he will! This year we spent over \$600,000 in paving so in FY24 there is no paving however the short-term note for the paving in FY23 will be paid off as evidenced in the budget.

You will note that several items on the Warning for your approval are NOT included in this budget, and if approved, will not increase the budgeted revenues and expenditures for FY24. The purchase of a new excavator and trailer to haul it are articles on this year's ballot and will not add an expense to the FY24 budget because the first loan payment would not be made until FY25.

Finally, I would be remiss if not mentioning the Federal ARPA money that the Town of Underhill received. We have received \$922,599.21 dollars and the Town has formed an ARPA Advisory Committee, sent out townwide requests for project submissions and completed a survey all with the goal of spending nearly \$1 million. The Selectboard has the ultimate vote and the Town has to meet the federal requirements of the grant and have the money committed by 12/31/2024 and spent by 12/31/2026 with the input of residents, staff and committees this money will certainly leave meaningful, positive, and lasting footprints on an otherwise miserable time in our history.

Submitted by Jennifer Silpe-Katz, Finance Officer

**Town of Underhill
Balance Sheet**

	As of 6/30/2022	As of 6/30/2021	As of 6/30/2020
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 844,502	\$869,525	\$1,026,235
Receivables:			
Delinquent taxes	\$ 25,457	\$20,704	\$24,299
Delinquent tax interest	\$ 663	\$636	\$870
Delinquent tax penalties	\$ 1,527	\$1,363	\$977
Grants receivable	\$ 73,538	\$50,769	\$48,035
Lease receivable	\$ 63,500		
Prepaid expenses	\$ 9,103	\$15,359	\$2,276
Inventory	\$ 91,762	\$57,826	\$43,244
Other current assets	\$ 2,133	\$1,266	\$5,781
Total Assets	\$ 1,112,185	\$1,017,448	\$1,151,717
LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 80,203	\$106,298	\$236,214
Accrued wages	\$ 17,237	\$14,886	\$13,261
Unearned grant revenue	\$ 3,007	\$3,007	\$3,000
Refundable advances	\$ 234,929		
Total Liabilities	\$ 335,376	\$124,191	\$252,475
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Lease	\$ 63,500		
Unavailable revenue- Property taxes	\$ 12,661	\$18,881	\$15,965
Total deferred Inflows	\$ 76,161	18881	15965
FUND EQUITY			
Nonspendable			
Inventory	\$ 91,762	\$57,826	\$43,244
Prepaid expenses	\$ 9,103	\$15,359	\$2,276
Total Nonspendable	\$ 100,865	\$73,185	\$45,520
Restricted (Outside Sources)			
Listers education	\$ 3,265	\$3,265	\$3,265
Matching grant		\$15,000	\$15,000
Reappraisal	\$ 30	\$35,132	\$77,840
Restoration reserve	\$ 16,685	\$14,085	\$2,824
Tomasí Meadow Reserve	\$ 5,677	\$5,677	
Total Restricted	\$ 25,657	\$73,159	\$98,929
Committed (Voters)			
Capital/ Building Reserve	\$ 26,704	\$50,250	\$50,000
Conservation	\$ 2,888	\$2,888	\$2,533
General Contingency	\$ 56,244	\$56,244	\$77,741
FY22 Expenditures	\$ -	\$50,000	
Solar Decommissioning Reserve	\$ 6,050	\$2,800	
HRA	\$ -	\$3,311	\$13,611
Highway-Capital Reserve	\$ 8,008	\$16,983	\$16,983
Highway-Contingency Reserve	\$ 20,684	\$80,684	\$684
Highway-Next year expenditures	\$ -		\$35,000
Highway-Tree Warden Reserve (2021)	\$ 3,000	\$3,000	
Highway- Garage reserve (incl. generator res.)	\$ 30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
Recreation	\$ 1,451	\$1,451	\$1,451
FY 21 Expenditures			\$50,000
Total Committed	\$ 155,029	\$297,611	\$278,003
Unassigned (for surplus calculation FY24)	\$ 419,097	\$345,204	\$420,623
Total fund balance	\$ 700,648	\$419,097	\$883,277
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balance	\$ 1,112,185	\$562,169	\$1,151,717

06/30/2022 audited balances

STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Real Value 568,974,800

Exceptions:

*Veterans Exemptions -	880,000
Current Use -	16,115,997
UJ Fire Department -	1,700,400
*Tax Stabilization -	6,403,000

Municipal Grand List 5,438,754.03
Tax Rates

Year	Grand List	Residential	Non-Residential	Local Agreement (included in tax rate)
2017	3,820,917.00	2.0147	2.0713	0.0277
2018	3,852,175.00	2.0472	2.1351	0.022
2019	3,906,784.00	2.0098	2.1203	0.0205
2020	3,935,448.00	2.0499	2.2124	0.0217
2021	3,965,202.00	2.1846	2.3341	0.0227
2022	5,438,754.03	1.6080	1.7504	0.0152

*Local Agreement is made up of Veterans Exemptions and Tax Stabilization contracts

ASSESSMENT OF TOWN OWNED PROPERTIES 2022

<u>CODE</u>	<u>PROPERTY</u>	<u>VALUE</u>
BE097X	Beartown Rd – Gravel Pit – 11.18 Acres	\$163,900
FU012X	Land- Fuller Rd - .33 Acres	\$3,500
FU054X	Best Land – Fuller Rd – 17.0 Acres	\$25,000
MT002X	Casey's Hill/Tomasi Meadow – 24.75 Acres	\$337,100
NR077X	Garage/Salt Shed – 77 Acres	\$791,300
NR141X	Land – New Rd – 10.19 Acres	\$2,800
PA004X	Park – Underhill Flats – 0.20 Acres	\$13,200
PV002X	Park – Underhill Center – 0.30 Acres	\$800
PV011X	Edwin Moore Park – 1.4 Acres	\$130,800
PV012X	Town Hall Building – 0.98 Acres	\$619,200
PV032X	Old Schoolhouse No. 5 – 0.83 Acres	\$207,600
RV249X	Sand Hill Cemetery – 0.75 Acres	\$33,700
RV286X	**Post Office Building – 0.50 Acres	\$136,300
ST010X	Town Pond – 2.0 Acres	\$161,500
VT539X	Land – 3.10 Acres	\$12,500
	Grand Total	\$2,616,700

** Property is taxable

LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

Long-term liabilities at June 30, 2022 consist of the following:

Union Bank- note. Highway Infrastructure(300K), recreation (6K), Interest 2.04%, maturing September 8, 2025, payments of \$64,995 due annually beginning September 8, 2021.	\$247,225
Union Bank – 2021 Ford F350 note, interest 1.58%, maturing December 11, 2025, payments of \$14,671 due annually Beginning December 11, 2021.Net carrying value \$64,855	\$56,435
Union Bank-2022 International Truck note, interest 1.59%, maturing August 10, 2026, payments of \$37,735 due annually Beginning August 10, 2022. Net carrying value \$XXXXXX	\$180,000
Total long-term debt	\$ 483,660
Accrued compensated absences	\$ 26,389
Accrued post-employment benefits	\$ 10,902
Net pension liability	<u>\$ 220,899</u>
Total long-term liabilities	<u>\$ 741,850</u>

MATURITIES FOR BONDS AND NOTES PAYABLE

Maturities for existing long-term debt are as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Totals</u>
2023	108,604	8,797	117,401
2024	110,599	6,803	117,402
2025	112,620	4,781	117,401
2026	114,692	2,694	117,386
2027	37,145	591	37,736
Totals	<u>\$483,660</u>	<u>\$23,666</u>	<u>\$507,326</u>

Total Interest Expense on long-term debt for the year ended June 30, 2022 was \$8,003.

The Town of Underhill maintains a long- term capital equipment and infrastructure spreadsheet. For information or details contact the Finance Officer.

Town of Underhill
Wages-Salaries-Stipends
Fiscal Year 2024

Name	Position	2024 Budget	Hours/WK Budget	Date of Hire
Stipends - Annual				
	Selectboard Member	\$ 1,500.00	NA	NA
Salaries-Weekly				
Sherri Morin	Town Clerk/Treasurer	\$ 1,614.86	40	7/1/2003
Brad Holden	Town Administrator	\$ 1,329.48	40	5/4/2021
Nick Atherton	Planning/Zoning Administrator	\$ 1,149.71	40	4/25/2022
Wages - Hourly				
Amanda Bosley	Town Assessor	\$ 27.18	35	5/15/2017
Jennifer Silpe-Katz	Finance Officer/H.R. Admin	\$ 41.53	30	1/17/2019
Nancy Bradford	Assistant Town Clerk	\$ 25.35	NA	3/8/1993
Donna Griffiths	Selectboard Notetaker	\$ 21.74	NA	10/6/2020
Nate Sullivan	Road Foreman	\$ 29.10	40	6/17/2002
Scott Kilpeck	Road Crew	\$ 25.44	40	5/12/2010
Dwayne Norway	Road Crew	\$ 25.44	40	12/1/2011
Russ Clark	Road Crew	\$ 25.44	40	7/1/2022
Jennifer Silpe-Katz	Animal Control Officer	\$ 16.59	NA	3/3/2001
Other				
	Health Officer			
	Highway-Equipment Operators	\$ 25.00	NA	
	Highway-Temporary/Part-time	\$ 21.99	NA	
	Health Officer	\$ 18.99	NA	
	Board of Civil Authority	\$ 13.18		min. wage
	Election Worker	\$ 13.18		min. wage

1. Full-time employees receive 100% employer paid medical, dental, vision, life and disability insurance
2. Employees may qualify & elect payment in lieu of Town paid health insurance which increases their wage or
3. Full-time employees are required to be part of Retirement System (VMERS)
4. VMERS Rates for FY24 are 11.25% mandatory employee contribution and 8.5% Town Contribution
5. Full-time highway employees also receive a clothing allowance of \$600/yr. and a winter on call stipend of \$2000.00 for the plowing season.

Selectboard Report

You can tell the health of an organization by its culture and actions of its team members. If words such as cohesion, communication, collaboration and cooperation can be used to describe an organization, the Town of Underhill is hitting the mark. The current Selectboard strives to model these healthy attributes.

Looking back, it's been over about 15 years since 3 members have, or are currently engaged in a re-election. The continuity of members willing to serve another term is vital to the town running in a smooth and efficient manner. The current Board members are talented, eager to serve and want to make our community a better place to live and work. As a group we've combined talents to rewrite the Conflict of Interest Policy and the Selectboards Rules of Procedures. The Rules of Procedure allow for an additional 5 minute public comment period at the end of the meeting, whereby giving the public the last word.

The town hall staff shares equally in this positive culture. They bring a high level of expertise, which is demonstrated through the Town Report. They've engaged in team development courses to improve time management and organizational skills and will continue to develop as individuals and as a group, which will allow staff to better care for the community.

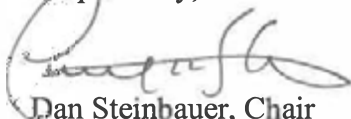
The highway department has completed many projects over the past year. Being a crew member requires a level of expertise that can be daunting. Road crew members are required to maintain a commercial driver license (CDL), traffic control certification, knowledge of heavy equipment operations and a regular meeting with a Selectboard member. That said, Underhill is very fortunate to have the longevity of talented road crew workers, in spite of the national and local highway worker shortage.

Of course, not much would happen without the army of volunteers that populate the Boards, Committees and Commissions. Each plays a vital role in navigating the town's future. The activities and proposals each offers can be found in the Town Report. Please check the town's website for volunteer opportunities.

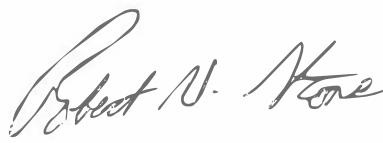
As the Selectboard and staff prepare the FY24 budget, for your consideration, it has proven to be a challenge. With increased costs of fuel, equipment breakdowns, steel, freight, and historic inflation; it's difficult to predict what will happen a year from now. As you're reviewing the budget you'll notice a modest increase in funds to be raised by taxes. We worked diligently to minimize the increase and recognize the impact on the taxpayers. Please review the Budget Summary section of the report, which gives insight into the numbers.

It's been some time since COVID made its world debut. The pandemic has made us more resilient as individuals and as a community. The Town was able to continue its work with efficiency thanks, in part, to State and Federal support. We were able to implement remote technology allowing for hybrid meetings and training, and the like. As we come out of the pandemic, the remote technology will allow us to continue to connect remotely, whereby allowing greater participation in town government, which is always a desired outcome.

Respectfully,



Dan Steinbauer, Chair



Robert Stone, Vice Chair



Patricia Richards

Town Administrator's Report

In the fiscal year 2022, we saw the completion of many things that have been in the works for quite some time. Local government doesn't always work as quickly as the private sector but there are good reasons for most of that. In July we finally saw the completion of the Underhill Flats sidewalk project. A substantial grant was obtained with the help of the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission well over ten years ago. This particular grant utilized federal and state funds for the design, right-of-way acquisition, construction, and inspection of a new concrete sidewalk. When federal and state dollars are involved, in a project such as this one, the standard that we have to meet and overcome is set fairly high and oversight is paramount. When federal/state funds are used for inspection services, for example, engineering firms who are prequalified to work on such federal projects typically provide those services. To the best of my knowledge, there are five firms in the state of Vermont that are prequalified and can work on federal projects, all very reputable firms, and Underhill utilized one of those firms. I bring this up as an illustration of one of the many nuances that exist when federal/state dollars are involved and these nuances come at a price. Granted this project was within the right of way limits of a State Highway, so ultimately, we probably didn't have choice. However, this should be food for thought when thinking about the utilization of grant funds for future projects within the limits of Town Highways, where we do have options and a choice. Nonetheless, we are very thankful to have received the grant and to have a new sidewalk that will serve the community for many years to come.

The Chittenden County All Hazards Mitigation Plan and more particularly the Underhill Annex, that we have been working on for well over a year, is finalized. This Mitigation Plan is required to be updated every five years. An up-to-date plan is required to be eligible for FEMA grants and for minimizing the municipal share associated with repairs to municipal infrastructure in the event of a FEMA-declared disaster. This updated plan allows the Town to continue to work with Vermont Emergency Management, FEMA, and the landowner of 12 Dumas Road on a buyout for the potential removal of a home that is in a high-risk flood hazard area.

On November 19, 2021 the Agency of Commerce and Community Development made an award of up to \$50,000, as recommended by the Community Development Board, to fund a planning grant to explore the potential to build affordable housing on the remaining land of Phil Jacobs off Harvest Run and VT Route 15. The United Church of Underhill has an option to purchase the property and the Town will act as a conduit for the grant funds. For more information, please read the Harvest Crossing Affordable Homes Annual Report on page 78.

I continue to work with our Road Foreman, Nate Sullivan and the Highway Department to secure grants for stormwater improvements on our 52 miles of Class 3 highways. I serve on the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission Board (CCRPC) of Directors, as Underhill's representative. Kurt Johnson serves as alternate. In addition, I represent CCRPC on the Lamoille Basin Water Quality Council. Each of these boards meet monthly. If you'd like to know more about either of these positions, please contact me at bholden@underhillvt.gov or 802-899-4434 Ext 7.

Lastly, I'd like to thank our staff, committee members, and the Selectboard, it's a pleasure to be able to continue to work with you all and I appreciate Amanda Bosley, Town Assessor, who's now helping with most all of the day-to-day operations with the various committees.

Thank you and hope to see you at Town Meeting

Brad Holden

2022 ASSESSOR'S REPORT

Each year the Assessor's Office prepares the Grand List, which is comprised of assessed values of all properties in town. This year we continued to work closely with Vermont Appraisal Company and completed a town wide reappraisal. We want to thank everyone for their cooperation and flexibility to make this massive task happen on time. Also this year, Amanda Bosley took over the Assessor role for the town of Underhill. We want to thank our long time Assessor, Kermit Blaisdell, for all his work over the past years.

Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)

This is a term used by the Department of Taxes and it affects every Vermont property owner's school tax calculation. The common level of appraisal is an adjustment to listed property values. The state calculates a CLA annually for each town to adjust the listed value of properties to reflect fair market value as nearly as possible. Underhill's 2022 Common Level of Appraisal was 114.11 due to the reappraisal.

Coefficient of Dispersion (COD)

This is a measure of the average deviation between the selling prices of recently sold properties from the average town-wide level of appraisal. A COD of 10% or less is considered to reflect a relatively high level of equity across taxpayers' assessments. By State Statute, if a town's COD is greater than 20% the State is required to withhold education, transportation and other funds from the offending town. Historically, Underhill's COD has fallen well within the State requirements, indicating a relatively high level of fairness between property owners. Underhill's 2022 Coefficient of Dispersion was 11.34.

Homestead Declaration & Property Tax Adjustment (HS-122)

The State of Vermont requires all residents to file a Homestead Declaration and Property Tax adjustment claim. This must be filled out yearly and is due by April 15th. Claims are allowed up until October 15th, but late filing penalties will apply.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions

Amanda Bosley
Assessor
abosley@underhillvt.gov
802-899-4434 Ext. 104

ROAD FOREMAN'S REPORT

An inventory of Underhill Town Highways

- 4.944 miles of State Highway – VT Route 15 (Jericho town line to the Westford town line) Controlled and maintained by the Vermont Agency of Transportation.
- 8.750 miles of Class 2 (Park Street, River Road from the Jericho town line through Underhill Center and Pleasant Valley Road to the Cambridge town line)
- 43.46 miles of Class 3 Highways
Of which +/- 6.54 miles are paved and +/-36.92 miles are gravel
- 6.41 miles of Class 4 gravel roads (less 0.35 miles, TH11, partial discontinuance, 2021)
- 63.56 total mileage (Class 2, 3, and 4 Highways, including VT Route 15)
Underhill receives State Aid for 52.21 miles of Town Highway.

Highlights of highway work completed this past year:

- Cleaned ditches and installed stone lined ditches along the entire length of Paul Cook Road bringing the highway into compliance with the Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP).
- Tree removal, stump grinding and removal, create new ditches, some stone lined, and improve drainage on Harvey Road bringing all non-compiling MRGP road segments into compliance.
- Stevensville Road bank stabilization project on the north side of the highway between #73 Stevensville and #82 Stevensville. This work was done to address shoulder erosion prior to paving.
- Ditching, de-berming and drainage improvements on Pokerhill Road, River Road, Irish Settlement Road, Sand Hill Road, Pleasant Valley Road, Mullen Road, Page Road and Stevensville Road.
- Replaced fourteen (14) culverts, some of the larger ones include a 71"by 47" arch pipe on Page Road as well as two (2) 36" relief culverts at the intersection of North Underhill Station and Pokerhill Roads. This work was done in preparation for concrete rehabilitation work on the primary drainage structures that will take place in Fiscal Year 2024. In addition, three large steel plates were added underneath the road surface to prevent sink holes or road failure until the main drainage structures are repaired.
- Guardrail repairs/replacement at the intersection of North Underhill Station and Pokerhill Roads, Park Street, River Road and Irish Settlement Road.
- Paving which included shimming and an overlay on Pleasant Valley from Deane Road north to the Cambridge Town Line, Stevensville Road, Beartown Road, Range Road, Sandhill Road, and Park Street.
- Aprons paved on Deane Road, Paul Cook Road, Lower English Settlement, Maple Ridge Road and Repa Road.
- Tree removal on Pleasant Valley from #144 north to Harvey Road.

Please call (802)899-9959 with questions or concerns, or feel free to stop by the Town Garage located at 77 New Road.

**Town of Underhill
Highway Vehicles Equipment**

Description	Year Acquired	Life	Initial Cost
1997 Caterpillar Excavator	1997	10	56,340.62
2000 Caterpillar Grader	2000	10	205,500.00
2005 Rogers Tag Along Trailer	2007	10	14,000.00
2008 International Dump Truck - single	2008	10	111,333.00
2009 Wood chipper, Bandit	2010	10	23,100.00
Culvert Thawer/Power Washer plus Trailer	2010	10	11,748.79
2013 International Dump Truck - tandem	2013	10	187,822.18
2013 International Dump Truck - new body	2018	5.25	22,500.00
Motorola Radios, Antenna, and set up	2013	5	10,994.00
2015 International Dump Truck	2015	10	141,532.20
Garage - Heat Exchanger	2015	15	97,110.03
2015 Caterpillar Loader Model 930M	2016	20	159,900.00
Mulcher/Chopper - Skid	2016	5	5,670.00
2018 International 7600 Dump Truck	2017	10	188,988.62
2020 F350 with Plow and Sander	2021	10	67,675.00
2022 International HV613 Dump Truck w/Viking Body	2022	10	203,272.00
Total Highway Vehicles and Equipment			<u>1,507,486.44</u>

Note: Data as of 6/30/2022

Planning Commission

The Underhill Planning Commission meets the first and third Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm in Town Hall. Meetings are open to the public both in person and remotely. Remote access instructions are included in the meeting warnings and posted on our town's website. We encourage anyone interested in the planning process to review our meeting agendas and attend our meetings.

The Underhill Planning Commission is comprised of 9 commissioners appointed by the Underhill selectboard. We have 1 commissioner who will be moving away in the next few months, if you are interested in volunteering for the Planning Commission, please email the Planning and Zoning Administrator, Nick Atherton, at natherton@underhillvt.gov.

The Planning Commission had an eventful 2022. As Chittenden County continues to face population pressure, and the State of Vermont increasingly encourages climate-friendly housing and energy, there is no shortage of planning work for small towns in Vermont.

Our work this past year was guided by the Town Plan that the residents of our town adopted in 2021. The Town Plan sets forth a common vision of how we would like our town to tackle many of the most important issues of the day, including climate resilience, housing growth, and natural resources.

It feels very appropriate that any review of our work last year begin with the people who do that work, both at the staff and volunteer level.

At the staff level, Kail Romanoff stepped down from his role as Zoning Administrator to accept a job with the Vermont League of Cities & Towns. While we were sad to see him go, we were happy to welcome him back as a commissioner. Thankfully, Kail's role was soon filled by a new Planning & Zoning Administrator, Nick Atherton. Nick has already proven to be a tremendous resource to the Planning Commission, and we look forward to working with him for many years to come.

At the commissioner level, we both lost and gained commissioners in 2022. Christian Matthews resigned and will be missed. Thankfully, Tim Frost volunteered to join us and has been a valuable addition.

Early in 2022 the Planning Commission solicited volunteers to form 2 subcommittees deemed necessary for our work: a housing committee and a climate change committee. Not enough volunteers came forward for the housing committee, so we will be continuing to assess the recommendations from the 2020 Housing Study to incorporate into revisions of the town bylaws. Meanwhile, a 7-member Climate Change Task Force was formed and began work in May. Their initial recommendations, in the form of a Climate Action Plan, will be submitted for consideration in 2023, first to the Planning Commission before approval by the Selectboard.

As a follow up to a grant funded Housing Study, we spent considerable amounts of time on several housing issues, including (a) reviewing our regulations with respect to accessory dwelling units and (b) exploring the process and funding of expanding wastewater capacity in town. As part of our wastewater study, several commissioners participated in a joint process with Jericho; Nick Atherton did a considerable amount of research on similarly situated towns that have enacted various wastewater solutions; and we began to explore our options with the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission.

We also spent considerable time this year exploring the possibility of a Local Option Tax on rooms. This tax, which would be entirely paid by visitors to short term rentals in Underhill (rather than residents), may present a revenue opportunity for the town and we plan to present a summary of our findings to the Selectboard.

Another major focus for us this year, prior to the formation of the ARPA committee, was creating a town survey with respect to the use of the town's ARPA funds, synthesizing the results, reviewing them against the priorities in our Town Plan, and presenting those results to the Selectboard. After the formation of the ARPA committee, we also presented our findings to them.

Finally, we spent time this year beginning the process of a thorough review of our Unified Land Use & Zoning Regulation.

Thank you. The Underhill Planning Commission:

Val Stori
Lea Van Winkle
David Edson
Roy Dunphey
Kail Romanoff

Sandy Wilmot
Bart Johnson
Tim Frost
Brian Tijan (Chairperson)

TOWN OF UNDERHILL
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
REPORT 2023

The Underhill Conservation Commission (UCC) meets monthly at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of the month. Agendas are posted in the following places: Online at underhillvt.gov; At the Town Hall, 12 Pleasant Valley Road; At the Underhill Center post office, 286 River Road; At Jacobs Family Market, 16 Park Street.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 the Vermont legislature passed a law to allow meetings to be conducted remotely. During the summer of 2021 we started offering a hybrid meeting format, once again meeting in person and continuing to offer a “hybrid” meeting format option with virtual meetings via remote access. If you wish to “attend” this meeting, you are welcome to attend in person or by the Go-To-Meeting virtual meeting link or by phone. If you miss the live meeting, videos of the meeting are now available to review at your convenience at Mount Mansfield Community Television (<http://mtmansfieldctv.org>).

The Underhill Conservation Commission (UCC) members are appointed by the Underhill Selectboard. As mandated by the Vermont legislature, up to nine commissioners may be appointed to a town’s conservation commission. Currently there are two open positions on the UCC. If you are interested in serving on the UCC please contact one of the UCC commissioners or Brad Holden, Town Administrator.

VT conservation commissions duties are to: 1. Create inventories and conduct continuing studies of the natural resources of the municipality including ground waters, prime agricultural, forest and other open land; 2. Maintain an inventory of town lands with historic, educational, cultural, scientific, or archaeological values of interest; 3. Recommend the purchase or rights to property; 4. Receive appropriations for operating expenses through the town’s budget; 5. Receive money or grants for the purposes of conservation commission duties; 6. Receive gifts of land or other property; 7. Administer the lands or other property for conservation purposes; 8. Assist the Planning Commission and the Development Review Board by providing advisory environmental evaluations made to those bodies for permits for development; 9. Cooperate with the Selectboard, planning commission, DRB and the highway committee on matters affecting the local environment or natural resources of the town. 10. Encourage through educational activities the public understanding of local natural resources and conservation needs and best practices; (See: 24 V.S.A. 4505.)

Underhill Conservation Commission 2022/2023 activities:

- 1. Big Tree Contests Winter 2022 & 2023** jointly sponsored by the NRIMC and UCC.
- 2. Animal Tracking for Youth Feb 2022** jointly sponsored by the NRIMC and UCC.

3. Identification of Trees in Winter Workshop presented by Ethan Tapper, Chittenden County Forester, Mar 26, 2022. More than 50 participants attended Ethan Tapper's workshop on the identification of 10 species of trees found within the Crane Brook Conservation District (CBCD). Ethan discussed the relationships between tree species and ecosystems, species identification and successional stages of forests/ tree growth.

4. In the Foothills of Moosehead Mtn: The Underhill Abenakis and the Land– March 28, 2022 – During an online webinar Dr. Fred Wiseman shared his research on the Vermont Abenaki experience in Underhill and adjacent areas. Using slides and sharing examples of artifacts, he discussed Abenaki history, ecology, and lifeways, including native crops and farming, hunting and fishing.

5. Green Up Day – May 7, 2022– Underhill residents were invited to the special barbecue celebration after drop off during annual VT Green Up Day. UCC members joined by Selectboard members Dan Steinbauer, Bob Stone, and Pat Richards, Town Administrator Brad Holden, and Jerry Adams at the Town Garage to welcome town residents and to participate in the special barbecue celebration. Recreation Committee lead walking tours of the CBCD, UCC shared handouts and discussed Lyme disease, Ticks and Tick control, Black Bears, Poison Parsnip invasive species, and Asiatic Jumping Worms (also known as Snake Worms) with town residents. At the event, there were 3 dumpsters courtesy of Nate Guay, one each for metal, tires and green up day trash.

6. The Bird Diva Bridget Butler Workshop at the CBCD May 21, 2022 - The workshop instructed participants in how to use binoculars, listen to sounds, and recognize behaviors. The birds identified included scarlet tanagers, indigo buntings and different types of warblers.

7. Annual Plant Sale – June 4, 2022 – Last minute changes were made to this plant sale and auction due to the threats to the environment from the invasive jumping worm. Many thanks to residents who donated plants, paintings and other items, to the individuals who purchased them, and to the UCC members who volunteered to make the plant sale a fun event. Money raised from the plant sale is used to fund educational programs and other activities.

8. Bishops Weed (*Aegopodium Podagraria*) Workshop – June 11, 2022 - The event, endorsed by the UCC, entailed identification of bishops (Also known as gout) weed compared to other native/non-native plants with similar appearances, growth habits, and strategies for elimination.

9. Invasive Species Volunteer Task Force – The Volunteer Task force is led by Steve Webster. It meets bi or tri weekly to tackle invasives. While Steve has officially stepped back from the UCC, he continues to be actively involved with Task Force efforts. The efforts to control Japanese knotweed have proved to be successful. The mesh along the Crane Brook trail area was removed to be repurposed at Moore Park. Thank you, Steve for recruiting and leading these efforts and to the volunteers who donated their time and energy.

Natural Resource Inventory and Mapping Committee – The UCC is a member of the NRIMC. The role of the NRIMC is to assist the Planning Commission and the UCC in completing an inventory of the town’s natural resources. The NRIMC has selected Arrowwood Environmental consultants to identify and map Underhill’s areas of natural significance including wetlands and riparian areas, forest blocks and wildlife corridors.

The UCC could not accomplish their assigned duties without the support and help from the town administration and town citizens. Many thanks to Brad Holden, Sherri Morin, Jennifer Silpe-Katz, Amanda Bosley, Patricia Richard, Dan Steinbauer and Bob Stone, Anton Kelsey and Recreation Committee, the Natural Resources Inventory and Mapping Committee (NRIMC), Nate Sullivan and the Highway Dept Crew, Steve Webster and the Invasive Species volunteers, and the residents of Underhill for your support and involvement in the Town of Underhill Conservation Commission 2022-23 activities and programs.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen McKnight, Chairperson
Betsy Chapek, (Vice-Chairperson)
Laurie Graham, (Secretary)
Amy Golodetz
Patrick Lamphere
Daphne Tanis
Craig Volpe

Natural Resources Inventory and Mapping Committee (NRIMC)

Committee Members: Val Stori (Chair), Sandy Wilmot (Vice Chair), Ryan Ochs (Secretary), and Karen McKnight

The Underhill Selectboard formed the NRIMC in the Spring of 2020; the NRIMC is tasked with completing a natural resources inventory for the Town of Underhill and is composed of members of the Planning Commission and Conservation Commission. The resulting inventory will be used by the Planning Commission to conduct a review of Underhill's land use maps.

The 2021 Underhill Town Plan identifies significant gaps in natural resource information that are needed to inform land use practices, conservation priorities, and zoning regulations. Specifically, the Natural Resources chapter states, "The Town should make a commitment to: 1. The responsible stewardship and sustainable use of Underhill's natural resources in a manner that protects and enhances the Town's environmental well-being for the benefit of future generations; 2. The preservation of natural features that contribute to Underhill's ecological health and biological diversity; 3. And the preservation of Underhill's rural character, scenic landscape, working farms, managed forestlands, and cultural heritage." The chapter further includes specific strategies for managing and protecting natural resources, including a directive to create a "significant wildlife habitat" map and to develop a town-wide natural communities map for a finer level view of the town's natural resources. These strategies are aligned with recommendations in Vermont's Act 171 that suggest that towns consider high priority forest blocks and habitat corridors, among other natural resources. Such an inventory is the first step towards sustainable land use and land use mapping and zoning that protects significant habitats and natural resources. Inventory data can aid the town in establishing priority conservation areas and protecting significant natural resources based on desktop surveys and field inventory data. As Underhill plans for future land uses, including renewable energy siting, affordable and multi-family housing, and general housing development, a natural resources inventory can aid Underhill in identifying and planning for the protection of its natural resource, including its significant forest and habitat blocks and its water resources.

Underhill's current zoning regulations are not always explicit in providing guidance on natural resource protection, making it difficult for the Development Review Board to prioritize the protection or the mitigation of natural resources. Without adequate zoning to concentrate development in our village centers and designated growth areas, we lack the prioritization of natural resources necessary to make wise development decisions. A Natural Resources Inventory will assist the committee in making recommendations to the Planning Commission on land use, land use mapping, and zoning based on the NRI results.

This last year, we contacted with Arrowwood Environmental for the first phase of the Natural Resources Inventory. Phase I consists of remotely mapping three resource features: 1) upland natural communities; 2) wetland natural communities; and 3) forest blocks. Arrowwood will additionally provide an online interactive mapping tool that will be publicly available and allowing residents to visually explore the mapped natural resources at various scales. We expect Arrowwood's Phase I desktop research to be completed this summer, followed by presentations to the NRIMC and the public.

Future work on a Phase II inventory would consist of further development of wildlife habitat features, wildlife habitat mapping, wildlife corridors, and linkage habitat, and incorporation of a field work and field verification component.

In addition to managing the inventory project, the NRIC is interested in connecting the Underhill community with the town's unique natural resources. In the last year, our focus was the first annual Big Tree Contest, where we challenged the community to find, measure, and report on the largest trees in Underhill. We had over 50 entries for more than 15 tree species. The largest tree submitted was a Sugar Maple on Stevensville Road that measured almost 5.5 feet in diameter (circumference of 204").

You can see photos of the top 10 trees and details about the first contest

here: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/98acc1cf3e2f4a0e8f214a2685214737>

Many thanks to our local business who contributed prizes: Barred Woods Maple, Covered Bridge Blueberries, Palmer Maple, Poor House Pies, The 14th Chicken BnB, Upper Meadow Tree Farm, and the Gruet-Matthews family.

FY 2022 Permits & DRB Activity

FY 2022 yielded a number of changes in the Underhill Zoning Department. Interim Zoning Administrator Kail Romanoff departed in early 2022, and Brad Holden stepped in to take over the position, along with his duties as Town Administrator. In April, Nick Atherton started work as the full-time Planning & Zoning Administrator for the Town of Underhill. FY 2022 was also the first entire fiscal year during which the Town used its newly-consolidated Zoning Permit forms.

The work of the Zoning Department and the Development Review Board is determined by the Underhill Unified Land Use & Development Regulations and the Town Plan. Both of these documents, along with a complete list of ordinances and bylaws pertaining to land use and development, can be found on the Town of Underhill's website. The website also features a complete set of permit applications that can be filled out electronically or printed and filled in by hand.

Town of Underhill Permit List & Development Review Board Docket, FY 2022

ZONING PERMITS						
Permit #	Permit Type	Property Code	Address	Date Effective	Property Owner/Applicant	Project Description
Z-21-34B	After-the-Fact	BE095	95 Beartown Road	7/10/2021	Tessier	After the fact Shed Permit
Z-21-37	Building	PV032X	32 Pleasant Valley Road	9/18/2021	Underhill Historical Society	Construction of Shed
Z-21-38	Conversion of Use	ML020	20 Maple Leaf Road	WITHDRAWN	Northernshire	Conversion of kitchen space to Accessory Dwelling
Z-21-39	Building	PV001	1 Pleasant Valley Road	7/16/2021	Billado	Construction of Roof over Entry Stairs
Z-21-41	Building	PH497	497 poker Hill Road	7/9/2021	Mathieu	Construction of Deck
Z-21-42	Building	UE191	191 Upper English Settlement Road	11/13/2021	Weber	Construction of Breezeway and Attached Garage
Z-21-20R	Building	PH204	204 Poker Hill Road	7/17/2021	Wyckoff	Amended Building Permit
Z-21-43	Building	SH033	33 Sand Hill Road	7/17/2021	Belton	Construction of Sunroom and Covered Porch
Z-21-44	Building	RV073	73 River Road	7/25/2021	Tower	Construction of Front Deck
Z-21-45	Building	PY020	20 Piney Grove	7/30/2021	Carini	Construction of Single-Family Dwelling
Z-21-46	Building	ML014	14 Maple Leaf Road	7/25/2021	Northernshire, L3C	Construction of roof over existing patio

FY 2022 Permits & DRB Activity

Z-21-47	Building	SY011	11 Shepherd's Way	8/4/2021	Tursi	Construction of Single-Family Dwelling & Attached Garage
Z-21-48	Building	PH505	505 Poker Hill Road	8/19/2021	Keszev	Construction of Shed
Z-21-49	Temporary Use	RV218	218 River Road	8/5/2021	Stone	Berry Picking Event
Z-21-50	Building	VT640	640 VT Rte. 15	8/20/2021	Williams	Construction of Rear Deck
Z-21-51	Building	IS690	690 Irish Settlement Road	9/4/2021	Haenel	Construction of Detached Garage
Z-21-52	Conversion of Use	MO151	151 Moose Run	9/3/2021	Dragon	Conversion of unfished Detached Garage space to Accessory Dwelling
Z-21-53	Conversion of Use	IS330	330 Irish Settlement Road	9/8/2021	Moore	Conversion of unfinished basement space to become Accessory Dwelling
Z-21-54	Building	MD009	9 Meadow Lane	9/23/2021	Genter	Reconstruction & Expansion of Front Deck
Z-21-55	Building	TA004	4 Tatro Rd.	1/1/2022	Doyle	Construction of Garage and 1 bedroom 2 bath dwelling above
Z-21-56	Building	HV023	23 Hidden View Rd	9/24/2021	Paden	Construction of Barn
Z-21-57	Building	IS319	319 Irish Settlement Road	10/7/2021	Moore	Construction of 2 bed, 2 bath Single-Family Dwelling, & a Detached Garage with a 1 bed 1 bath Accessory Dwelling above
Z-21-58	Building	BE116	116 Beartown Road	10/8/2021	Whelan	Construction of Attached Deck

FY 2022 Permits & DRB Activity

Z-21-59	Building	UE252	252 Upper English Settlement Road	DENIED	Boardman	Detached Accessory Dwelling - denied as the property already contains one permitted Accessory Dwelling
Z-21-60	Building	PV139	139 Pleasant Valley Road	10/15/2021	Friedman	Construction of shed
Z-21-61	Building	PH062	62 Poker Hill Road	10/16/2021	Cozzens / Napolitano	Reconstruction & Expansion of Existing Garage
Z-21-62	Building	ST097	97 Stevensville Road	10/17/2021	Fuller	Construction of Yurt
Z-21-63	Building	IS131	131 Irish Settlement Road	10/23/2021	Morissette	After the fact permitting of Existing Pole Barn and Construction of Pole Barn
Z-21-64	Building	LE068	68 Lower English Settlement Road	10/27/2021	Peterson	Construction of Barn
Z-21-65	Building	PN022	22 Pinnacle Ridge	WITHDRAWN	Martell	After the Fact permitting of existing above ground pool - Pool ultimately removed due to boundary line encroachment
Z-21-66	Building	NU075	75 North Underhill Station Road	11/20/2021	Catudal	Construction of 3 Bed 2 bath single-family dwelling
Z-21-67	Conversion of Use	PV184	184 Pleasant Valley Road	11/25/2021	Koenig	Conversion of unfinished space above existing garage/barn to become Accessory Dwelling
Z-21-68	Building	UE095	95 Upper English Settlement Road	11/24/2021	Toensing	After the fact permitting of the conversion of unfinished basement to become finished space

FY 2022 Permits & DRB Activity

Z-21-69	Building	PV170	170 Pleasant Valley Road	11/25/2021	MacDonnell	Conversion of unfinished space above the garage to become Single-Family Dwelling
Z-21-70	Building	VT419	419 VT Rte 15	12/2/2021	Tomlinson	Construction of addition to be used as entryway / pie shed
Z-21-71	Building	PH046	46 Poker Hill Road	12/17/2021	Massingham	Conversion of and addition to existing shed to become Detached Garage
Z-21-72	Building	ML008	8 Maple Leaf Road	1/5/2022	ReTribe Transformations	Shed Construction
Z-21-73	Building	ST015	15 Stevensville Road	Withdrawn	Pettine (Giroux)	After the Fact permitting of canopy overhang
Z-21-74	Building	NR003	3 New Road	1/5/2022	Angelino	Construct Addition to Detached Garage
Z-22-01	Conversion of Use	ED008	8 Edgemont Rd	1/23/2022	Betsy Evans	Conversion garage -> house
Z-22-02	Building	HA058X	58 Harvey Rd	1/21/2022	Wade Bosely/UVM	Building 21' x 24' concrete slab
Z-22-03	Conversion of Use	EPH032	32 Poker Hill Rd	2/5/2022	Bruce Garrapy	Unfinished basement -> living space
Z-22-04	Conversion of Use	MT081	81 Mountain Rd	3/26/2022	Dagen Wolcott	Unfinished basement -> living space
Z-22-05	Building	TU035	35 Tupper Rd	4/26/2022	James & Jenny Bedell	Build 16'x18' shed onto barn
Z-22-06	Building	PH243	243 Poker Hill Rd	5/5/2022	Timothy Murad	Convert and extend 3 season porch into 4 season sunroom.
Z-22-07	Building	BL003	3 Blakely Rd	5/6/2022	Sean Kapusta	Repair and extend deck
Z-22-08	Building	CW031	31 Chamberlain Woods	5/6/2022	Andrew Chamberlain	14'x30' garage
Z-22-09	Building	SH101	101 Sand Hill Rd	5/12/2022	Douglas & Laurie Bliss	900 SF addition to woodshed
Z-22-10	Building	SH101	101 Sand Hill Rd	5/12/2022	Douglas & Laurie Bliss	Convert existing garage to living space; relocate decks.
Z-22-11	Building	RE093	93 Repa Rd	5/18/2022	Louis Kindt	28' x 16' barn

FY 2022 Permits & DRB Activity

Z-22-12	Building	MN005	5 Min's Lane	5/27/2022	Elena & Ted Alexander	30' x 15.5' in-ground pool w/ 4' concrete apron
Z-22-13	Building	SH012	12 Sand Hill Rd	5/18/2022	Dennis & Resa Williamson	18' x 36' in-ground pool
Z-22-14	Building	VT437	437 VT Rt 15	5/20/2022	Erwin Arnuco	12' x 6' porch; 21' x 8' porch
Z-22-15	Building	KR006	6 Krug Rd	5/31/2022	Nicholas Tanner	13' x 16' garden shed
Z-22-16	Building	PV139	139 Pleasant Valley Rd	6/1/2022	Seth Friedman	Add shed roof to open animal barn
Z-22-17	Building	ST097	97 Stevensville Rd	6/8/2022	Heather & Jonathan Fuller	Expand 540 SF dwelling to 1850 SF dwelling
Z-22-18	Building	MT122	122 Mountain Rd	6/9/2022	John Leasure	Replace shed w/ garage/woodshed
Z-22-19	Building	ML097	97 Maple Leaf Farm Rd	6/21/2022	Dennis Curran	Pre-fab shed and woodshed
Z-22-20	Building	ST151	151 Stevensville Rd	6/22/2022	Daniel & Jessica Heath	*WITHDRAWN* Garage build
Z-22-21	Building	HV016	16 Hidden View Rd	6/24/2022	Edward Beebe	124 SF deck access to pool

CERTIFICATES OF OCCUPANCY						
Permit #		Property Code	Address	Date Effective	Property Owner	Project Description
CO-21-12	Certificate of Occupancy	SY007	7 Shepherd's Way	8/29/2021	Schroeter	Construction of a Single-Family Dwelling
CO-21-13	Certificate of Occupancy	PC017	17 Paul Cook Road	9/3/2021	Edgerley	Construction of a Single-Family Dwelling
CO-21-14	Certificate of Occupancy	VT413	413 VT Rte. 15	9/5/2021	Meadows (Brewer)	Construction of Office Building
CO-21-15	Certificate of Occupancy	IS330	330 Irish Settlement Road	9/24/2021	Moore	Conversion of Basement to Accessory Dwelling
CO-21-16	Certificate of Occupancy	PV168	168 Pleasant Valley Road	12/15/2021	MacDonnell	Construction of Single-Family Dwelling

FY 2022 Permits & DRB Activity

CO-21-17	Certificate of Occupancy	UE095	95 Upper English Settlement Road	12/25/2021	Toensing / Jerome	Conversion of unfinished basement space to become finished space
CO-21-18	Certificate of Occupancy	BE116	116 Beartown Road	12/26/2021	Whelan	Construction of Single-Family Dwelling
CO-21-19	Certificate of Occupancy	SY010	10 Shepherd's Way	4/2/2022	Marcotte	Construction of Single-Family Dwelling
CO-22-01	Certificate of Occupancy	PV184	184 Pleasant Valley Rd	2/18/2022	Kyle and Jenah Koenig	ADU
CO-22-02	Certificate of Occupancy	SY012	12 Shepherd's Way	3/22/2022	Judy McCawley	2 bed, 2.5 bath SFH

BOUNDARY LINE ADJUSTMENT/AGREEMENTS PERMITS						
Permit #		Property Code	Address	Date Effective	Property Owners	Project Description
BLA-21-03	Boundary Line Adjustment	HR016 & MN009	16 Harvest Run & 9 Min's Lane	9/9/2021	Jacobs & Martelle	Boundary Line Adjustment
BLA-21-04	Boundary Line Adjustment	DW075 & DW057	75 & 57 Downes Road	11/18/2021	Butler & Norris	Boundary Line Adjustment
BLA-22-01	Boundary Line Adjustment	IS319 & IS339	319 & 339 Irish Settlement Road	6/15/2022	Case & Moore	Boundary Line Adjustment

HOME BUSINESS PERMITS						
Permit #		Property Code	Address	Date Effective	Property Owner	Project Description
HB-22-01	Home Business	PH077	77 Poker Hill Rd	2/26/2022	Nicole & Jeremy Sicely	Conversion of stable to storage and work area for home-based mail-order equine supply business

FY 2022 Permits & DRB Activity

HB-22-02	Home Business	UE014	14 Upper English Settlement Rd	7/31/2022	Fisher	Indoor cannabis cultivation
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SUBDIVISION PERMITS						
Permit #		Property Code	Address	Date Effective	Property Owner	Project Description
SUB-22-01	Subdivision	UE179	179 Upper English Settlement Rd	5/6/2022	James Driscoll	2-lot subdivision
SUB-22-02	Subdivision	KR014	14 Krug Road	6/3/2022	Paula & John Connell	2-lot subdivision
SUB-22-03	Subdivision	ML097	97 Maple Leaf Rd	6/6/2022	Dennis Curran	2-lot subdivision

EXEMPTIONS						
Permit #		Property Code	Address	Date Effective	Property Owner	Project Description
BPE-21-07	Exemption	IS084	84 Irish Settlement Road	12/21/2021	Jackson	Construction of Shed

Access Permits						
Permit #		Property Code	Address	Date Effective	Property Owner	Project Description
A-21-03	Access Permit	PH549	549 Poker Hill Road	9/26/2021	Dimona	Access to a Pre-Existing Lot
A-21-04	Work within ROW	PA005	5 Park St.	8/21/2021	Behnke	Gas Service Hookup
A-21-05	Work within ROW	SH050	50 Sugar Hill Road	8/21/2021	Behnke	Gas Service Hookup
A-21-06	Unassigned					
A-21-07	Access Permit	TA004	4 Tatro Road	3/28/2022	Doyle	Access to a Pre-Existing Lot
A-21-08	Work within ROW	SH059	59 Sugar Hill Road	10/15/2021	Vermont Gas Systems	Gas Service Hookup
A-21-09	Access Permit Amendment	IS319	319 Irish Settlement Road	12/4/2021	Moore	Access to a Pre-Existing Lot (Williamson Subdivision)
A-21-10	Access Permit	RE075	75 Repa Road	11/6/2021	Seno	Access to a Pre-Existing Lot

FY 2022 Permits & DRB Activity

A-21-11	Access Permit	MT139	139 Mountain Road	11/25/2021	Evans	Access Approval for a 2-Lot Subdivision of Land (ED008)
A-21-11R	Access Permit Amendment	MT139	139 Mountain Road	12/4/2021	Evans	Amended Access Permit to correct Address of parcel noted on A-21-11
A-21-13R2	Access Permit Amendment	IS330 & IS334	330 & 334 Irish Settlement Road	12/2/2021	Monnig & Dunphey	Amended Access permit to reflect changes needed to permit added Accessory Dwelling
A-21-12	Access Permit	MT002	2 Mountain Road	NA	TOU Recreation Committee	Access Approval for Temporary Winter Parking - referred to Selectboard due to existing curb cut at Casey's Hill parking area
A-21-13	Access Permit	HV023	23 Hidden View Rd	1/19/2022	Devin Paden	14' x 54' driveway
A-22-01	Access Permit	UE165	165 Upper English Settlement Rd	2/9/2022	James Driscoll	12' x 295' driveway and curb cut

DRB Docket						
DRB Docket #	Status	Property Code	Address	Date of Hearing	Property Owner	Project Description
DRB-21-11	Approved	PH497	497 Pleasant Valley Road	7/19/2021	Mathieu	Sketch Plan Subdivision Review
DRB-21-12	Under Appeal	IS348	348 Irish Settlement Road	8/2/2021	Brewster River Mt. Bike Club (BRMBC)	Conditional Use Review - Surface Water Encroachment and District Setback Variance
DRB-21-13	Under Appeal	LR014	14 LAP Run	8/16, 8/30, 11/1, & 12/6/2021; 5/16/2022	Fuller	Conditional Use Review - Wedding Facility
DRB-21-14	Approved	VT419	419 VT Route 15	9/20/2021	Tomlinson	Conditional Use Review - Bakery
DRB-21-15	Accepted	KR014	14 Krug Rd	10/4/2021	Connell	Sketch Plan Subdivision Review

FY 2022 Permits & DRB Activity

DRB-21-15	Accepted	KR014	14 Krug Rd	4/12/2022	Connell	Preliminary & Final Subdivision Review
DRB-20-03	Accepted	ED008	8 Edgemont Road	9/20/2021	Evans	Final Subdivision Review
DRB-21-01	Approved	UE179	179 Upper English Settlement Road	11/1/2021	Driscoll	Final Subdivision Review
DRB-21-05	Withdrawn	IS319	319 Irish Settlement Road	12/20/2021	Moore	Preliminary Subdivision Review
DRB-21-07	Approved	PG040	40 Page Rd	7/18/2022	Bates	Preliminary Subdivision Review

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

The opening of the 2021 Development Review Board (DRB) town report highlighted the departure of our multiyear Planning and Zoning Administrator. For folks keeping track of these kind of things, the 2022 report will be similar featuring the addition of Nick Atherton as our new Planning and Zoning Administrator. Nick was most recently employed by the VT legislature helping with the redistricting effort that became effective this past election cycle. We welcomed Nick to the town staff in mid 2022, and want to give a shout out to Brad Holden who did double duty covering for the DRB and Planning Commission while performing his Town Administrator duties.

The past two years featured some discussion of the pandemic and the paradigm shift in our quest to define the new normal way of doing business for the DRB. Our new normal process has adopted a hybrid meeting structure that allows interested parties to participate in the meeting either in person or via remote teleconference. The Vermont legislature has passed a law permitting public meetings to be conducted remotely without requiring a physical location for the public to gather. The Underhill Development Review Board (DRB) and the town quickly adapted to holding remote meetings since March of 2020. While we began meeting again in person in 2021, we are still maintaining the channel for remote participation and continue to have options for those interested in attending using your computer, tablet, or smart phone.

The adoption of technology presents a unique opportunity to continue to do town business from anywhere there is a broadband connection. The positive side of this adoption is the increased availability for the public to participate in the review process. At the DRB, we value public participation and plan on continuing to offer the meetings in hybrid mode. If you miss the live meeting, videos of the meeting are now available to review at your convenience at Mount Mansfield Community Television (<http://mtmansfieldctv.org>). We continue to feel the remote participation option provides another opportunity for transparency in the review process.

The DRB consists of a seven-member board with three Alternate Positions appointed by the Selectboard and functions in a quasi-judicial capacity for purposes of interpreting and making land use decisions which go beyond the authority granted to the Zoning Administrator. The DRB is an interpretative board which typically reviews cases that involve subdivision of land, variance requests, and conditional uses and is the appellate board to decisions made by the Zoning Administrator. In November 2018, the voters assigned components of the road ordinance to the jurisdiction of the DRB. The quasi-judicial aspect of the Board means that we follow specific rules of procedure when considering a case that is brought before the Board and our decisions are appealable to the Environmental Division of VT Superior Court. We maintain a high level of transparency in the evidentiary and decision-making process and are guided by the Town Plan when encountering a conflict in the regulations.

Many of us choose to live in a rural environment like Underhill for the quality of life, quality of schools, small town atmosphere, and access to the outdoors. The Development Review Board serves as a feedback conduit to the Planning Commission, the town board charged with crafting

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

our development regulations. We often communicate specific issues, situations, or concerns encountered during the development review process. Land use and development is sometimes an emotionally charged affair that affects our greatest attribute—the town.

While our board contains a diverse cross section of the Underhill population, we are only as good as the level of participation. There are no prerequisites, qualifications, or minimum experience levels required to be on a board. We encourage anyone with an interest in the development process, the growth of the town, or the future of Underhill to become involved with either the Development Review Board or the Planning Commission. The Development Review Board has regular meetings on the first and third Mondays of the month at 6:30 PM. Meetings are open to the public and held at the Town Hall and remotely. Remote access instructions are included in the meeting warnings and posted on the town website. Contact Nick Atherton in the Planning & Zoning Office @ 899-4434 x5, (natherton@underhill.gov) with questions, technical questions, or to request the meeting link. We hope to maintain the remote access option as part of the new normal and encourage anyone with an interest to attend a meeting either live online, in-person, or via recorded link from MMCTV.

The Development Review Board members are:

Charles “Charlie” Van Winkle, Chairperson
Matt Chapek, Co-Clerk
Karen McKnight
Daniel Lee
2022 Alternate Position OPEN

Brian Bertsch, Vice Chairperson
Mark Green, Co-Clerk
Shanie Bartlett
Penny Miller (2022 alternate)
Mark Hamelin (2022 alternate)

We have an opening for an alternate member, it a great way to learn about the DRB without a full commitment! Come join the team!

Underhill Energy Committee Annual Report, 2022

The Energy Committee was created by the Underhill Selectboard in 2008. The mission of the Energy Committee is as follows:

- To study and make recommendations that reduce energy consumption in town assets: buildings, equipment, etc.
- To provide public forums that educate Underhill citizens on how to reduce energy consumption in their homes, buildings, motorized equipment, and lifestyles.
- To encourage the community to move to clean sources of low carbon energy such as solar.
- To assist in analyzing and/or implementing energy projects as designated by Selectboard.
- To help in the development or revision of a town energy plan.

Based on the understanding that the vast majority of energy issues in Underhill are a product of our individual decisions as residents, the UEC has undertaken to expand its information, education and outreach activities. For this reason, a substantial emphasis of our efforts should be on providing information and outreach to the townspeople on these issues. In furtherance of this:

- In cooperation with the Jericho Energy Task Force (JETF) we have staffed an energy booth at the Jericho Farmers Market (JFM). This booth included information, exhibits and demonstrations, including solar appliances and electric tools as well as members of both organizations to promote our activities and answer questions. We have been able to do this on a roughly monthly basis.
- In cooperation with the Jericho Energy Task Force (JETF) we offered an EV demonstration event at BRMS. This event was well received and attended with more than a dozen EV owners joining in with their vehicles. Both GMP and Drive Electric Vermont also attended and supported the event with staff, information and display materials.
- We are continuing to develop a website of current information and links on a wide range of energy topics, although this is awaiting the improvements to the Town website for full functionality.

After lengthy delays, mostly for Covid, our planned pre-audit program for weatherization assistance has its tool kit complete and we are looking for participants. This program is directed by UEC member and Underhill resident Dwight Decoster, Director of Champlain Valley Weatherization. If you are interested in a preliminary assessment of your home's performance on heating, please contact Jon Boyson (jboyson@uvm.edu). A scheduled home visit will include an assessment of air leakage in your home using a blower door test and an infrared camera, and a list of suggestions you might take to improve your home's efficiency and lower your heating/cooling costs.

The UEC has joined with two town committees: the ARPA projects committee and the Climate

Task Force, to assist them in performing their missions. In both instances we offer the Energy Committee perspective on their activities.

In addition, with respect to the ARPA activities, the UEC is developing proposals in support of electric vehicle (EV) activities in by the Town including charging and vehicles, weatherization and heating/cooling improvements, solar PV on Town property, and emergency preparedness for Town facilities. The implementation of these projects offers significant opportunities for energy/environmental improvement.

We have welcomed one new member--Graham Chapek, who brings a wealth of both solar knowledge and youthful energy to our committee.

We could still use one to two additional members, since we are short one member and another would like to step back a bit from his current level of activity. If you are at all interested in energy or environmental issues, the UEC offers a considerable opportunity to make a real difference. We have maintained a project/action orientation and our ARPA and weatherization activities offer the potential for some real, tangible contribution to our town's energy and environmental well-being.

Energy Committee Members for 2022: Michael Oman: Chair, Dwight DeCoster, Vice-Chair, Steve Webster, Ravi Parikh, Jon Boyson, and Graham Chapek; and thanks to our emeritus members who continue to contribute: Ruth Julianelle, Gerry Adams, and Peter Bennett, previous Chair,

Recreation Committee Report

Summary:

During 2022, the Recreation Committee continued to increase recreational opportunities for local residents. The following actions were completed by the Committee in 2022:

1. Organized four music and food truck community gathering events at Moore Park.
2. Worked with the Conservation Commission to finalize an updated management plan for Crane Brook;
3. Organized an inaugural fun run, *The Tomasi Meadow Trot*, to promote and support winter trail maintenance in Tomasi Meadow.
4. Maintained the skating rink at Moore Park;
5. Created a proposal for a sidewalk in Underhill Center;
6. Town Recreation Area/Pond upgrades: Upgraded and resurfaced the entrance and parking lot, improved drainage, dredged the pond, replaced the fence and added picnic tables to improve the Underhill Town Recreation Area.

Details:

Winter Recreation: The committee kicked off 2022 with ice skating and increased lighting at Moore Park for night skating. The committee, along with a number of local volunteers, worked diligently to keep the ice clear and smooth for residents to enjoy all winter. Families consistently find this to be a convenient destination for winter recreation, particularly for younger children.

The committee also continues to support and promote sledding and cross country skiing at Casey's Hill and Tomasi Meadow. In November, the committee organized its first fun run and fundraising event in Tomasi Meadow. The run was very well attended and in addition to being a great family friendly event, the *Tomasi Meadow Trot* raised almost \$1000 for winter grooming operations in the Meadow.

Summer Recreation: In the spring, the committee's attention turned to planning food truck nights and a number of improvement projects at the Underhill Town Recreation Area on Stevensville Road. In addition, through work with the Conservation Commission, an updated management plan was completed for the Crane Brook Conservation District to continue to support recreation opportunities.

Over the summer, four food truck nights were held in Moore Park. These events were very well attended as residents of all ages gathered to visit, socialize and support local food vendors and musicians. There was also lots of activity at the Town Pond and on the newly refinished Tennis Courts.

The Underhill Town Recreation Area on Stevensville Road was significantly upgraded in the fall. The town pond was drained and extensively dredged to maintain water quality. Improvements were made to improve drainage in the parking area. Problematic trees were removed and brush was cut back from the grassy picnic area surrounding the pond. Finally, the aging chain link fence was replaced with a new wooden three rail fence, greatly improving the aesthetics of this area. We anticipate that these improvements will lead to even greater use of this popular area by town residents.

We hope that residents have enjoyed these improvements to the Town recreation opportunities and thank you to all who have volunteered or helped in any way. Feedback is always welcomed and can be directed to the committee chair, Anton Kelsey. If you know of a young person who wants to be a part of the Recreation Committee to fill our open youth seat on the committee, please contact the Chair, Anton Kelsey, or the Town Administrator at the Town Hall.

The Committee would like to thank Underhill residents Ben Coddington and Peter Davis for their efforts in maintaining groomed ski trails in the Tomasi Meadow. In addition, the committee thanks the Conservation Commission for thoughtful discussion regarding the management of Crane Brook.

2022 Committee Members: Anton Kelsey (Chair), Emilie Soisson (Communications Director), Seth Friedman, Rob Williams, Isabel Tuck, Melanie Poley, Lynne Kemp, Levi McEntee (youth member),

Underhill Highways Infrastructure and Equipment Committee

Members: Clarke Elliott, Kurt Johnson, Andy Rowe, Nate Sullivan, Mike Weisel

There were several major infrastructure projects for us in 2022. We completed a bridge design for the replacement of Pleasant Valley Road bridge 7 at the intersection with Deane Road. The design work for this project was done by TR Fellows and East Engineering with a VTRANS bridge design grant covering 80% of the cost. We plan to apply for a construction grant early this year for this project. Speaking of grants, we were awarded a \$200,000 construction grant for replacing the Mountain Road box culvert on Harvey Brook with a bridge designed by TR Fellows. Construction for both projects is anticipated in FY25. We also laid the groundwork for repair of the Poker Hill / North Underhill Station culverts and expect them to be repaired this summer. Based on VTRANS experience we expect to extend their useable life by a good 10-15 years.

At the beginning of the year, we submitted an application for a VTRANS grant to pave a section of Pleasant Valley Road. Unfortunately, we again fell short on the district priority list for this grant and will reapply in early 2023. Although disappointing, it should position us well for this year's application. If awarded this would help support this paving project in FY25 and will also include addressing the sightline issue at Harvey and Pleasant Valley Road intersection. On a more positive note, 2022 was a very busy year for paving as the SB had approved our plan to double the usual amount to catch up on Town paving. As you know the price of fuel increased considerably driving higher paving costs, so the plan was put in front of the SB once again and they concurred we move forward as planned. As such this enabled paving Pleasant Valley from 570 to the Cambridge line, Stevensville, Sand Hill, Range and Beartown roads as well as Park Street and a number of overdue side road aprons. We again hired a crack sealing firm to do River Road and much of Pleasant Valley Road. From a financial perspective it was managed by taking out a 1-year loan and splitting costs between FY23 and FY24. We locked in a three-year contract price, so plan to have them return next year to do all the roads paved this year.

From an equipment perspective, the Town purchased a new plow/dump truck to replace the 2013 plow truck. After considerable volunteer effort getting the 2008 F350 ready for sale, we were finally able to sell it for well over twice what was planned in the prior year budget. For FY24 voters will be asked to approve replacing the Town excavator (1997) and the trailer for it. In addition, the SB is interested in adding a roadside and trail mowing machine and is considering use of ARPA funding for it.

And as always, we worked on updating plans for future equipment, infrastructure and paving projects included in the 10-year capital spending outlook update prepared by the committee. This is used to guide the Selectboard during budget development for FY24 with voter approval at the March 2023 Town Meeting.

The committee welcomes constructive feedback from the community on major capital infrastructure, equipment and paving projects. For concerns about day-to-day road maintenance, please direct them to our road foreman, Nate Sullivan.

FOREST FIRE WARDEN REPORT

We have issued 280 burn permits as of Dec. 31st, 2022.

A permit is required for outdoor burning of brush, weeds and grass. A permit is not required if there is snow on the ground at the site of the fire. The warden may refuse to issue a permit if in his judgment the weather or site conditions create a dangerous situation. A permit in no way relieves the person starting the fire of any responsibility for any damage that might occur. This person may be billed at the State rates for suppression of the fire.

Feel free to call Nate or myself any time for a permit or with any questions or concerns that you may have.

Parker Ripley (802) 734-7114

Nathan Goldman (802) 363-3548

A quick reminder:

The State of Vermont has banned the use of back yard burning barrels. You cannot burn garbage, paper, cardboard, building materials, plastic, asphalt, Styrofoam, or synthetic materials. You can burn natural wood (untreated and unpainted) grass and weeds.

Underhill Forest Fire Warden
Parker Ripley

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

Child	Sex	Parents
Atlas Alexander	M	Mariana Prieto Di Colloredo and Daniel Alexander
Jamie Atlas Anderson-Leonard	M	Kathryn Anderson and Robert Leonard
Ender John Bellew	M	Victoria and Adam Bellew
Marina Jo Butler	F	Colleen and Kohlton Butler
Sylvie Madeline Case	F	Michelle and Christopher Case
Amelia Sea Dietzel	F	Aimee Ahari and Edmund Dietzel
Silas James Dutton	M	Emily Bremer & Andrew Dutton
Henry Peter Ginter	M	Caroline and Kevin Ginter
Lucy June Hagen	F	Lauren and Galen Hagen
Iona Adjovu Jansen-Lonnquist	F	Adelaide Adjovu and Ian Jansen-Lonnquist
Madeline Bella Knauss	F	Susanna Thach and Andreas Knauss
Lane Joseph LeBerge	M	Chelsea and Jamie LeBerge
Arda Earle Ladd	F	Marguerite Ladd and Roger Earle II
Eowyn Lyn Mattera	F	Jessica and Andrew Mattera
Evelyn Rose Miller	F	Miranda and Ryan Miller
Juanita Marie Morel	F	June Morel
Leo Cassidy Nief-Johnson	M	Melissa Johnson and Alexander Nief
Myla Monique Petry	F	Brittany and Michael Petry
Hadley May Pileggi	F	Jessica and Nicolas Pileggi
Lily Margaret Potvin	F	Ashley and Philip Potvin
Nora Dawson Randall	F	Michelle Muller and Nathan Randall
Calvin Francis Riden	M	Samantha and Carl Riden
Sophie James Ritchie	F	Elisabeth McIntee and Nicole Ritchie
David Bow Taylor	M	Katherine Morrissey and Patrick Taylor
Rowan Ruth Tourin	F	Claire and Mischa Peter Tourin
Hadley Grace Whitcomb	F	Naomi and Benjamin Whitcomb
Rowan Wells Willoughby	M	Laura and Bo Willoughby
Fife Easton Coda Willoughby	M	Laura and Bo Willoughby

DEATHS

Name	Age	Place of Death
Rodney Bruner	70	Underhill
Cara Cook	46	Underhill
Robert Diaco	65	Underhill
Joan Duncan	86	Underhill
Paul Duncan	85	Underhill

Silvia Forsberg	72	Underhill
Donald Gingras	61	Underhill
Roby Giroux	46	Burlington
Norman Labare	88	Underhill
Jennifer Lowe	45	Burlington
Elizabeth Moore	97	Burlington
Mary Parisi	93	Stowe
Larry Russin Sr.	69	Underhill
Margaret Taylor	88	Richford
Carol Warren	79	Burlington
Gail Wixson	82	Underhill

CIVIL MARRIAGES

Steven Ashworth &
Caysie Bellew
February 22, 2022

Lyndsie Proventure &
Joshua Morin
September 4, 2022

Erin Parizo &
Taylor Sisson
April 2, 2022

Martine Butler &
Tyler Barlow
August 27, 2022

Devin Oates &
Paul Steinhagen
April 1, 2022

Cassey Kellner-Bourdeau &
Jake Patnoe
September 24, 2022

Brian Lyster &
Danielle Di Dangi
June 4, 2022

Amy Barr &
Timothy Lizotte
August 20, 2020

Elizabeth Powell &
John Manske
July 30, 2022

Krystina Fernandez &
Richard Comforto
August 6, 2022

Sean Edgar-Jackson &
Sarah Bahr
June 8, 2022

CASEY'S HILL

FOR WINTER RECREATION USE

Casey's Hill is owned by the Town of Underhill and is for sledding only.

Sled at your own risk. Sledding is permitted during daylight hours and only when snow conditions permit. Sledding is not allowed on the Mountain Road side of the hill.

The designated parking area, on Mountain Road, is for Casey's Hill and Tomasi Meadow users only, and is for the safety and convenience of recreators and families with children. If the lot is full, park at the Underhill Central School. Please **DO NOT** park on Mountain Road, Pleasant Valley Road or New Road. These roads must be kept open for emergency vehicles at all times.

No snowmobiles, RV's or other vehicles are permitted on Casey's Hill or the Tomasi Meadow

Thank you for your cooperation.

TOWN SKATING RINK

Thanks to the efforts of the Underhill Recreation Committee, augmented by additional volunteers, the Town Skating Rink at Moore Park in Underhill Center is open seasonally. Note that skating conditions will not always be perfect! Beware of soft spots and rough edges. Always skate according to the prevailing conditions.

Please adhere to the following:

- Hours of Operation: Dawn to dusk unless otherwise posted.
- Do not use the rink/ice when the Closed sign is posted.
- Skate at your own risk.
- Helmets are recommended.
- No glass containers.
- No drugs or alcohol.
- All skaters age 8 and under must be supervised at all times by an adult.
- While on ice, skaters are not allowed to carry children or other people.
- No running, horseplay, or unruly behavior.
- No food or beverages allowed on the ice.
- No hockey sticks or pucks except as hours of operation permit.
- Skating in a manner that endangers or interferes with other skaters' safety or pleasure is prohibited.

Thank you for your cooperation.

TOMASI MEADOW

In early 2018, the Tomasi family started talking with Jericho Underhill Land Trust (JULT) and Vermont Land Trust (VLT) about the family's need to sell their property along Pleasant Valley Road. They very much wanted to see if there were an option to keep the meadow leading up to Casey's Hill undeveloped while satisfying their family's needs. A Town acquisition of the property was agreed upon, with the family, and they generously sold the land to the Town for less than its appraised value.

Based upon the Interim Management Plan adopted August 2020
Allowed activities on the property during the interim period include:

- Continued haying of the meadow.
- Use by the general public for low-impact, non-motorized, activities such as walking, running, and skiing.
- Grooming for cross-country skiing.
- Mowing a path around the exterior of the meadow.
- Erecting appropriate signage.
- Boundary marking.
- Maintaining pre-existing trails.
- Birding and Wildlife observation.
- Outdoor education for all ages.
- Dogs on leashes.

Activities that are prohibited during the interim period include:

- Recreational use of motorized vehicles (prohibited in the conservation easement).
- Recreational snowmobile use.
- Camping.
- Hunting (prohibited to protect public safety on a relatively small, open meadow with significant public recreational use)
- Horse-back riding.
- Mountain biking.
- No discharge of firearms.
- No fires.

The designated parking area, on Mountain Road, is for Casey's Hill and Tomasi Meadow users only, and is for the safety and convenience of recreators and families with children. If the lot is full, park at the Underhill Central School. Please DO NOT park on Mountain Road, Pleasant Valley Road or New Road. These roads must be kept open for emergency vehicles at all times.

Thank you for your cooperation.

TOWN OF UNDERHILL ORDINANCE FOR WINTER PARKING AND OPERATIONS PLAN

The Winter Parking Ordinance is in effect from November 1st through April 30th. No vehicles are to be parked on town roads during these months. **VEHICLES WILL BE TOWED AT OWNER'S EXPENSE.**

Plow routes are set up to open the major traffic routes and school bus routes first. The road crew usually starts operations at 3:30 am to have these roads clear by 7:00 am. In most cases there will be no maintenance between 8:00 pm and 3:00 am. Each road crew member has a specific route that takes approximately 4 ½ hours to complete. After 16 hours on the job, they are required to stop operations and take off a minimum of 6 hours. The Town does not plow Class IV and private roads. Salt will be applied to paved roads with a minimum amount of sand added as necessary. (Salt is not effective when the road temperature is below 20 degrees). Sand will be applied to the gravel roads.

The road crew makes every effort to avoid mailboxes. However, because of snow conditions or on-coming traffic, the plows occasionally hit them. The town has permitted mailboxes to be located in the Town right-of-way. If the mailboxes are damaged as a result of snow or ice clearing operations, the town will not repair or replace them. However, if you are certain that your mailbox was hit by the snowplow, directly, and not pushed over by snow, please contact the Town Administrator.

Please note: according to 23 VSA§1126a, it is illegal to plow snow from private property on or across public highways.



Disaster Response

In the past year, the American Red Cross has responded to **12 disaster cases** in **Chittenden County**, providing assistance to **40 individuals**. Most commonly, these incidents were home fires. Red Cross workers were on the scene to provide food, clothing, lodging, emotional support, and more to families during their hours of greatest need. Our teams also provide Mass Care to first responders. Things like food, water, and warm drinks strengthen the brave people of your local Fire and Police Departments as they answer the call to keep your residents safe.

Town/City	Disaster Events	Individuals	Town/City	Disaster Events	Individuals
Burlington	2	4	South Burlington	1	1
Colchester	1	1	Underhill	1	4
Essex Junction	1	6	Williston	1	1
Hinesburg	1	4	Winooski	3	15
Huntington	1	4			

Home Fire Campaign

Last year, Red Cross staff and volunteers worked throughout Chittenden County to educate residents on fire, safety and preparedness. We made **74 homes safer** by helping families develop emergency evacuation plans.

Blood Drives

We collected **12,254** pints of lifesaving blood at **492** drives in Chittenden County.



Training Services

Last year, **2,343 Chittenden County residents** were taught a variety of important lifesaving skills such as First Aid, CPR, Babysitting Skills and Water Safety.



Service to the Armed Forces

We proudly assisted **65 of Chittenden County's Service Members, veterans, and their families** by providing emergency communications and other services, including counseling and financial assistance.

Volunteer Services

Chittenden County is home to **151 American Red Cross Volunteers**. We have volunteers from all walks of life, who are trained and empowered to respond to disasters in the middle of the night, to teach safety courses, to help at our many blood drives, and so much more. The American Red Cross is proud that 90% of its staff is made up of volunteers; they are truly the heart and soul of our organization.





Scouts BSA

Troop 627

The Underhill/Jericho Scouts BSA Troop has been a proud member of this community since 1963. Our communities are blessed with some outstanding members who volunteer their time, every week, to the advancement of our youth through the Scout program. Without the adult leaders, our program would not survive. “Thank You” to everyone who has been a part of this program over the past 60 years. Our Troop recently celebrated its 82st Eagle Scout! A very proud accomplishment! We currently have 32 scouts enrolled in our program. We are fortunate to have one of the most active troops in Vermont. Through our volunteers, we are able to provide a wide range of activities for the scouts to participate in. In 2022, we had one more Scout achieve the rank of Eagle Scout! The Eagle Scout project has benefited the Green Mountain Club. In the coming months and in 2023, we have more Scouts in the process of completing their Eagle projects. This year we continue to have enthusiastic and energetic families who want to administer an excellent program for our youth to meet new challenges and to explore the outdoors.

Jason Ritter
Scoutmaster

Bernie Pientka
Committee Chair

Tricia Stevens
Charter Organization
Representative

CSWD Fiscal Year 2022 Summary

Thanks to conservative budgeting and significant belt-tightening, the Chittenden Solid Waste District remained on strong financial footing in Fiscal Year 2022 (July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022). The District's FY22 total operating expenses were \$12,336,755 and operating revenues were \$16,569,666 for a net surplus of \$4,232,911. This surplus was applied to CSWD's reserves following the Board-approved prioritization schedule (see "Budget Memo" under FY2023 Budget on the Financial Information page of cswd.net.)

The residents, businesses, and institutions of our 18 member towns and cities generated an estimated 305,389 tons of materials to be managed in calendar year 2021, compared with 270,207 tons in 2020, with the increase likely due to increased construction and overall economic activity. Chittenden County continues to be among the national leaders in landfill diversion, with an estimated 66.7% of those materials recovered in 2021 via composting (food scraps, leaves, and yard trimmings), anaerobic digestion, and recycling of Blue-Bin materials, Special Recycling, and Construction and Demolition materials. (The 2021 Diversion Report will be posted in October 2022.)

This foundation enabled CSWD to focus on strengthening our infrastructure and our commitments to our members, staff, and our mission: *To reduce and manage the solid waste generated within Chittenden County in an environmentally sound, efficient, effective, and economical manner.*

STRENGTHENING CSWD'S INFRASTRUCTURE

Preparing for a New Materials Recovery Facility

In March 2022, the CSWD Board of Commissioners voted unanimously in favor of CSWD submitting a bond request to the voters of Chittenden County in the November 2022 General Election enabling CSWD to borrow \$22 million to build a new Materials Recovery Facility.

Organics Diversion Facility: Phase 1 work completed, foodware ban implemented

The first phase of a three-part expansion of CSWD's Organics Diversion Facility (or ODF – where Green Mountain Compost is made) was completed in FY22. This phase included implementation of a windrow turner that replaced four pieces of heavy equipment and reduced windrow-turning time from two weeks to three hours. The completion of a new curing and sales area enabled staff to remove all sales traffic to a separate gate, decreasing congestion and increasing safety for all facility users.

Due to increased contamination from non-compostable materials, the ODF began accepting only food scraps, paper towels and napkins, and newspaper, paper bags, and certified compostable bags used for lining food scrap collection containers as of January 1, 2022. CSWD provided just shy of a year of notice to vendors, commercial and institutional consumers of compostable products, food scrap haulers, and the public. A blog post on the drivers for this decision is on the CSWD website.

New Administration Building approved

COVID-19 demonstrated the necessity of healthy and safe working facilities and the shortcomings of CSWD's Administration offices at 1021 Redmond Road in this regard. CSWD's Board of Commissioners approved planning for new offices to be pursued into FY23.

Other operational changes included the end of CSWD operation of the Drop-Off Center in Richmond after almost 30 years. CSWD submitted a bid for continued operation of the facility, but the Richmond Select Board voted to award the contract to Casella Waste Systems when CSWD's lease expired on December 31, 2021. Though it was not the outcome we desired, the removal of this facility reduced CSWD operating expenses, enabled us to deploy experienced staff to other sites, and provided an opportunity for CSWD to re-evaluate our community's needs.

STRENGTHENING OUR COMMITMENT TO OUR COMMUNITY AND EMPLOYEES

CSWD was not immune to the labor shortages experienced across Vermont, and the Board of Commissioners convened an Ad Hoc Committee to review employee compensation and benefits, ensuring the District is competitive in the labor marketplace and the compensation structure is clear and fair.

The Board adopted a Declaration of Inclusion at their May meeting, with staff forming a Justice, Equity, Diversion, and Inclusion (JEDI) Committee devoted to ensuring and exploring opportunities for implementation of the Declaration's principles.

The CSWD Board passed resolutions recognizing retiring employees Nancy Plunkett (30 years) who implemented mandatory recycling in Chittenden County in 1993 and expanded CSWD's education and research programs, and Lee Tuure (29 years), who transformed "town dump" locations into CSWD's beloved Drop-Off Centers. The Board also recognized the volunteer service of Commissioners Abby Foulk (Charlotte-nine years) and Doug Taff (Hinesburg-12 years).

CSWD staff reported on the 2021 (biannual) Household Solid Waste Survey Report, with key findings including that 93% of respondents reported a favorable impression of CSWD, and strong support for bonding for a new MRF. The survey also revealed opportunities for CSWD to provide more communication on appropriate materials management, particularly to new residents. Staff began the process for amending the CSWD Solid Waste Management Ordinance, which will wrap up in FY23.

Overall, FY22 proved an extremely busy year as CSWD staff and Board of Commissioners rebooted projects stalled by the pandemic and looked ahead to opportunities to build on the District's 35 years of public service to Chittenden County.

Paul Ruess

Chair, Board of Commissioners

Sarah Reeves

Executive Director



ESSEX RESCUE, INC.

**1 Educational Drive
Essex Junction, VT 05452
Phone (802) 878-4859**

November 2022

It is with incredible pride that Essex Rescue provides emergency medical transport services to Essex, Essex Junction, Jericho, Underhill, and Westford. During all times of the day and night, and regardless of weather conditions, our providers, ranging from EMT to paramedic, respond quickly to the sick and injured to deliver basic and advanced life support transport services.

Between July 1, 2021, and June 30, 2022:

- Essex Rescue received 2,754 requests for an ambulance
- Ambulance requests have increased nearly 12%
- Our crews now average 8-10 calls per day

As of October 1st, we are 235 calls ahead of last year at this same time (an increase of XX%).

Commitment to Service

We remain committed to the high-quality service we have provided for the last 50 years. Our service will continue to meet the needs of the communities we serve while providing patient-centered pre-hospital emergency care. While these may be challenging times, Essex Rescue continues to stand ready to fulfill our duty and serve our communities. We are grateful for all the community support which we have received over the years and especially during the darkest days of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Organizational Challenges

Essex Rescue is currently dealing with two big challenges: an increasing call volume and limited funding sources. Although the data identifies the need for two staffed ambulances, Essex Rescue faces significant challenges in meeting that need; with the lack of funding and workforce shortages as leading causes. And while Essex Rescue remains committed to a paid / volunteer workforce, that is becoming harder to sustain as nationwide volunteer shortages are now being seen across Vermont.

Changing Workforce

Many of our volunteers left the job due to COVID while others are leaving Vermont for better paying jobs. Volunteerism in the United States is down to an all-time low leaving organizations like Essex Rescue, who rely on volunteers to supplement their workforce, struggling to fill the schedule. The reality is that EMS has become a profession for some, an educational steppingstone for others, and a volunteer opportunity for only a few.

Financial Reality

We are sensitive to the financial impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the community and local government; these are unprecedented times. Due to fixed insurance reimbursement rates organizations like Essex Rescue are falling short of funding their operating costs. Simply stated, the cost to provide the service is more than what government

Fiscal Year Ending 2022 *	
Expenses	\$1,151,560.40
Revenue	\$ 861,519.40
Capital Reserve	\$ 131,365.00
Total:	\$ -158,676.00
<i>*Capital campaign expenses/contributions removed</i>	

insurance carriers, like Medicare and Medicaid, allow for reimbursement. With 64% of our insurance reimbursement coming from Medicare and Medicaid, more calls results in less reimbursement per call.

Essex Rescue is committed to keeping our per-capita rate as low as possible. Over the last two years we elected to forgo funding of our reserve account. Without properly funding our operational budget, including the reserve account, we will no longer be able to sustain operations.

We are committed to being a good neighbor, assuring you that we have done, and will continue to do, whatever is necessary to reduce expenses and control costs.

- Sought state and federal grant programs for education and equipment
- Secured Public Health & Social Services Emergency Funding for COVID-19 pandemic related costs

Even though we are in the midst of a public health emergency, we continue to develop our workforce and support our providers, so they are ready to respond to emergencies in the communities we serve.

Volunteer Service

Essex Rescue is committed to remaining a combination volunteer and career department. We offer a rewarding volunteer activity, which provides an opportunity for education and giving back to the community; we are always looking for new volunteers. Previous experience in EMS is not a requirement. If you are interested in joining a motivated team, committed to providing high quality pre-hospital emergency medical care, we would like to speak with you.

Capital Campaign and New Building Project

Due to a number of factors our building project has been paused. However, this does not change the fact that our current building is unsuitable. While our immediate priority is to ensure continued operation from our current headquarters, we continue working toward realizing the vision of a new building.

Annual Subscription

Are you enrolled in Essex Rescue's Subscription? **Program subscribers pay an annual \$50 per household subscription fee and pay nothing else out-of-pocket for expenses relating to emergency ambulance service provided by Essex Rescue.** Our subscription mailing is sent out during the month of November. For more information visit our website: www.essexrescue.org. It is important to note that if a patient is transported to the hospital by an ambulance service other than Essex Rescue, the subscription program benefit does not apply.

Lastly, Essex Rescue will always accept donations, large or small, and are grateful for the ongoing generosity demonstrated by the community.

Thank you,

Colleen M. Ballard, NRP
Executive Director
Essex Rescue, Inc.



ESSEX RESCUE, INC.

**1 Educational Drive
Essex Junction, VT 05452
Phone (802) 878-4859**

October 24, 2022

Selectboard
Town of Underhill
12 Pleasant Valley Road
Underhill, VT 05489

To the Town of Underhill Selectboard,

With tremendous pride, Essex Rescue responds to requests for emergency medical services in the Underhill community. Around the clock, through all weather conditions, our clinicians - paid and volunteer alike - answer the call to help the sick and injured, delivering basic and advanced life support. Essex Rescue takes great care to ensure that the members of your community receive safe, efficient and appropriate pre-hospital emergency medical services. Regular training and expert consultation with emergency medicine physicians at the University of Vermont Medical Center, ensures that when a request for emergency medical services is received, Essex Rescue stands ready to deliver this essential public health service.

The Essex Rescue leadership team is committed to delivering excellent pre-hospital care while at the same time practicing fiscal responsibility. For many years now, Essex Rescue has made minimal subsidy increase requests. We only requested what was needed to maintain our current standards of operations. As our loss of a volunteer workforce continues, we are forced to hire more staff to keep one truck in service. Meanwhile, ambulance requests for service continue to increase, equipment and supply costs rise, and insurance reimbursement rates stay low leading us to make tough decisions.

Essex Rescue is now facing a pivotal moment: request a dramatic increase in municipal contribution or face a budget deficit that would put us out of business. It is our mission to provide EMS service to the communities we have so proudly served for the past 50 years, so going out of business is not an option. We have investigated other funding sources but remain limited by EMS not being considered an essential service by federal or state legislatures. We have faced unprecedented challenges in the last two years and have continued to answer the call. The only funding option we have is to ask you, the communities that we serve, to provide the financial support we now need to maintain operations.

Our rates for service will increase to \$18.00 per capita for all the communities we serve. The population served by Essex Rescue is 3,129. For fiscal year 2024, Essex Rescue is requesting from the Town of Underhill \$54,525 adjusted. The adjusted amount is based on a credit from overpayment in FY2023 of \$1,797.

On behalf of Essex Rescue, we are grateful for your continued financial support of our service. We look forward to serving your community and delivering the very best in pre-hospital emergency medical care.

Thank you,

Colleen M. Ballard, NRP
Executive Director
Essex Rescue, Inc.



December 8, 2022

Town of Underhill
Select Board Members
PO Box 120
Underhill, VT 05489

RE: FY24 Funding Request

Greetings:

The Jeffersonville Commuter route began service in October 2013 and was 100% funded through the Circ. Alternatives Program for the first three years of service. Starting in FY17 Jericho, Underhill and Cambridge were required to split the 20% local match of the route totaling \$42,000 or \$14,000 per each community. This 20% local match is required to leverage the additional 80% of funding provided through the State of Vermont.

The Jeffersonville Commuter route provided 4,000 rides in FY20, helping to reduce congestion and greenhouse gas emissions along the Route 15 corridor.

Local funding of the route is critical for its continued operation and the ability to increase ridership. **GMT is requesting that the Town of Underhill contribute \$16,220 in FY24 towards the required 20% local match of the Jeffersonville Commuter route operating costs.**

GMT looks forward to working with the Town of Underhill to maximize the productivity of the Jeffersonville Commuter route and to create community benefits for the town. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or would like to schedule a meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jamie Smith'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Jamie' and last name 'Smith' clearly distinguishable.

Jamie Smith
Director of Planning and Marketing
802-540-1098
jamie@ridegmt.com

Board of Trustees Report 2022

Next month – January 2022 – the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library celebrates its 25th year of existence. We are so grateful to our library community for your tremendous support over the last year. Mostly, we are thrilled to see you in the library and hope you can help us celebrate by being an active patron.

As one year closes and a new one begins, the Board is especially thankful for the staff and leadership of the library for their welcoming attitude, dedication, and creativity as programs restart and new ones are devised.

The past year has reminded us that our relationships in our community are fundamental to our survival and growth. It is our responsibility to work towards a balance where we – the library and the communities it serves – can thrive.

Considering the changing needs of the community, the Board of Trustees formed a strategic planning committee in May 2022. It was tasked to develop a plan to meet the current and near future needs of the two communities the library serves. A survey was developed to obtain public input. Thank you to everyone who took the time to fill it out.

The Board decided that this plan would encompass a three-year evolving and adaptable window. We welcome hearing from you throughout its life, and ask that our patrons help the Board keep the plan in line with community needs,

Here are a few highlights of the strategic plan:

Goal 1: The library continues to be a resource for people to feel engaged in the community. Surveys showed that growth should come in the number and variety of programs AND to increase physical space and better use the space now in the library.

Goal 2: strengthen the library's digital infrastructure, as well as its digital and technology collections. The last few years have shown increase in e-books being signed out and this collection is already beginning to grow.

It has been many years since libraries were only a place to borrow books. These days, libraries do more.

We had an exciting summer full of activities, including the Summer Reading Program, story time and book group discussions.

We continue to be a vibrant hub in the community and offer in-person programming for youth and adults. We have hosted a Wine & Desert Night, a silent auction, the annual Book Barn sale, the Basket Raffle – all successful fundraising events. For youth and children, there many different activities - a monthly scavenger hunt, Lego club, an animation club, Dungeons & Dragons, crafts for kids of all ages, puppetry camp, and a young writers' club.

These are some of the programs that show how the library is more than books. It is a place to learn, to share, to create.

Thank you for your support. You are what makes the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library a special place.

Sven Lindholm, Chair

Library Director's Report

Library Statistics and information:

The Deborah Rawson Memorial Library had 14,690 uses of the library either in person or using curbside pick-up. This past year 51,942 items were checked out. The library is now completely open for use including our program room. Programs for youth and adults are being held in person as well as a few on Zoom. Many previous programs have returned such as Mah

Jongg and preschool story hour held in the story corner. The library continues provided books to the Jeri-Hill Apartments. Contactless homebound delivery is available if you physically are unable to come to the library. Call to arrange a visit, 802-899-4962. You can place your items on hold through our online catalog and staff will contact you when your item is ready to be picked up. You can come in or use curbside pickup.

Currently the library has 24,662 items that include books, magazine subscriptions, DVDs, Books on CD and Music CDs. Any item the library doesn't have we are happy to borrow from another library either in Vermont or out of state. Downloadable audiobooks and ebooks are also available using our website and a current library card. All our items can be found on our website www.drml.org as well as our consortium member libraries items. No fines are charged on late items.

WiFi is available 24/7 with no password needed. It is available anywhere around the perimeter of the library including our parking lot!

Our Master Gardeners and volunteers again delivered to the Jericho Underhill food shelf and Jeri-Hill Apartments produce from the library gardens. The great Potato Dig was again this year very successful! This past year the theme of the garden was The Secret Garden. The self-guided poetry walk in the Mills Riverside Park featured Louisa May Alcott and our StoryWalk® was up by the library.

The library hours are:10-8 Tuesday and Thursday, 10-6 Wednesday and Friday, Saturday 10-2 and Sundays 1-4 September to May. Masks are recommended but no longer required. We do have computers available as well as faxing and copying. Stay safe and stay well. The staff looks forward to seeing you!

Holly Hall, Director

Friends of the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library 2022 Report

During 2021 and 2022 and despite the pandemic challenges, the Friends of the DRML have continued to coordinate resources and programming opportunities with our local library board and staff.

The Friends of the DRML provide the library with requested program support, supplies, and equipment that enhance the DRML. Recently, the Friends has invested in a variety of diverse museum memberships throughout the state to support both youth and adult interests. This year the outdoor patio furniture was replaced; providing accessibility and encouraging the use of additional space for library patrons and staff.

Revenues are raised by way of donations to the Friends of the DRML, the sale of puppets, books, tote bags, and bumper stickers. Opportunities to engage with the Friends of DRML and support the important and valuable asset of our community library are posted on the Friends of the DRML bulletin board above the library photo copier. Hope to see you at the DRML!

Friends of the DRML

Christine Ryan, Secretary/ Treasurer

Jericho Underhill Water District Board of Trustees' Annual Report

P.O. Box 174 Underhill, Vermont 05489

October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022

The Jericho-Underhill Water District provided drinking water and fire hydrant access to 326+ residential and business connections representing about 900 people within the District. During the past year drinking water supplied to the District averaged about 40,000 gallons per day. Water delivered to District customers this year was of high quality and adequate quantity and met all State and Federal requirements.

Our Chief Operator, Kirk Patch of Champlin Associates in Essex, VT resigned from his duties and was replaced by Lucas DiMauro, Chief Operator, and Mike Johnson, Operator in Training, both Champlin Associates' employees. We hired Brian Picotte of Underhill as our assistant Operator. The Trustees consisted of Joseph P. O'Brien, President from Underhill, Tanner Palmer, Trustee from Jericho, and Stephen Jennings, Trustee from Underhill. Nancy Benson served as Clerk and Treasurer. Andy Foresberg served as Delinquent Bill Collector and back-up support for the system. Auditors were Vicki Milton, Harland Blodgett, and Bill VanDeVenter. Marc Maheux continued to manage our website and was available for consultations. Helen Miller was our local water tester. The Trustees wish to thank everyone for their work this past year.

Listed below are some highlights of the past year:

- Weekly testing along with yearly testing for lead and copper were completed. Results for all testing were very good with all levels well below state and federal requirements. We also tested for coliform, iron, manganese, Asbestos, and VOC (volatile organic compound) tests. Specific test for Haloacetics and Trihalomethanes along with all other tests were within or below the Federal and State regulations.
- We were fortunate over the winter to have no leaks on any service line. We did repair a service line connector leak for the dance studio on River Road.
- Flushing of main lines was completed in the spring and late fall to clear lines of mineral sediments and residue.
- Our Consumer Confidence Report was distributed to all customers either electronically or hand delivered and our Source Protection Plan was updated.
- We applied for a grant from the State Water Resources and AARPA for assistance in extending our service northeast on Poker Hill to homes and businesses that have experienced dry wells. We have appealed a denial from the State, as funds are targeted for water quality improvement. Extension of service was not approved even though some home owners have run out of water in the past.
- New digital 5G *Mission Radio Unit* software was installed at Maple Ridge tank for redundant controls of the well pumps.
- We changed operators in February when Kirk Patch left Champlin Associates. Lucas DiMauro and Mike Johnson were hired by Champlin to be our operators.
- A power outage occurred in early April that was caused by a major fuse failure at the control building. Timely replacement allowed continued service after using our standby generator. The outage did cause some mineral sediment in the Maple Ridge tank which was distributed to customers. Our operators flushed the main lines right after the outage.
- All three tanks were inspected in June using a submersible drone and camera. The tanks were in great structural shape but had a significant amount of mineral sediment collecting on the tank bottoms. The Trustees plan to have the tanks drained and cleaned this fall.
- The trustees apologize for the limited discolored water that some customers experienced over the summer. There were three major occurrences that caused minerals in the main lines to be stirred up. Hopefully flushing in September will eliminate this issue.
- We are appreciative to the United Church of Underhill for allowing us space for our month meetings.

Joseph P. O'Brien, President
Tanner Palmer, Trustee
Stephen Jennings, Trustee



Jericho Underhill Park District

P. O. Box 164 Underhill, VT 05489

802-899-2693

www.millsriversidepark.org

JUPDistrict@gmail.com

Annual Report 2022

This year, the Jericho Underhill Park District (JUPD) has been focused on the **only** public entrance to Mills Riverside Park, our bridge. Following the advice of engineers, the “covered” portion of the bridge was removed in November 2021 and safety rails installed at a cost of \$36,000. The concern was the roof’s integrity, especially with a snow load going into winter. The expectation was that the “covered” portion would be rebuilt subject to funding. As the months rolled on, complications multiplied. According to an engineering study, the abutments were not sufficient to support new walls and a roof for many years. They would need to be rebuilt at an estimated cost of over \$300,000. State requirements for abutment replacement would also probably require the Park District to relocate the abutments and expand the length of the bridge considerably. This would necessitate a new deck. All of this work would shut the park down for community enjoyment for at least four months unless an alternative bridge was built across the Browns River. This temporary span had an estimated cost of \$62,000. The more information that the Park District received, the more we realized that the cost to replace the “covered” portion of our bridge, and therefore, the abutments and a new deck, was just too expensive. The decision was made to **not** rebuild the covered bridge at this time. The existing abutments are sufficient to support the newer deck and side rails for pedestrian traffic and occasional light vehicular use. The park’s popularity continues to grow year to year with over 370 visitors per day using this vital span during the warmer months. At some future point, we certainly hope to add the special entry to Mills Riverside Park that only a covered bridge can bring.

The Jericho Underhill Park District board members were also busy assessing the park’s trails and playing field needs. Two grants for additional trail work were submitted to the state’s Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation. We are delighted to report that our second effort succeeded, and we look forward to completing the restoration of the West Fieldstone Loop.

Our sport fields have not received any attention for many years. Hundreds of players depend on a level, grassy surface. After careful consideration of our increasing sport needs, the Park District will be adding soil aeration and fertilization to help maintain the sport lawn. Mowing of the park continues to be our highest expense.

With the increasing enjoyment of Mills Riverside Park, the entrance and exit driveways, parking area and front lawn need enhancement. The annual expense for the routine maintenance of regrading, adding gravel, and staking off muddy areas, is growing. The Park District is reviewing possible improvements and funding.

Throughout the year, Mills Riverside Park hosts many events at the pavilion, popular summer concerts, the Farmers' Market, cross country runs, school field trips, all season recreational enjoyment and so much more. We thank our community for cherishing this exceptional land and helping to take care of it.

Special thanks to the hardworking board members of the Jericho Underhill Park District who are dedicated to managing Mills Riverside Park.

Livy Strong (Chairperson)
Dave Williamson (Vice-chair)
Donna Pratt (Treasurer)
Jim Massingham (Secretary)

Bruce Blokland (Bridge sub-committee, trails)
Chris Tardie (Outdoor stewardship)
Amber Renshaw (Publicity, graphic design)

Mount Mansfield Community Television (MMCTV)

MMCTV is celebrating 25 years of capturing local meetings, stories & events for Jericho, Richmond and Underhill. We offer hyperlocal content on Comcast cable channels 1076 (public/educational) and 1086 (government), and online at Internet Archive (<http://bit.ly/MmctvVideos>).

We are a small, but dynamic 501c3 nonprofit organization, part of a network of 24 media centers in Vermont. In 2022 alone, MMCTV processed 345 local meetings and 100+ non-meeting videos!

LOCAL DEMOCRACY: We take our civic role seriously, connecting you with local meetings and election info. Too tired to Zoom? You can catch many local board meetings LIVE on our cable and Youtube channels. Links to meeting videos are also organized daily by town/board at our website MtMansfieldCtv.org.

COMMUNITY & EDUCATION: We also help other nonprofit organizations get the word out and provide anyone in our towns with gear and knowledge to tell their own stories. Let us know if you are interested in either of these services.

A growing area for us is youth media education/training. We offer free workshops at the Richmond Free Library and Deborah Rawson Memorial library and are looking to expand our popular and affordable Middle School summer TV camp. In recent years our campers remade Hollywood movie scenes, as a part of the statewide Crowdsourced Cinema VT project.

Key MMCTV projects in 2022 included work on The Talk, Vermont (formerly Racism in America) series, as well as videos for the Community Senior Center & local concerts/parades. We also hire MMU students to stream/film concerts and sports and undertake special events like “haunting” Richmond Town Center with spooky animations on Halloween.

FEEDBACK & DONATIONS: Always welcome! Contact: Angelike Contis, Director, MMCTV, 203 Bridge St., 3rd Floor/P.O. Box 688, Richmond, VT 05477. Tel. 802 434-2550. Online: MtMansfieldCtv.org, e-mail angelike@mmctv15.org



Our Community Cares Camp, Inc.

PO Box 503

Richmond, VT 05477

Email: occcvermont@gmail.com

802-434-6006



Jana Brown ~ Asher Carfaro ~ Connie van Eeghen ~ Jessica Johnson ~ Kyle Silliman-Smith

November 1, 2022

Town of Underhill Selectboard
PO Box 120
Underhill, VT 05489

ATTN: Brad Holden - Town Administrator

Dear Underhill Selectboard,

Our Community Cares Camp (OCCC) continues our service to the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District through our primary mission of helping address food insecurity and creating an environment where every child can find success. We do this through our core values of providing fresh food that is lovingly and well prepared, where everyone has a place to discover new talents and learn leadership skills with enrichment activities. We foster a community of inclusiveness, diversity, and service, which is imperative to healthy, positive youth development. Children receive positive support from caring adults that help inspire children to envision their future and see themselves as a contributing member of our community. According to the 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 84% of the Mount Mansfield Unified Union school district youth report having at least one adult or teacher they can talk to if they need help. The culture and relationships built during camp go beyond just the summer; the impact can last a lifetime!

Our Community Cares Camp serves as a vital resource to the Underhill Community by providing a free enrichment day camp and summer meals to Underhill children. As referenced in the Underhill Town Plan, school-age children are a vital part of the community and make up 17.9% of the population of Underhill. Furthermore, "the quality of life in a rural community in Vermont depends to a large extent on the services offered to residents" (Underhill Town Plan, 2010). It is our responsibility as members of the greater community to provide two free meals a day and positive experiences for children during the summer. We also provide internship opportunities for older children and job training and development for young adults. Our Mission is to create a caring, nourishing community where every child can find success. OCCC supports your vision.

Our camp also addresses the opportunity gap, which prevents children from economically stressed families from accessing the extra enrichment activities like music, art, and sports that help build connections with peers and create a meaningful life. Multiple stressors like sickness, low income, family transitions, substance misuse, transportation, and homelessness can contribute to the opportunity gap. According to the 2020 Census for Chittenden County, more than 1 in 7 children under 18 lived in food-insecure households. Raising children in our rapidly changing world is challenging, and this free camp allows everyone access to a summer food program and enrichment activities.

Every year our camp works tirelessly to bring our message to the community and beyond. We work hard to keep our budget low through fundraising, grants from private foundations, support from local businesses, community support, and in-kind donations. Our goal is to make camp accessible to as many children as possible. The financial support our camp receives determines how many children we can help. With COVID-19 in our environment, we are seeing an exacerbation of more and more children with trauma, social and emotional concerns, and mental health issues. Our Camp helps families fill that gap

Our Community Cares Camp, Inc. is a registered 501(c) (3) non-profit corporation.

www.ourcommunitycarescamp.org

<https://www.facebook.com/OCCCVT>

Building a caring community - where every child can find success.



Our Community Cares Camp, Inc.

PO Box 503
Richmond, VT 05477
Email: occcvermont@gmail.com
802-434-6006



and relieve some family stressors. Children attending our camp can also receive seamless academic tutoring, COVID Recovery Services, PT, OT, and Psych services from MMUUSD. It would be hard-pressed for most of these families to take time off from work to take their child for a 30-minute lesson here, a 30 minutes lesson there, and go back yet another time for another tutoring lesson. This schedule would be challenging for a typical family with resources. This camp helps children with summer slide and provides needed services to help them be academically successful.

For 2022 the cost for a camper to attend our camp was \$1,132.00 for four weeks, \$283.00 per week. It cost the camp \$105,276 for the 93 campers who attended camp last summer. The cost per camper will increase this year as the State of Vermont increases its minimum wage and anticipation of rising prices for most goods due to inflation and supply chain demands.

We served 2,563 meals - breakfast and lunch, which is 291 more than in 2021. With the new USDA Federal change in early July 2022, **all** of our meals were reimbursed (not just children who are free or reduced), totaling \$10,025.90. We provided freshly prepared meals with food purchased from local farms and businesses. Locally sourced food enabled children to meet nutrition requirements for growth and development.

Over the past 13 years, we have come back each year stronger despite any adversity. With many COVID protocols lifted, we were able to run camp as we have traditionally done. Children were engaged, active, and happy with the variety of activities we had this year, from field trips to STEM activities to community events and more! However, we would not have any of the success we do without the support from so many community entities, funders, and volunteers. Camp, in general, is such a positive place because of the love and energy everyone puts in day in and day out. The memories created will undoubtedly last them a lifetime, and we are already looking forward to summer 2023!

We provide stability and another layer of prevention, and positive outcomes for our communities. We keep our budget low through fundraising, grants, support from local businesses, and in-kind donations. In addition, we receive support from the MMUU school district, the Summer Food Service Program, and private donations. We understand budgets are thin due to the ongoing effects of COVID-19. That is why we are asking for level funding of \$3000.00 with no increase from last year for summer 2023. This support will allow OCCC to serve those most in need in Underhill and throughout the district. Underhill's financial support for OCCC is an investment in the community's future and, most importantly, children's health and well-being.

Thank you for your consideration and all that you do to make Underhill so great.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susanne Parent
Executive Director

Our Community Cares Camp, Inc. is a registered 501(c) (3) non-profit corporation.

www.ourcommunitycarescamp.org

<https://www.facebook.com/OCCCVT>

Building a caring community - where every child can find success.



agewellvt.org
Helpline: 1-800-642-5119
P 802-865-0360
F 802-865-0363
875 Roosevelt Hwy, Ste. 210
Colchester, VT 05446

November 8, 2022

BOARD OF
DIRECTORS:

Dr. Allan Ramsay
(Board President)

George Beato

Patrick Brown

Meagan Buckley

John Davis

Joey Donovan

Liz Gamache

John Hammer

Joan Lenes

Dan McLean

Annmarie Plant

Sarah Russell

Sarah Gentry Tischler

Dr. Lynda Ulrich

Ruth Wallman

Leah Zeigler

Town of Underhill
PO Box 120
Underhill, VT 05489

Dear Town of Underhill,

For nearly 50 years, Age Well has provided services and support that allow aging Vermonters to stay independent, and remain healthy at home, where they want to be. We excel at integrating community resources, health services, and wellness programs to enhance and improve the quality of life for older adults. We continue to see an increased demand for our wrap-around services, supporting older Vermonters during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

We are writing to request support from the Town of Underhill in the amount of \$1,750.00. Age Well continues to provide life-changing services for many Underhill residents, from 94 older adults in FY21 to 139 in FY22, a 47% increase. As Vermont's population continues to age, we anticipate the number of older adults needing access to our free services to rise. As a non-profit, our services are provided at no charge, and your support ensures that we are able to continue to provide our services to those in need.

Thanks to the generous support from towns in our service area, we have been able to offer care & service coordination, Meals on Wheels, Grab & Go meals, community meals, wellness programs, social activities, transportation services, expertise on Medicare, insurance, long and short-term care options, and the Helpline to Underhill residents.

Vermont is ranked as the third "oldest" state in the country and our aging population is only expected to grow exponentially, nearly doubling in the next fifteen years. Older adults living in rural areas have less access to healthcare, including specialized healthcare, and the services tend to be more costly than those provided in metropolitan areas. Overwhelmingly, Vermonters want to grow old in their own homes, Age Well provides the services and support to ensure that is a possibility.

If there are any questions regarding our programs or services, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sara Wool, Director of Development & Planned Giving

UNDERHILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

With the pandemic subsiding, we were able to have regular meetings at the Old Schoolhouse! This alone helped motivate a busy 2022 for the Historical Society.

HISTORY PROJECTS

We completed three more storyboards. One storyboard is on the 15 One-Room Schoolhouses, 1787-1951. This proved challenging, as so many of them are no longer standing, and the locations for some of them were unknown. We did find all 15 locations, some being just eroded, overgrown stone foundations.

We completed a storyboard dedicated just to our Old Schoolhouse, District #5, the “Center School,” 1823-1951. This storyboard brings our remaining schoolhouse to life with more in-depth information.

Another storyboard was completed on the historic Old Schoolhouse Fire, February 1951. The fire precipitated the construction of our current Central School. There is a section of the Schoolhouse building showing beams charred by the fire.

HISTORICAL EVENTS

Our annual end of July Blueberry and Ice Cream Social has become a must of our Underhill summer. Nearly 200 people came and enjoyed pie and ice cream and, most important, socializing with neighbors and friends. *Mark your calendar for Sunday, July 23, 2023!*

Our Walt Scheffley Folk Art Tribute in late August, with 20 of his paintings on display courtesy of Pat Nugent and Patti Scheffley Lutton, was awesome to view. And it was fascinating to listen to many humorous stories about Walt. Several of his paintings are now on display in the Schoolhouse.

We had a special event honoring local historian Gary Irish with our Lucius Jackson Award for his outstanding contributions to Underhill and Jericho history. Gary is a local treasure, and we are so fortunate he has researched in depth the history of both towns.

Rick Heh's presentation of his father's WWII diary with historic photos was captivating. His father was a navigator in bombing raids over Germany and was shot down and taken prisoner of war. This presentation was very well attended and was videoed by MMCTV.

Our projects and town history events are fun. We hope this information may motivate you to join us at our meetings on the 2d Tuesday of every month at 6:30 at the Old Schoolhouse.

Historical Society Board

Roger Frey, Susan Thomas, Judy Boardman, Carolyn Leighton, Connell Gallagher



UNDERHILL – JERICHO FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC

420 VT Route 15, Underhill, VT 05489

(802) 899-4025

January 15, 2023

Dear Underhill and Jericho Selectboard members,

The Underhill Jericho Fire Department dedicates this annual report on behalf of Life Member and Honorary Chief David Tillotson who passed away on August 26, 2022. David joined the Underhill Jericho Fire Department in February of 1972. David proudly served the communities of Underhill and Jericho as a Firefighter, Lieutenant, Captain, Assistant Chief, and Chief. David received his final promotion to the rank of Honorary Chief in 2001. David also served the department as its moderator and treasurer. David obtained his life membership status in 1997 while he was serving as the Chief of the Department. David also served as the Fire Warden for the Town of Jericho for many years. During his years of service David received many awards from the UJFD, Chittenden County Fire Association and the Vermont State Firefighters Association.

In January of 2022 Andy Forsberg became the newest fulltime staff member of the UJFD. Andy had been a dedicated member of the UJFD as a volunteer for a number of years and decided to fill our vacancy on the department. Andy did not have a steep learning curve, having been a longtime volunteer on the department, so he was able to get to work quickly. Andy has been a great addition to the department.

During the year the UJFD responded to 588 calls. The breakdown of those calls is as follows;

Fires	17	Underhill	219
EMS calls	394	Jericho	353
Car Crashes	41	Essex	4
Other	120	Williston	3
Mutual Aid	16	Richmond	3
		Cambridge	3
		Westford - Automatic	2
		Requested	1

Covid-19 and the economy are certainly impacting the UJFD, just like all of citizens and the communities as well. We work hard to manage our costs while still being prepared to respond whenever the community needs us.

We continue to train regularly every Tuesday for the fire personal and on the third Thursday for our EMS team. We continue to maintain an above 90% call coverage for our EMS calls. This is an outstanding level and one of the best in the entire State of Vermont for a volunteer first response agency. We continue to look for new members to bolster our volunteer numbers. Our biggest challenge is the manpower to support our call volume. We have had some good new recruit classes lately and those new members are making an impact in the community.

Thank you to the communities for your continued support of the department and its members. Thank you to the families of the members who sacrifice family time to allow us to serve those in need.

Best Regards,

Mathew Champlin, Chief
Underhill – Jericho Fire Department, Inc.

**UNDERHILL-JERICO FIRE
DEPARTMENT INC.
2021 - 2022 Budget Report**

	INCOME:	BUDGET 2021-2022	2021-2022 ACTUAL
1	UNDERHILL	\$247,990	\$247,990
2	JERICO	\$371,985	\$371,985
3	MISCELLANEOUS	\$9,900	\$14,214
4	DONATIONS		\$4,438
5	TRANSFER FROM RESERVES	\$19,500	\$19,500
	TOTAL INCOME	\$649,375	\$658,127
	EXPENSES:		
7	PAID ON CALL STIPENDS	\$70,000	\$65,056
	FULL TIME STAFF		
8	SALARY	\$120,000	\$93,923
9	MEDICAL BENEFITS	\$29,000	\$0
10	PAYROLL TAXES	\$13,300	\$10,790
	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES		
11	LEGAL	\$1,000	\$2,181
12	ACCOUNTING	\$6,000	\$17,636
13	AUDIT	\$10,000	-
	FEES (Bank, payroll, etc)	\$3,000	\$0
	INSURANCE		
14	WORKERS COMPENSATION	\$13,000	\$18,259
15	AUTO	\$18,000	\$20,034
16	FIRE DEPARTMENT PACKAGE	\$24,000	\$22,789
17	ACCIDENT / DISABILITY	\$6,000	\$5,004
18	UTILITIES	\$20,000	\$20,011
19	VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	\$25,000	\$35,369
20	FUEL	\$4,000	\$6,948
21	EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	\$3,000	\$4,663
22	NFPA REQUIRED TESTING	\$4,700	\$6,073
23	STATION MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENTS	\$20,000	\$39,554
24	FIREFIGHTER/EMT SAFETY EQUIPMENT	\$13,000	\$15,899
25	EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS	\$8,000	\$5,407
26	NEW EQUIPMENT AND HOSE	\$11,000	\$9,868
27	EMS SUPPLIES	\$15,000	\$12,968
28	EXTRICATION & HAZMAT EQUIPMENT	\$3,000	\$4,491
29	PHYSICALS, NEW MEMBERS AND ANNUAL FOR FF	\$10,000	\$5,960
30	FIRE PREVENTION / MEMBER TRAINING	\$5,000	\$7,645
31	ANNUAL AWARDS AND APPRECIATION	\$3,500	\$3,731
32	MISCELLANEOUS	\$500	\$0
33	OFFICE EXPENSE	\$9,000	\$12,344
34	CAPITAL LOAN PAYMENTS	\$163,074	\$163,124
35	New Station	\$0	\$0
36	NEW CAPITAL PURCHASES	\$0	\$2,172
38	TRANSFER TO CAPITAL RESERVE FUND	\$18,301	\$19,423
39	TRANSFER TO RESERVES	\$0	\$4,433
	TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$649,375	\$635,755

**UNDERHILL-JERICO FIRE
DEPARTMENT INC.
2023 - 2024 Budget Request**

		BUDGET 2022-2023	BUDGET REQUEST 2023-2024
	INCOME:		
1	UNDERHILL	\$251,106	\$319,121
2	JERICO	\$409,699	\$520,672
3	MISCELLANEOUS		
4	DONATIONS		
5	TRANSFER FROM RESERVES	\$93,183	
	TOTAL INCOME	\$753,988	\$839,793
	EXPENSES:		
6	PAID ON CALL STIPENDS	\$85,000	\$105,000
	FULL TIME STAFF		
7	SALARY	\$123,000	\$135,000
8	MEDICAL BENEFITS	\$53,000	\$59,000
9	PAYROLL TAXES	\$14,850	\$16,800
	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES		
10	LEGAL	\$1,000	\$2,000
11	ACCOUNTING	\$7,000	\$19,000
12	AUDIT	\$10,000	
13	FEES (Bank, payroll etc)	\$3,000	
	INSURANCE		
14	WORKERS COMPENSATION	\$16,600	\$32,000
15	AUTO	\$19,200	\$21,000
16	FIRE DEPARTMENT PACKAGE	\$23,500	\$24,200
17	ACCIDENT / DISABILITY	\$6,000	\$6,000
18	UTILITIES	\$26,000	\$26,000
19	VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	\$28,000	\$35,000
20	FUEL	\$6,000	\$10,000
21	EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	\$3,000	\$4,000
22	NFPA REQUIRED TESTING	\$5,600	\$7,500
23	STATION MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENTS	\$20,000	\$25,000
24	FIREFIGHTER/EMT SAFETY EQUIPMENT	\$13,000	\$16,000
25	EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS	\$30,000	\$30,000
26	NEW EQUIPMENT AND HOSE	\$11,000	\$11,000
27	EMS SUPPLIES	\$19,000	\$25,000
28	EXTRICATION & HAZMAT EQUIPMENT	\$3,000	\$3,000
29	PHYSICALS, NEW MEMBERS AND ANNUAL FOR FF	\$6,000	\$7,500
30	FIRE PREVENTION / MEMBER TRAINING	\$5,000	\$5,000
31	ANNUAL AWARDS AND APPRECIATION	\$3,500	\$5,000
32	MISCELLANEOUS	\$500	\$500
33	OFFICE EXPENSE	\$12,000	\$15,000
34	CAPITAL LOAN PAYMENTS	\$90,238	\$88,863
36	NEW CAPITAL PURCHASES	\$110,000	\$60,000
37	TRANSFER TO CAPITAL RESERVE FUND	\$0	\$0
38	TRANSFER TO RESERVES	\$0	\$45,430
	TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$753,988	\$839,793

THE
University of Vermont
HEALTH NETWORK

Home Health & Hospice

OUR PROGRAMS

Adult Home Health
Hospice & Palliative Care
McClure Miller Respite House
Family & Children's Program
Long-Term Care
Adult Day Program
Foot Care

The UVM Health Network—Home Health & Hospice cared for 56 Underhill residents in the last year.



Underhill residents received \$85,119 in free or charity care in the last year.

2022 Annual Report for Underhill

Care at Home. For All Ages and Stages of Life.

Vermont's oldest and largest non-profit home health and hospice agency and the only Medicare-certified inpatient hospice residence.

The University of Vermont Health Network—Home Health & Hospice is part of a health system. This ensures that care at home is integrated for individuals and families in Chittenden and Grand Isle counties.

OUR IMPACT

HOME HEALTH & HOSPICE BY THE NUMBERS



138,522

Hours of care provided



4,307

Patients served, at all ages and stages of life



4,224

Days of care provided at McClure Miller Respite House

Compassionate Care that Places People at the Center.

Services and Support. All based on our patients' goals.

We provide a wide range of high-quality care at home for adults with acute and chronic illnesses, help families through pre- and post-natal visits and pediatric therapies, and offer hospice care for those at end of life.

Experience Matters.

Our patient and family experience of care ratings surpass Vermont and National averages.

The way our patients experience care is important to us. [Medicare's Care Compare website](#) publicly displays our ratings, demonstrating that our patients and their caregivers rate us highly for home health and hospice care and would recommend our agency to their friends and family.

UVM Health Network - Home Health & Hospice Request for Funding Town of Underhill

For FY2024, Home Health & Hospice (HH&H) is requesting a contribution of \$7,900.

UVM Health Network—Home Health & Hospice cared for 56 people in Underhill during our past fiscal year (July 2021-June 2022) with the following services:

HH&H	Visits
Nursing	648
Physical Therapy	159
Speech Therapy	6
Occupational Therapy	40
Social Work	22
Total	875

HH&H	Hours
Home Maker	8
Total	8

Cost of Care	Amount
Total cost of HHH Care	\$189,377
Amount reimbursed to HHH*	\$104,257
Unreimbursed Care	\$85,119
*reimbursed through Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance, contracts and patient fees	

HH&H requests annual contributions from each town and city in our two-county service area. Your contribution is critical to supporting the **millions of dollars** in unreimbursed care we provided this year.

Last year, HH&H cared for over **4,000** people of all ages, regardless of their ability to pay. Your contribution helps ensure Underhill residents can access innovative, high-value, compassionate care wherever they call home to keep them healthy, independent and active members of your community.

Local Health Office Annual Report 2022

Twelve Local Health Offices around the state are your community connection with the Vermont Department of Health. Your district office is at the address and phone number above. We provide essential services and resources to towns in order to protect and promote the health and well-being of people in Vermont. For example, in the past year and beyond, we:

Protected communities from COVID-19: Since the pandemic began three years ago, our doors have remained open and we've been able to serve communities thanks to individuals, families, schools, businesses, first responders, and countless others that worked with us to meet the needs of local towns. We provided vaccine, testing, and information, along with other key public health services. In collaboration with community partners, since COVID-19 response efforts began, the Burlington Local Health Office hosted over 200 COVID-19 vaccination clinics and provided over 20,000 COVID-19 doses. Since August 2021, local health offices across Vermont have documented and helped manage over 8,000 COVID-19 related situations, including over 1,200 COVID-19 outbreaks. Learn more at <https://www.healthvermont.gov/disease-control/covid-19>.

Ensured local preparedness for future emergencies: We worked with partners like schools, hospitals, and emergency personnel to ensure effective pandemic response and support preparedness to distribute medicine, supplies, and information during public health emergencies. This year, we responded to the emergence of human monkeypox virus by sharing information and providing vaccine to community members. As of November 2022, over 90 vaccine doses have been administered.

Stayed attentive to people and communities most underserved: We provided services and resources to people who are more likely to experience adverse health outcomes due to health inequities. For example, we provided vaccine at schools without access, shelters, meal and food distribution sites, farms, and more.

Supported student health and youth empowerment: According to the Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 66% of students in Chittenden County agree or strongly agree that they "believe they matter to people in their community." Regionally, efforts like mentoring and afterschool enrichment programs help to ensure youth feel valued and included.

Promoted health in all policies: Health is not just individual behaviors and access to care, it's also housing, transportation, food access, education, natural resources, and other social determinants of health. We worked with towns, schools, worksites, healthcare providers, and other community organizations to establish plans, policies, and programming that improve health and wellness. To achieve health, we must continue to work together to improve opportunities for health across all sectors and periods of our lives.

Provided WIC services and resources to families and children: Provided WIC nutrition education and support to 3,128 people between July 1, 2021 – June 31, 2022. WIC enables families to save on groceries so they can have more to spend on other things their family needs, empowers families with breastfeeding/chestfeeding support, and provides referrals to other health and nutrition services. Learn more at www.healthvermont.gov/wic.

Collaborated with Town Health Officers around environmental health: To help Vermonters better understand the relationship between their environment and their health, we worked with towns and other local partners to share information about lead, cyanobacteria (blue-green algae), food safety, drinking water, climate change, healthy homes, and healthy schools. Learn more at www.healthvermont.gov/environment.

Harvest Crossing Affordable Homes Annual Report For 2022

This initiative to build affordable homes in the village of Underhill Flats is possible through partnerships between the United Church of Underhill and Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity, with assistance by the Town of Underhill. The 8.6 acre property of Phil Jacobs would be purchased by the Church, the site prepared for a clustered development leaving open space, then Habitat would purchase the lots to build 5-9 affordable homes. Before building can begin the partners have applied for and received grants, private donations, and both private and public loans. Grant requirements thus far have been to ensure the site is an appropriate and feasible location for this housing effort before completing the land purchase.

A Planning Grant was secured through the Vermont Community Development Program in December 2021. The Grant required that the Town be the recipient with the Church and Habitat as subgrantees to complete the work. Habitat also secured a Feasibility Grant, and along with private donations, these funds have supported work to complete the following:

- Wetland assessment and delineation of an area of Class 2 and Class 3 wetlands mostly along the eastern edge and southern portion of the property.
- Several public meetings for neighbors, town members, and Town Officials
- An environmental assessment which found no concerns
- Presentation at the State Housing Conference
- Development of a website to facilitate communication (harvestcrossing.org)
- Hired an engineering firm to dig test pits and preliminary feasibility for home placement and septic systems, which has been favorable for building options.
- A recent archeological assessment of the site tentatively identified no significant historical artifacts

Additional funding was appropriated through Senator Sanders to the Church, and will be processed through the federal Housing and Urban Development Agency. These funds will support the final property purchase.

A loan has been secured by the Church through the Vermont Community Loan Fund and will support initial site preparations.

As the 2022 year reaches the end, a final decision from the State Department of Historic Preservation to approve the archeological assessment is pending. Likewise, the final parcel Plat defining the exact boundaries of the property is pending completion by the landowner to the Town. It is anticipated that the land purchase can be completed in early 2023 and we will be able to complete additional steps leading towards construction later in the year.

Submitted on behalf of: Marge Douglass, Mark Stephenson, Sandy Wilmot, Bob and Julie Carr, David Mullin of Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity, Pastor Jen Mihok, Dave Clift, Dan Manz, Allen Simard and many others who are supporting various elements of this effort.

Jericho Farmers' Market Report, 2022 Season

The Jericho Farmers Market has three primary goals; to provide a local sales outlet for small businesses, provide access to fresh, local products for all community members, and to facilitate a festive, family-friendly community gathering place.

Our mission to create a local sales outlet and help small businesses grow was very successful this year. The aggregate sales of our vendors showed a 5.5% growth rate in sales over last year. This type of growth is vital in allowing small businesses and local entrepreneurs to thrive. In addition to growth of already existing businesses, the JFM works to welcome and support brand new businesses in the community. Over 45% of our vendors in the 2022 Season were new to the market this year! Due to community support we are able to keep our vendor fees low, enabling local entrepreneurs to find an accessible sales outlet and build their businesses right here in the community.

Another goal of the Farmers Market is to facilitate access to fresh local food for all community members. As part of this mission we administer several programs for food insecure community members. These programs allow for the use of federal 3SquaresVT benefits at the market, as well as several grants to double buying power at the market. In 2022, these programs funneled over \$4,000 in federal money into our local economy. According to a recent study, “for every dollar of sales, direct marketers [generate] twice as much economic activity within the region, as compared to producers who are not involved in direct marketing.”¹ As well as supporting food access, these programs have a powerful ripple effect through the local economy.

The JFM's third goal is to create a community location for friends and neighbors to gather, meet one another, and enjoy the summer. We welcome families to our market with kids programming including the Power of Produce (POP) Program. This programming for kids ages six through twelve is based on the simple but powerful concept of choice and exploration as learning tools. Each week, participating children complete an activity and are then given coupons to purchase fresh fruits & vegetables of their choice from our vendors. We also run the Music at the Market program, bringing local musicians to the market to play each week. This program both supports small local musicians and creates a festive backdrop for picnicking, visiting, and shopping.

Like so many community organizations, the Jericho Farmers Market relies upon a group of dedicated volunteers to help keep our market running. A massive thank you to the volunteers who staff our office, run programming, help with setup and breakdown, and so much more! If you are interested in our mission and want to find out more about volunteering with us, please contact the Market Manager, Elizabeth King at jerichofarmersmarket@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you on May 25 from 3-6:30pm, at Mills Riverside Park, for the first market of the 2023 Season!

Submitted by: Elizabeth King, Jericho Farmers' Market Manager

¹Feenstra GW, Lewis CC, Hinrichs CC, Gillespie Jr GW & Hilchey D. (2003). Entrepreneurial Outcomes and Enterprise Size in US Retail Farmers Markets. *American Journal of Alternative Agriculture* 18, 46-55.



STATE OF VERMONT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Dear Underhill friends and members of the community,

I am honored to be one of your two State Representatives to the Vermont Legislature and am now embarking on the first year of my fourth term. My first six years have been a great experience and, of course, 2022 was an incredibly challenging year in terms of legislating as we conducted our business in a hybrid (in person/ZOOM) environment.

For my first two biennia I served on the House Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife. In this biennium I was appointed to the House Appropriations committee. I am also Vice Chair of the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (LCAR). LCAR's purpose is oversight and review of State Agency rulemaking. I also served on the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee in 2022.

Our biggest challenge in House Appropriations in the upcoming session will continue to be how best to strategically deploy the resources we have available to us, continuing pandemic Federal funding, State revenue surpluses, and general fund monies. Housing, broadband, workforce development, child care, clean water, infrastructure, and paid family leave are important areas of concern as well as investments in the health and wellbeing of families and small businesses to create an equitable, resilient Vermont.

Helping and supporting members of our community to access programs and services is one of the most important roles I have as a State Representative. I encourage you to reach out to me with any issues that I might help to address and also welcome your feedback on issues before us in the legislature.

I look forward to seeing you and speaking with you at Town Meeting. Rep. Edye Graning and I also invite you to meet us at the Deborah Rawson Library, monthly, from January to May. Watch Front Porch Forum for the schedule. Feel free to contact me any time via email at tsquirre@sover.net or tsquirrell@leg.state.vt.us , call me at 899-2382 or write to me at PO Box 128, Underhill Center 05490.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Trevor J Squirrell

I'd like to thank the voters of Jericho and Underhill for placing your trust in me to represent you in Montpelier. I am honored and humbled and will do my best for you and for all Vermonters.

I was assigned to the Commerce and Economic Development Committee where our charge is to consider matters pertaining to workforce development, training programs, consumer protection, insurance, business development and similar matters. The scope is broad and the issues impact all of us. We will be very busy this session.

On the campaign trail the concerns that I heard most were regarding the lack of affordable housing, workforce shortages, the need for more mental health services, and scarce childcare. These are my main priorities, and I am working with both the veteran and new legislators on these issues.

Trevor Squirrell and I will be hosting monthly constituent meetings at the Deborah Rawson Library January-May. This will be a great time for us to share the legislative progress with you and for us to hear your thoughts, questions, and concerns.

Please reach out to me by email at EGraning@Leg.State.Vt.Us or Edye.Graning@gmail.com , or by mail 44 Mansfield Drive, Jericho VT 05465

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you!

Edye Graning

OFFICIAL WARNING
MOUNT MANSFIELD UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

March 2, 2023 & March 7, 2023

The legal voters of the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District comprising the voters of Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Richmond, and Underhill, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Mount Mansfield Union High School, in Jericho, or virtually at the following link <https://meet.google.com/gzt-hjuw-igg> or call in at 1-541-797-0412 PIN: 146 461 745# on **Thursday, March 2, 2023**, at 6:00 p.m. to transact Articles 1-6. All virtual attendees will be allowed to ask questions and comment during the meeting, but **will not be allowed to vote. Only in-person attendees will be able to vote.** Upon the conclusion of the business not involving Australian ballot, the meeting is to be adjourned and reconvened in the respective polling places hereinafter named for each of the above-referenced towns on **Tuesday, March 7, 2023**, at 7:00 a.m. (Huntington at 6:30 am) at which time the polls will open until 7:00 p.m. at which time the polls will close, to transact any business involving voting by Australian ballot, Article 7.

- Article 1: To elect the following officers:
a Moderator for one year,
a Clerk for one year,
a Treasurer for one year.
- Article 2: Shall the voters of the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District authorize the school board under 16 V.S.A. 562 (9) to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for the school year?
- Article 3: Shall the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District vote on all public questions by Australian ballot?
- Article 4: Shall the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District elect the Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer and all other elected officers by Australian ballot?
- Article 5: This time serves as a public information hearing for public review of the 2023-24 proposed budget--for discussion purposes only.
- Article 6: To transact any other school business thought proper when met.

March 7, 2023 -- Australian Ballot Question

- Article 7: Shall the voters of the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District approve the School Board to expend **\$55,274,112**, which is the amount the School Board has determined to be necessary for the 2023-24 fiscal year?

Upon closing of the polls, the ballot boxes will be sealed, transported to and opened at Camels Hump Middle School in the Town of Richmond, the ballots commingled and publicly counted by representatives of the Boards of Civil Authority of the Towns of Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Richmond, and Underhill under the supervision of the Clerk of the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District.

Informational Hearing

Said persons and voters are further notified and warned that the meeting on Thursday, March 2, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. at the Mount Mansfield Union High School, in Jericho shall also serve as an informational hearing to discuss Articles 7 which will be voted on by Australian ballot on March 7, 2023.









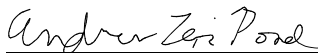





Polling Places

The voters residing in the Mount Mansfield Unified Union will cast their ballots in the polling places designated for their towns as follows:

Bolton	*	Smilie Memorial School	*	7 am - 7 pm
Huntington	*	Brewster-Pierce Memorial School	*	6:30 am - 7 pm
Jericho	*	Mt. Mansfield Union High School	*	7 am - 7 pm
Richmond	*	Camels Hump Middle School	*	7 am - 7 pm
Underhill	*	Browns River Middle School	*	7 am - 7 pm

Dated this 27th day of January, 2023.

SCHOOL DIRECTORS

 _____ Kevin Campbell	 _____ Edye Graning	 _____ Katie Nelson
 _____ Thomas Cheney	 _____ Diane Kirson-Glitman	 _____ Tara Arneson
 _____ Gail Conley	 _____ Chuck Lacy	 _____ Andrew Pond
 _____ Stuart Morigeau	 _____ Alison Conant	 _____ Heather Chadwick
_____ Eric Gildemeister	 _____ Ethan Maurer	 _____ Lisa Pawlik

Received for record this 27th day of January 2023, A.D.


_____, Clerk, Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District

Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District
Proposed Budget Summary

DESCRIPTION	APPROVED FY23 BUDGET	PROPOSED FY24 BUDGET	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE
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EXPENDITURES

General Instructional Programs (PK-12)	22,018,512	22,915,266	896,754	4.07%
Special Education Programs (PK-12)	10,784,084	11,653,966	869,882	8.07%
Career and Technical Education	1,159,032	1,159,032	-	0.00%
Co-Curricular Activities	741,137	767,973	26,836	3.62%
Social Work, Guidance & Other Student Support Svcs.	1,658,563	1,733,712	75,149	4.53%
Health Services	579,226	607,140	27,914	4.82%
Curriculum Instruction & Professional Development	546,623	628,989	82,366	15.07%
Educational Media Services	2,355,409	2,498,822	143,413	6.09%
Board of Education, Legal & Negotiations	129,512	129,827	315	0.24%
Superintendent's Office	792,593	828,275	35,682	4.50%
School Administration & Support Services	2,638,111	2,775,238	137,127	5.20%
Fiscal & Treasurer Services	722,582	727,539	4,957	0.69%
Operations & Maintenance of Plant	4,374,157	4,596,893	222,736	5.09%
Transportation Services	2,539,647	2,772,813	233,166	9.18%
Capital Projects	325,000	325,000	-	0.00%
Other Fiscal Services	182,000	325,000	143,000	78.57%
Debt Service	864,709	828,627	(36,082)	-4.17%
Total Expenditures	52,410,895	55,274,112	2,863,215	5.46%

ESTIMATED REVENUE

Education Spending Revenue	42,901,987	45,655,905	2,753,917.51	6.42%
Career & Technical Education Transfer	638,765	638,765	-	0.00%
Small School Grant	42,632	42,632	-	0.00%
Driver's Education	10,000	10,000	-	0.00%
High School Completion	30,000	30,000	-	0.00%
Tuition Income	80,000	90,000	10,000.00	12.50%
Interest Income	110,000	60,000	(50,000.00)	-45.45%
Transportation State Revenue	905,000	994,676	89,675.91	9.91%
Special Education State Revenue	5,937,511	6,312,135	374,624.00	6.31%
Other Income	80,000	90,000	10,000.00	12.50%
Prior Year Surplus/(Deficit)	1,675,000	1,350,000	(325,000.00)	-19.40%
Total Revenue	52,410,895	55,274,112	2,863,217	5.46%



Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District

10 River Road Jericho, VT 05465

P:802-434-2128 F:802-899-4001

mmuusd.office@mmuusd.org

www.mmuusd.org

January 12, 2023

Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District Annual Report

The Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District (MMUUSD) Annual Report will be available February 16, 2023. The report will include a proposed 2023-24 school district budget, tax rate information and a review of operations, activities and assessment results for Mount Mansfield Unified Union's nine schools:

- Smilie Memorial School (PK-4)
- Brewster Pierce Memorial School (PK-4)
- Jericho Elementary School (K-4)
- Richmond Elementary School (PK-4)
- Underhill ID School (Preschools)
- Underhill Central School (K-4)
- Browns River Middle School (Grades 5-8)
- Camels Hump Middle School (Grades 5-8)
- Mt. Mansfield Union High School (Grades 9-12)

The Annual Report can be found at your local town office, public school, MMUUSD Central Office or online at <https://www.mmuusd.org/>. Upon request, a printed copy will be mailed to you by calling 434-2128.

If you have questions, please contact the Central Office at 434-2128 or by email at mmuusd.office@mmuusd.org.

Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District Our Schools



Smilie Memorial School

Derek Howard, Principal

Enrollment: Prek-4 76

As the new Principal at Smilie Memorial School, it was my pleasure to welcome new and returning faculty and staff to Smilie. Amanda Allemeier finished last academic year as a paraeducator and returned this year to continue in the role. An alumnus of the Smilie School, Colby Antonacci joined us as the paraeducator in preschool and is now also working 1-1 with students utilizing his psychology degree and interpersonal skills. Emma Parent, another MMU alumnus, moved from preschool to teach in a first and second grade classroom leaving space for Shannon Zachary to join us to teach in the preschool. Bridgette Tozzi joined us from Colchester Middle School as our music teacher. Claire Tourin joined Kyle Dubois to teach grades three and four. David Rye became our PE teacher working at both Smilie and Brewster-Pierce. A lot of new faces have enhanced the culture and learning opportunities at Smilie Memorial School.

On September 19th, we hosted an Open House - our first in-person in 3 years. This was an ideal opportunity to show the community the hard work that the Smilie School Community had done to update the front of our school. It was fitting that the event started with Barbara Tomasi-Gay unveiling the murals installed on the school that were created by students and parents. The school opened and welcomed parents and community members into the building to meet and greet with teachers and stroll through the hallways and classrooms.



During the month of September, kindergarten, first and second grades visited Adams Apple Orchard and picked apples for some baking projects. Unfortunately, the all-school hike to Bolton Dome and Bolton Valley Resort had to be canceled due to the weather but our 3rd and 4th graders were able to visit Petra Cliffs in December where they had an introduction to climbing.



Coming out of the pandemic has meant that students have to relearn 'normal' school. One of the first priorities was to teach and reteach all of our school drills. This included fire drills, securing the building, hold in place and our evacuation drill. The evacuation drill at Smilie Memorial School was conducted in collaboration with Bolton Fire Department. Smilie staff and students evacuated to Bolton Fire Station from the school where everyone got a tour of the fire trucks and the station building.



In October we created a name and voted for our local VTrans snowplow. Then in November 'The Bolton Yeti' visited the students at Smilie School.

The Smilie Memorial School community donated nonperishable food items and gifts for the Crate of Cheer and The Giving Tree. These items



were distributed throughout our community to families in need. Thank you to everyone who contributed!

During a wonderful December morning at Smilie Memorial School, the K/1/2 students welcomed the adults in their lives to the Books and Bagels event. The classes made bagels the day before and shared the treats and their love of reading.

Since September, the Smilie faculty have been meeting weekly in their grade level teams analyzing the data to improve learning for all students. Weekly the teachers and support staff look at academic data from different curriculum areas including Math, ELA, Science, and Social Studies. During these meetings, student support staff also feedback to teachers the social emotional supports being implemented for students. Faculty meetings occur twice monthly, the agenda for these is set by our guided coalition that also meets twice monthly. The collaboration between all staff, parents, and community is what makes Smilie Memorial School a safe and welcoming learning environment for all students.



Brewster-Pierce Memorial School

Sally Hayes, Principal

Enrollment: PreK-4 110

As we continue to emerge from the pandemic, Brewster-Pierce staff and families continue to work collaboratively to meet a new set of needs for our learners. Our students continue to grow academically, socially and emotionally and have persevered through many obstacles presented by the pandemic. This fall we were thrilled to welcome family members back into school. Family members volunteer at BPMS in a variety of ways including helping with special projects, assisting in small group math, volunteering on outdoor days and helping to serve lunch. Our parent group continues to work tirelessly supporting educational projects, field trips and providing special teaching resources. Families contribute so much to the culture at BPMS and continue to support many enriching educational opportunities; we are grateful for their continued support.

BPMS students enjoy learning in many content areas including math, literacy, science, social studies, unified arts and social emotional learning. We continue to work on integrating and combining content in order to provide opportunities for children to make cross curricular connections. As we prepare our young readers we have shifted our focus in the past two years to include a focus on phonemic awareness and phonological awareness. Studies have proven that when children receive direct instruction in phonics and phonological awareness, it lays a strong foundation as they're learning to read. We have been adjusting our teaching practices to strengthen literacy skills in all grades K-4 and improve overall reading readiness. During math practice we focus on repeated practice of foundational skills to provide a strong scaffold for harder math concepts; one goal is learning to apply math to real life situations. Social and emotional learning has been a critical area of learning especially as children work through identifying strong emotions and learning strategies for self regulation. We continue to prioritize managing peer relations and self management including: mindfulness, emotional regulation and restorative practices.

BPMS staff continues to focus on integrating themes of equity, diversity and inclusion throughout our teaching practices with a goal of embedding these practices into our school culture. With the guidance of Kat Yun, equity and inclusion coach, and our school based ABAR team we will work on updating lessons and exploring identity throughout this school year. The identity work will begin first as an entire staff as well as with students. We continue to read culturally responsive texts during lessons which enrich our learning by presenting multiple perspectives and diverse representations. As educators, we realize that our success in this important work will in part be measured by how we can engage our students in these dialogues in compassionate and developmentally appropriate ways.



Modeling and teaching wellness has always been a priority at Brewster- Pierce. We have always valued our farm to school food program which prioritizes providing nutritious meals and snacks for our students and staff using local ingredients and presenting a rainbow of delicious foods at every meal. Our school food program thrived for over thirty years under the leadership of Alison Forrest and after her retirement in June she passed the important work to Hilary Redman, Anne Martell and Peter Merritt. With our new leadership team our school food program continues to thrive and is truly a gold standard in providing nutritious food choices and acts as a lesson in healthy eating every day.

Outdoor Learning experiences are enjoyed by students and staff weekly at BPMS. The preschool students lead the way and enjoy outdoor experiences every single day in their Forest Classroom and many areas surrounding our school including: the Huntington Community Forest, Brush Brook and the Huntington River. The goal for outdoor education is to immerse children in the natural world and guide them in place based learning. Outdoor learning opportunities provide unstructured time that encourages children to make choices about their learning, persevere through challenges and take healthy risks. Outdoor education is designed to foster a child's natural inquisitiveness, creativity, and desire to learn. Outdoor Education is embedded into our school culture and learning.



Jericho Elementary School

Todd Rohlen, Principal

Enrollment: K-4 312

Hello! My name is Todd Rohlen and I am the new principal here at JES. I live in Jeffersonville with my wife and two kids. I have been in education for a long time, as a PK-8 principal, a middle school science teacher, and even before that, I was an instructor for Outward Bound, leading canoeing and backpacking trips in Maine. I have spent my career empowering students to work harder and do more for themselves, and I look forward to continuing that work here in Jericho. Since I began in July, I have been working to get to know the school, staff, students, and the community. I love getting to visit classrooms, where everyday I see passionate teachers engaging curious kids on a variety of different subjects. Our kids look forward to being here because it is a remarkable school!

After a few years of Covid restrictions, we have loved having families back in the building, as well as getting our classes back out into the community. We have welcomed families into the school with some grade level open houses, some celebrations of writing, and more. It's been great to have more engagement between the school and homes, as well as the bigger community. We have had some exciting field trips so far, including taking advantage of a piece of property on Nashville Road, lovingly called "Camp Swampy." Kids have been learning ecology and more onsite there. The whole 3rd grade got to learn while sailing on Lake Champlain with the Lake Champlain Community Sailing Center! The 4th grade visited the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum to learn more about the history and ecology of the lake, and the 1st grade just went to the Vermont Teddy Bear Factory. While our learning in school is certainly at the core of what we do, it has been wonderful to bring back some of these enriching experiences in the greater community.

A big focus across the District is meeting the needs of each learner in our schools. As we know, students come with a variety of needs and learning styles. We are working hard on our Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), which are the systems we have set up around the school to help meet the needs of every student. This means we are



continually assessing what our kids know, and where they might need extra support. Staff then works to get students the help they need. As you might imagine, it takes a lot of planning and attention to detail to create a system like this and to keep it running.

We have also been making sure our building is well maintained and updated. Last spring, we replaced much of the fire alarm system to make sure that was up to date. Over the summer, we updated to digital control for the heating system. We have started replacing the boards on the boardwalk and that work will continue when the weather warms. We have also started construction on a roof for the outdoor pizza oven, which will help that last much longer.

Lastly, I want to give a large thank you to our parent organization, Partners in Education, PIE. They are working so hard to help provide enriching experiences for students, to help the staff feel appreciated, and to take care of our amazing school and grounds.



Richmond Elementary School

Jeremy Rector, Principal

Enrollment: PreK-4 322

The RES Parent Teacher Organization is in full swing this year! After tremendous growth over the past 3 years, the PTO meets monthly with roughly eight members attending every meeting, and several others joining as they are able to. While the energy and support of the community has been extremely positive and overflowing throughout the pandemic, this year there is a new feel and a community “charge” as we are rallying together to build several new play structures across the campus. Additionally, with fewer restrictions and health protocols, RES has seen a resurgence of guest visitors, community events, and facilities use!

Student voice is a critical component to a healthy and resilient school community. With that, we continue to work collectively to provide an engaging curriculum that naturally weaves student choice and voice into daily practice. Students are seen as partners to solving the problems and challenges of the day; be it academic, social-emotional, or structural. PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Systems) remains a core component of what we do at RES, helping students by providing direct instruction and intentional learning opportunities that help students to develop agency and self advocacy all while celebrating the strength of the individual and the group. It is with this sense of agency and recognition that the students brought their voice to the playground redesign process. Last April I provided students with a “Principal's Challenge” and asked them to consider the playground we have in place and to reimagine it: What are the components that we have that they appreciate? What would they like to have that isn't already there? What would they like it to look like? As you could imagine, nearly every single student sent me a drawing and a list of the things they love and the things they would love to see. It was with their voice that a new design was built upon, and the students are so excited to see the project moving forward.

A primary curricular focus this year is centered around working in collaboration to support the diverse needs that have resulted from the pandemic. Teachers and staff are working diligently to hone in on the specific needs of individuals, and working collectively to find resolution. Coming together weekly, grade level teachers meet with interventionists, special educators, and administrators to collectively ask these four essential questions: What do we expect our students to learn? (Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum) How will we know they learned it? (Formative Assessment) What will we do when they don't learn it? (Reteaching/Additional Time and Support) and What will we do when they do learn it? (Extension). Through these team meetings and the work of our larger faculty meetings, we have begun to deepen our collective commitments toward a Professional Learning Community and take important next steps toward a robust Multi-tiered System of Supports.





Underhill Central School

Jennifer Cote, Principal

Enrollment: K-4 149

The staff at Underhill Central School kicked off the 22-23 school year feeling energized and inspired. We welcomed eight new staff members to our school this year! The energy from the new and existing staff is positive and vibrant. Our teaching and support staff are strong, collaborative and cohesive. We are also thrilled to be welcoming families and community members back into our building this year to help support and provide enrichment opportunities for our students. We are excited to bring back the All School Meeting this year. The entire school comes together during this time to celebrate our learners, community and various other initiatives and events that are happening. Each classroom leads an All School Meeting once a year to promote student's confidence and leadership skills. Other events and celebrations this year include the Welcome Back School Picnic, Morning Open House, Turkey Trot, Recycle Rhonda, Mask Parade, and Snow Motion. Building community is a core value at UCS and we cherish opportunities to come together to celebrate.



UCS staff are committed to strengthening diversity, equity and inclusion in our school and throughout the Underhill community. We use character traits such as empathy, gratitude and kindness as points for discussing diversity, equity and inclusion. Teachers use a variety of children's books for students to explore these character traits and deepen their understanding of what each trait looks like, feels like and sounds like at school, at home and in their community. With the support of the district and school-based ABAR committees, our staff continue to examine their own biases and assumptions.

Staff continue to work with our district coaches to focus on strategies for engaging and improving student learning in literacy, math, science and social studies. A priority for our work this year has been creating benchmarks for literacy and a scope and sequence for phonics work in PreK-4th grade. We continue to reflect and revise our practices in all content areas as we interact with current research and engage in professional development. Additionally, we prioritize social and emotional learning for all students. Staff use mindfulness, responsive classroom and restorative practice approaches to support students with emotional regulation, self management, and connection with themselves and others.

As we develop a robust Multi-Tiered System of Supports, grade level teams are engaging in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) this year. PLC's promote a culture of collaboration with a focus on student learning and results. This time is essential for teaching and learning. Teams composed of classroom teachers, related service providers, interventionists, and building administrators meet each week to collaborate and analyze student data and adjust instruction to meet the needs of our various learners.



On behalf of our entire staff, we thank you for your continued support of our efforts. We are committed to maintaining the high-quality level of education for our students and appreciate the Underhill community's support of our school.



Browns River Middle School

Kevin Hamilton, Principal

Rebecca Marsh, Assistant Principal

Enrollment: 5-8 368

This school year Browns River Middle School students and staff are looking to rebuild our community and routines after being in COVID protocols for the past two and a half years. This will be the first year that our current 8th grade class will be able to experience a normal middle school year without modifications and restrictions from the pandemic.



The focus on reconnecting our community begins with our school wide advisory program known as Nest. Every Wednesday morning our students are broken down into small multi grade level groups of approximately 8-10 children. Each group known as a flock, meets with the same adult advisor for 30 minutes and all groups focus on the same activity. Students will have the same advisor for their entire 4 year experience while at BRMS. The beginning of the year focused on getting to know each other and to build community within the groups. Throughout the year we will be focusing on other topics that we want to address as a school community. As we move into the new year we will be talking about what it means to be a positive member of a community and how we can all work together as unique individuals. There has been positive feedback from both our students and staff about how this advisory has helped us to reconnect as a school community and make new friendships.

Our teachers continue to collaborate closely with the staff at Camels Hump Middle School to make sure that our curriculum and instruction is closely aligned so that our students have a similar experience when they enter MMUHS. Our academic coaches meet regularly with our teachers during the school and for after school meetings as they look to improve their instructional practices. The monthly early release days have been focused on the science and social studies curriculum. This is another opportunity for our staff to work closely with teachers from across the district. Our staff is also beginning to work in groups known as Professional Learning Communities as they look at specific student data to improve instruction and student learning outcomes.



Our student activities and clubs continue to have high participation rates. In addition to our athletic and music programs, our after school clubs have provided wonderful and healthy opportunities for our students to gather socially and build skills of working together. Some of our club offerings include: Cooking, Dungeons and Dragons, Math, Pride, NANOWRMO, Magic, Engineering, Drama, Newspaper, Volleyball, and Minecraft. Additionally we have added a vertical climbing wall and traverse wall to our gymnasium. Our Drama program is returning this spring with a performance that will be presented to the community in the spring! This will be the first production for our students since the fall of 2019. We are also excited that our students will be returning to the waters of Lake Champlain in February. The Penguin Plunge tradition is returning to BRMS! Over the past 15 years we have raised \$250,000 for the Vermont Special Olympics by fundraising for this event. Parent volunteers are always welcome to join us in the plunge!

We are looking forward to 2023 and the opportunities that lie ahead for our staff and students!



Camels Hump Middle School

Gretchen Muller, Principal

Wilhelmina Picard, Assistant Principal

Enrollment: 5-8 309

Camels Hump Middle School had a great start to the 2022-2023 school year and welcomed a large 5th grade class. We are so proud of these new Camels Hump Mountaineers. They have transitioned well into middle school life, have been enjoying more independence and are making new connections every day with their peers. Our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students have been incredible role models and have been thriving in an environment that finally feels less restrictive now that we are moving forward from two and half years of COVID protocols.

This year had additional positive highlights with the excitement of welcoming families into the school again. We were thrilled to offer an in-person open house which allowed families to move about the school to see classrooms, meet teachers and get a feel of what their student's day looks like. For some families this was the first time they've been in the school even though their student has been attending CHMS for several years. The connections and relationships that were made were wonderful. In addition to an in-person open house, we also hosted in-person family/teacher/student conferences, a 6th grade fun fair and grade-level project celebrations. The number of attendees has been fantastic and students have truly enjoyed the opportunity to share their learning with their peers and their families.

This year we also used feedback from students and teachers to reframe our schoolwide expectations as well as further develop our advisory program. We created guidelines for what it means to be a Mountaineer in all aspects of CHMS life. Students have embraced this new approach and continue to model and practice the qualities and behaviors of being an engaged, supportive and respectful Mountaineer. During advisory, students are in small grade-level groups once a week. Advisory is a time when we create a smaller community within our larger school community where students are welcomed, heard, seen, creating brave spaces for each other and building connections that are positive, caring and meaningful. Advisory is a big part of being a Mountaineer.

We are also collaboratively working to strengthen other aspects of CHMS specifically tied to the various ways in which we support our students academically and socially and emotionally. Our advisory program is tied to strengthening how we support students socially and emotionally. For supporting students academically, we are using different meeting structures, using data to inform our planning as well as identifying additional supports we need to put into place to assist students when we determine specific areas of growth. We feel incredibly fortunate to have experienced classroom teaching staff as well as experienced special educators, interventionists and support staff all working together to help students be successful.

Finally, our students are thrilled to be able to participate on athletic teams and to be able to choose different clubs to participate in after school. The ability for CHMS to offer these other opportunities for students helps to support them in a different way, allows for new bonds to be created, and brings joy to our school community. We are so grateful for the motivation and dedication of our faculty and staff that have created all these opportunities for our students inside and outside the classrooms.



Our Camels Hump Mountaineers are doing a fantastic job!



Mt. Mansfield Union High School

Michael Weston, Principal
Krystina Fernandez, Assistant Principal

David Marlow, Activities Director
Enrollment: 9-12 766

The 2021-2022 school year was our first step back to a “typical” school year. Students attended 5 days a week and classes returned to a bit more of a typical setting. We continued to wear masks and did not eat lunch in the cafeteria until March, but by the end of the year things looked very much like they did prior to the pandemic. Just as it was a process for our structures to return to normal, it was a process for our staff and students to return to the regular flow and demands of high school. However as the year went all adjusted and we returned to focusing on how to move forward instead of how to adjust.. We saw student success in many areas: MMU students achieved a proficient score on 82% of the AP Exams taken, MMUHS students take the SAT during their junior year and our scores continue to exceed state and national average, and our students earned 93% of their Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements. Another point I want to highlight is that over 72% of our student body were involved in at least one extracurricular activity. When we combine our extracurricular involvement with our Advisory program we believe we are creating an environment that allows for the formation of a healthy and supportive community.



The pinnacle of the year was the 55th Graduation Ceremony held at MMUHS on our soccer/lacrosse field. There were 192 members of the Class of 2022 and they celebrated their graduation on a cloud free warm Saturday morning. This class dealt with a lot in their time at MMU but when it came time for them to lead they did so with a smile and a positive attitude, this was appreciated by all and helped us through what could have been a very difficult year. The Class of 2022 has spread out across the globe and I know they are making all of us proud. I would be remiss if I did not take a moment to say thank you to everyone in this community who have created the environment that allows this school to be what it can be.

NOTES

The original school



1974



1983



2022



Happy 50th Anniversary to Pokerhill School

HELP WANTED

Animal Control Officer (Part-Time)

Enforce Underhill Animal Control Ordinance, issue warnings and violations, investigate complaints, and provide advice and support to Underhill residents related to domestic pets. Bring excellent communication skills, a love of animals, and a solid amount of common sense.

You can make this job what you want, but we NEED someone willing and able to meet the minimum requirements so the Selectboard does not have to take on this additional responsibility.

- Respond to calls, texts and emails in a timely manner.
- Pick up stray, loose dogs and assist in return of dog.
- Enforce the Animal Control Ordinance.
- Give advice to residents related to animal control violations, regulations, and occasionally wildlife resource referrals.
- Assist and respond, when possible, to emergency situations related to domestic animals.
- \$25.00 monthly stipend
- Bill town monthly at a current rate of \$15.26 plus mileage and expenses.

Inquire with Jennifer Silpe-Katz, current Animal Control Officer since 2001.

animalcontrol@underhillvt.gov . See Job description and application on Town webpage www.underhillvt.gov